

Diamond and Diamond Grading Practice Exam (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	15

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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 term describes a flat, triangular twinned diamond crystal?**
 - A. Grain lines**
 - B. Habit**
 - C. Singly refractive (isotropic)**
 - D. Macle**

- 2. What does the term Naif refer to in rough-diamond terminology?**
 - A. The natural, unpolished surface of a rough diamond.**
 - B. The surface near girdle after cut**
 - C. A synthetic diamond variant**
 - D. A type of diamond deposit**

- 3. White light is which of the following?**
 - A. A Single Spectral Color**
 - B. Darkness**
 - C. A Form of Ultraviolet Light**
 - D. The Combination of All the Spectral Colors**

- 4. The higher a gem's RI, the which of the following?**
 - A. The Larger Its Critical Angle**
 - B. Does Not Affect the Critical Angle**
 - C. The Smaller Its Critical Angle**
 - D. Always Yields Zero Dispersion**

- 5. What happens to the speed of light when it enters a medium with a higher refractive index?**
 - A. It Becomes Infinite**
 - B. It Increases**
 - C. It Remains the Same**
 - D. It Decreases**

- 6. Which term describes the diamond industry program ensuring diamonds crossing borders are legitimate and do not fund conflict or terrorism?**
- A. Irradiation**
 - B. Kimberley Process (KP)**
 - C. Lamproite**
 - D. Kaps**
- 7. Which term describes a foil-backed, colorless, lead-glass diamond imitation?**
- A. Rhinestone**
 - B. Scaife**
 - C. Scrubber**
 - D. Secondary Deposit**
- 8. Why did De Beers begin to buy rough from other producers?**
- A. Because they couldn't own every mine, so they bought rough to safeguard diamond prices and ensure market stability**
 - B. To create a global marketing campaign**
 - C. To focus on diamond grading**
 - D. To expand into mining gold**
- 9. Which term is De Beers' formalized commitment of itself and its shareholders to the highest ethical standards?**
- A. Blemish**
 - B. Blocking**
 - C. Brick-and-mortar retailer**
 - D. Best Practices Principles**
- 10. Where is the future of the diamond market in manufacturing and consumption expected to be strongest?**
- A. In Asia, specifically India and China**
 - B. In Europe**
 - C. In Africa**
 - D. In North America**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term describes a flat, triangular twinned diamond crystal?

- A. Grain lines**
- B. Habit**
- C. Singly refractive (isotropic)**
- D. Macle**

A maclé is a flat, triangular twinned diamond crystal. It forms when two diamond crystals grow together in a twin orientation along a common plane, producing a flat, triangular (often rhomboidal) outline. This specific shape is distinct from other crystal descriptors: habit refers to the overall crystal form, not the result of twinning; grain lines are internal growth features; singly refractive (isotropic) describes how light travels through the mineral, not its shape. So maclé is the term that captures that flat, triangular twinned form.

2. What does the term Naif refer to in rough-diamond terminology?

- A. The natural, unpolished surface of a rough diamond.**
- B. The surface near girdle after cut**
- C. A synthetic diamond variant**
- D. A type of diamond deposit**

Naif refers to the natural, unpolished surface of a rough diamond. This term identifies the stone's exterior as it exists before any cutting or polishing, showing the original skin and natural irregularities of the crystal. Recognizing the Naif helps a cutter anticipate how much material will need to be removed to create facets, estimate yield, and judge how the stone's surface quality will influence future polishing. It's not describing a surface formed after cutting, nor a synthetic diamond variant, nor a geological deposit type, which is why it matches the idea of the natural, unpolished surface of the rough.

3. White light is which of the following?

- A. A Single Spectral Color**
- B. Darkness**
- C. A Form of Ultraviolet Light**
- D. The Combination of All the Spectral Colors**

White light is made up of all wavelengths of visible light. When white light passes through a prism, it is separated into a spectrum of colors, showing that white contains many colors blended together. Darkness is the absence of light, so it isn't white. Ultraviolet light lies beyond the visible range, so white light isn't ultraviolet. A single spectral color is just one part of the spectrum, not white. In everyday sources like the sun or a white light bulb, white results from mixing multiple colors of light, an additive process. So white light is the combination of all the spectral colors.

4. The higher a gem's RI, the which of the following?

- A. The Larger Its Critical Angle**
- B. Does Not Affect the Critical Angle**
- C. The Smaller Its Critical Angle**
- D. Always Yields Zero Dispersion**

Raising a gem's refractive index changes the boundary conditions for light trying to exit the gem into air, which is governed by the critical angle for total internal reflection. The critical angle is defined by $\sin \theta_c = n_2/n_1$, where n_1 is the gem's refractive index and n_2 is the outside medium's index (air is about 1.0). As the gem's RI (n_1) increases, the ratio n_2/n_1 decreases, so $\sin \theta_c$ becomes smaller and the actual critical angle θ_c becomes smaller as well. In other words, higher RI leads to a smaller critical angle. Dispersion, on the other hand, is about how refractive index changes with wavelength. Higher RI does not imply zero dispersion; it describes how much the rays bend, but dispersion depends on how the index varies with wavelength for that material. So the idea that higher RI always yields zero dispersion isn't correct. Therefore, the correct takeaway is that the higher the gem's RI, the smaller its critical angle.

