

DANB General Chairside Practice Test (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. In which situation is nitroglycerin typically placed under a patient's tongue?**
 - A. Angina**
 - B. Hypertension**
 - C. Headaches**
 - D. Diabetes**
- 2. Which classification of motion should be minimized by both the dentist and dental assistant to enhance productivity and reduce fatigue?**
 - A. Class II**
 - B. Class IV**
 - C. Class III**
 - D. Class I**
- 3. What is an apicoectomy?**
 - A. A root canal procedure**
 - B. A type of crown preparation**
 - C. A surgical removal of the apex of an endodontically treated tooth**
 - D. A filling replacement**
- 4. What is the function of the tongue during dental procedures?**
 - A. To help position and stabilize objects in the mouth**
 - B. To assist in suctioning saliva**
 - C. To apply local anesthesia**
 - D. To administer medication**
- 5. The procedure performed to remove necrotic tissue from a periodontal pocket is referred to as?**
 - A. Gingival curettage**
 - B. Root planing**
 - C. Periodontal surgery**
 - D. Soft tissue grafting**

6. If a new clinical dental assistant lacks the EFDA credential for a specific intraoral task, what should they do?

- A. Proceed with the task to gain experience**
- B. Inform the dentist of their lack of appropriate credential**
- C. Ask a colleague to help with the task**
- D. Ignore the situation and continue working**

7. Which instrument is typically utilized to extract debris or granulation tissue from a surgical site?

- A. Surgical curette**
- B. Hemostat**
- C. Scalpel**
- D. Explorer**

8. What type of anesthesia is accomplished by injecting the anesthetic solution directly into the tissue?

- A. Infiltration anesthesia**
- B. General anesthesia**
- C. Topical anesthesia**
- D. Regional anesthesia**

9. In the context of managing a dental practice, what is an example of "downtime"?

- A. Waiting for the patient to arrive**
- B. Waiting for anesthesia to take effect**
- C. Time spent on paperwork**
- D. Time when staff are on break**

10. What tool is often used for checking occlusion in dentistry?

- A. Cotton roll**
- B. Dental mirror**
- C. Articulating paper**
- D. Explorer**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In which situation is nitroglycerin typically placed under a patient's tongue?

- A. Angina**
- B. Hypertension**
- C. Headaches**
- D. Diabetes**

Nitroglycerin is primarily used for the treatment of angina, which is chest pain resulting from reduced blood flow to the heart. Placing nitroglycerin under the tongue allows for rapid absorption directly into the bloodstream, leading to quick relief of the pain. This route is effective because it bypasses the gastrointestinal tract, providing faster onset of action compared to oral administration. In the context of the other options, while nitroglycerin has specific roles, it is not typically used for hypertension as a first-line treatment method but can be a part of management in controlled situations such as acute heart failure. For headaches, particularly migraines, medication like triptans is usually prescribed, while diabetes management involves insulin or oral hypoglycemic agents rather than nitroglycerin. Thus, the placement of nitroglycerin under the tongue is specifically associated with the immediate management of angina.

2. Which classification of motion should be minimized by both the dentist and dental assistant to enhance productivity and reduce fatigue?

- A. Class II**
- B. Class IV**
- C. Class III**
- D. Class I**

To enhance productivity and reduce fatigue in a dental setting, it is essential to minimize Class IV motions. Class IV motions refer to the use of the arms and hands away from the body, which typically involves reaching or working at a distance that requires significant physical effort. These motions can lead to increased fatigue and strain on the muscles and joints, particularly when performed repetitively during long procedures. By reducing the frequency and extent of Class IV motions, both the dentist and dental assistant can maintain better ergonomics. This not only helps prevent musculoskeletal disorders but also allows for more efficient task performance, as tasks can be completed more quickly and easily when the instruments and materials are within easy reach. Proper positioning and organization of the dental operatory can further minimize these motions, promoting a more comfortable working environment and thereby enhancing overall productivity. In contrast, while Class I, Class II, and Class III motions are important to consider, they do not pose the same risk of fatigue and inefficiency associated with Class IV movements.

