

HISTORY, MINING, AND VALUE CHAIN OF DIAMONDS PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



**SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE
WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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	16

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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 city is historically recognized as a major modern polishing and trading center for diamonds?**
 - A. Antwerp
 - B. Surat
 - C. Mumbai
 - D. Dubai

- 2. Which process describes the collision of continental and oceanic plates with the oceanic plate descending into the mantle?**
 - A. Subduction
 - B. Spreading
 - C. Rift
 - D. Accretion

- 3. Which igneous rock is commonly found as a host for diamonds in deep Earth settings?**
 - A. Kimberlite
 - B. Gabbro
 - C. Diorite
 - D. Rhyolite

- 4. Why are pink diamonds and other fancy-color diamonds rare, and what factors determine their value?**
 - A. Pink diamonds are common and uniform.
 - B. Fancy-color diamonds are rare due to low natural color occurrence and stable demand; color intensity, hue, saturation, and size determine pricing; treatments can affect value.
 - C. Color determines value only by carat weight.
 - D. Treatments always decrease value.

- 5. Which deeper test approximates ore grade by processing a representative volume of ore before full-scale mining?**
 - A. Open pit
 - B. Character sample
 - C. Drift
 - D. Bulk sample

- 6. What is the Hope Diamond, and what is its origin and historical lore?**
- A. The Hope Diamond originated in Africa and has no legends.
 - B. The Hope Diamond is a small colorless gem from Brazil.
 - C. The Hope Diamond is a famous large blue diamond with a storied provenance and alleged curse; originated in India (Golconda) and has passed through multiple owners.
 - D. The Hope Diamond is a synthetic blue diamond produced in laboratories.
- 7. By 1929, the London Diamond Corporation evolved into which organization, the central selling organization?**
- A. Diamond Trading Company (DTC)
 - B. Central Selling Organization (CSO)
 - C. World Diamond Council
 - D. London Diamond Board
- 8. What is the typical processing sequence from rough to finished gemstone in a modern operation?**
- A. Mining planning cutting marketing.
 - B. Sorting rough setting into jewelry polishing certification.
 - C. Sorting rough planning and splitting evaluation and pricing bruting or girdling faceting polishing certification setting into jewelry.
 - D. Mining smelting alloying casting setting.
- 9. Which term denotes a company operating across multiple value chain stages to capture more profits?**
- A. Vertical integration
 - B. Benification
 - C. Sorting Rough
 - D. Auction/tenders
- 10. State the carat-to-gram conversion.**
- A. 1 carat equals 0.1 grams
 - B. 1 carat equals 0.25 grams
 - C. 1 carat equals 0.5 grams
 - D. 1 carat equals 0.2 grams

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which city is historically recognized as a major modern polishing and trading center for diamonds?

- A. Antwerp
- B. Surat
- C. Mumbai**
- D. Dubai

Diamonds flow through a market when there is a dense ecosystem of skilled cutters, polishing facilities, traders, and financial support. Mumbai grew into a major modern polishing and trading center because it combines a large workforce of gem-cutting and polishing craftsmen with a strong commercial and financial infrastructure and ready access to international shipping. The city became a focal point for sourcing rough stones, financing polishing operations, and moving polished diamonds to buyers around the world, creating a tightly connected supply chain. While other cities have strong roles in specific parts of the chain, Mumbai's integrated trade network and industrial scale have made it widely recognized as a leading modern hub for diamond polishing and trading.

2. Which process describes the collision of continental and oceanic plates with the oceanic plate descending into the mantle?

- A. Subduction**
- B. Spreading
- C. Rift
- D. Accretion

Subduction describes what happens when an oceanic plate meets a continental plate and the heavier oceanic slab sinks into the mantle beneath the overriding continental plate. The sinking is driven by density differences, with the cooler, more dense oceanic crust descending as the plates collide. This descent forms a deep trench, triggers strong earthquakes, and causes melting in the overlying mantle due to fluids released from the subducting slab. The generated magma rises to form volcanic arcs along the continent. Spreading involves plates moving apart and creating new crust at mid-ocean ridges, not a plate descending beneath another. Rift is a pulling-apart process, often within a continent, and accretion refers to material adding to a landmass, not the sinking of a plate. Subduction is the correct description of the scenario.

