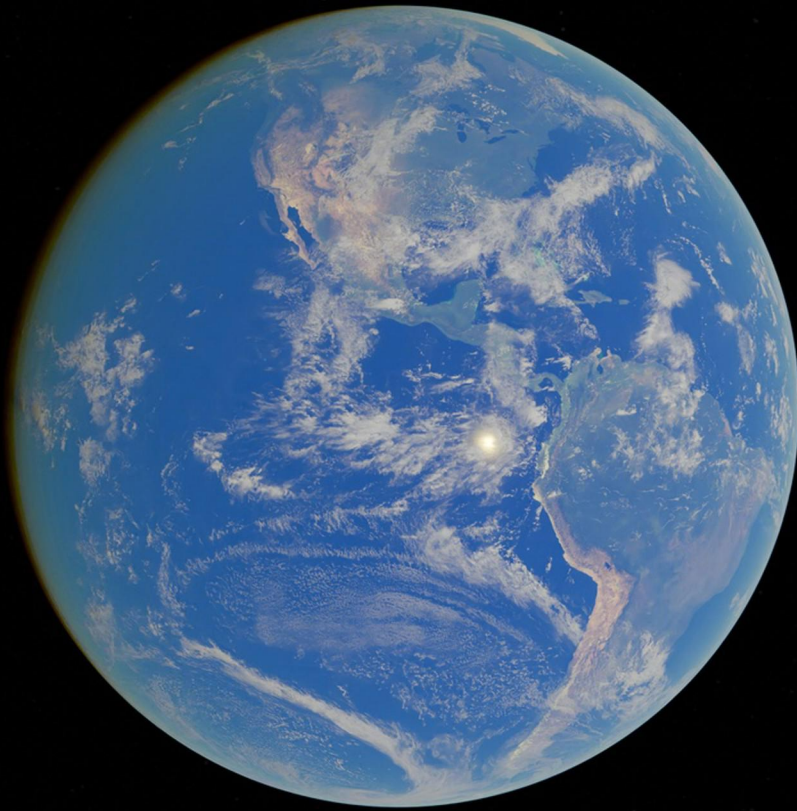


EARTH AND LIFE SCIENCE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. Mass wasting is defined as displacement of materials down a slope due to gravity, often with vegetation removal and earthquakes.**
 - A. Tension
 - B. Shear
 - C. Compression
 - D. Mass wasting

- 2. The down-dropped block between two faults is called a what?**
 - A. Graben
 - B. Horst
 - C. Fault
 - D. Normal

- 3. Composed of a repeating structural unit composed of atoms of one or more elements**
 - A. Crystals
 - B. Minerals
 - C. Lattices
 - D. Molecules

- 4. Which term describes a cloud of gas and dust found in space?**
 - A. Nebula
 - B. Galaxy
 - C. Star
 - D. Comet

- 5. In the chain Grass -> Rabbit -> Fox, what is the role of the fox?**
 - A. Producer
 - B. Primary consumer
 - C. Secondary consumer
 - D. Decomposer

- 6. Which layer is the coldest and where most meteors burn up?**
- A. Troposphere
 - B. Stratosphere
 - C. Mesosphere
 - D. Thermosphere
- 7. Which rock type is typically formed from sediments compacted and cemented together?**
- A. Igneous
 - B. Igneous extrusive
 - C. Metamorphic
 - D. Sedimentary
- 8. Where does translation occur in a typical cell?**
- A. In nucleus
 - B. At ribosomes
 - C. In mitochondria
 - D. In endoplasmic reticulum
- 9. In the simple grass -> rabbit -> fox food chain, what is the trophic level of the rabbit?**
- A. Grass
 - B. Decomposer
 - C. Fox
 - D. Rabbit
- 10. Which process involves slabs of rock sliding past each other horizontally in opposite directions?**
- A. Shear
 - B. Compression
 - C. Diastrophism
 - D. Metamorphism

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Mass wasting is defined as displacement of materials down a slope due to gravity, often with vegetation removal and earthquakes.

- A. Tension
- B. Shear
- C. Compression

D. Mass wasting

Mass wasting is the downslope movement of soil, rock, and debris driven by gravity. The definition notes vegetation removal and earthquakes as common triggers because they destabilize slopes: removing vegetation reduces root cohesion that helps hold material together, and earthquakes shake the slope, increasing driving stresses and lowering friction along potential failure surfaces. This concept captures the real process of materials moving downslope under gravity, across rapid events like landslides and rockfalls to slower ones like creep. The other terms describe forces inside materials—tension, compression, and shear—not the overall transport of material downslope, so they don't describe the process as a whole.

2. The down-dropped block between two faults is called a what?

- A. Graben**
- B. Horst
- C. Fault
- D. Normal

When crust is pulled apart, normal faults form and the land between them can sink relative to the sides. That down-dropped block is called a graben. It contrasts with a horst, which is the raised block between two faults. So the graben specifically describes the sunken block, while the term "normal" refers to the type of fault movement (hanging wall moving down). This pattern is common in fault-block mountains and rift valleys, where alternating blocks rise and fall as the crust stretches.

