

FUNDAMENTALS OF NURSING ETHICS AND VALUES PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

<https://fundofnursingethicsvalues.examzify.com>



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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 principle requires fairness in distributing healthcare resources?**
 - A. Fidelity
 - B. Justice
 - C. Beneficence
 - D. Autonomy

- 2. How should nurses approach end-of-life decisions with families?**
 - A. Exclude families to avoid conflict.
 - B. Respect patient goals and involve families, provide information.
 - C. Make decisions without family input.
 - D. Delay decisions until policy changes.

- 3. Who established the first code of nursing ethics decades ago?**
 - A. American Nurses Association (ANA)
 - B. World Health Organization (WHO)
 - C. International Council of Nurses (ICN)
 - D. National League for Nursing (NLN)

- 4. The ANA code of nursing ethics articulates that the nurse promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and rights of the patient. This includes the protection of patient privacy. On that basis, which elements are included in protecting patients according to the code?**
 - A. Health, safety, and rights
 - B. Only health
 - C. Only privacy
 - D. Financial protection

- 5. What does teleology refer to in the context of the discussed philosophy?**
 - A. The study of ends or final causes
 - B. The study of duties
 - C. The study of virtue
 - D. The study of happiness

6. Define veracity.

- A. Conformity to facts; accuracy: the veracity of the story, or Habitual truthfulness: his veracity and character.
- B. Conformity to facts; accuracy.
- C. Habitual truthfulness.
- D. Veracity means confidentiality.

7. Which statement best describes a just culture in reporting unsafe practices?

- A. Speak up about concerns, participate in safety initiatives, support a just culture, and utilize formal reporting channels to protect patients.
- B. Only report to the supervisor if it directly harms you.
- C. Ignore unsafe practices if no one complains.
- D. File external lawsuits.

8. Which statement best describes a just culture in healthcare?

- A. Ignores errors
- B. Punishes errors harshly
- C. Focuses on learning from errors and system improvement
- D. Only management reports

9. Utilitarianism is also known as which philosophical approach that emphasizes the outcome or consequence of actions?

- A. Consequentialism
- B. Deontology
- C. Virtue ethics
- D. Ethics of care

10. Which of the following is NOT listed as a key step in resolving an ethical dilemma?

- A. Ask the question, is this an ethical dilemma?
- B. Gather information relevant to the case
- C. Verbalize the problem
- D. Rely on intuition alone without sharing perspectives

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which principle requires fairness in distributing healthcare resources?

- A. Fidelity
- B. Justice**
- C. Beneficence
- D. Autonomy

Fairness in distributing healthcare resources is the principle of justice. Justice requires that resources—such as beds, medications, or organ transplants—be allocated fairly and without discrimination, based on need and the likelihood of benefit, especially when supply is limited. It also supports policies and practices that ensure equal access to care for all patients and protects vulnerable groups from being overlooked. Fidelity focuses on keeping promises to individual patients, beneficence on doing good for patients, and autonomy on respecting patients' right to make their own decisions; these guide individual care but do not by themselves govern how resources are distributed among people. So the principle that directly addresses fair distribution across the population is justice.

2. How should nurses approach end-of-life decisions with families?

- A. Exclude families to avoid conflict.
- B. Respect patient goals and involve families, provide information.**
- C. Make decisions without family input.
- D. Delay decisions until policy changes.

The main idea here is that end-of-life decisions should be a collaborative, patient-centered conversation that honors the patient's goals while actively involving and supporting the family with clear information. Nurses begin by clarifying the patient's wishes, including any advance directives or expressed values. If the patient cannot speak for themselves, identify a legitimate surrogate and ensure decisions reflect what is known about the patient's preferences. Provide honest, timely information about prognosis and the options available, including benefits, burdens, and likely outcomes, so families can understand what each path means for quality of life and comfort. Communication should be tailored to the family's cultural, spiritual, and emotional context, inviting questions, checking understanding, and facilitating a shared decision-making process. The goal is to align the care plan with the patient's values while offering support to the family throughout the process. This approach reflects respect for autonomy, beneficence, and nonmaleficence and helps reduce conflict by keeping everyone informed and involved. Excluding families undermines trust and may lead to decisions that don't reflect the patient's values. Making decisions without family input when the patient lacks capacity can ignore important surrogate input and is unsafe. Delaying decisions until policies change wastes time, delays comfort-focused care, and misses the opportunity to protect the patient's dignity.

3. Who established the first code of nursing ethics decades ago?

- A. American Nurses Association (ANA)**
- B. World Health Organization (WHO)
- C. International Council of Nurses (ICN)
- D. National League for Nursing (NLN)

The main idea here is the origin of the formal ethical standard that guides nursing practice. The American Nurses Association established the first formal code of ethics for nurses, setting the standard of conduct, duties to patients, and responsibilities to the profession. This code provides a framework for ethical decision-making, patient advocacy, confidentiality, and accountability in practice, and it has served as the foundation that later codes—such as international or educational codes—build upon. While organizations like ICN, NLN, or WHO contribute important ethical guidance, the initial code that started the profession's shared ethical framework was created by the American Nurses Association.

4. The ANA code of nursing ethics articulates that the nurse promotes, advocates for, and strives to protect the health, safety, and rights of the patient. This includes the protection of patient privacy. On that basis, which elements are included in protecting patients according to the code?

