

Arizona State University (ASU) COM316 Gender and Communication Exam 2 Practice (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	16

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. What validates a rape claim according to common perceptions?**
 - A. The victim's relationship with the assailant**
 - B. The severity of physical injuries**
 - C. Witnesses present during the incident**
 - D. The lack of prior consent**

- 2. Which term describes male performers who perform as female?**
 - A. Drag King**
 - B. Gender Bender**
 - C. Drag Queen**
 - D. Transvestite**

- 3. What perspective does "What College Women do and do not Experience as Rape" focus on?**
 - A. Experiences of men in college**
 - B. College women's experiences with sexual assault**
 - C. The legal definition of rape**
 - D. A study on sexual education**

- 4. Which of the following refers to face and body movement?**
 - A. Articulations**
 - B. Kinesics**
 - C. Proxemics**
 - D. Gestures**

- 5. What percentage of women report experiencing a serious sexual assault after the age of 14?**
 - A. 1 out of 10**
 - B. 1 out of 5**
 - C. 1 out of 3**
 - D. 1 out of 7**

- 6. What typically defines initiation in romantic relationships?**
- A. Casual interest**
 - B. Expression of attraction**
 - C. Friendship potential**
 - D. Sexual proposition**
- 7. What does the Muted Group Theory suggest about cultural biases?**
- A. Cultures have a masculine bias**
 - B. All groups are equally represented in discourse**
 - C. Women have equal opportunities to voice their experiences**
 - D. Cultural biases are rarely discussed**
- 8. What is the significance of gender-neutral language in communication?**
- A. It promotes exclusivity and confusion**
 - B. It reduces bias by avoiding gender-reinforcing terms**
 - C. It eliminates all forms of gender identification**
 - D. It has minimal effect on communication**
- 9. What does the term "gender communication" encompass in the context of interpersonal communication?**
- A. The process and outcome of communication unquestioned by gender**
 - B. The ways in which gender influences communication**
 - C. The actions taken to ignore gender in conversations**
 - D. The study of communication in a gender-neutral context**
- 10. What does gender presentation refer to?**
- A. How an individual dresses**
 - B. How an individual identifies legally**
 - C. How an individual presents their gender identity through personality, habits, and behaviors**
 - D. How individuals perform gender roles in social settings**

Answers

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1. D
2. C
3. B
4. B
5. B
6. B
7. A
8. B
9. B
10. C

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Explanations

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1. What validates a rape claim according to common perceptions?

- A. The victim's relationship with the assailant**
- B. The severity of physical injuries**
- C. Witnesses present during the incident**
- D. The lack of prior consent**

The validation of a rape claim according to common perceptions often hinges on the concept of consent. The lack of prior consent is a central element in defining sexual assault and rape. In most legal frameworks and societal views, consent must be clear, informed, and freely given. If consent is absent, it is generally understood that the sexual act is non-consensual and thus considered a violation. This perspective is significant because it shifts the focus from the victim's behavior or relationship dynamics to the explicit agreement between individuals. It underscores the importance of respecting personal autonomy and the right to an affirmative and voluntary agreement to engage in sexual activity. Understanding the lack of prior consent as a validating factor emphasizes the central tenet of agency in sexual encounters, which is critical in discussions about gender and communication. In contrast, other elements like the victim's relationship with the assailant, the severity of physical injuries, or the presence of witnesses may be considered, but they do not hold the same level of foundational importance in validating a claim of rape. These aspects can complicate narratives or influence perceptions but do not determine the legitimacy of a claim as directly as the issue of consent does.

2. Which term describes male performers who perform as female?

- A. Drag King**
- B. Gender Bender**
- C. Drag Queen**
- D. Transvestite**

The term that describes male performers who perform as female is typically "Drag Queen." This term specifically refers to men who dress in women's clothing and often adopt femininity for entertainment purposes, including performing in shows that can include singing, dancing, and other types of artistic expression. Drag queens can emphasize traditional notions of femininity while exploring gender in a theatrical and often humorous way. This performance art form is distinct in its cultural and social implications, often challenging societal norms regarding gender and sexuality. By adopting exaggerated female personas, drag queens create a space for both entertainment and commentary on gender roles. Understanding the terminology surrounding gender performance is essential, as it reveals the nuances within the spectrum of gender expression and presentation. The other options refer to different concepts or groups within the broader discussion of gender and performance.