3. Which igneous rock is commonly found as a host for diamonds in deep Earth settings?

- A. Kimberlite**
- B. Gabbro
- C. Diorite
- D. Rhyolite

Diamonds form deep in the mantle under high pressure, and the rock that best acts as a transport vehicle from those depths to the surface is kimberlite. Kimberlite is an ultramafic magma derived from mantle sources that ascends rapidly, often erupting explosively and forming vertical pipes. As it moves upward, it can trap and carry diamond crystals and mantle xenoliths, preserving them through the journey and delivering them to shallower settings where mining can occur. That combination of deep-mantle origin and fast ascent is why kimberlite is the classic host for diamonds in deep Earth contexts. The other rocks—gabbro, diorite, and rhyolite—form at different depths and pressures and do not provide the same rapid mantle transport or preservation conditions, so they aren't typical diamond hosts.

4. Why are pink diamonds and other fancy-color diamonds rare, and what factors determine their value?

- A. Pink diamonds are common and uniform.
- B. Fancy-color diamonds are rare due to low natural color occurrence and stable demand; color intensity, hue, saturation, and size determine pricing; treatments can affect value.**
- C. Color determines value only by carat weight.
- D. Treatments always decrease value.

Fancy-color diamonds are valuable mainly because they are exceptionally rare and highly sought after. The pink hue, in particular, arises only under very specific geological conditions and with trace elements present in tiny amounts, so only a tiny fraction of diamonds develop this color. That rarity is reinforced by steady demand for unique, striking stones, which helps push prices up. The value is driven by color quality: the hue (the exact shade of pink), tone (how light or dark), and saturation (how intense the color is), plus how evenly the color is distributed across the stone. A stone with a deep, pure pink, even color and minimal color zoning will command a higher price. Size also matters—carat weight increases price, and the effect grows rapidly as stones get larger. Treatments can influence value because they may alter color artificially. Some treatments can enhance or stabilize color, which buyers may accept if disclosed and properly certified, but natural, untreated fancy-color diamonds generally carry a premium. That balance—natural rarity, color quality, size, and the impact of any treatment on market acceptance—explains why pink and other fancy-color diamonds are rare and how their value is determined. Options that claim pink diamonds are common or that color is determined only by carat weight, or that treatments always decrease value, don't fit the nuanced reality: rarity and color quality drive value, and treatments have nuanced effects rather than an absolute, uniform impact.

5. Which deeper test approximates ore grade by processing a representative volume of ore before full-scale mining?

- A. Open pit
- B. Character sample
- C. Drift
- D. Bulk sample**

Testing ore grade before committing to full-scale mining relies on bulk sampling. By processing a large, representative volume of ore, this approach captures the natural variability of the deposit and provides a realistic measurement of grade, as well as how well the ore behaves in processing and what the recoveries might be. It gives practical insight into the economics of mining the deposit, since you're evaluating a plant feed similar in scale to what would be produced, not just a tiny hand sample. Open pit and drift refer to mining methods rather than a way to estimate ore grade from a large sample, so they don't address the testing of grade through processing. A character sample uses small, focused samples to characterize ore, but it may not reflect the overall variability or how the whole ore body would perform in processing. Bulk sampling specifically aims to approximate the real grade by processing a representative volume, making it the most appropriate approach in this context.

6. What is the Hope Diamond, and what is its origin and historical lore?

- A. The Hope Diamond originated in Africa and has no legends.
- B. The Hope Diamond is a small colorless gem from Brazil.
- C. The Hope Diamond is a famous large blue diamond with a storied provenance and alleged curse; originated in India (Golconda) and has passed through multiple owners.**
- D. The Hope Diamond is a synthetic blue diamond produced in laboratories.

