

Comprehensive Ethics and Justice Principles in Criminal Justice Practice Test (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. Which concept focuses on correcting a wrong or harm done to a person, often through compensation or punishment?**
 - A. Justice**
 - B. Ethical Formalism**
 - C. Distributive Justice**
 - D. Corrective Justice**

- 2. What term describes the discipline of determining good and evil and defining moral duty, often considered the study of what is right and wrong in human behavior?**
 - A. Morals**
 - B. Ethics**
 - C. Duty**
 - D. Applied Ethics**

- 3. Which framework emphasizes empathy, compassion, and interpersonal relationships in addressing crime and justice?**
 - A. Ethics of Care**
 - B. Peacemaking Criminology**
 - C. Integrity**
 - D. Whistleblower**

- 4. What term refers to a deliberate violation of laws to protest political or moral beliefs?**
 - A. Role Conflict**
 - B. Civil Disobedience**
 - C. Accountability**
 - D. Legal Paternalism**

- 5. Which term describes the field focused on the practical application of ethical theory to professional contexts?**
 - A. Applied Ethics**
 - B. Descriptive Ethics**
 - C. Morals**
 - D. Ethics**

- 6. Which justice approach seeks to repair harm by involving victims, offenders, and the community?**
- A. Egoism**
 - B. Noble Cause Corruption**
 - C. Restorative Justice**
 - D. Procedural Justice**
- 7. Which principle states that an act is morally right if it can be universally applied?**
- A. Distributive Justice**
 - B. Categorical Imperative**
 - C. Natural Law**
 - D. Corrective Justice**
- 8. Which field studies why ethical claims are true or false based on meanings and language?**
- A. Deontological Ethics**
 - B. Meta-Ethics**
 - C. Normative Ethics**
 - D. Ethics**
- 9. In a stepwise ethical model, which component helps avoid bias by considering similar past cases?**
- A. Guesswork**
 - B. Intuition**
 - C. Impulse**
 - D. Analogical reasoning**
- 10. Which term describes the professional requirement to be morally and legally responsible for one's actions?**
- A. Cultural Competence**
 - B. Accountability**
 - C. Social Contract**
 - D. Ethical Drift**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which concept focuses on correcting a wrong or harm done to a person, often through compensation or punishment?

- A. Justice
- B. Ethical Formalism
- C. Distributive Justice
- D. Corrective Justice**

Corrective justice centers on repairing the wrongs caused by an act. When harm occurs, its focus is to restore the harmed person to the position they were in before the wrongdoing, or as close as possible, through remedies such as compensation, restitution, or, when necessary, punishment of the offender. This approach treats wrongdoing as a moral imbalance between individuals that calls for a targeted remedy to rectify the harm done to the victim. In criminal justice, its aim is to hold the offender accountable and to address the harm experienced by the victim, rather than addressing broad questions of resource distribution or universal duties. The description here—correcting a harm through compensation or punishment—fits this framework precisely.

2. What term describes the discipline of determining good and evil and defining moral duty, often considered the study of what is right and wrong in human behavior?

- A. Morals
- B. Ethics**
- C. Duty
- D. Applied Ethics

Ethics is the formal study of what is right and wrong and of moral duties. It provides the systematic reasoning and frameworks we use to evaluate actions and determine how people ought to behave. Morals refer to personal or cultural beliefs about right and wrong, which ethics analyzes rather than merely describing. Duty is a concept within ethics—the obligations we recognize as part of moral life—but it's not the field itself. Applied ethics is the branch that takes ethical theories and applies them to real-world areas like medicine or business. Because ethics names the discipline that explores and justifies judgments about right, wrong, and moral obligation, it is the best fit.

3. Which framework emphasizes empathy, compassion, and interpersonal relationships in addressing crime and justice?

A. Ethics of Care

B. Peacemaking Criminology

C. Integrity

D. Whistleblower

Peacemaking Criminology centers on empathy, compassion, and interpersonal relationships as the guiding force in addressing crime and justice. It treats crime as a disturbance in human connections and seeks to repair harm through nonviolent means, dialogue, and community involvement. This approach emphasizes restorative processes—such as victim-offender mediation, restorative circles, and community conferences—that bring people affected by crime together to understand harms, take accountability, and heal relationships. The goal is not just to punish but to transform the conditions that produce crime and to foster peace within communities, underscoring the moral importance of empathy and relational care in justice practice. While the ethics of care also values relationships and care, the question points to a criminology framework that explicitly applies these relational, empathetic principles to justice practice and policy in a restorative, community-centered way. The other options focus on individual virtue or reporting misconduct, rather than a justice framework built around empathetic engagement and reconciliation.

4. What term refers to a deliberate violation of laws to protest political or moral beliefs?

A. Role Conflict

B. Civil Disobedience

C. Accountability

D. Legal Paternalism

Deliberate violation of laws to protest political or moral beliefs is civil disobedience. It involves knowingly breaking a law one regards as unjust and accepting the legal consequences to draw attention to the issue and push for change, often in a peaceful way. This approach rests on the idea that conscience and justice warrant action even when it means breaking the law. Historically, figures like Gandhi and Martin Luther King Jr. used civil disobedience to promote social and political change without resorting to violence. The other terms don't fit this scenario: role conflict is about conflicting duties from different social roles; accountability is about being responsible for actions; and legal paternalism is the justification for the state to restrict liberty for individuals' own good. Civil disobedience uniquely describes the intentional, nonviolent lawbreaking to protest beliefs.

