

# GRE Advanced Vocabulary 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 reflects the nature of someone who is petty or is constantly finding faults?
  - A. Captious
  - B. Denouement
  - C. Countenance
  - D. Calumny
  
2. What does the term accession refer to?
  - A. Increase in quantity
  - B. Disagreement with authority
  - C. Acknowledge or consent
  - D. Act of rebellion
  
3. Which term describes an abject coward?
  - A. Recreant
  - B. Recumbent
  - C. Sententious
  - D. Saturnine
  
4. What is meant by 'vestige'?
  - A. A prominent feature
  - B. A trace or evidence of something that once existed
  - C. A widely accepted practice
  - D. A complete transformation
  
5. What does 'variegated' mean?
  - A. Plain
  - B. Having a variety of colors
  - C. Uniform
  - D. Opaque
  
6. Which word refers to directing one's path or course?
  - A. Wheedle
  - B. Vitiate
  - C. Wend
  - D. Virago

- 7. What does egress refer to?**
- A. The act of coming or going out**
  - B. Extreme wickedness**
  - C. The act of expurgating**
  - D. A form of abusive language**
- 8. Which term can refer to a person who is overly eager to please?**
- A. Servant**
  - B. Toady**
  - C. Comrade**
  - D. Monitor**
- 9. What does dulcet mean?**
- A. Harsh and jarring**
  - B. Extremely pleasant in a gentle way**
  - C. Overly simplistic**
  - D. Rough and unrefined**
- 10. What is the meaning of the word slake?**
- A. To enhance**
  - B. To satisfy or relieve**
  - C. To endure**
  - D. To lengthen**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which term reflects the nature of someone who is petty or is constantly finding faults?**

- A. Captious**
- B. Denouement**
- C. Countenance**
- D. Calumny**

The term that reflects the nature of someone who is petty or constantly finding faults is "captious." This word specifically characterizes a tendency to raise objections or to criticize minor issues, often in a way that is seen as unreasonable or trivial. Essentially, a captious person delights in pointing out flaws, which aligns perfectly with the description of being petty and fault-finding. In contrast, "denouement" refers to the final resolution or outcome of a narrative, typically found in literature or theater, and does not relate to someone's character traits. "Countenance" denotes a person's facial expression or demeanor, and while it can suggest approval or disapproval, it does not encompass the idea of being critical or nitpicky. Lastly, "calumny" involves making false statements about someone with the intent to damage their reputation, which, while negative, has a different focus than the idea of being petty or fault-finding. Thus, of all the options, "captious" is the most accurate descriptor for someone who is constantly seeking faults.

**2. What does the term accession refer to?**

- A. Increase in quantity**
- B. Disagreement with authority**
- C. Acknowledge or consent**
- D. Act of rebellion**

The term "accession" refers to the act of acknowledging or granting consent, often in a formal context. It is commonly used in legal and political discussions where one party formally agrees to a decision, treaty, or position. The essence of accession lies in the idea of accepting or adopting something, whether it's a right, a claim, or a position. In this context, the other options do not align with the meaning of "accession." An increase in quantity focuses on numerical growth rather than consent or agreement. Disagreement with authority suggests a conflict or opposition, which is fundamentally different from the idea of granting consent. Lastly, the act of rebellion stands in direct opposition to the notion of accession, which is about acceptance rather than defiance. Therefore, the answer that best captures the essence of "accession" is the one that pertains to acknowledgment or consent.

### 3. Which term describes an abject coward?

- A. Recreant**
- B. Recumbent**
- C. Sententious**
- D. Saturnine**

The term "recreant" specifically refers to someone who is a coward or a traitor, particularly in the context of failing to uphold their duties or responsibilities out of fear. This word is derived from the Old French "recreant," meaning "to recoil," which conveys a sense of withdrawal or retreat in the face of danger or challenge. In literature and discussions concerning bravery and integrity, describing someone as recreant directly implicates their lack of courage or loyalty. The other terms do not align with the definition regarding cowardice. "Recumbent" refers to a position of rest or lying down and has no connotation of cowardice. "Sententious" describes a person who is inclined to speak in a pompous or moralizing way, lacking the element of fear or cowardice. "Saturnine" is used to characterize someone who is morose, gloomy, or sullen, which does not relate to being a coward. Thus, "recreant" is the precise term for an abject coward.

### 4. What is meant by 'vestige'?

- A. A prominent feature**
- B. A trace or evidence of something that once existed**
- C. A widely accepted practice**
- D. A complete transformation**

The term 'vestige' specifically refers to a trace, mark, or remnant of something that has disappeared or is no longer present. In contexts where it is used, it conveys the idea of something that remains as a sign or reminder of what was once there. For instance, one might refer to the vestiges of an ancient civilization, noting the remnants that provide evidence of its past presence. In this sense, the correct choice captures the essence of 'vestige' as a marker of history or a reminder of what once existed, making it fitting in discussions of archaeology, nostalgia, or memory. This definition emphasizes the concept of absence while acknowledging the significance of what remains, which aligns perfectly with the term's usage.

