

# Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>5</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>17</b>

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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. Which institutions are mentioned as being able to use English or French in proceedings according to 17(1) and 17(2)?**
  - A. Parliament and the New Brunswick legislature.**
  - B. Only Parliament at Ottawa.**
  - C. Only NB courts.**
  - D. Only the Governor General.**
  
- 2. Section 16(1) declares that English and French are the official languages of Canada with equality in which domains?**
  - A. Parliament and government of Canada.**
  - B. The Supreme Court only.**
  - C. Provincial legislatures only.**
  - D. Municipal councils.**
  
- 3. Section 13 protects against self-incrimination with exceptions for which scenarios?**
  - A. Prosecution for perjury or giving contradictory evidence.**
  - B. Any other proceeding.**
  - C. Only in civil actions.**
  - D. When the witness agrees to testify.**
  
- 4. What can Parliament or the legislature do under Section 33(4)?**
  - A. Parliament or the legislature may re-enact the declaration**
  - B. Re-enactment is prohibited**
  - C. Only the courts may re-enact**
  - D. Local governments may re-enact the declaration**
  
- 5. What best describes the relationship between the minority-language instruction rights for initial eligibility and the rights to continuity for future generations?**
  - A. Initial eligibility rights exist; continuity rights ensure all future children are educated in the same language**
  - B. They are unrelated**
  - C. Continuity rights supersede initial eligibility**
  - D. Initial rights apply only to funding**

- 6. What rights does Section 29 preserve?**
- A. Rights respecting denominational, separate or dissentient schools**
  - B. Rights to freedom of expression**
  - C. Right to property**
  - D. Right to counsel**
- 7. Section 16(2) states that English and French are the official languages of New Brunswick in which institutions?**
- A. The legislature and government of New Brunswick.**
  - B. The federal Parliament only.**
  - C. All private businesses.**
  - D. The military.**
- 8. Under Section 32(1), the Charter applies to Parliament including matters relating to which territories?**
- A. Ontario**
  - B. Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories**
  - C. Nunavut and Manitoba**
  - D. British Columbia and Alberta**
- 9. What is true about the English and French linguistic communities in New Brunswick?**
- A. They have equality of status and equal rights and privileges, including the right to distinct educational institutions and such distinct cultural institutions as are necessary for their preservation and promotion.**
  - B. English has priority in education and cultural institutions.**
  - C. French language is limited to cultural events only.**
  - D. The two communities share status but English has more rights.**

**10. How do sections governing language rights relate to each other between the early provisions and preservation of non-English/non-French languages?**

- A. The early provisions preserve language rights under other constitutional provisions; the later section preserves rights for other languages**
- B. They contradict each other**
- C. They only address education**
- D. They apply to different levels of government**

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## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which institutions are mentioned as being able to use English or French in proceedings according to 17(1) and 17(2)?**

**A. Parliament and the New Brunswick legislature.**

**B. Only Parliament at Ottawa.**

**C. Only NB courts.**

**D. Only the Governor General.**

Language use in Parliament and provincial legislatures is what sections 17(1) and 17(2) address. These provisions extend the right to use English or French to the proceedings of the federal Parliament and to the legislative assemblies of the provinces. That means both levels of government can conduct business in either official language. New Brunswick is included because it is officially bilingual, so its legislature can operate in either language. The Governor General and the judiciary (like NB courts) aren't the bodies these language rights protect in this context, which is why options that focus only on those bodies don't fit.

**2. Section 16(1) declares that English and French are the official languages of Canada with equality in which domains?**

**A. Parliament and government of Canada.**

**B. The Supreme Court only.**

**C. Provincial legislatures only.**

**D. Municipal councils.**

The key idea is bilingual equality at the federal level. Section 16(1) declares that English and French are the official languages of Canada and have equality of status and equal rights and privileges as to their use in Parliament and in the Government of Canada. That means the federal Parliament must operate in both languages, debates and records can be produced in either language, and federal government services, communications, and procedures are accessible in both languages. The protection is specific to the federal sphere—Parliament and the Government of Canada—rather than to provincial legislatures or municipal councils, which operate under provincial or local laws and arrangements.

**3. Section 13 protects against self-incrimination with exceptions for which scenarios?**

- A. Prosecution for perjury or giving contradictory evidence.**
- B. Any other proceeding.**
- C. Only in civil actions.**
- D. When the witness agrees to testify.**

Section 13 bars a witness from being forced to provide testimony that could be used to incriminate them in a later proceeding. The only exception to this protection is when the testimony itself constitutes perjury or gives contradictory evidence. In that narrow case, the witness can be prosecuted for the act of lying under oath or for giving differing statements, but the general rule remains that testimony cannot be used to prosecute them for other offences arising from that same testimony. So the correct scenario is when the witness commits perjury or provides contradictory evidence—that is precisely the situation where the testimony can be used against them. The other options don't fit because the protection isn't limited to civil actions, isn't waived by agreeing to testify, and isn't extended to prosecutions in any other broad proceeding.