3. What perspective does "What College Women do and do not Experience as Rape" focus on?

- A. Experiences of men in college
- B. College women's experiences with sexual assault**
- C. The legal definition of rape
- D. A study on sexual education

The focus of "What College Women do and do not Experience as Rape" centers on the lived experiences of college women regarding sexual assault. This perspective sheds light on how these individuals perceive, interpret, and label their experiences concerning sexual violence, particularly in the context of college culture. The discussions and findings from this work highlight the nuanced ways in which women navigate their experiences, often grappling with societal definitions and personal understandings of sexual assault and rape. This emphasis on women's experiences is crucial because it illuminates the gaps between legal definitions of rape and the realities faced by women, addressing how context, societal norms, and personal interpretation can significantly impact one's understanding of whether what they encountered constitutes sexual assault. By focusing on these experiences, the study brings attention to the need for broader awareness and support regarding sexual violence in educational settings, advocating for a better understanding of women's voices and perspectives in discussions about assault and consent.

4. Which of the following refers to face and body movement?

- A. Articulations
- B. Kinesics**
- C. Proxemics
- D. Gestures

The correct choice, which refers to face and body movement, is kinesics. Kinesics is the study of how body movements and facial expressions communicate messages, conveying emotions and social cues. This concept encompasses a variety of nonverbal behaviors, including posture, gestures, facial expressions, and eye movements, illustrating how physicality plays a crucial role in interpersonal communication. Understanding kinesics is important because it highlights how nonverbal communication can complement or contradict verbal messages, impacting the overall meaning of a conversation. For instance, maintaining eye contact can signal engagement and confidence, while crossed arms may suggest defensiveness or discomfort. In contrast, while articulations and gestures also pertain to movement, they do not encompass the full range of face and body movement that kinesics does. Proxemics, on the other hand, focuses specifically on the use of personal space and distance in communication rather than physical movements of the body or face. Therefore, kinesics is the most comprehensive term that accurately describes the study of face and body movement.

5. What percentage of women report experiencing a serious sexual assault after the age of 14?

- A. 1 out of 10**
- B. 1 out of 5**
- C. 1 out of 3**
- D. 1 out of 7**

The correct answer reflects the findings from various studies on the prevalence of serious sexual assault among women, particularly after the age of 14. Research indicates that approximately 20% of women, which is equivalent to 1 out of 5, report experiencing sexual assault in their lifetime. This statistic highlights the significant and alarming issue of sexual violence against women and is supported by data from organizations such as the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. Understanding this statistic is critical for course discussions, as it underscores the importance of effective communication strategies around issues of gender and violence, and the need for societal change to promote safety and equality. The other options do not align with the established data reflecting the prevalence of such serious experiences among women, which reinforces the importance of recognizing and addressing this pressing societal issue.

6. What typically defines initiation in romantic relationships?

- A. Casual interest**
- B. Expression of attraction**
- C. Friendship potential**
- D. Sexual proposition**

The initiation phase in romantic relationships is typically defined by the expression of attraction. This phase is crucial because it marks the beginning of a romantic interaction where individuals communicate their interest in one another. Expressing attraction can manifest through verbal communication, such as flirting or compliments, and nonverbal cues, like body language and eye contact. This expression serves as the foundation for developing a romantic relationship, as it establishes a mutual interest that can lead to deeper engagements. While casual interest, friendship potential, and sexual proposition might play roles in romantic dynamics, they do not specifically encapsulate the initiation stage in the same way that expressing attraction does. Casual interest may occur without a clear intention of pursuing a romantic relationship, and while friendship potential can be important, it is often more relevant in the context of developing a relationship that may not be romantic. A sexual proposition, though it may indicate attraction, can shift the focus to a more physical intention rather than a deeper connection, which is foundational during the initiation stage.