3. What is an apicoectomy?

- A. A root canal procedure
- B. A type of crown preparation
- C. A surgical removal of the apex of an endodontically treated tooth**
- D. A filling replacement

An apicoectomy is a specific surgical procedure that involves the removal of the apex, or tip, of a tooth's root along with any infected tissue. This procedure is typically performed when the conventional root canal treatment has failed or when an infection persists at the root tip despite previous treatments. The goal of an apicoectomy is to eliminate infection and promote healing around the root of the tooth, allowing the tooth to be retained in the mouth, thereby preserving its functionality. Understanding this procedure is important in the context of endodontics, as it highlights an advanced treatment option for managing persistent infections and complications following root canal therapy. The other choices do not accurately describe this surgical intervention, as they relate to different dental procedures unrelated to the surgical removal of root apices.

4. What is the function of the tongue during dental procedures?

- A. To help position and stabilize objects in the mouth**
- B. To assist in suctioning saliva
- C. To apply local anesthesia
- D. To administer medication

The tongue plays a crucial role in dental procedures by helping to position and stabilize objects within the mouth. Its muscular structure allows for precise movements, which can assist the dental professional in ensuring that instruments and materials are held in the correct place. This stabilization is important for both patient comfort and the effectiveness of the procedure being performed. While the tongue does interact with saliva, it is not specifically tasked with suctioning; that function is usually managed by dental equipment such as suction tips. The tongue also does not apply local anesthesia or administer medication, as these tasks are reserved for trained dental professionals using specific techniques and tools. By understanding the importance of the tongue in maintaining stability during dental work, one appreciates how it aids in a smoother and more efficient treatment process.

5. The procedure performed to remove necrotic tissue from a periodontal pocket is referred to as?

- A. Gingival curettage**
- B. Root planing**
- C. Periodontal surgery**
- D. Soft tissue grafting**

The procedure intended to remove necrotic tissue from a periodontal pocket is known as gingival curettage. This technique involves the careful scraping of the inner lining of the periodontal pocket to eliminate diseased or necrotic tissue and to promote healing of the surrounding healthy tissue. It is often performed as a part of periodontal therapy to help reduce inflammation and facilitate better reattachment of the gum tissue to the tooth. In contrast, root planing focuses on smoothing the surfaces of the teeth's roots that have become rough or infected due to periodontal disease. While it is important for treating gum disease, it does not specifically target the removal of necrotic tissue itself as gingival curettage does. Periodontal surgery generally encompasses a range of surgical interventions used to treat severe gum disease, while soft tissue grafting involves transplanting tissue to areas where gum tissue has receded, aiming to restore gum health and appearance. Neither of these procedures specifically aims at the removal of necrotic tissue from the periodontal pocket in the same direct manner as gingival curettage.

6. If a new clinical dental assistant lacks the EFDA credential for a specific intraoral task, what should they do?

- A. Proceed with the task to gain experience**
- B. Inform the dentist of their lack of appropriate credential**
- C. Ask a colleague to help with the task**
- D. Ignore the situation and continue working**

A clinical dental assistant who does not have the Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA) credential should prioritize communication regarding their qualifications. Informing the dentist of their lack of appropriate credential is essential because it maintains professional integrity and patient safety. Without the required credentials, the assistant might not fully understand the procedural nuances necessary to perform the task effectively or safely. Operating without the necessary credential could lead to complications that might not only risk patient outcomes but also expose the dental office to legal and ethical issues. Transparency in this situation is crucial; it enables the dentist to provide guidance or assign the task to an appropriately qualified individual, ensuring that patient care standards are upheld. Following proper protocols helps build a trustworthy working environment where safety and professionalism are prioritized.