### 5. What does 'variegated' mean?

- A. Plain**
- B. Having a variety of colors**
- C. Uniform**
- D. Opaque**

The term 'variegated' specifically refers to something that is marked by variety, especially in terms of colors. This word is often used to describe plants, fabrics, or any objects that exhibit a mix of different hues or patterns, giving them a distinctive and colorful appearance. The essence of the word lies in the presence of diverse elements, which differentiates it from terms like 'plain' or 'uniform', which imply a lack of variety or diversity. Therefore, having a variety of colors is the most accurate interpretation of 'variegated'.

**6. Which word refers to directing one's path or course?**

- A. Wheedle**
- B. Vitiate**
- C. Wend**
- D. Virago**

The term that refers to directing one's path or course is "wend." This word is often used in the context of moving or proceeding in a particular direction, such as winding one's way through a landscape or making one's way toward a destination. It conveys a sense of intention in navigating one's journey, whether physically or metaphorically. In contrast, the other options do not convey this idea of direction or course. "Wheedle" refers to the act of using flattery to persuade someone to do something, which is unrelated to direction. "Vitiate" means to impair or weaken something, often used in contexts involving quality or integrity, rather than navigating a path. "Virago" denotes a strong, assertive woman, sometimes implying a certain aggressiveness, but it does not relate to directing a course or path. Thus, "wend" is the word that best captures the concept of directing one's journey or course.

**7. What does egress refer to?**

- A. The act of coming or going out**
- B. Extreme wickedness**
- C. The act of expurgating**
- D. A form of abusive language**

Egress refers to the act of coming or going out, making the first choice the correct one. This term is often used in contexts such as architecture, safety, and urban planning, where it describes the way people exit a building or an area. The term emphasizes movement away from an enclosed space, highlighting the idea of departure and access to the outside. The other options describe different concepts that do not align with the meaning of egress. Extreme wickedness pertains to moral depravity, while the act of expurgating refers to the process of removing or cleansing from something undesirable. Lastly, a form of abusive language deals with verbal communication, specifically in a negative or harmful context. None of these definitions capture the essence of movement or exit that egress conveys.

**8. Which term can refer to a person who is overly eager to please?**

- A. Servant**
- B. Toady**
- C. Comrade**
- D. Monitor**

The term that refers to a person who is overly eager to please is "toady." This word specifically denotes someone who flatters or ingratiates themselves to others, often for personal gain or to curry favor. A toady may go out of their way to please someone in a position of power or authority, sometimes to the point of insincerity. It reflects a mindset focused on subservience and excessive politeness, which fits the description of having an overly eager desire to please. In contrast, the other options do not carry this meaning. A servant provides assistance or performs tasks but does not inherently suggest an eagerness to please beyond their duties. Comrade typically refers to a companion or colleague, especially in a political context, without any connotations of obsequiousness. Monitor signifies someone who observes or regulates, lacking the idea of pleasing others. Therefore, "toady" is the most fitting choice for someone characterized by their excessive eagerness to please.

**9. What does dulcet mean?**

- A. Harsh and jarring**
- B. Extremely pleasant in a gentle way**
- C. Overly simplistic**
- D. Rough and unrefined**

The term "dulcet" is derived from the Latin word "dulcis," which means sweet. It is commonly used to describe sounds that are sweet and soothing to the ears, such as a gentle melody or soft music. When something is described as dulcet, it conveys an idea of being extremely pleasant and appealing in a gentle manner. This aligns perfectly with the notion of pleasantness, particularly in auditory contexts. Therefore, identifying it as extremely pleasant in a gentle way encapsulates the core meaning of the word. In contrast, the other options portray conflicting characteristics that do not align with the essence of "dulcet." Descriptions like harsh and jarring, overly simplistic, or rough and unrefined highlight negative or less refined qualities, which stand in stark contrast to the sweet and pleasant connotation of "dulcet."

**10. What is the meaning of the word slake?**

- A. To enhance**
- B. To satisfy or relieve**
- C. To endure**
- D. To lengthen**

The word "slake" means to satisfy or relieve, particularly in the context of thirst or desire. When you slake your thirst, you are quenching it or satisfying that need for hydration. This usage typically implies an easing or alleviation of something that requires fulfillment, like a craving or a strong need. In contrast, the other choices do not align with this meaning. For instance, to enhance refers to improving or augmenting something, which does not relate to the idea of satisfaction or relief. To endure denotes a sense of suffering through difficulties without giving up, unrelated to the concept of gratification. Finally, to lengthen is about increasing the duration or size of something, which also does not connect with satisfying or relieving a desire or need.

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## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://greadvocab.examzify.com>**

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

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