

GRE BASIC VOCABULARY PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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

<https://grebasicvocab.examzify.com>



Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

1. What does "hegemony" refer to?

- A. Equality among peers
- B. Domination over others
- C. A collaboration of different powers
- D. A temporary alliance

2. What does 'extraneous' refer to?

- A. Essential
- B. Relevant
- C. Adventitious
- D. Not essential

3. What does the term 'dichotomy' refer to?

- A. A division into two parts
- B. A philosophical debate
- C. A conflict between ideas
- D. A type of duality in literature

4. What does "disparate" imply?

- A. Strikingly similar
- B. Fundamentally different
- C. Moderately related
- D. Completely identical

5. A "chauvinist" is best described as?

- A. A person who promotes equality among all
- B. A person with a prejudiced belief in the superiority of his or her own kind
- C. Someone who embraces diversity
- D. A person who avoids conflict

6. What term describes the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech?

- A. Brevity
- B. Candor
- C. Circumspect
- D. Cogent

7. What is a bitter and prolonged verbal attack called?

- A. Reprimand
- B. Diatribe
- C. Discussion
- D. Statement

8. What does the term introspection refer to?

- A. Contemplation of others' feelings
- B. Exploration of external circumstances
- C. The contemplation of your own thoughts and desires
- D. Analysis of past experiences

9. In what context would "quintessential" be appropriately used?

- A. to describe something undesirable
- B. to represent an inaccurate example
- C. to express a perfect example of a quality
- D. to indicate something incomplete

10. Which term would best fit a situation defined by 'bedlam'?

- A. orderly
- B. tranquil
- C. chaotic
- D. structured

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What does "hegemony" refer to?

- A. Equality among peers
- B. Domination over others**
- C. A collaboration of different powers
- D. A temporary alliance

The term "hegemony" refers to dominance or leadership of one entity over others, particularly in the context of political, social, or economic power. It often describes a situation where a particular group or state exerts significant influence or control over others, shaping their policies, beliefs, and actions without the need for coercion through force. In discussions of international relations, for example, hegemony may refer to a dominant country's ability to lead global or regional affairs to its advantage while setting the agenda that lesser powers follow. This concept encapsulates the idea of prevailing influence rather than mere equality or collaboration, which are more about shared power and equal participation among various groups or states. The other choices, while referencing various forms of relationships among powers, do not accurately capture the sense of dominance and influence that is central to the concept of hegemony.

2. What does 'extraneous' refer to?

- A. Essential
- B. Relevant
- C. Adventitious
- D. Not essential**

The term 'extraneous' refers to something that is not essential or not relevant to the matter at hand. In various contexts, it indicates that certain elements or factors are additional or outside the main focus, often implying they are superfluous or unnecessary for the primary purpose. This is in contrast to elements that are considered essential or relevant, which are vital to understanding the situation or achieving a specific goal. The correct choice aligns perfectly with this definition, capturing the essence of what the term implies.

3. What does the term 'dichotomy' refer to?

- A. A division into two parts**
- B. A philosophical debate
- C. A conflict between ideas
- D. A type of duality in literature

The term 'dichotomy' refers to a division into two distinct and often contrasting parts or categories. This definition is central to understanding how dichotomies function in various contexts, such as philosophy, biology, and even everyday discussions. For instance, when discussing concepts like good and evil or right and wrong, a dichotomy is at play, separating these ideas into two opposing groups. In various fields, recognizing a dichotomy helps in clarifying complex subjects by simplifying them into binary choices, allowing for easier analysis and understanding. Thus, the correct choice effectively captures the essence of the term, which is fundamentally about the separation into two distinct entities.

4. What does "disparate" imply?

- A. Strikingly similar
- B. Fundamentally different**
- C. Moderately related
- D. Completely identical

The term "disparate" refers to things that are fundamentally different in kind or nature. When used to describe items, groups, or ideas, it suggests that they have significant differences that make them not comparable or similar in any way. This word often applies in contexts where contrasting elements are being discussed, highlighting the lack of harmony or resemblance between them. For instance, when referring to disparate cultures, it indicates that these cultures have unique characteristics and practices that distinguish them from one another, rather than sharing commonalities. The use of "disparate" emphasizes the distinct separation between the entities being compared, thus aligning perfectly with the definition presented.

5. A "chauvinist" is best described as?

- A. A person who promotes equality among all
- B. A person with a prejudiced belief in the superiority of his or her own kind**
- C. Someone who embraces diversity
- D. A person who avoids conflict

The term "chauvinist" refers to an individual who holds an unreasonable or excessive belief in the superiority of their own group, often at the expense of others. This belief is typically rooted in biases related to gender, nationality, or other identity markers. The essence of being a chauvinist lies in the promotion of one's own group as superior, while dismissing or devaluing others. This understanding aligns perfectly with the definition provided in option B, highlighting the prejudiced belief that characterizes a chauvinist. In contrast, the other options describe attitudes or behaviors that support equality (option A), embrace diversity (option C), or seek to avoid conflict (option D), all of which are fundamentally opposed to the concept of chauvinism. Thus, option B accurately encapsulates the essence of a chauvinist's beliefs and attitudes towards others.

