GACE Elementary Education II Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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

1. In the gymnastics forward roll, which is the first step listed?

A. Squat

B. Hands on mat, elbows inside

C. Chin to chest

D. Push forward with feet then hands

2. Which numbers are easy to compute mentally?

A. Compatible numbers

B. Prime numbers

C. Irrational numbers

D. Complex numbers

3. In the forward roll sequence, which action comes immediately after pushing forward with feet and hands?

A. Squat

B. Hands on mat, elbows inside

C. Chin to chest

D. Roll onto shoulders and back

4. In a world problem, which quantity describes how much the amount changes?

A. Start quantity

B. Change quantity

C. Result quantity

D. Beginning quantity

5. Which of the following is a physical change?

A. Shredding paper

B. Burning wood

C. Rusting iron

D. Digestion of food

6. Which type of change does not alter the substance's identity?

A. Physical change

B. Chemical change

C. Nuclear change

D. Biological change

7. The distance around a circle is called

A. Diameter

B. Circumference

C. Radius

D. Arc

8. What term refers to the ability to understand numbers and their relationships?

A. Number sense

B. Data analysis

C. Algebraic thinking

D. Estimation

9. In a scenario, you begin with 15 apples and then you gain 6 more; which quantity represents the 21 apples?

A. Start quantity

B. Change quantity

C. Result quantity

D. Final quantity

10. Which instrument would you use to measure very small distances or thicknesses?

A. Micrometer

B. Ruler

C. Beaker

D. Thermometer

Answers

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

Explanations

1. In the gymnastics forward roll, which is the first step listed?

A. Squat

B. Hands on mat, elbows inside

C. Chin to chest

D. Push forward with feet then hands

Starting a forward roll safely comes down to getting into the right positions in the proper order. The first thing to do is drop into a squat. This lowers your center of gravity and creates a stable, compact base from which to transfer your weight into the mat. From that squat, you place your hands on the mat with your elbows tucked inside to protect your head and to form a solid surface for the roll. Next, you tuck your chin toward your chest so your head rolls along the mat instead of hitting it. Finally, you push with your legs to initiate the forward motion and finish the roll, returning to a standing position.

2. Which numbers are easy to compute mentally?

A. Compatible numbers

B. Prime numbers

C. Irrational numbers

D. Complex numbers

Mental math is easiest when you use compatible numbers—numbers that are friendly to compute in your head while keeping the problem structure similar. The idea is to replace a number with one that's close and easy to multiply or add, then adjust for the difference. For example, multiply 32 by 15 by using 30 times 15 (which is straightforward) and then add 2 times 15 to account for the extra 2. 30 × 15 equals 450, and 2 × 15 adds 30, giving 480, the exact product. This shows how choosing compatible numbers makes mental calculation quick and accurate. Prime numbers aren't about making calculations easier; they're defined by having exactly two divisors, which doesn't inherently simplify mental arithmetic. Irrational numbers have non-repeating, non-terminating decimals, so you can't rely on quick, exact mental results. Complex numbers involve real and imaginary parts, and working with them uses different rules, not simpler mental computations.

3. In the forward roll sequence, which action comes immediately after pushing forward with feet and hands?

A. Squat

B. Hands on mat, elbows inside

C. Chin to chest

D. Roll onto shoulders and back

In a forward roll, the motion flows in a single arc from the push into the rolling action. After you push forward with your feet and hands to initiate the roll, the next moment is to roll onto your shoulders and back. This continues the movement, letting the body roll over the spine and finish upright. The chin should stay tucked to protect the neck as the roll happens, but the immediate continuation from the push is the roll onto the shoulders and back. The other options describe steps that happen earlier in the setup (getting into position or preparing the neck) rather than the next action right after the push.

4. In a world problem, which quantity describes how much the amount changes?

A. Start quantity

B. Change quantity

C. Result quantity

D. Beginning quantity

The change quantity describes how much the amount changes. In these problems you start with an initial amount and then end with a final amount after some change. The change quantity is the difference between the final amount and the starting amount, showing how much was gained or lost. For example, if you start with 4 dollars and end with 9 dollars, the change is 9 minus 4, which equals 5 dollars—a gain of 5. If you end with 2 dollars, the change is 2 minus 4, which equals -2 dollars, a decrease of 2. The starting quantity and the final (result) quantity tell you where you began and where you ended, but the change quantity tells you how much the amount actually changed.

