

GMAS 5th Grade English Language Arts (ELA) 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

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1. Which term describes writing from the narrator's own perspective using the pronoun 'I'?
 - A. First person point of view
 - B. Third person omniscient
 - C. Second person point of view
 - D. Limited-omniscient (third person) point of view

2. Which term describes language that uses figures of speech to convey meanings beyond the literal?
 - A. Dialogue
 - B. Figurative language
 - C. Imagery
 - D. Tone

3. In title case, should the word 'of' be capitalized?
 - A. Yes
 - B. Only if it is the first word
 - C. No
 - D. Always

4. Which relative pronoun correctly starts a clause describing the author who wrote the book?
 - A. who
 - B. whom
 - C. which
 - D. that

5. Which term is a word that imitates the sound it represents?
 - A. Alliteration
 - B. Hyperbole
 - C. Onomatopoeia
 - D. Metaphor

- 6. Which structure is used when a passage lists steps to solve a problem, such as building a simple raft?**
- A. Narrative arc.**
 - B. Process/sequence of steps (also called procedure or chronological).**
 - C. Descriptive description.**
 - D. Cause and effect.**
- 7. If a story is told in past tense, which tense should be used for verbs describing past events?**
- A. Present tense**
 - B. Past tense**
 - C. Future tense**
 - D. Present perfect**
- 8. If a chart shows rainfall by month and July is the wettest, which conclusion is supported?**
- A. July has the highest rainfall.**
 - B. July has the lowest rainfall.**
 - C. Rainfall is equal every month.**
 - D. August has more rain than July.**
- 9. Which sentence uses correct comma usage in a list?**
- A. We bought apples, oranges, and bananas.**
 - B. We bought apples, oranges and bananas.**
 - C. We bought apples oranges, and bananas.**
 - D. We bought apples; oranges, and bananas.**
- 10. What is a collection of maps?**
- A. Atlas**
 - B. Dictionary**
 - C. Encyclopedia**
 - D. Thesaurus**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term describes writing from the narrator's own perspective using the pronoun 'I'?

- A. First person point of view**
- B. Third person omniscient**
- C. Second person point of view**
- D. Limited-omniscient (third person) point of view**

This question examines point of view in writing. When the narrator uses the pronoun I, the story is told from the narrator's own perspective, meaning it's in the first person point of view. The narrator speaks as a character who participates in the events, sharing personal thoughts, feelings, and experiences directly. Other perspectives use different pronouns: third person omniscient uses he, she, or they and can reveal many characters' thoughts; second person uses you and speaks to the reader; limited-omniscient stays in third person but follows one character closely, still avoiding the I perspective. So the use of I clearly signals first person narration. For example: I walked along the river and felt the cold wind on my face, thinking about the choices ahead.

2. Which term describes language that uses figures of speech to convey meanings beyond the literal?

- A. Dialogue**
- B. Figurative language**
- C. Imagery**
- D. Tone**

Figurative language is language that uses figures of speech to convey meanings beyond the literal. It includes devices like similes, metaphors, and personification that help you understand ideas in a more imaginative or vivid way. This fits the idea described in the question because it focuses on language that goes beyond what the words say on the surface. Dialogue, on the other hand, is just the words spoken between characters; imagery is the use of vivid sensory details to paint a mental picture; tone is the author's attitude toward the subject. Each of those describes a different aspect of writing, but only figurative language specifically uses figures of speech to convey meanings beyond the literal meaning of the words.

3. In title case, should the word 'of' be capitalized?

- A. Yes**
- B. Only if it is the first word**
- C. No**
- D. Always**

In title case, you capitalize the main words that carry meaning—nouns, verbs, adjectives, and some adverbs. Short connecting words like “of” are not capitalized in the middle of a title because they're just links between the important words. The word “of” stays lowercase unless it is the first word (or the last word) of the title. For example, *The Sound of Music* shows “of” in lowercase, while *If a title started with “Of”* it would be capitalized as the first word. So, the correct approach is to not capitalize “of” in the middle of a title.