**4. What can Parliament or the legislature do under Section 33(4)?**

- A. Parliament or the legislature may re-enact the declaration**
- B. Re-enactment is prohibited**
- C. Only the courts may re-enact**
- D. Local governments may re-enact the declaration**

The key idea here is that there is a built-in mechanism for extending the use of the notwithstanding clause. Section 33 allows Parliament or a provincial legislature to declare that certain Charter rights do not apply to a law for up to five years. To keep that effect beyond the initial five years, the same legislative body may renew the declaration by re-enacting it. That renewal power is what Section 33(4) specifically authorizes, making it a purely legislative action—courts and local governments don't perform or renew these declarations. So the best answer reflects that the legislature can re-enact the declaration to extend the override for another term; without re-enactment, the Charter rights would apply after the initial five years.

**5. What best describes the relationship between the minority-language instruction rights for initial eligibility and the rights to continuity for future generations?**

**A. Initial eligibility rights exist; continuity rights ensure all future children are educated in the same language**

**B. They are unrelated**

**C. Continuity rights supersede initial eligibility**

**D. Initial rights apply only to funding**

The key idea here is that minority-language education rights under Section 23 come in two linked parts: initial eligibility and continuity for future generations. Initial eligibility gives a child the right to receive instruction in the minority language if the family meets the criteria. Continuity rights then extend that protection so that the children of those beneficiaries can also receive instruction in the same language, ensuring the minority-language education persists for subsequent generations. They aren't separate or unrelated; the continuity rights are meant to preserve and extend the initial entitlement across generations. That's why describing the relationship as initial eligibility existing and continuity rights ensuring all future children are educated in the same language best fits. The other choices don't capture this connection—the rights aren't independent, aren't about superiority of one over the other, and aren't solely about funding.

**6. What rights does Section 29 preserve?**

**A. Rights respecting denominational, separate or dissentient schools**

**B. Rights to freedom of expression**

**C. Right to property**

**D. Right to counsel**

Section 29 acts as a saving clause that preserves the rights and privileges guaranteed by the Constitution Act, 1867 in respect of denominational, separate or dissentient schools. It doesn't create new rights or touch on general freedoms; instead, it ensures that the charter does not override the constitutional protections for denominational education that exist outside the Charter. This is why the correct focus is on rights related to denominational schooling. The other options refer to rights found in other parts of the Charter—freedom of expression, property rights, and the right to counsel—which are protected by different provisions and are not the subject of Section 29.

**7. Section 16(2) states that English and French are the official languages of New Brunswick in which institutions?**

**A. The legislature and government of New Brunswick.**

**B. The federal Parliament only.**

**C. All private businesses.**

**D. The military.**

The key idea is that New Brunswick is officially bilingual within its own provincial framework, and Section 16(2) specifies that English and French are official in the province's legislature and government. This means that legislative proceedings, documents, and government services in those bodies must be available in both languages. It's the best answer because the section directly ties official bilingual status to the institutions of the NB legislature and government, not to private businesses, the military, or federal Parliament, which operate under different language rules.

**8. Under Section 32(1), the Charter applies to Parliament including matters relating to which territories?**

**A. Ontario**

**B. Yukon Territory and Northwest Territories**

**C. Nunavut and Manitoba**

**D. British Columbia and Alberta**

The key idea is how the Charter binds governmental action. Section 32 sets who must follow the Charter: it applies to Parliament and the federal government, and to the legislatures and governments of the provinces. For territories, the reach is provided by a later provision that treats the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories as if they were provinces for Charter purposes. That means matters that fall under federal authority but involve those territories are covered by the Charter just as provincial matters are. Among the options, the only ones that fit this territorial extension are the Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories, which is why that choice is the best answer.

**9. What is true about the English and French linguistic communities in New Brunswick?**

- A. They have equality of status and equal rights and privileges, including the right to distinct educational institutions and such distinct cultural institutions as are necessary for their preservation and promotion.**
- B. English has priority in education and cultural institutions.**
- C. French language is limited to cultural events only.**
- D. The two communities share status but English has more rights.**

In New Brunswick, English and French communities are guaranteed equal status and equal rights and privileges, including the right to have distinct educational institutions and distinct cultural institutions necessary to preserve and promote their languages. This reflects the province's bilingual framework, where both languages are officially recognized and citizens can access services in either language, and communities can maintain separate schools and cultural organizations as needed. The other ideas—English having priority in education and culture, French being limited to cultural events, or both sharing status with English having more rights—do not fit the established bilingual protections in New Brunswick.

**10. How do sections governing language rights relate to each other between the early provisions and preservation of non-English/non-French languages?**

- A. The early provisions preserve language rights under other constitutional provisions; the later section preserves rights for other languages**
- B. They contradict each other**
- C. They only address education**
- D. They apply to different levels of government**

Language rights in Canada are organized in layers. The early constitutional provisions embed language rights directly into the framework of government—rights tied to core institutions and processes, like how Parliament and the courts use language and how certain guarantees operate within the Constitution itself. Later, a section explicitly addresses the protection of languages beyond English and French, reflecting a commitment to preserve and respect Canada's broader linguistic diversity and multicultural heritage. So, the correct interpretation is that the early provisions secure language rights within the established constitutional structure, while the later section extends protection to non-English/non-French languages. This shows a complementary approach: foundational rights are built into constitutional mechanics, and additional safeguards recognize and preserve other languages as part of Canada's multicultural fabric. The other options don't fit: language rights aren't presented as contradictory, they aren't claimed to address only education, and the distinction isn't primarily about different levels of government but about how rights are grounded (in constitutional mechanics vs. multicultural preservation).

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

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

**<https://canadiancharterofrightsfreedom.examzify.com>**

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

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