3. Composed of a repeating structural unit composed of atoms of one or more elements

- A. Crystals**
- B. Minerals
- C. Lattices
- D. Molecules

Crystals are solids where atoms are arranged in a highly ordered, repeating pattern. The smallest repeating block in this arrangement, the unit cell, can contain atoms from one or more elements, and these units stack in three dimensions to form the crystal lattice. This long-range, periodic order is what defines a crystal and distinguishes it from random or non-repetitive structures. While minerals are natural substances with a crystalline structure, the description focuses on the repeating building block of a crystal itself, not just any mineral or other types of matter.

4. Which term describes a cloud of gas and dust found in space?

- A. Nebula
- B. Galaxy
- C. Star
- D. Comet

Nebulae are vast clouds of gas and dust that drift through interstellar space. They serve as the raw material for star and planet formation, and some glow or reflect light from nearby stars, making them visible. This makes nebula the right term for a cloud of gas and dust in space. The other options describe larger or different objects: a galaxy is a huge system containing billions of stars and much more; a star is a single luminous ball of plasma powered by fusion; a comet is a small icy body that forms a glowing coma and tail when near the Sun.

5. In the chain Grass -> Rabbit -> Fox, what is the role of the fox?

- A. Producer
- B. Primary consumer
- C. Secondary consumer
- D. Decomposer

In this setup, energy moves from plants to herbivores to predators. Grass uses sunlight to make energy, so it's a producer. The rabbit eats the grass, making it a primary consumer. The fox eats the rabbit, placing it at the secondary consumer level because it feeds on a primary consumer. It's not a producer (no photosynthesis), not a primary consumer (it doesn't eat plants), and not a decomposer (it doesn't break down dead matter). The fox, as a predator of the rabbit, transfers energy to a higher trophic level.

6. Which layer is the coldest and where most meteors burn up?

- A. Troposphere
- B. Stratosphere
- C. Mesosphere
- D. Thermosphere

In the mesosphere, temperature falls with height, reaching the coldest temperatures in the atmosphere. This layer has just enough air density to cause noticeable friction and heating as a meteor speeds through, so the meteor heats rapidly and ablates, often burning up before reaching the lower layers or the surface. In contrast, the troposphere is the weather layer where temperature also decreases with height but is not the coldest, the stratosphere warms with altitude due to ozone absorption of UV, and the thermosphere can be extremely hot due to solar radiation but the air is so thin that heat transfer feels negligible. So the combination of it being the coldest region and providing enough atmospheric interaction to burn up meteors makes the mesosphere the best answer.

7. Which rock type is typically formed from sediments compacted and cemented together?

- A. Igneous
- B. Igneous extrusive
- C. Metamorphic
- D. Sedimentary**

Sedimentary rocks form when loose sediments are deposited, buried, and then compacted and cemented together through minerals that precipitate from groundwater. This lithification process turns layers of sand, silt, clay, and organic materials into solid rock. The result is rocks like sandstone, shale, and limestone, which show layering and may contain fossils—indicators of deposition and subsequent bonding of grains. In contrast, igneous rocks come from cooling and solidification of molten material, and metamorphic rocks arise from existing rocks altered by heat and pressure, not simply by sticking grains together. So the rock described as forming from sediments that are compacted and cemented is sedimentary.

8. Where does translation occur in a typical cell?

- A. In nucleus
- B. At ribosomes**
- C. In mitochondria
- D. In endoplasmic reticulum

Translation is carried out by ribosomes, the cellular machines that read mRNA and link amino acids to build a protein. In a typical cell, most translation happens in the cytosol on free ribosomes. Some ribosomes are attached to the rough endoplasmic reticulum, where the resulting proteins are directed toward secretion or membranes. The nucleus doesn't perform translation—it's where transcription occurs. Mitochondria have their own ribosomes and do a small amount of translation inside, but the main, everyday protein synthesis happens at ribosomes in the cytosol (and on the rough ER for certain proteins).

9. In the simple grass → rabbit → fox food chain, what is the trophic level of the rabbit?

- A. Grass
- B. Decomposer
- C. Fox
- D. Rabbit**

The main idea here is how trophic levels are determined by who an organism eats. Grass is a producer that captures energy from the sun. The rabbit eats the grass, so it gets energy by consuming a plant. That makes the rabbit a primary consumer, one step above the grass in the chain. It's not a decomposer (those break down dead matter) and it isn't the predator (that would be the fox). So the rabbit's trophic level is that of a primary consumer.

10. Which process involves slabs of rock sliding past each other horizontally in opposite directions?

A. Shear

B. Compression

C. Diastrophism

D. Metamorphism

Slabs of rock sliding past each other horizontally in opposite directions describe shear. When rocks experience shear stress, they deform along a plane so that one side slides parallel to the other but in the opposite direction. This is typical of transform plate boundaries where strike-slip faults form, producing horizontal, opposite-motion displacement along the fault plane. In contrast, compression closes gaps and squeezes rocks together, potentially causing folding or thrust faults; diastrophism is a broad term for crustal deformation, and metamorphism involves changes in mineralogy due to heat and pressure rather than sliding motion along a fault.

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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://earthlifescience.examzify.com>

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

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