5. Which of the following is a physical change?

A. Shredding paper

B. Burning wood

C. Rusting iron

D. Digestion of food

A physical change happens when a material changes form or appearance but keeps its chemical identity. Shredding paper fits this because the paper is still paper with the same chemical composition; it's just in smaller pieces, and no new substance is created. Burning wood is a chemical change because it involves a chemical reaction with oxygen that creates new substances like ash, smoke, carbon dioxide, and water vapor. Rusting iron is chemical too, as iron reacts with oxygen to form iron oxide. Digestion of food is primarily chemical change in the body, where enzymes break down molecules and form different ones, even though there may be some mechanical chewing involved.

6. Which type of change does not alter the substance's identity?

A. Physical change

B. Chemical change

C. Nuclear change

D. Biological change

Physical change happens when a substance changes form or state without changing what it is made of. The molecules stay the same, only their arrangement or energy changes. For example, ice melting into water is still water (H2O); the substance's identity hasn't changed, just its phase. Crushing a copper wire or bending a metal also changes shape, not the material itself. Even dissolving a substance in a solvent is typically a physical change because no new substance is formed and the original chemical identities remain. In contrast, chemical changes produce new substances with different properties—like wood burning to ash and gases or iron rusting into iron oxide. Nuclear changes alter the nucleus of an atom and can change the element itself, which is a different kind of transformation. Because physical changes preserve the substance's identity, they're the type described in this question.

7. The distance around a circle is called

A. Diameter

B. Circumference

C. Radius

D. Arc

The distance around a circle is called the circumference. This term refers to the boundary length that goes all the way around the circle, its outer edge, much like the perimeter for any closed shape but specific to circles. The radius is the line from the center to the edge, and the diameter is the full line across the circle through the center (twice the radius). An arc, meanwhile, is just a part of the circle's edge, not the entire distance around. If you know the radius, you can find the circumference with $C = 2\pi r$, or with the diameter $C = \pi d$.

8. What term refers to the ability to understand numbers and their relationships?

A. Number sense

B. Data analysis

C. Algebraic thinking

D. Estimation

Number sense is the ability to understand numbers and how they relate to each other. It means having a feel for what numbers represent, how they compare (which is bigger or smaller), and how combining or separating numbers changes value. This includes recognizing quantity, using place value, decomposing numbers, and performing quick mental math or checking reasonableness of answers. It's the flexible foundation that supports everyday math reasoning, number comparisons, and deciding efficient strategies. The other terms describe different skills: data analysis is about interpreting information from data sets; algebraic thinking involves recognizing patterns and solving equations with variables; estimation focuses on making reasonable, approximate calculations.

9. In a scenario, you begin with 15 apples and then you gain 6 more; which quantity represents the 21 apples?

A. Start quantity

B. Change quantity

C. Result quantity

D. Final quantity

The main idea here is tracking the outcome after performing an operation on a starting amount. You begin with a certain quantity, apply a change, and the quantity that follows—the result of that operation—is what you end up with. In this scenario, you start with 15 apples and gain 6 more. The quantity you have after applying that change is 21 apples—the result of the operation. That's why this term fits best: it names the quantity that arises as the outcome of combining the start amount with the change. The other labels describe different pieces of the situation but not the outcome itself: the start quantity is the initial 15, the change quantity is the amount added (6), and the final quantity is a way to describe the amount after the change as well, but the option chosen highlights the idea of the outcome produced by the operation—the result quantity.

10. Which instrument would you use to measure very small distances or thicknesses?

A. Micrometer

B. Ruler

C. Beaker

D. Thermometer

When you need to measure very small distances or thicknesses, you want a tool designed for high precision. A micrometer uses a screw mechanism that moves the spindle in tiny increments, allowing measurements in fractions of a millimeter. With the object between the spindle and the anvil, you close gently until it just contacts the item, then read the scale on the sleeve and the thimble to get an exact measurement. This combination of design and reading method gives far greater accuracy for small dimensions than other common tools. Rulers are quick but imprecise for tiny distances, typically only to the nearest millimeter. Beakers are for measuring liquids by volume, not length. Thermometers measure temperature, not distance. So the micrometer is the best choice for measuring very small distances or thicknesses.

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://gaceelementaryed2.examzify.com

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