5. Which term describes the field focused on the practical application of ethical theory to professional contexts?

A. Applied Ethics

B. Descriptive Ethics

C. Morals

D. Ethics

Applied ethics is the field that translates general ideas about right and wrong into concrete guidance for professional decision-making. It asks how ethical theories should inform real-world choices in settings like medicine, business, law, engineering, and journalism, and it develops codes, rules, and decision frameworks that professionals can use in daily practice. This focus on practical guidance for professional contexts is what sets applied ethics apart. Descriptive ethics, by contrast, studies what people actually believe and do—the empirical side of morality—rather than how they ought to act in professional settings. Morals refer to the beliefs about right and wrong held by individuals or cultures, not a distinct field of study. Ethics, in a broader sense, is the discipline that investigates moral principles and theories, encompassing both theory and practice, but the term that specifically highlights applying those ideas to real-world professional decisions is applied ethics.

6. Which justice approach seeks to repair harm by involving victims, offenders, and the community?

A. Egoism

B. Noble Cause Corruption

C. Restorative Justice

D. Procedural Justice

The main idea being tested is a justice approach that prioritizes repairing the harm caused by crime through inclusive participation. Restorative justice brings victims, offenders, and community members together to acknowledge what happened, understand its impact, and decide on concrete ways to make things right. This can include apologies, restitution, community service, or other actions that address the needs of those harmed and help reintegrate the offender into the community. The goal is to heal relationships and restore trust, not merely to punish or to focus on procedural steps. In contrast, egoism centers on pursuing one's own interests, often at others' expense. Noble Cause Corruption refers to bending or breaking rules for what's perceived as a noble outcome, rather than addressing harm and accountability. Procedural justice is about the fairness of the processes and the perception of being treated with respect within the system, but it doesn't inherently involve an active, collaborative effort to repair harm with victims and the broader community. Because restorative justice uniquely centers on repairing harm through the joint involvement of victims, offenders, and the community, it is the best fit for this question.

7. Which principle states that an act is morally right if it can be universally applied?

- A. Distributive Justice**
- B. Categorical Imperative**
- C. Natural Law**
- D. Corrective Justice**

The main idea here is universalizability in moral reasoning. The principle, known as the Categorical Imperative, tells you to act only on maxims you could will to become universal laws. In other words, you imagine everyone following the rule behind your action; if that rule could consistently govern all people without contradiction, the action is morally permissible. This shifts ethics away from outcomes or personal desires and toward the form of the rule itself. For example, if you consider lying to get out of a commitment, you'd have to accept a world where everyone lies to get what they want, which would make promises meaningless and undermine trust, so the rule fails the test. Conversely, truth-telling and keeping promises could be universalized, supporting a functioning system of trust. Other concepts like fair distribution, natural-law reasoning, and corrective justice address different justice concerns and do not capture this universalizability test, which is why the categorical imperative best fits the idea of an act being morally right when it can be universally applied.

8. Which field studies why ethical claims are true or false based on meanings and language?

- A. Deontological Ethics**
- B. Meta-Ethics**
- C. Normative Ethics**
- D. Ethics**

Meta-ethics investigates what ethical statements mean and whether they can be true or false, and how language relates to moral truth. It asks whether claims like "stealing is wrong" express beliefs, attitudes, or prescriptions, and whether there are objective moral facts or if truths depend on meaning and usage. This focus on semantics, truth conditions, and the status of moral claims is what sets meta-ethics apart from other branches: deontological ethics deals with duties and rules for action, normative ethics concerns how to determine right action in general, and ethics as a broad field covers moral theory as a whole. So the field that best fits the idea of studying why ethical claims are true or false based on meanings and language is meta-ethics.

9. In a stepwise ethical model, which component helps avoid bias by considering similar past cases?

- A. Guesswork**
- B. Intuition**
- C. Impulse**
- D. Analogical reasoning**

Analogical reasoning relies on comparing the current situation to similar past cases to guide the decision. In a stepwise ethical model, this component helps avoid bias by anchoring judgments in precedent rather than personal whim or unexamined assumptions. By examining how similar situations were analyzed and resolved, you can identify which factors were decisive, which principles were used, and what outcomes resulted, promoting consistency and fairness across cases. This approach encourages you to assess the relevance of the similarities and differences between cases, ensuring that you don't overgeneralize or ignore important context. When applied carefully, analogical reasoning grounds ethical choices in established patterns and documented reasoning, making the decision process more transparent and less susceptible to individual bias. Keep in mind, though, that past cases must be truly relevant; if the similarities are weak, the analogy can mislead, so it's important to judge the scope and applicability of prior reasoning before applying it to the current situation.

10. Which term describes the professional requirement to be morally and legally responsible for one's actions?

- A. Cultural Competence**
- B. Accountability**
- C. Social Contract**
- D. Ethical Drift**

The concept tested is accountability in professional conduct. Being accountable means being morally and legally responsible for one's actions and accepting the consequences that follow. In criminal justice, accountability ensures that professionals adhere to ethical standards and the law, and it supports public trust by providing mechanisms for oversight, review, and discipline when actions fall short of those standards. Cultural competence focuses on understanding and effectively engaging with diverse communities, which is important but not about bearing responsibility for one's actions. The social contract is a broader idea about the implied agreement between society and professionals, which underpins accountability but isn't the term that specifically describes the obligation to be responsible for one's actions. Ethical drift refers to a gradual departure from ethical norms, not the explicit requirement of responsibility itself. So the best term for the professional requirement to be morally and legally responsible for one's actions is accountability.

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://ethicsprinciplesincrimjustice.examzify.com>

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

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