

Certified Ophthalmic Assistant Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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 do the iris, ciliary body, and choroid collectively form?**
 - A. Cornea**
 - B. Uvea**
 - C. Sclera**
 - D. Retina**

- 2. The site where half the nerve fibers from each eye cross over to the opposite side is called the optic**
 - A. iris**
 - B. canthi**
 - C. stoma**
 - D. chiasm**

- 3. Acuity testing of an illiterate person and preschool children can be performed with all of the following tests EXCEPT**
 - A. Allen cards**
 - B. a potential acuity meter**
 - C. An E Cube**
 - D. Landolt's broken ring chart**

- 4. A triangular thickening of the conjunctiva that partially covers the cornea is known as**
 - A. Entropion**
 - B. Hyphema**
 - C. Ptosis**
 - D. Pterygium**

- 5. Which part of the spectacle frame connects the two lenses?**
 - A. Arm**
 - B. Bridge**
 - C. Temple**
 - D. Nose pad**

- 6. Which of the following situations require urgent attention and should be addressed on the same day?**
- A. Optic neuritis**
 - B. Retinal detachment**
 - C. Sudden loss of vision in one eye**
 - D. All the above**
- 7. What is the minimal acceptable visual acuity for driving in most states?**
- A. 20/20**
 - B. 20/30**
 - C. 20/40**
 - D. 20/50**
- 8. Which test uses prism to center the corneal reflex?**
- A. Hess**
 - B. Worth four dot**
 - C. Hirschberg**
 - D. Krimsky**
- 9. When might probing of the tear duct be a useful treatment?**
- A. For patients with diplopia**
 - B. For patients with epiphora**
 - C. For patients with hordeolum**
 - D. For patients with dacryocystitis**
- 10. What is the power of a lens with a focal length of 2 meters?**
- A. 1.5D**
 - B. 0.5D**
 - C. 2.5D**
 - D. 1.0D**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What do the iris, ciliary body, and choroid collectively form?

- A. Cornea
- B. Uvea**
- C. Sclera
- D. Retina

The iris, ciliary body, and choroid collectively form the uvea. The uvea is the middle layer of the eye and consists of the iris, ciliary body, and choroid. These structures play essential roles in controlling the amount of light entering the eye (iris), accommodating for near vision (ciliary body), and providing nutrition to the outer layers of the eye (choroid). The cornea is the transparent outermost layer of the eye, the sclera is the white protective layer covering most of the eyeball, and the retina is the innermost layer of the eye that contains light-sensitive cells for vision.

2. The site where half the nerve fibers from each eye cross over to the opposite side is called the optic

- A. iris
- B. canthi
- C. stoma
- D. chiasm**

The optic chiasm is the anatomical structure where half of the nerve fibers from each eye cross to the opposite side of the brain. This crossing allows visual information from each eye to be processed by both hemispheres of the brain, which is essential for depth perception and a unified visual field. The optic chiasm is located at the base of the brain, just in front of the pituitary gland. In contrast, the other terms provided do not refer to this specific structure. The iris is the colored part of the eye that helps control the amount of light entering the eye. The canthi refer to the corners of the eye where the upper and lower eyelids meet, and the stoma is not related to eye anatomy but rather refers to openings or a mouth-like structure in biology. Thus, recognizing the specific function and location of the optic chiasm is crucial for understanding visual processing.

3. Acuity testing of an illiterate person and preschool children can be performed with all of the following tests EXCEPT

- A. Allen cards
- B. a potential acuity meter**
- C. An E Cube
- D. Landolt's broken ring chart

Acuity testing of an illiterate person and preschool children typically requires special testing methods that do not rely on reading letters or numbers. Allen cards, An E Cube, and Landolt's broken ring chart are all examples of tests specifically designed for individuals who are unable to read. These tests utilize pictures, shapes, or other symbols that can be used to assess visual acuity without requiring the ability to read. On the other hand, a potential acuity meter (choice B) is not typically used for individuals who are illiterate or preschool children, as it relies on the ability to discern letters or numbers.

4. A triangular thickening of the conjunctiva that partially covers the cornea is known as

- A. Entropion**
- B. Hyphema**
- C. Ptosis**
- D. Pterygium**

A pterygium is a triangular thickening of the conjunctiva that extends onto the cornea. It is a common ocular condition caused by excessive sun exposure and can lead to symptoms such as redness, irritation, and blurred vision. Entropion refers to an inward turning of the eyelid, which can cause the eyelashes to rub against the cornea and irritate the eye. Hyphema is the presence of blood in the anterior chamber of the eye, typically due to trauma or other underlying eye conditions. Ptosis is the drooping of the upper eyelid, often caused by a weakening of the muscle responsible for lifting the eyelid.