7. What does the Muted Group Theory suggest about cultural biases?

- A. Cultures have a masculine bias**
- B. All groups are equally represented in discourse**
- C. Women have equal opportunities to voice their experiences**
- D. Cultural biases are rarely discussed**

Muted Group Theory posits that cultural biases often reflect a masculine bias, suggesting that the language, norms, and structures of communication predominantly favor males and their experiences while marginalizing or silencing the voices of women and other groups. This theory addresses how language is shaped by dominant groups, leading to the underrepresentation of less powerful groups. It highlights that women's experiences may be overlooked or dismissed because the discourse is structured around male perspectives, which can result in a lack of recognition for issues that are significant to women. The theory also implies that this bias in communication reinforces social inequalities by failing to give adequate space for women's voices and experiences. As a result, women and other marginalized groups may find it challenging to express their realities and concerns in a social context dominated by masculine language and points of view. Understanding this bias is crucial for recognizing the need for inclusive communication practices that enable all groups to articulate their experiences and perspectives effectively.

8. What is the significance of gender-neutral language in communication?

- A. It promotes exclusivity and confusion**
- B. It reduces bias by avoiding gender-reinforcing terms**
- C. It eliminates all forms of gender identification**
- D. It has minimal effect on communication**

Gender-neutral language plays a crucial role in communication by reducing bias and promoting inclusivity. By avoiding gender-reinforcing terms, it ensures that language does not inadvertently perpetuate stereotypes or create divisions based on gender. This is especially significant in contexts such as professional settings, education, and media, where the use of inclusive language can contribute to a more equitable representation of all individuals, regardless of their gender identity. Utilizing gender-neutral language allows for greater recognition of diverse identities beyond the traditional binary understanding of gender. It helps individuals feel acknowledged and respected, which can lead to more effective communication and collaboration. Overall, the adoption of gender-neutral language enhances clarity while fostering an environment that values equality and diversity.

9. What does the term "gender communication" encompass in the context of interpersonal communication?

- A. The process and outcome of communication unquestioned by gender**
- B. The ways in which gender influences communication**
- C. The actions taken to ignore gender in conversations**
- D. The study of communication in a gender-neutral context**

The term "gender communication" in the context of interpersonal communication focuses on the ways in which gender influences communication practices, styles, and behaviors. This encompasses how individuals express themselves and interpret messages based on their gender identity, including aspects such as language use, nonverbal cues, and relational dynamics. Understanding gender communication aids in recognizing the distinct ways that individuals of different genders may communicate, as well as the societal norms and expectations that shape these interactions. This approach acknowledges the complexities of communication that are rooted in gender differences, thereby allowing for a more nuanced interpretation of interpersonal exchanges. Options that suggest communication as being unaffected by gender or as entirely gender-neutral do not capture the dynamic interplay between gender and communication. Instead, they overlook the significant role that gender plays in shaping how people connect, express themselves, and respond to others in various contexts. Thus, recognizing the influence of gender is crucial for comprehending the full scope of interpersonal communication.

10. What does gender presentation refer to?

- A. How an individual dresses**
- B. How an individual identifies legally**
- C. How an individual presents their gender identity through personality, habits, and behaviors**
- D. How individuals perform gender roles in social settings**

Gender presentation refers to how an individual expresses their gender identity through a variety of outward characteristics, including personality traits, habits, behaviors, and mannerisms. This encompasses the way a person communicates their gender to the world, which can be influenced by cultural norms and personal choices. For instance, someone may present their gender in a way that aligns with traditional expectations for masculine or feminine behavior, or they may adopt a unique expression that does not conform strictly to societal norms. Gender presentation is distinct from gender identity, which relates to an individual's internal sense of their own gender, and from legal identification, which concerns how gender is recognized in official documents. By focusing on personality and diverse expressions, gender presentation captures the complexity of how individuals choose to embody and convey their gender to others.

Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://asu-com316exam2.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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