A. Health, safety, and rights

B. Only health

C. Only privacy

D. Financial protection

The central idea is that protecting patients, as the ANA Code of Ethics requires, means safeguarding their health, ensuring their safety, and upholding their rights. Privacy is a component of patient rights, emphasizing confidentiality and autonomy. So the elements included are health, safety, and rights. Privacy is encompassed within rights, reinforcing that protecting a patient's personal information is part of upholding their dignity and autonomy. The other options are incomplete because health alone misses safety and rights, privacy alone misses health and broader rights, and financial protection isn't the focus of this protection framework.

5. What does teleology refer to in the context of the discussed philosophy?

A. The study of ends or final causes

B. The study of duties

C. The study of virtue

D. The study of happiness

Teleology is the study of ends or final causes. In ethics, it looks at what an action is aimed at achieving and judges its morality by the outcome or goal it serves. This focus on consequences distinguishes teleological approaches from deontology, which centers on duties or rules, and from virtue ethics, which centers on character and virtues. While some teleological theories aim for the best outcome, such as maximizing well-being, the core idea is that morality is evaluated by the ends rather than by the duties or the intrinsic nature of the act itself.

6. Define veracity.

A. Conformity to facts; accuracy: the veracity of the story, or Habitual truthfulness: his veracity and character.

B. Conformity to facts; accuracy.

C. Habitual truthfulness.

D. Veracity means confidentiality.

Veracity means truthfulness and accuracy. It involves two aspects: the information itself being true and conforming to facts (accuracy), and the person delivering it being trustworthy and truthful (habitual truthfulness). In nursing, this matters because patients rely on honest, precise information to make informed decisions and trusts the clinician's integrity. The best definition captures both pieces—the factual accuracy of statements and the speaker's truthful character. The other options fall short because they cover only one aspect each (factual accuracy or habitual truthfulness) or mix in confidentiality, which isn't part of veracity.

7. Which statement best describes a just culture in reporting unsafe practices?

- A. Speak up about concerns, participate in safety initiatives, support a just culture, and utilize formal reporting channels to protect patients.**
- B. Only report to the supervisor if it directly harms you.
- C. Ignore unsafe practices if no one complains.
- D. File external lawsuits.

Just culture focuses on safety and learning rather than blame. It encourages staff to speak up about concerns, participate in safety initiatives, and use formal reporting channels to protect patients. This approach creates a nonpunitive environment where honest mistakes are explored to uncover system flaws and prevent recurrence, while accountability is applied fairly for reckless or willful harm. The described approach is best because it embodies open reporting, active involvement in safety efforts, support for a just culture, and the use of established reporting systems to safeguard patients. Limiting reporting to harms that affect oneself, ignoring issues if no one complains, or pursuing external lawsuits do not promote learning or systemic safety improvements within the workplace.

8. Which statement best describes a just culture in healthcare?

- A. Ignores errors
- B. Punishes errors harshly
- C. Focuses on learning from errors and system improvement**
- D. Only management reports

Just culture in healthcare means creating an environment where errors and near-misses are analyzed to improve patient safety, not to punish people. It centers on learning from mistakes and addressing the underlying system factors that let those errors happen. Clinicians should feel safe to report what occurred, so the organization can fix processes, provide targeted training, and redesign workflows to prevent recurrence. Accountability exists where there is reckless conduct or willful disregard for safety, but honest mistakes are treated as opportunities to improve systems. That's why this option is the best: it highlights learning from errors and system improvement. Ignoring errors stops progress, harsh punishment breeds fear and underreporting, and relying only on management reports misses input from frontline staff who witness daily safety issues.

9. Utilitarianism is also known as which philosophical approach that emphasizes the outcome or consequence of actions?

- A. Consequentialism**
- B. Deontology
- C. Virtue ethics
- D. Ethics of care

The key idea here is judging morality by the results of actions. Utilitarianism focuses on the outcomes, aiming to maximize good or happiness, so it fits within the broader view called consequentialism. Consequentialism is the name for ethical theories that evaluate actions based on their consequences, rather than on rules or intentions alone. That's why it's the best match for describing utilitarianism. Other theories approach morality differently. Deontology bases right action on duties and predefined rules, regardless of the outcome. Virtue ethics centers on the character and virtues of the person performing the action. Ethics of care emphasizes relationships and caring responsibilities in moral decision-making. In practical terms, a consequentialist perspective asks whether an action will produce the best overall result, whereas the others would assess the action through duties, character traits, or relational obligations rather than outcomes.

10. Which of the following is NOT listed as a key step in resolving an ethical dilemma?

- A. Ask the question, is this an ethical dilemma?
- B. Gather information relevant to the case
- C. Verbalize the problem
- D. Rely on intuition alone without sharing perspectives

Resolving an ethical dilemma in nursing relies on a structured approach that starts by determining whether the situation is indeed an ethical issue, then gathering information relevant to the case, and clearly verbalizing the problem to frame the discussion. This process invites input from others, values, and evidence so the team can deliberate and choose a course of action that respects patient autonomy, beneficence, and professional standards. Relying on intuition alone without sharing perspectives is not part of this approach. Decisions grounded only in gut feeling without articulating the issue, seeking input, or considering diverse viewpoints can perpetuate bias and overlook important factors such as patient preferences, cultural context, and evidence-based guidelines. Therefore, this option is not a listed step in ethical dilemma resolution.

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://fundofnursingethicsvalues.examzify.com>

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

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