

COMPTIA A+ 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

- 1. How many pins does AM2 have?**
 - A. 938 pins**
 - B. 940 pins**
 - C. 950 pins**
 - D. 960 pins**
- 2. What does SFF stand for?**
 - A. Super Fast Format**
 - B. Small Form Factor**
 - C. Secure File Format**
 - D. Simple Firmware Framework**
- 3. Which feature is essential for a home server computer build?**
 - A. Gigabit NIC**
 - B. Fingerprint reader**
 - C. RFID reader**
 - D. Weatherproof casing**
- 4. What voltage and pin configuration does PC3-12800 use?**
 - A. 1.2V 288 pin DIMM**
 - B. 1.5V 240 pin DIMM**
 - C. 1.35V 214 pin DIMM**
 - D. 1.5V 288 pin DIMM**
- 5. What does the Northbridge part of a motherboard control?**
 - A. PCI, IDE, USB, ISA**
 - B. CPU, RAM, ROM**
 - C. AGP, PCIe and Memory**
 - D. SATA, SCSI, RAID**
- 6. WIMAX is an acronym for?**
 - A. Wireless Maximum**
 - B. Worldwide Interexchange for Maximum Access**
 - C. Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access**
 - D. Wireless Internet Maximum Access**

- 7. What is the speed range of 802.11n?**
- A. 100 to 300Mbps**
 - B. 150 to 600Mbps**
 - C. 50 to 150Mbps**
 - D. 200 to 800Mbps**
- 8. What is the minimum HDD space for a 64-bit Windows 7 OS?**
- A. 10GB**
 - B. 16GB**
 - C. 20GB**
 - D. 40GB**
- 9. What competes with the Intel Pentium 4?**
- A. Athlon 64 X2**
 - B. Phenom**
 - C. Athlon 64**
 - D. Phenom II**
- 10. DDR RAM operates at how many volts?**
- A. 1.8V**
 - B. 2.5V**
 - C. 3.3V**
 - D. 5V**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How many pins does AM2 have?

- A. 938 pins
- B. 940 pins**
- C. 950 pins
- D. 960 pins

AM2 is a computer motherboard socket type that contains 940 pins. These pins are used to connect the processor to the rest of the motherboard. Option A (938 pins) and Option D (960 pins) are incorrect because they do not match the correct number of pins for the AM2 socket type. Option C (950 pins) is incorrect as well, as it is not the correct number required for the specific AM2 socket type.

2. What does SFF stand for?

- A. Super Fast Format
- B. Small Form Factor**
- C. Secure File Format
- D. Simple Firmware Framework

SFF stands for Small Form Factor. The other options are incorrect because they do not accurately define the acronym. Option A, Super Fast Format, is not a commonly used term and it does not make sense in the context of SFF. Option C, Secure File Format, also does not fit the context of SFF and is not a commonly used term. Option D, Simple Firmware Framework, is a term commonly used in the tech industry, but it is not related to small form factor. Therefore, B is the most accurate and relevant answer.

3. Which feature is essential for a home server computer build?

- A. Gigabit NIC**
- B. Fingerprint reader
- C. RFID reader
- D. Weatherproof casing

The essential feature for a home server computer build is a Gigabit NIC (Network Interface Card). This component enables high-speed networking, which is crucial for efficiently handling data transfers, media streaming, and file sharing over a home network. A Gigabit NIC can support transfer speeds of up to 1 Gbps, significantly improving the server's performance compared to slower Ethernet standards. In a home server environment, where multiple devices may access the server simultaneously, having a fast and reliable network connection is vital to ensure smooth operation and accessibility of services hosted on the server. The ability to handle increased bandwidth demand is particularly important for tasks such as streaming high-definition video, backing up large amounts of data, or running virtual machines. The other options, while they serve specific purposes, are not fundamentally necessary for the basic functionality of a home server. Fingerprint and RFID readers may enhance security for personal computers, but they are not critical for a server's role. Weatherproof casing is also not typically needed for indoor server setups.

4. What voltage and pin configuration does PC3-12800 use?

- A. 1.2V 288 pin DIMM
- B. 1.5V 240 pin DIMM**
- C. 1.35V 214 pin DIMM
- D. 1.5V 288 pin DIMM

PC3-12800 uses a voltage of 1.5V and a pin configuration of 240 pins. Option A is incorrect because it corresponds to the voltage and pin configuration used by DDR4 RAM. Option C is incorrect because it corresponds to the voltage and pin configuration used by DDR3L RAM. Option D is incorrect because although it has the correct pin configuration, the voltage is incorrect. It's important to check the specifications of your computer's motherboard to ensure compatibility when upgrading or purchasing RAM.

5. What does the Northbridge part of a motherboard control?

- A. PCI, IDE, USB, ISA
- B. CPU, RAM, ROM
- C. AGP, PCIe and Memory**
- D. SATA, SCSI, RAID

The Northbridge part of a motherboard is responsible for controlling the faster components of a computer system, such as the CPU, RAM, and graphics card. This is why option B is incorrect, as it only includes components that are controlled by the Southbridge part of a motherboard. Option A is also incorrect because these are all peripheral components that are not controlled by the Northbridge. Option D is incorrect because these are all storage-related components. Thus, C is the correct answer as it includes components that are controlled by the Northbridge.

6. WIMAX is an acronym for?

- A. Wireless Maximum
- B. Worldwide Interexchange for Maximum Access
- C. Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access**
- D. Wireless Internet Maximum Access

WIMAX stands for Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access. This is a telecommunications technology that provides wireless data communication in a wide area. Option A, Wireless Maximum, is incorrect because it does not specify the technology or purpose. Option B, Worldwide Interexchange for Maximum Access, is incorrect because it uses the term "Interexchange" which does not relate to wireless communication. Option D, Wireless Internet Maximum Access, is incorrect because it does not mention the specific technology of WIMAX, and uses the term "Internet" which does not clarify the purpose.

7. What is the speed range of 802.11n?

- A. 100 to 300Mbps
- B. 150 to 600Mbps**
- C. 50 to 150Mbps
- D. 200 to 800Mbps

802.11n is a wireless networking standard that operates on both the 2.4GHz and 5GHz frequency bands, providing increased speed and range compared to previous Wi-Fi standards. The speed range of 802.11n is typically between 150 to 600Mbps, making option B the correct answer. Option A (100 to 300Mbps) is incorrect because it is the speed range for 802.11g, an earlier Wi-Fi standard. Option C (50 to 150Mbps) is incorrect because it is the speed range for 802.11b, an even earlier Wi-Fi standard. Option D (200 to 800Mbps) may seem like a possible answer as it falls within the 802.11n speed capabilities, but it would be incorrect as it is not the typical speed range for this standard. It is important to remember that speed ranges are not set in stone and can vary depending on factors such as interference, distance from the router, and number of connected devices. Therefore, option B provides the most accurate and realistic speed range for 802.11n.

8. What is the minimum HDD space for a 64-bit Windows 7 OS?

- A. 10GB
- B. 16GB
- C. 20GB**
- D. 40GB

The minimum hard disk drive (HDD) space requirement for a 64-bit version of Windows 7 is 20GB. This requirement ensures that the operating system has enough space for the installation, as well as for future updates and additional applications that users may install. While some options may suggest smaller HDD capacities, they do not meet the essential needs for a 64-bit system, which typically requires more storage due to the larger file sizes and additional components associated with a 64-bit architecture compared to its 32-bit counterpart. This specification is crucial for ensuring optimal performance and usability of the operating system.

9. What competes with the Intel Pentium 4?

- A. Athlon 64 X2
- B. Phenom
- C. Athlon 64**
- D. Phenom II

The other options listed, Athlon 64 X2, Phenom, and Phenom II are all processors manufactured by AMD, a competitor of Intel. However, they were released after the Intel Pentium 4 and do not directly compete with it. The Athlon 64 is the closest option, as it was released around the same time as the Pentium 4 and was marketed as a competitor, but it ultimately fell short in performance compared to the Pentium 4. Therefore, the Athlon 64 is the best answer as the processor that directly competed with the Intel Pentium 4.

10. DDR RAM operates at how many volts?

- A. 1.8V
- B. 2.5V**
- C. 3.3V
- D. 5V

The correct answer is that DDR RAM operates at 2.5 volts. This voltage standard was developed during the design of DDR (Double Data Rate) SDRAM, which significantly improves performance compared to its predecessor, SDR SDRAM. The lower voltage of 2.5V allows for reduced power consumption and heat generation, making it more efficient for modern computing needs. Higher voltage options such as 3.3V and 5V are associated with older RAM technologies and would not be suitable for DDR RAM. Similarly, while 1.8V is relevant to later memory technologies like DDR2 and DDR3, it does not apply to the original DDR RAM, which is the focus of the question.

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://comptia-aplus.examzify.com>

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