7. Which instrument is typically utilized to extract debris or granulation tissue from a surgical site?

A. Surgical curette

B. Hemostat

C. Scalpel

D. Explorer

A surgical curette is specifically designed for the purpose of cleaning out tissue and debris from surgical sites. Its spoon-shaped end allows for effective scraping and removal of granulation tissue, which is important for maintaining a clean wound environment and promoting proper healing. This instrument is commonly used in various surgical procedures, especially in oral and periodontal surgeries, where the removal of tissue debris is crucial prior to further treatment or closure of the wound. In contrast, a hemostat is primarily used to clamp blood vessels or tissues to control bleeding, a scalpel is designed for making incisions in tissues, and an explorer is utilized for examining surfaces of teeth and tissues, typically to detect cavities or other concerns. Each of these tools serves a distinct purpose that does not align with the specific function of removing debris or granulation tissue from a surgical site.

8. What type of anesthesia is accomplished by injecting the anesthetic solution directly into the tissue?

A. Infiltration anesthesia

B. General anesthesia

C. Topical anesthesia

D. Regional anesthesia

Infiltration anesthesia is achieved by injecting the anesthetic solution directly into the tissue where the procedure will take place. This method allows the anesthetic to diffuse into the surrounding area and block nerve impulses, thereby providing a localized numbing effect. It is commonly used in dental procedures to minimize pain during treatments in specific areas, such as a tooth or a small section of the gum. The other options involve different techniques or scopes of anesthesia. General anesthesia induces a state of unconsciousness and is administered systemically, often for more extensive surgical procedures. Topical anesthesia involves applying anesthetic directly onto the mucous membrane or skin to numb the surface area without the need for injections. Regional anesthesia involves blocking sensation to a larger area of the body, such as a limb or half of the face, typically through nerve blocks rather than direct tissue injection. Infiltration anesthesia provides precise control for localized procedures, making it essential for many dental applications.

9. In the context of managing a dental practice, what is an example of "downtime"?

- A. Waiting for the patient to arrive**
- B. Waiting for anesthesia to take effect**
- C. Time spent on paperwork**
- D. Time when staff are on break**

In the context of managing a dental practice, "downtime" refers to periods when the dental staff is not engaged in productive work that directly contributes to patient care or the operation of the practice. The choice regarding waiting for anesthesia to take effect correctly aligns with this definition. During this time, the dental team is effectively waiting on a process to complete before they can proceed with treatment, which can be seen as a lapse in active engagement with patient care. The other scenarios do not fit as neatly into the concept of downtime. Waiting for a patient to arrive involves a proactive management of appointments and patient flow, while time spent on paperwork is typically considered part of the necessary administrative duties that support the practice's operations. Break times for staff are essential for maintaining morale and efficiency, but they also don't count as downtime in a negative context, since staff need breaks to function effectively.

10. What tool is often used for checking occlusion in dentistry?

- A. Cotton roll**
- B. Dental mirror**
- C. Articulating paper**
- D. Explorer**

The correct answer is articulating paper, which is the tool commonly used in dentistry to check occlusion. When a dentist or dental assistant wants to assess how the upper and lower teeth come together during biting or chewing, they can place articulating paper between the teeth and have the patient bite down. This paper leaves marks that indicate which areas are making contact and which are not. By examining these contacts, dental professionals can identify any issues with occlusion, such as high spots that might need to be adjusted, ensuring that the bite is even and comfortable for the patient. The other tools listed have different primary functions. Cotton rolls are used to absorb saliva and keep the area dry during procedures but do not provide information about occlusion. A dental mirror is essential for visualizing the oral cavity, allowing access to areas that are hard to see, but it does not provide occlusal feedback. An explorer is a hand instrument used to detect cavities and check the integrity of tooth surfaces but does not assist in evaluating how teeth fit together. Therefore, articulating paper stands out as the specialized tool specifically designed for checking occlusal relationships.

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://danb-generalchairside.examzify.com>

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

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