5. What happens to the speed of light when it enters a medium with a higher refractive index?

- A. It Becomes Infinite**
- B. It Increases**
- C. It Remains the Same**
- D. It Decreases**

The main idea is that light travels at a speed set by the medium it's moving through. The speed in a medium is given by $v = c/n$, where c is the speed of light in vacuum and n is the refractive index. A higher refractive index means a larger division by n , so the speed v becomes smaller. When light enters a medium with a higher n , it slows down. The frequency stays the same across the boundary, so the wavelength inside the denser medium becomes shorter ($\lambda = v/f$). So the correct answer is that the speed decreases.

6. Which term describes the diamond industry program ensuring diamonds crossing borders are legitimate and do not fund conflict or terrorism?

- A. Irradiation**
- B. Kimberley Process (KP)**
- C. Lamproite**
- D. Kaps**

The focus is on a certification system that proves rough diamonds are conflict-free as they cross borders. The Kimberley Process Certification Scheme is the program designed for this purpose. It requires shipments of rough diamonds to be accompanied by Kimberley Process certificates, establishing their legitimate origin and ensuring they do not fund conflict or illicit activities. This is why it's the best fit—the term specifically describes the global framework that tracks and certifies diamonds to prevent “blood diamonds” from entering the market. Other options don't describe a trade-certification program for conflict-free diamonds; for example, irradiation is a treatment used to change a diamond's appearance, lamproite is a rock type associated with some diamond-bearing sources, and Kaps is not related to diamond trade certification.

7. Which term describes a foil-backed, colorless, lead-glass diamond imitation?

- A. Rhinestone**
- B. Scaife**
- C. Scrubber**
- D. Secondary Deposit**

Rhinestone is the term for a foil-backed, colorless, lead-glass diamond imitation. The foil on the back reflects light back through the glass, boosting brilliance and creating a diamond-like sparkle that made these stones popular in vintage costume jewelry. They're often called paste or diamante as well, but rhinestone is the standard name for this glass cut. The other terms don't describe an imitation diamond stone—they refer to a polishing wheel, a cleaning tool, or a geological deposit of diamonds, respectively.

8. Why did De Beers begin to buy rough from other producers?

- A. Because they couldn't own every mine, so they bought rough to safeguard diamond prices and ensure market stability**
- B. To create a global marketing campaign**
- C. To focus on diamond grading**
- D. To expand into mining gold**

Controlling supply to stabilize prices is the key idea. De Beers couldn't own every diamond mine, so by purchasing rough from other producers they could pool and regulate how much material entered the market. This keeps prices from collapsing when supply is abundant and helps prevent shortages when demand rises, maintaining market stability and a steady flow for cutters and retailers. It isn't about marketing campaigns, diamond grading, or venturing into gold mining.

9. Which term is De Beers' formalized commitment of itself and its sightholders to the highest ethical standards?

- A. Blemish**
- B. Blocking**
- C. Brick-and-mortar retailer**
- D. Best Practices Principles**

In diamond trading, a formal commitment to ethics is shown through a named policy that sets clear expectations for conduct across the supply chain. Best Practices Principles is the label for De Beers' formal framework that binds both the company and its sightholders to the highest ethical standards, covering responsible sourcing, anti-corruption, due diligence, and avoiding conflict diamonds. This makes it the best answer because it directly denotes an established policy of ethical integrity, rather than a term that would describe a diamond's physical characteristics or unrelated business concepts. The other options don't fit this idea: a blemish is a flaw in a diamond, blocking isn't a policy term, and brick-and-mortar retailer refers to a type of store, not an ethical framework.

10. Where is the future of the diamond market in manufacturing and consumption expected to be strongest?

A. In Asia, specifically India and China

B. In Europe

C. In Africa

D. In North America

Growth will come strongest from Asia, especially India and China, because these markets are expanding on both sides of the diamond supply chain. India is a global powerhouse for diamond cutting and polishing, giving the industry a cost-effective, scalable manufacturing base that feeds the worldwide market. China is rapidly building a large, rising-wealth consumer base for luxury goods, including diamond jewelry, so demand for finished stones and associated products is growing quickly. Together, they offer a combination of affordable, capable production and expanding consumer demand, which is why this region outpaces others like Europe or North America, where markets are more mature, and Africa, while crucial for mining, is less about manufacturing and immediate consumer growth.

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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://diamondandgrading.examzify.com>

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

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