6. What term describes the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech?

- A. Brevity
- B. Candor**
- C. Circumspect
- D. Cogent

The term that describes the quality of being honest and straightforward in attitude and speech is "candor." Candor reflects a willingness to speak openly and truthfully, with an accent on sincerity and openness. A person exhibiting candor is considered to be forthright and transparent, making it a highly valued trait in both personal and professional contexts, where clear communication is essential. In contrast, brevity refers to the quality of being concise and to the point, which does not relate directly to honesty or straightforwardness. Circumspect describes a cautiousness and careful consideration of potential consequences, often implying hesitation rather than openness. Cogent relates to being clear, logical, and convincing—important for effective arguments but not specifically tied to the quality of honesty or straightforwardness. Thus, "candor" is the apt choice as it captures the essence of honesty and frankness in communication.

7. What is a bitter and prolonged verbal attack called?

- A. Reprimand
- B. Diatribe**
- C. Discussion
- D. Statement

The term that signifies a bitter and prolonged verbal attack is "diatribe." This word is often used to describe a lengthy and vehement speech or piece of writing that expresses strong criticism or hostility against a particular subject, person, or institution. The connotation of "diatribe" suggests a level of intensity and negativity, indicating that the speaker or writer is not merely critiquing but is instead engaged in a passionate denunciation. In contrast, options like "reprimand," "discussion," and "statement" do not convey the same sense of aggressive criticism. A reprimand often indicates a formal or official rebuke, but it does not necessarily carry the prolonged or bitter quality of a diatribe. "Discussion" refers to a conversation or dialogue, which is inherently different as it involves multiple viewpoints and is typically more constructive. A "statement," on the other hand, is simply a declaration or expression of something, lacking the targeted antagonism and intensity that characterize a diatribe. Therefore, "diatribe" is the precise term that captures the essence of a bitter, extended verbal assault.

8. What does the term introspection refer to?

- A. Contemplation of others' feelings
- B. Exploration of external circumstances
- C. The contemplation of your own thoughts and desires**
- D. Analysis of past experiences

Introspection refers to the inward examination of one's own thoughts, feelings, and desires. It involves a reflective process that allows individuals to gain insight into their personal mental and emotional states. This self-analysis enables a deeper understanding of one's motivations, beliefs, and reactions to various situations. The correct choice clearly captures this concept of self-reflection and personal contemplation. In contrast, examining others' feelings is more aligned with empathy or emotional intelligence rather than introspection. Exploring external circumstances focuses on understanding the environment around oneself, which does not pertain to the inner self. Analyzing past experiences may seem related, but it is more about reflecting on what has happened rather than an ongoing contemplation of one's current inner thoughts and feelings. Therefore, the term is best defined by the contemplation of your own thoughts and desires.

9. In what context would "quintessential" be appropriately used?

- A. to describe something undesirable
- B. to represent an inaccurate example
- C. to express a perfect example of a quality**
- D. to indicate something incomplete

The term "quintessential" is used to describe something that is the most perfect or typical example of a particular quality or characteristic. When you refer to something as quintessential, you are highlighting its embodiment of certain traits or attributes that define its essence. For instance, saying that a certain dish is the quintessential representation of a cuisine implies that it captures the fundamental, defining aspects of that type of food perfectly. In the context of the other options, describing something as undesirable, inaccurate, or incomplete would not align with the meaning of "quintessential," which is inherently positive and implies a standard of excellence or completeness in its representation of a particular quality. Therefore, the choice that best fits the definition and usage of "quintessential" is the one that conveys an ideal or exemplary nature of a subject.

10. Which term would best fit a situation defined by 'bedlam'?

- A. orderly
- B. tranquil
- C. chaotic
- D. structured

The term 'bedlam' originates from the name of a notorious mental hospital in London, known for the chaotic and disorderly conditions that prevailed there. It has come to signify extreme confusion, uproar, or a state of noisy and uncontrolled activity. In a situation characterized by 'bedlam,' one would expect a lack of order and an overwhelming sense of chaos. Thus, the best choice to describe such a situation is 'chaotic,' as it encapsulates the essence of bedlam perfectly. This term conveys the disorder and tumult that would be expected in a scenario where bedlam is present. The other options, such as 'orderly,' 'tranquil,' and 'structured,' suggest conditions of calmness, organization, or peace, which are stark contrasts to the meaning of 'bedlam.'

SAMPLE

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://grebasicvocab.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE