

DEAN VAUGHN MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. The prefix that means Break is which?

- A. Clas-
- B. Ambi-
- C. Orth-
- D. Ventr-

2. Identify the organ associated with the combining form utero-.

- A. Pelvis
- B. Appendix
- C. Uterus
- D. Sacrum

3. Which prefix means 'Flat'?

- A. Good
- B. Thick
- C. Flat
- D. Around

4. The prefix Cryo- indicates which temperature concept?

- A. Warm
- B. Cold
- C. Hot
- D. Frigid

5. The prefix meaning Head is which?

- A. Capit-
- B. Olfact-
- C. Schiz-
- D. Duct-

6. Which prefix means Break?

- A. Ger-
- B. Olfact-
- C. Ambi-
- D. Clas-

7. What does the prefix Strict- mean?

- A. Draw Tight
- B. Tighten
- C. Bind
- D. Stretch

8. The morpheme meaning cell?

- A. Semen
- B. Cantho-
- C. Cyt-
- D. Vaso-

9. Peri- prefix means?

- A. In front of, before
- B. In
- C. About, around
- D. Hand

10. The prefix meaning 'ray' is

- A. Corne-
- B. Phren-
- C. Ptyal-
- D. Radi-

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. The prefix that means Break is which?

- A. Clas-
- B. Ambi-
- C. Orth-
- D. Ventr-

*Understanding prefixes that describe actions helps you decode medical terms quickly. This prefix comes from Greek *klastos*, meaning broken or to break. It appears in terms like *cranioclasia* (breaking the skull) or *osteoclasia* (a surgical fracture to realign a bone). That action-focused meaning is what links this prefix to break. *Ambi-* means both or around, not related to breaking. *Orth-* means straight or correct, as in orthodontics, so it's about straightness rather than breaking. *Ventr-* relates to the belly or ventral side, not to breaking either.*

2. Identify the organ associated with the combining form *utero-*.

- A. Pelvis
- B. Appendix
- C. Uterus
- D. Sacrum

*The combining form *utero-* signals the uterus. In medical terms, *utero-* is used to connect to other word parts to describe anything related to the uterus, such as during pregnancy or uterine anatomy. That's why the organ associated with this form is the uterus. The other options refer to different structures (pelvis as a region, appendix as a separate organ, sacrum as a bone), not to the uterus.*

3. Which prefix means 'Flat'?

- A. Good
- B. Thick
- C. Flat
- D. Around

*Understanding prefixes in medical terminology is about the idea they convey, such as shape or location. A prefix that means flat is *platy-* (also seen as *plano-*). This prefix is used to describe flat surfaces or flat forms in anatomy. The option that expresses this meaning is the one labeled as Flat, because it corresponds to the sense of flatness carried by the prefix. For example, *platysma* is a flat muscle sheet, illustrating how the prefix signals a flat shape. So, the meaning "Flat" best matches the prefix concept being tested.*

4. The prefix Cryo- indicates which temperature concept?

- A. Warm
- B. Cold**
- C. Hot
- D. Frigid

Cryo- signals cold or freezing temperatures. It comes from Greek kryos, meaning cold or frost, and is used in medical terms to describe exposure to very low temperatures or preservation at those temperatures (for example, cryotherapy or cryopreservation). It does not convey warmth or heat. While frigid also means very cold, cryo- specifically denotes the cold/freezing concept in terminology, which is why Cold is the correct temperature concept here.

5. The prefix meaning Head is which?

- A. Capit-**
- B. Olfact-
- C. Schiz-
- D. Duct-

Capit- comes from the Latin caput, meaning head. In medical terms, this prefix signals a relation to the head, as seen in words like capital or capitation (per head). The other options point to different ideas: olfact- deals with smell (olfactory), schiz- means split or division (schizophrenia), and duct- relates to leading or a duct. So capit- is the prefix that means head.

6. Which prefix means Break?

- A. Ger-
- B. Olfact-
- C. Ambi-
- D. Clas-**

Clas- is the prefix that means to break. It comes from a Greek root (klasis) referring to breaking or fracture, and appears in medical terms like osteoclasia (surgical breaking of bone) or with the concept of breaking down in related words. The other prefixes point to unrelated ideas: ger- relates to aging, olfact- to the sense of smell, and ambi- to both sides or around. So clas- is the one that conveys the idea of breaking.

7. What does the prefix Strict- mean?

A. Draw Tight

B. Tighten

C. Bind

D. Stretch

The main idea this prefix signals is the feel of drawing something tight or binding it. It comes from Latin *stringere*, which means to pull together or tighten. So, when you see strict-, think of a force that makes something tighter or more confined. That's why "draw tight" is the best descriptor. It captures the exact sense the prefix conveys—the action of pulling in or constricting. "Tighten" is related but describes the act you perform, not the inherent meaning of the prefix itself. "Bind" is nearby in idea but not as precise about the motion of drawing tight, and "stretch" is basically the opposite idea. Memorable examples: constrict means to draw tight around something, and restriction is the act of making something tighter or more confined.

8. The morpheme meaning cell?

A. Semen

B. Cantho-

C. Cyt-

D. Vaso-

The morpheme meaning cell is cyt- (often seen as cyt/o or cyto-). It comes from Greek *kýtos*, meaning cell, and it appears in many terms about cells, such as cytology (study of cells), cytoplasm (cell contents), and cytotoxic (toxic to cells). The other options don't convey the idea of a cell: semen refers to the reproductive fluid, cantho-relates to a corner or angle (as in canthus of the eye), and vaso- means vessel. So cyt- is the form that directly denotes cell.

9. Peri- prefix means?

A. In front of, before

B. In

C. About, around

D. Hand

Peri- means around or surrounding. It's used to describe something that encircles another structure, like periosteum (the tissue around a bone) or pericardium (the lining around the heart). It does not mean in front of or before (that would be pre- or ante-), nor does it mean "in" (that would be intra- or endo-), and it isn't related to the hand (the hand is manu- or cheir- in medical terms). So the concept you're being tested on is that peri-denotes around or around something, as in terms that mean around.

10. The prefix meaning 'ray' is

- A. Corne-
- B. Phren-
- C. Ptyal-
- D. Radi-**

Radi- conveys the idea of a ray or beam, which is the basis for medical terms related to X-rays and radiation (like radiology or radiograph). The other prefixes point to different concepts: corne- means horn (used in terms like cornea), phren- relates to the diaphragm or mind, and ptyal- refers to saliva. Because radi- specifically signals rays, it's the correct prefix in this item.

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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://vaughnmedterms.examzify.com>

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

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