The Hope Diamond is famous for its combination of striking color and a dramatic, well-documented history. It originated in India, specifically the Golconda region, and was part of the large collection of Indian diamonds before its move to Europe. Over the years it passed through many owners, including royalty and wealthy collectors, gaining its name from Henry Philip Hope as it became part of the Hope family's collection. It's also wrapped in lore, with the longstanding belief in a curse that supposedly follows its owners, even though the curse is a piece of popular legend rather than proven fact. This mix of Indian origin, storied provenance, and enduring lore is what makes the description of a famous large blue diamond with a storied provenance and alleged curse the best fit. The other options don't fit because they misstate its origin, size, color, or nature (not from Africa with no legends, not a small colorless Brazilian gem, and not a laboratory-made synthetic).

7. By 1929, the London Diamond Corporation evolved into which organization, the central selling organization?

- A. Diamond Trading Company (DTC)
- B. Central Selling Organization (CSO)**
- C. World Diamond Council
- D. London Diamond Board

This question hinges on how rough-diamond sales were centralized in London by the end of the 1920s. By 1929, the London Diamond Corporation had reorganized into the Central Selling Organization, the body created to coordinate and market rough diamonds on a global scale. This central selling mechanism allowed producers and buyers to transact through a single, controlled channel, letting De Beers and its partners regulate supply and stabilize prices across markets. The choice reflects the historical shift toward a unified, market-wide governing structure for rough diamonds, rather than a later brand or a different kind of organization. The other options point to entities that either came later or served different purposes within the diamond trade, so they don't fit the specific development described by 1929.

8. What is the typical processing sequence from rough to finished gemstone in a modern operation?

- A. Mining planning cutting marketing.
- B. Sorting rough setting into jewelry polishing certification.
- C. Sorting rough planning and splitting evaluation and pricing bruting or girdling faceting polishing certification setting into jewelry.
- D. Mining smelting alloying casting setting.

The sequence being tested is the full, value-driven workflow of turning rough gemstone material into a finished jewel. In a modern operation, the journey starts with sorting rough to categorize pieces by size, color, clarity, and potential value. Next comes planning and splitting, where experts map out the best cut and sometimes divide large pieces to maximize yield and beauty while minimizing waste. Then there's evaluation and pricing, assessing whether a piece is economically worth cutting and what the potential return might be. After that, bruting or girdling shapes the stone's outer form so the facet design can be applied precisely. Faceting then creates the geometric faces that interact with light to produce brilliance, followed by polishing to remove tool marks and achieve a flawless surface. Certification provides independent verification of the stone's identity, grades, and characteristics, and finally the finished gem is set into jewelry. This sequence captures both the technical steps and the quality-control and market considerations that define modern gemstone production. Other options omit essential steps or reflect different industries (for example, metallurgy-focused processes), which wouldn't describe how a rough gemstone is transformed into a cut, polished, certified, and set final product.

9. Which term denotes a company operating across multiple value chain stages to capture more profits?

- A. Vertical integration
- B. Beneficiation
- C. Sorting Rough
- D. Auction/tenders

Vertical integration is when a company controls several stages of the value chain—for example, mining, processing, and selling its own diamonds. By owning multiple steps, the firm can capture more of the value created at each stage, reduce margins paid to external suppliers or middlemen, and coordinate production, quality, and timing more efficiently. In the diamond industry, a vertically integrated company might mine rough, perform beneficiation or sorting, facet or cut, and then market and sell the polished stones directly. This broader control helps stabilize supply, lower transaction costs, and potentially increase profits. The other terms describe activities within the value chain rather than the organizational approach. Beneficiation refers to increasing ore value through processing; sorting rough is a processing/quality-control step; auction or tenders are methods of selling inventory. None of these by themselves imply ownership of multiple stages of the value chain.

10. State the carat-to-gram conversion.

- A. 1 carat equals 0.1 grams
- B. 1 carat equals 0.25 grams
- C. 1 carat equals 0.5 grams
- D. 1 carat equals 0.2 grams**

Carat is a unit of mass used for gemstones, defined as exactly 200 milligrams, which is 0.2 grams. So to convert, multiply the number of carats by 0.2; for example, 5 carats equal 1 gram, 10 carats equal 2 grams. This is why 1 carat equals 0.2 grams—the standard definition sets that fixed relationship. The other amounts would imply different per-carat masses and aren't correct. Also, note that carat weight is different from karat purity used for gold.

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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.

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

<https://histminingvaluechainofdiamonds.examzify.com>

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

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