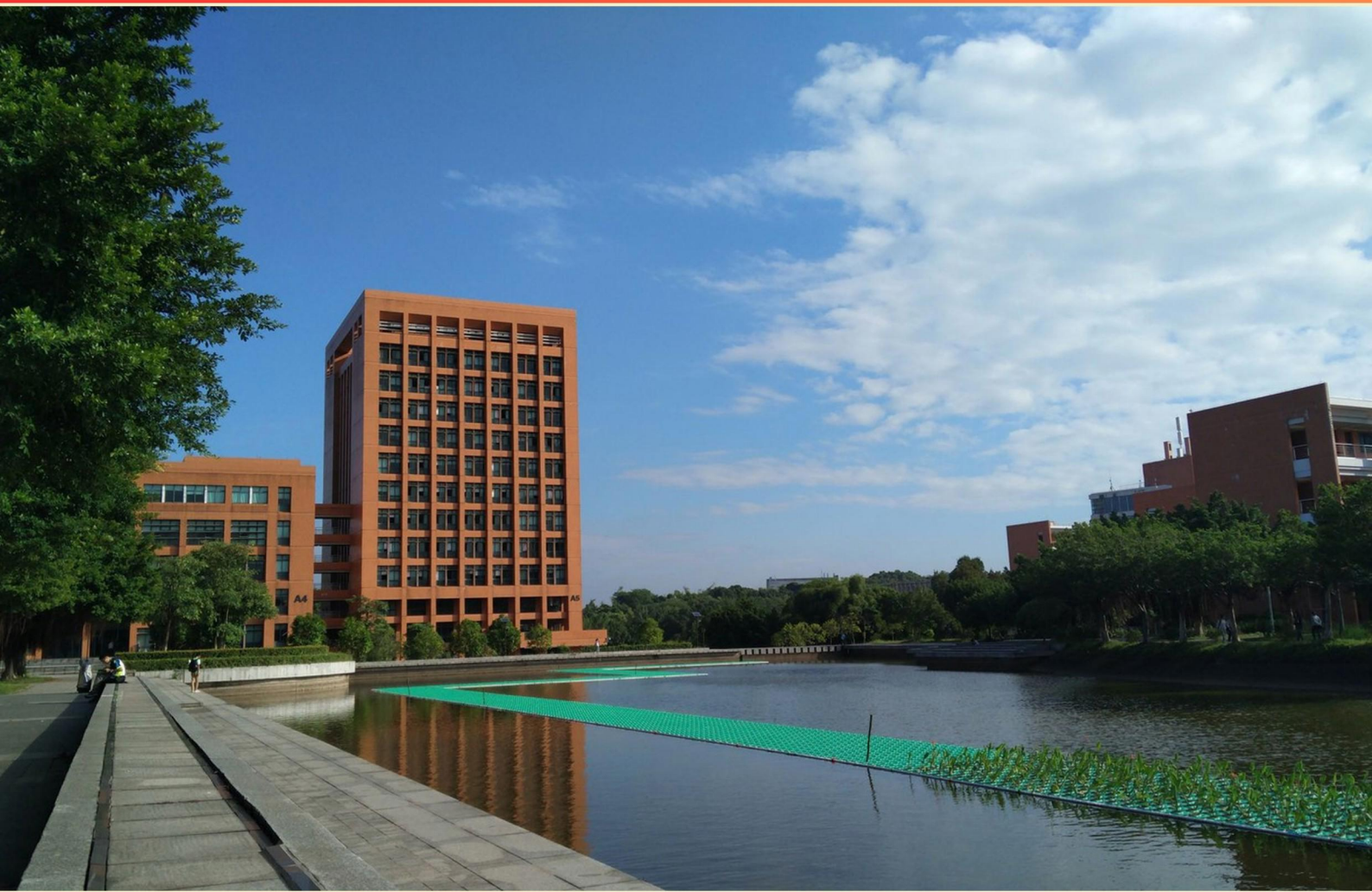


GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY (GSU) CIS 2010 INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION SYSTEMS EXAM 1 PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://gsu-cis2010exam1.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. What is the difference between benchmarking and best practices?**
- A. Benchmarking compares performance to best-in-class standards; best practices are proven methods widely accepted as effective.
 - B. Benchmarking is a synonym for best practices.
 - C. Best practices are outdated methods; benchmarking uses new methods only.
 - D. Benchmarking and best practices both refer to industry standards but unrelated to performance.
- 2. Which statement best describes access control and two-factor authentication?**
- A. Access control restricts access to resources and does not involve verification.
 - B. Access control restricts who can access resources; two-factor authentication involves at least two forms of verification.
 - C. Two-factor authentication adds a second verification factor beyond a password.
 - D. Two-factor authentication eliminates the need for password-based login.
- 3. Which system is most appropriate to support day-to-day transaction processing in a retail store?**
- A. Strategic Executive Support System
 - B. Data Warehouse
 - C. Transaction Processing System
 - D. Executive Dashboard
- 4. Which option illustrates information rather than data?**
- A. A raw list of customer IDs.
 - B. A single date.
 - C. An unformatted number.
 - D. A sales trend report showing upward trend.

- 5. Which statement best describes data warehouses and data lakes in relation to reporting and analytics?**
- A. A data warehouse stores structured, cleaned, and integrated data optimized for reporting/BI; a data lake stores large volumes of raw, unprocessed data in its native format for diverse analytics.
 - B. A data warehouse stores raw data; a data lake stores only curated, cleaned data for reporting.
 - C. They both store data in the exact same way.
 - D. Data lakes are only for image data.
- 6. What is ethics in information systems (IS)?**
- A. A set of hardware compatibility standards.
 - B. Technical procedures for data backup.
 - C. Moral principles guiding IT use; for example, avoiding plagiarism, protecting user privacy, not misusing data.
 - D. A pricing model for cloud services.
- 7. KPIs are used to evaluate progress toward which factors?**
- A. Efficiency MIS Metrics
 - B. Best Practices
 - C. Critical Success Factors
 - D. Benchmarking scores
- 8. What distinguishes Data from Information?**
- A. Data has context; Information is raw facts.
 - B. Information has context; Data is raw facts.
 - C. Data is always more useful than Information.
 - D. Information is always less reliable than Data.
- 9. Used to make words and strings. They include uppercase and lowercase letters, the digits 0-9 and symbols like ? + and £.**
- A. Alphanumeric Characters
 - B. ASCII
 - C. Unicode
 - D. Special Characters

10. If buyers have strong power, what is the typical impact on prices?

- A. They tend to be higher
- B. They remain unchanged
- C. They tend to be lower
- D. They rise unpredictably

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the difference between benchmarking and best practices?

- A. Benchmarking compares performance to best-in-class standards; best practices are proven methods widely accepted as effective.**
- B. Benchmarking is a synonym for best practices.
- C. Best practices are outdated methods; benchmarking uses new methods only.
- D. Benchmarking and best practices both refer to industry standards but unrelated to performance.

Benchmarking is about measuring your organization's performance and processes against external references, often best-in-class performers, to see where you stand and identify gaps. Best practices are proven methods that have been shown to work well and are widely accepted as effective ways to achieve desirable outcomes. So benchmarking focuses on comparison and targets, while best practices focus on the methods you actually use to improve. That's why the correct choice makes sense: benchmarking compares performance to best-in-class standards, and best practices are proven methods widely accepted as effective. The other statements mischaracterize the relationship: benchmarking isn't just a synonym for best practices, best practices aren't inherently outdated, and both aren't simply industry standards unrelated to performance.

2. Which statement best describes access control and two-factor authentication?

- A. Access control restricts access to resources and does not involve verification.
- B. Access control restricts who can access resources; two-factor authentication involves at least two forms of verification.**
- C. Two-factor authentication adds a second verification factor beyond a password.
- D. Two-factor authentication eliminates the need for password-based login.

Access control is about deciding who can access which resources and under what conditions, which typically involves confirming a user's identity (authentication) and then checking what actions they are allowed to perform (authorization). Two-factor authentication strengthens security by requiring two different forms of verification, such as something you know (a password), something you have (a code from a mobile device or hardware token), or something you are (a biometric). The statement that best describes both is that access control restricts who can access resources and two-factor authentication involves at least two forms of verification. It ties the process of restricting access to the idea of verifying identity with multiple factors. The other ideas are less complete: saying access control doesn't involve verification ignores the authentication step fundamental to granting access; describing only two-factor authentication talks about the method itself without connecting it to how access is controlled; and claiming that two-factor authentication eliminates password-based login is incorrect because passwords often serve as one of the required factors.

3. Which system is most appropriate to support day-to-day transaction processing in a retail store?

- A. Strategic Executive Support System
- B. Data Warehouse
- C. Transaction Processing System**
- D. Executive Dashboard

For day-to-day retail operations, you need a system that handles real-time recording and updating of every transaction as it happens. A Transaction Processing System is built exactly for that purpose: it processes sales quickly at the point of sale, updates inventory and customer records, generates receipts, and ensures data accuracy even with many simultaneous transactions. It's optimized for high throughput, reliability, and data integrity, often working with cash registers, barcode scanners, and inventory modules to keep everyday store activities running smoothly. Data warehouses are designed for analyzing large amounts of historical data and supporting reporting and decision-making, not for processing each sale in real time. An executive dashboard provides a visual overview of key metrics for managers but doesn't manage the transactional flow itself. A strategic executive support system focuses on long-term planning and strategic decisions rather than daily store operations. Therefore, the system best suited to support day-to-day transaction processing in a retail store is a Transaction Processing System.

4. Which option illustrates information rather than data?

- A. A raw list of customer IDs.
- B. A single date.
- C. An unformatted number.
- D. A sales trend report showing upward trend.**

Understanding the difference between data and information: data are raw facts or figures, while information is data that has been organized, processed, and interpreted to add meaning. A sales trend report demonstrates information because it presents a pattern over time and the implications of that pattern for decisions. It doesn't just list numbers; it interprets them, showing that sales are rising and suggesting what that might mean for strategy. The raw list of customer IDs is data—it's a collection of facts without context. A single date is data—one point in time without interpretation. An unformatted number is data—a standalone value without context. That interpretive, meaning-bearing presentation is what makes the sales trend report information.

5. Which statement best describes data warehouses and data lakes in relation to reporting and analytics?

- A. A data warehouse stores structured, cleaned, and integrated data optimized for reporting/BI; a data lake stores large volumes of raw, unprocessed data in its native format for diverse analytics.**
- B. A data warehouse stores raw data; a data lake stores only curated, cleaned data for reporting.
- C. They both store data in the exact same way.
- D. Data lakes are only for image data.

Understanding how data warehouses and data lakes support reporting and analytics hinges on processing level and intended use. A data warehouse is built to support reporting and business intelligence, storing structured, cleaned, and integrated data in a schema designed for fast, reliable querying and consistent metrics. A data lake, by contrast, is a large repository for raw data in its native format—structured, semi-structured, and unstructured—intended for broad analytics, data exploration, and data science where data can be transformed later as needed. This distinction explains why the statement about warehouses housing curated, ready-for-reporting data and lakes holding raw data for diverse analytics is the best fit. The other descriptions don't match how these architectures are typically used: warehouses aren't just raw data stores and lakes aren't limited to curated data; they don't store data identically; and lakes aren't restricted to image data.

6. What is ethics in information systems (IS)?

- A. A set of hardware compatibility standards.
- B. Technical procedures for data backup.
- C. Moral principles guiding IT use; for example, avoiding plagiarism, protecting user privacy, not misusing data.**
- D. A pricing model for cloud services.

Ethics in information systems is about the moral principles that guide how people use technology and manage information. It covers decisions about privacy, consent, data protection, and how data is collected, stored, and shared, as well as responsible behavior like avoiding plagiarism and not misusing data or IT resources. This is about what is right or fair in handling information and technology, not about technical standards or business terms. That's why the best description centers on moral guidelines for IT use and data handling, rather than on hardware specifications, backup procedures, or pricing models.

7. KPIs are used to evaluate progress toward which factors?

- A. Efficiency MIS Metrics
- B. Best Practices
- C. Critical Success Factors**
- D. Benchmarking scores

KPIs measure progress toward Critical Success Factors. CSFs are the few essential areas that must go right for an organization to achieve its strategic goals. By turning those critical priorities into concrete, measurable targets, KPIs show whether actions are moving the company toward what truly matters, with examples like increasing market share, boosting customer satisfaction, or shortening delivery times. Other options describe related concepts but aren't what KPIs track. Efficiency metrics focus on how well resources or processes perform, not the strategic factors themselves. Best practices are recommended methods rather than progress toward a goal. Benchmarking scores compare performance to others, which is about external comparison rather than internal progress toward essential objectives.

8. What distinguishes Data from Information?

- A. Data has context; Information is raw facts.
- B. Information has context; Data is raw facts.**
- C. Data is always more useful than Information.
- D. Information is always less reliable than Data.

Data are raw facts and figures taken in isolation. Information emerges when those facts are organized, analyzed, and presented with relevance to a question or decision, i.e., given context. For example, a list of numbers representing daily sales is data; when you summarize them, show trends over time, compare to targets, and explain what those trends mean for the business, you've produced information. The context and interpretation are what make it meaningful and actionable. That's why the statement that Information has context and Data is raw facts is the best fit. Treating data as already meaningful ignores the work needed to give it purpose, and treating data as inherently more useful overlooks how context and analysis typically make information more actionable. It's also not correct to claim information is always less reliable than data; reliability depends on how well the data are collected and processed, and good information can be more trustworthy when properly derived.

9. Used to make words and strings. They include uppercase and lowercase letters, the digits 0-9 and symbols like ? + and £.

- A. Alphanumeric Characters**
- B. ASCII
- C. Unicode
- D. Special Characters

Alphanumeric characters are the set used to form words and strings, primarily letters and digits. This includes uppercase and lowercase letters and the digits 0–9, which are the building blocks you type when creating text or identifiers. Symbols like ?, +, and £ appear in text too, but the term alphanumeric focuses on letters and numbers as the core components of words and strings. ASCII and Unicode are encoding standards for how those characters are stored, not the characters themselves, while Special Characters refers specifically to symbols. So the option describing alphanumeric characters best captures what's used to make words and strings.

10. If buyers have strong power, what is the typical impact on prices?

- A. They tend to be higher
- B. They remain unchanged
- C. They tend to be lower**
- D. They rise unpredictably

When buyers have strong power, they can demand lower prices and better terms because they buy in large volumes, there are many alternative suppliers, switching costs are low, and they can easily compare offers. This competitive leverage forces suppliers to compete on price, so prices tend to fall. If prices stayed the same or rose, that would indicate weaker buyer power or market conditions where suppliers can set higher prices, which is not typical when buyers are in a strong negotiating position.

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://gsu-cis2010exam1.examzify.com>

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

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