4. Which relative pronoun correctly starts a clause describing the author who wrote the book?

A. who

B. whom

C. which

D. that

When a clause describes a person and the person is the one doing the action, the pronoun that starts the clause should be who. In the phrase describing the author, the author is the one who wrote the book, so the relative clause needs a subject pronoun for the verb wrote. That's why who fits perfectly: it acts as the subject of the verb in the relative clause. So, the correct choice makes sense in the sentence: The author who wrote the book. Using whom would put the author in the object position (the author whom someone wrote), which isn't the case here. Which is for things or animals, not people, and that can be used for people in some very formal or restrictive contexts, but who is the clearest and most standard choice when referring to a person who performed the action.

5. Which term is a word that imitates the sound it represents?

A. Alliteration

B. Hyperbole

C. Onomatopoeia

D. Metaphor

Onomatopoeia is when a word imitates the sound it represents. Words like "buzz," "clang," or "sizzle" sound out the noise they describe, helping readers hear the action in a vivid way. The other terms describe different language tricks: alliteration involves repeating the same initial consonant sounds across nearby words, not the sound itself; hyperbole is an obvious exaggeration for emphasis; metaphor makes a direct comparison between two things without using like or as. Since the question asks for a term that imitates a sound, onomatopoeia is the best fit.

6. Which structure is used when a passage lists steps to solve a problem, such as building a simple raft?

A. Narrative arc.

B. Process/sequence of steps (also called procedure or chronological).

C. Descriptive description.

D. Cause and effect.

When a passage lists steps to solve a problem, it uses a process/sequence of steps. This structure guides you through actions in the order they should be done, like a set of directions or a recipe. That's why it's also called a procedure or chronological order—the emphasis is on what to do first, next, and finally to complete the task. In the raft-building example, you'd expect clear, ordered steps such as gathering materials, cutting and assembling pieces, tying knots, and testing the raft. This is different from a narrative arc, which tells a story with characters and events; a descriptive passage, which focuses on describing what something looks like or feels like; and a cause-and-effect structure, which explains why something happened or what results followed from an action. If you see sequence words like first, next, then, and finally, that's a strong cue you're looking at a process/sequence of steps.

7. If a story is told in past tense, which tense should be used for verbs describing past events?

A. Present tense

B. Past tense

C. Future tense

D. Present perfect

In a story told in past tense, the verbs that describe events that happened in the story are written in past tense. This keeps the timeline clear and shows that these actions occurred before the moment of narration. For example, "She walked to the store, bought bread, and returned home." Each verb is in simple past, signaling completed actions in the story's timeline. Using past tense for past events helps readers follow what happened in order. If you switched to present tense, it would feel like the action is happening now and disrupt the flow of a past-tense narrative. Future tense would describe events that haven't happened yet, changing the time frame. Present perfect expresses actions connected to the present moment, which isn't the usual pattern for a straightforward past-story narration. So, the verbs describing past events should stay in past tense.

8. If a chart shows rainfall by month and July is the wettest, which conclusion is supported?

A. July has the highest rainfall.

B. July has the lowest rainfall.

C. Rainfall is equal every month.

D. August has more rain than July.

Reading a rainfall chart means looking for the month with the largest amount of rainfall. If July is described as the wettest, that means July has more rainfall than every other month. So the supported conclusion is that July has the highest rainfall. The other ideas—July having the lowest rainfall, rainfall being the same every month, or August having more rain than July—would contradict July being the month with the most rainfall.

9. Which sentence uses correct comma usage in a list?

- A. We bought apples, oranges, and bananas.**
- B. We bought apples, oranges and bananas.**
- C. We bought apples oranges, and bananas.**
- D. We bought apples; oranges, and bananas.**

When you list several items, use punctuation to separate them clearly. In this sentence, apples, oranges and bananas are listed with a comma after the first item and with and joining the last item—without putting a comma before and. That matches the common rule taught for simple lists at this grade level, where the final comma before and is often omitted. The other options either put a comma before and (an Oxford comma) or use punctuation that doesn't fit a straightforward list, like a semicolon.

10. What is a collection of maps?

- A. Atlas**
- B. Dictionary**
- C. Encyclopedia**
- D. Thesaurus**

A collection of maps is called an atlas. An atlas gathers maps—world, regional, country, or thematic maps—into one reference, usually with a legend, scale, and index to help you locate places. The other options serve different purposes: a dictionary lists words and their meanings, an encyclopedia provides articles on many topics, and a thesaurus offers synonyms and antonyms. So an atlas is the best fit for a collection of maps.

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://gmas5thgradeela.examzify.com>

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

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