

FIRST CERTIFICATE IN ENGLISH (FCE) 2 OPEN CLOZE 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. She managed to finish the race _____ her injury.
- A. Because
 - B. Despite
 - C. With
 - D. Over
2. Neil is providing us _____ a lot of practice.
- A. To
 - B. For
 - C. With
 - D. In
3. He bought _____ books.
- A. Two
 - B. Several
 - C. Some
 - D. A few
4. He spoke to the audience __ confidence.
- A. In
 - B. With
 - C. At
 - D. On
5. Modern people live busy lives, and making the perfect cup of tea properly is _____ important than making it easily and conveniently.
- A. More
 - B. As
 - C. Less
 - D. Not
6. He asked me to meet him _____ the station.
- A. At
 - B. By
 - C. Near
 - D. Around

7. He showed me the way to the station _____ a map.
- A. Using
 - B. By
 - C. On
 - D. With
8. The song reminded me _____ my childhood.
- A. For
 - B. Of
 - C. About
 - D. With
9. They discussed changing the schedule ____ last week.
- A. in
 - B. last
 - C. during
 - D. over
10. Which word best completes the sentence: It wasn't long _____ tea bags started to become popular in countries outside America?
- A. After
 - B. Since
 - C. Before
 - D. While

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. She managed to finish the race _____ her injury.

- A. Because
- B. Despite**
- C. With
- D. Over

This item tests expressing concession—the idea that something happened in spite of an obstacle. We want a word that shows finishing the race happened despite the injury, not because of it. Despite fits perfectly because it introduces the obstacle as a contrast to the outcome: finishing the race. So the sentence reads smoothly and idiomatically: She managed to finish the race despite her injury. Why the others don't fit as well: because conveys cause rather than contrast, which would change the meaning. With could be grammatical, but it doesn't emphasize overcoming the obstacle and sounds less natural in this context. Over isn't used to express this kind of concession.

2. Neil is providing us _____ a lot of practice.

- A. To
- B. For
- C. With**
- D. In

The key idea here is the common phrasal pattern after the verb provide: you give something to someone by using with to introduce the thing that's being provided. In this sentence, Neil is giving us something, and that something is a lot of practice. So the natural structure is provide someone with something, meaning "give someone something." That's why with fits best: it shows what is being provided to us. Other prepositions don't fit the idea of giving us something. To would imply direction or recipient in a way that isn't natural here; for would suggest simply supporting or supplying for our needs rather than handing us the actual practice; in isn't used to show what is being provided to someone. The standard, natural way to express this idea is provided with.

3. He bought _____ books.

- A. Two**
- B. Several
- C. Some
- D. A few

The idea being tested is how to express quantity with a plural count noun. When you have a plural count noun like books, using a precise number directly shows an exact quantity. Two is a cardinal number that fits naturally in front of a plural noun to give a clear count, so the sentence reads as a straightforward statement: He bought two books. The other options are indefinite quantifiers that convey approximate or non-specific amounts (several, some, a few), which would change the nuance of the sentence even though they can be correct in different contexts.

4. He spoke to the audience __ confidence.

- A. In
- B. With**
- C. At
- D. On

The important idea here is how we describe the way someone speaks. To express that someone spoke in a certain manner, we use the preposition that signals the manner, followed by the noun that names that manner. In this case, "with confidence" is the natural collocation, meaning he delivered his words in a confident way. Why this fits best: "spoke with confidence" directly describes the manner of his speaking—the confidence he projected while addressing the audience. The other options don't convey this sense. "In confidence" would suggest secrecy or telling something privately; the phrases with "at" or "on" don't pair with "confidence" to describe how someone speaks in this context. If you wanted a different phrasing, you could say he spoke confidently, but with is the idiomatic choice for this sentence.

5. Modern people live busy lives, and making the perfect cup of tea properly is _____ important than making it easily and conveniently.

- A. More
- B. As
- C. Less**
- D. Not

The tendency here is to compare how important two things are using a standard comparative form. Saying something is less important than something else expresses a smaller degree of importance. In this sentence, because modern life is busy, convenience outweighs perfection, so "less important" fits naturally: making the tea perfectly isn't as crucial as making it easily and conveniently. Using "more" would flip the meaning, implying perfection is more important. "As" would be used for equality (as important as), which doesn't match the intended comparison. "Not" wouldn't fit the pattern unless you had "not as important as," which isn't the form shown. So the correct choice is the word that marks a lower degree of importance.

6. He asked me to meet him _____ the station.

- A. At**
- B. By
- C. Near
- D. Around

The main idea here is choosing the preposition that pinpoints where the meeting will take place. When we say "meet someone at the station," we're indicating a precise point—the exact location of the station where the meeting will occur. This is the natural way to describe a fixed meeting point. Using other prepositions changes the meaning. "By the station" suggests being near the station, not necessarily at it. "Near the station" implies close to it but not at the location itself. "Around the station" points to the surrounding area, not a specific spot. Since the sentence asks for the place of the meeting with a definite location, the correct choice is at the station.

7. He showed me the way to the station _____ a map.

- A. Using
- B. By
- C. On
- D. With

The idea being tested is how we connect information to the medium that contains it. When something is shown or drawn on a visual aid, we use "on" to indicate that location or surface. Here, the route to the station is displayed on a map, so the natural way to fill the blank is "on a map." It means the map itself shows the way. Using a map would shift the focus to the act of using the map to show the route, which doesn't fit the sentence structure as smoothly. By a map or with a map aren't the best fit here because they either sound awkward in this context or don't specify that the route is depicted on the map.

8. The song reminded me _____ my childhood.

- A. For
- B. Of
- C. About
- D. With

The main idea here is using remind with the preposition of to show what memory is triggered. When something causes you to recall a memory, you say it reminds you of that thing. In this sentence, the song caused memories from the speaker's childhood to come to mind, so the natural and correct choice is of. For and about don't fit the same way. For would not correctly express a memory being triggered; it sounds like a purpose or duration, which changes the meaning. About would refer more to a topic or subject rather than triggering a memory, making the sentence feel off. With would not connect the recall to the memory in a sensible way. With remind, the standard and idiomatic pairing for recalling something is remind someone of something, which is why this option is the best fit.

9. They discussed changing the schedule _____ last week.

- A. in
- B. last
- C. during
- D. over

Choosing the right preposition to connect the verb with a time phrase is key. Here, the idea is that the discussion happened at some point within a defined period—the week. Using during last week signals that the discussion occurred inside that week, not specifically at the start, end, or across the entire span, but somewhere within it. The other options don't fit as naturally: in last week isn't the standard way to pair with a time phrase, last would create awkward repetition, and over last week could imply the discussion stretched across the whole week. So during is the clean, natural choice.

10. Which word best completes the sentence: It wasn't long _____ tea bags started to become popular in countries outside America?

- A. After
- B. Since
- C. Before
- D. While

The main idea tested is the use of a fixed phrase meaning "soon after." Not long before is the natural way to say that something happened quickly after something else. Here, the sentence is saying that tea bags began to become popular in countries outside America not long after some prior event, so the best fit is before. The other options don't form a natural time connection in this context: after would imply a different sequencing that doesn't match the sentence structure, since the clause after "not long" would already be the event, and since or while don't function as the usual temporal link in this idiom.

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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://fce2opencloze.examzify.com>

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

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