

Georgia State Board Hair Design Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. What determines the mobility of a pin curl?**
 - A. Base**
 - B. Stem**
 - C. End**
 - D. Direction**

- 2. What is the first step in a haircut for control during the cutting process?**
 - A. Cutting**
 - B. Sectioning**
 - C. Texturizing**
 - D. Combing**

- 3. What does a red patch of blisters most likely indicate on the scalp?**
 - A. Allergy**
 - B. Psoriasis**
 - C. Ringworm**
 - D. Eczema**

- 4. Which substance is noted for having the highest alkalinity on the pH scale?**
 - A. Lye**
 - B. Acid**
 - C. Water**
 - D. Salt**

- 5. Which type of rinse should be recommended to a client who has an occasional itchy scalp?**
 - A. Moisturizing**
 - B. Medicated**
 - C. Clarifying**
 - D. Volumizing**

- 6. What does QUATS stand for?**
- A. Quality Ammonium Treatment Solutions**
 - B. Quaternary Ammonium Compounds**
 - C. Quick-Active Ammonium Treatments**
 - D. Quantitative Ammonium Treatments**
- 7. What chemical reaction occurs during a hair relaxer treatment?**
- A. The oxidation of hair melanin**
 - B. The breaking of disulfide bonds in hair**
 - C. The formation of new amino acids**
 - D. The loss of moisture from the hair**
- 8. What type of rod should be used to achieve a uniform curl?**
- A. Curved rod**
 - B. Straight rod**
 - C. Flexi rod**
 - D. Spiral rod**
- 9. Which technique involves using different lengths to create movement?**
- A. Blunt cutting**
 - B. Texturizing**
 - C. Layering**
 - D. Clipper cutting**
- 10. What hair condition may result from excessive braiding?**
- A. Split ends**
 - B. Dry hair**
 - C. Traction alopecia**
 - D. Dandruff**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What determines the mobility of a pin curl?

- A. Base**
- B. Stem**
- C. End**
- D. Direction**

The mobility of a pin curl is primarily determined by the stem. The stem is the section of the curl that provides the movement and flexibility of the curl. It is the part of the hair strand that connects the base (the area closest to the scalp) to the end (the tip of the hair), influencing how much the curl can shift and what shape and size it will take once completed. By adjusting the length and tension of the stem, a hairstylist can control how much the curl can move; a longer, looser stem allows for more mobility and a softer curl, while a shorter, firmer stem tends to create a tighter curl with less movement. This makes the stem crucial in styling and achieving the desired look. The other parts, such as the base or end, do not contribute to the mobility in the same comprehensive way that the stem does.

2. What is the first step in a haircut for control during the cutting process?

- A. Cutting**
- B. Sectioning**
- C. Texturizing**
- D. Combing**

The first step in a haircut for control during the cutting process is sectioning. This process involves dividing the hair into manageable parts, which allows the stylist to work systematically and ensures precision throughout the haircut. By sectioning the hair, the stylist can focus on one area at a time, reducing the risk of uneven cuts or missed spots. This organization is crucial for achieving the desired shape and style. Each section can be clipped away temporarily, allowing for clear visibility and access to the hair being cut, which is particularly important in creating accurate lines and layers. Other methods such as cutting, texturizing, and combing serve specific purposes in the haircutting process but do not establish the foundational organization that sectioning provides. Without proper sectioning, the stylist may struggle to maintain control and consistency while working through the haircut.

3. What does a red patch of blisters most likely indicate on the scalp?

- A. Allergy**
- B. Psoriasis**
- C. Ringworm**
- D. Eczema**

A red patch of blisters on the scalp is most likely indicative of an infection, particularly a fungal infection such as ringworm. Ringworm, also known as tinea capitis, commonly presents with circular, itchy patches that may have a red and scaly appearance. The blisters form as a response to the infection, and the condition is contagious, often spreading through direct contact or sharing personal items. When considering the nature of the symptoms, ringworm is characterized by its clear delineation and ring-like appearance, making it distinct from other skin conditions. It is important to recognize that this condition typically requires antifungal treatment to resolve, emphasizing the need for accurate identification of the underlying cause of the symptoms.

4. Which substance is noted for having the highest alkalinity on the pH scale?

- A. Lye**
- B. Acid**
- C. Water**
- D. Salt**

Lye, also known as sodium hydroxide, is recognized for its high alkalinity on the pH scale, typically registering around 14, which is at the extreme alkaline end. This substance is commonly used in various hair treatments, particularly in chemical relaxers and permanent waving solutions, where controlling the pH is critical for achieving the desired results. The high alkalinity of lye facilitates the opening of the hair cuticle, allowing other chemical agents to penetrate effectively. This characteristic is essential for altering the hair structure, making it a vital ingredient in certain salon treatments. The other substances mentioned do not exhibit the same high levels of alkalinity. Acids, for example, have a low pH and therefore are not alkaline. Water is neutral at a pH of 7, making it neither acidic nor alkaline. Salt can be neutral as well, depending on its composition, and typically does not demonstrate high alkalinity. Therefore, lye stands out as the most alkaline substance among the options provided.