5. Which part of the spectacle frame connects the two lenses?

- A. Arm**
- B. Bridge**
- C. Temple**
- D. Nose pad**

The part of the spectacle frame that connects the two lenses is the bridge. The bridge is the part of the frame that goes across the nose and supports the lenses. It plays a significant role in ensuring the proper positioning of the lenses relative to the eyes. The arm (choice A) of the spectacle frame connects to the sides of the lenses and goes over the ears to provide support. The temple (choice C) connects to the sides of the frame and goes over the ears to provide stability. Nose pads (choice D) are the small pads attached to the bridge that sit on the nose to provide comfort and support.

6. Which of the following situations require urgent attention and should be addressed on the same day?

- A. Optic neuritis**
- B. Retinal detachment**
- C. Sudden loss of vision in one eye**
- D. All the above**

Retinal detachment is a critical ocular condition that requires urgent attention. When the retina becomes detached, it can lead to permanent vision loss if not treated promptly. Symptoms may include the sudden appearance of flashes of light, floaters, or a shadow over the visual field. Since there is a limited window of time to restore the retina to its proper position and prevent irreversible damage, any signs of retinal detachment should prompt immediate evaluation and treatment, typically on the same day. While other conditions like corneal foreign bodies, sudden loss of vision in one eye, and optic neuritis also warrant timely attention, they do not always require the same level of urgent care or typically result in immediate vision loss as seen with retinal detachment. For example, while a corneal foreign body can cause discomfort and potential complications, it can often be managed within a few days unless there are other complicating factors. Sudden loss of vision in one eye is indeed an emergency and should be evaluated quickly, but the underlying cause needs to be assessed, and treatment may vary depending on the diagnosis. Optic neuritis, associated with inflammation of the optic nerve, also requires medical attention but is typically not an immediate threat to vision compared to the urgency posed by a retinal detachment

7. What is the minimal acceptable visual acuity for driving in most states?

- A. 20/20**
- B. 20/30**
- C. 20/40**
- D. 20/50**

The minimal acceptable visual acuity for driving in most states is 20/40. This level of visual acuity means that a person can see at 20 feet what a person with normal vision can see at 40 feet. Having a visual acuity of 20/40 ensures that the driver has sufficient vision to be able to see road signs, traffic signals, and other vehicles on the road clearly to drive safely.

8. Which test uses prism to center the corneal reflex?

- A. Hess**
- B. Worth four dot**
- C. Hirschberg**
- D. Krimsky**

The test that uses a prism to center the corneal reflex is the Krimsky test. This test is used to measure and correct any ocular deviation or misalignment. By placing a prism over one eye, the corneal light reflex is displaced to the deviated eye. The prism is then adjusted until the corneal reflex is centered, indicating the amount of deviation present. The other options - Hess, Worth four dot, and Hirschberg - are tests used for different purposes in assessing ocular alignment and binocular vision.

9. When might probing of the tear duct be a useful treatment?

- A. For patients with diplopia**
- B. For patients with epiphora**
- C. For patients with hordeolum**
- D. For patients with dacryocystitis**

Probing of the tear duct might be a useful treatment for patients with epiphora. Epiphora refers to excessive tearing, which can be caused by a blocked tear duct preventing tears from draining properly. By performing a tear duct probing procedure, ophthalmic assistants can help to clear the blockage and restore normal tear drainage, relieving the symptoms of epiphora. Option A, diplopia, typically refers to double vision caused by misalignment of the eyes and is not treated with tear duct probing. Option C, hordeolum, also known as a sty, is an infection of an eyelash follicle or tear gland and is treated differently from tear duct probing. Option D, dacryocystitis, is an infection or inflammation of the tear sac and is a reason for tear duct probing, making this option incorrect compared to the more relevant choice, which is Option B.

10. What is the power of a lens with a focal length of 2 meters?

- A. 1.5D**
- B. 0.5D**
- C. 2.5D**
- D. 1.0D**

The power of a lens is the reciprocal of its focal length in meters when the focal length is measured in meters. Therefore, if a lens has a focal length of 2 meters, the power of the lens would be 0.5 diopters (D). This relationship is derived from the formula: Power (in diopters) = 1 / Focal length (in meters). So, the correct answer is B. Options A, C, and D are incorrect because they do not represent the correct calculation for the power of a lens with a focal length of 2 meters.

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://ophthalmicassistant.examzify.com>

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

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