5. Which type of rinse should be recommended to a client who has an occasional itchy scalp?

- A. Moisturizing**
- B. Medicated**
- C. Clarifying**
- D. Volumizing**

The recommendation of a medicated rinse for a client with an occasional itchy scalp is based on the specific needs of the scalp condition. Medicated rinses often contain active ingredients designed to treat issues such as itching, flaking, or inflammation caused by scalp conditions like dermatitis or psoriasis. These rinses help alleviate discomfort and target the underlying causes of the itchiness, providing relief more effectively than other types of rinses. When selecting a rinse for this purpose, the approach is to address the symptoms directly with formulated treatments, ensuring that the scalp receives the appropriate care. Clients suffering from itchiness may benefit from ingredients such as salicylic acid, coal tar, or other soothing agents found in medicated products. In contrast, moisturizing rinses are typically aimed at providing hydration and improving the condition of dry hair rather than focusing on scalp health. Clarifying rinses are designed to cleanse the hair and remove buildup, which may not directly address the irritation of an itchy scalp. Volumizing rinses focus on thickening and adding body to the hair without targeting scalp issues. Therefore, for someone experiencing occasional itchiness, a medicated rinse is the most suitable choice to ensure that their specific scalp condition is effectively managed.

6. What does QUATS stand for?

- A. Quality Ammonium Treatment Solutions**
- B. Quaternary Ammonium Compounds**
- C. Quick-Active Ammonium Treatments**
- D. Quantitative Ammonium Treatments**

The correct answer refers to Quaternary Ammonium Compounds, commonly known as QUATS. These compounds are a category of chemicals used primarily for their disinfectant properties. They are often utilized in various health and beauty products, including hairstyling and salon sanitation products, due to their effectiveness at killing bacteria, fungi, and viruses. In the context of hair design and salon practices, understanding what QUATS are is crucial for maintaining hygiene and safety standards. Since these compounds are often found in products such as disinfectants and conditioners, being able to identify them can help professionals make informed choices about the products they use in their practice. The other options, while creatively named, do not accurately describe QUATS and their function, which revolves around the quaternary structure of ammonium ions in these compounds, leading to their efficacy as cleaning and conditioning agents in beauty applications.

7. What chemical reaction occurs during a hair relaxer treatment?

- A. The oxidation of hair melanin**
- B. The breaking of disulfide bonds in hair**
- C. The formation of new amino acids**
- D. The loss of moisture from the hair**

During a hair relaxer treatment, the primary chemical reaction involves the breaking of disulfide bonds in the hair. Hair is primarily made up of a protein called keratin, which contains numerous disulfide bonds that contribute to the hair's structure and strength. Chemical relaxers contain active ingredients, such as sodium hydroxide or ammonium thioglycolate, which penetrate the hair shaft and alter the disulfide bonds. By reducing these bonds, the natural curl or wave pattern in the hair can be straightened. This process is essential for achieving a smooth and sleek appearance in relaxed hairstyles. Understanding the significance of disulfide bonds helps to appreciate the effects of relaxers on hair fiber, as they are crucial for maintaining its integrity and texture. When these bonds are broken, the hair can be reshaped, leading to various styling options.

8. What type of rod should be used to achieve a uniform curl?

- A. Curved rod**
- B. Straight rod**
- C. Flexi rod**
- D. Spiral rod**

To achieve a uniform curl, using a straight rod is essential. Straight rods create even tension throughout the hair as it is wrapped around the rod, resulting in consistent and balanced curls. This type of rod allows the hair to curl in a uniform manner, as it does not alter the shape of the curl, ensuring that each curl maintains the same size and symmetry. Other types of rods may produce curls with varying shapes or sizes. For instance, curved rods can create more natural, soft waves or curls that vary in dimension due to their shape. Flexi rods offer versatility in styling but might lead to uneven curl patterns based on how the hair is wrapped, which can create variations in size and tightness of the curls. Spiral rods are designed to create spiral-shaped curls, which inherently results in a different curl formation. Therefore, for achieving specifically uniform curls, the straight rod is the ideal choice due to its capability to maintain consistent curl formation across the hair.

9. Which technique involves using different lengths to create movement?

- A. Blunt cutting**
- B. Texturizing**
- C. Layering**
- D. Clipper cutting**

Layering is a technique used in hair cutting that involves using different lengths of hair to create movement and texture within the hairstyle. By cutting sections of hair at varying lengths, stylists can achieve dimension and flow, allowing the hair to move more freely. This technique is particularly effective in adding volume to finer hair or removing bulk from thicker hair. In layered cuts, shorter pieces sit on top of longer strands, which can create a natural-looking cascade effect and enhance the overall shape of the hairstyle. This movement is visually appealing and can be styled in various ways, making layering a favored choice for many clients. Other techniques, such as blunt cutting, provide a solid and consistent edge without movement, while texturizing focuses on reducing bulk and enhancing texture rather than creating length differences. Clipper cutting typically results in uniform lengths, which does not emphasize movement as layering does.

10. What hair condition may result from excessive braiding?

- A. Split ends**
- B. Dry hair**
- C. Traction alopecia**
- D. Dandruff**

Excessive braiding can lead to traction alopecia, which is a form of hair loss that occurs due to the constant pulling and tension on the hair shafts. This condition primarily arises when hairstyles that pull on the hair, such as tight braids, are worn for extended periods. The persistent strain on the hair follicles can cause them to become damaged and, ultimately, lead to hair loss in the affected areas. In the context of braiding, this condition is particularly important to understand as it emphasizes the need for proper technique and moderation in styling to prevent long-term damage to the hair and scalp. While split ends, dry hair, and dandruff may all be relevant concerns for hairstyling, they do not directly result from the tension associated with braiding as traction alopecia does. Thus, understanding the implications of heavy or inappropriate braiding practices is critical for maintaining healthy hair and preventing hair loss.

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://gastatehairdesign.examzify.com>

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