

# **HOSA MEDICAL TERMINOLOGY – PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)**

## **STUDY GUIDE**



## **SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS**

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

<https://hosaprefixsuffixes.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 does the suffix "-lysis" refer to?**
  - A. Formation of
  - B. Destruction or breakdown
  - C. Study of
  - D. Infection or removal
- 2. What does the term "Ante-" imply with respect to time?**
  - A. After
  - B. Before
  - C. During
  - D. Outside
- 3. What does the prefix "contra-" mean?**
  - A. Around
  - B. Against or opposite
  - C. Flow or discharge
  - D. Above or over
- 4. What does the prefix "Coag-" refer to in medical terminology?**
  - A. Clotting
  - B. Bleeding
  - C. Healing
  - D. Infection
- 5. Which organ is denoted by the prefixes 'pneumo-' and 'pulmo-'?**
  - A. Heart
  - B. Liver
  - C. Stomach
  - D. Lung
- 6. When observing a wound, what might "Contus-" imply?**
  - A. It is healing
  - B. It is bruised
  - C. It is infected
  - D. It is lacerated

**7. What is indicated by the suffix "-itis"?**

- A. Condition of excessive growth
- B. Inflammation
- C. Removal or excision
- D. Formation of stones

**8. Which prefix indicates "between"?**

- A. Sub-
- B. Inter-
- C. Hypo-
- D. Brady-

**9. The suffix '-emia' is associated with which bodily substance?**

- A. Blood
- B. Fluid
- C. Tissue
- D. Protein

**10. What does the suffix "-rhexis" mean?**

- A. Ulceration
- B. Rupture
- C. Inflammation
- D. Scarring



## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. What does the suffix "-lysis" refer to?

- A. Formation of
- B. Destruction or breakdown**
- C. Study of
- D. Infection or removal

The suffix "-lysis" is derived from the Greek word "lysis," which means "to loosen" or "to break down." In medical terminology, it specifically refers to the process of destruction or breakdown of cells, tissues, or other substances. This term is often used in contexts such as "hemolysis," which is the breakdown of red blood cells, or "autolysis," which refers to the self-digestion of cells through the action of their own enzymes. This focus on the process of breaking down or loosening is what makes this suffix distinctly related to destruction or breakdown, thereby affirming that the chosen answer accurately reflects the meaning of "-lysis."

### 2. What does the term "Ante-" imply with respect to time?

- A. After
- B. Before**
- C. During
- D. Outside

The term "Ante-" is derived from Latin, meaning "before." In medical terminology and various contexts, it is used to indicate a time that precedes a certain event or point. For example, in terms like "antepartum," which refers to the period before childbirth, the prefix clearly denotes a temporal relationship that signifies something occurring before another significant moment. Recognizing the meanings of prefixes like "ante-" is crucial for understanding complex medical terms, as they provide essential context about timing and sequence. In contrast, the other options pertain to different temporal relationships, with "After" indicating a time following an event, "During" suggesting a simultaneous occurrence, and "Outside" referring to a spatial relationship rather than a temporal one. Understanding "ante-" as meaning "before" allows for a clearer interpretation of various medical terms that incorporate this prefix.

### 3. What does the prefix "contra-" mean?

- A. Around
- B. Against or opposite**
- C. Flow or discharge
- D. Above or over

The prefix "contra-" comes from Latin, meaning "against" or "opposite." It is commonly used in medical terminology to indicate opposition or contradiction to a particular condition or state. For instance, in the term "contraception," the prefix "contra-" signifies against conception. This usage highlights how the prefix conveys the idea of being opposed to something, making the correct answer clear in the context of medical terms. The other options do not capture this meaning and pertain to different concepts unrelated to opposition or contradiction.

#### 4. What does the prefix "Coag-" refer to in medical terminology?

- A. Clotting
- B. Bleeding
- C. Healing
- D. Infection

The prefix "Coag-" is derived from the Latin word "coagula," which means to curdle or coagulate. In medical terminology, it specifically refers to the process of clotting, particularly in relation to blood. Clotting is a critical physiological process that prevents excessive bleeding when there is an injury to blood vessels. The understanding of this prefix is essential for medical professionals when discussing conditions related to hemostasis, such as coagulation disorders or the mechanisms of blood clot formation. Recognizing "Coag-" as indicative of clotting enables accurate communication about various medical procedures or conditions that involve this critical element of vascular health.

#### 5. Which organ is denoted by the prefixes 'pneumo-' and 'pulmo-'?

- A. Heart
- B. Liver
- C. Stomach
- D. Lung

The prefixes 'pneumo-' and 'pulmo-' both refer to the organ involved in respiration, specifically the lungs. The prefix 'pneumo-' is derived from the Greek word for air or breath, linking it directly to the function of the lungs in gas exchange. Similarly, 'pulmo-' comes from the Latin word 'pulmo,' meaning lung. Together, these prefixes indicate a relationship with the respiratory system, highlighting the roles and functions associated with the lungs in medical terminology. This is why the correct answer is the lung, as both prefixes clearly denote this particular organ within the context of respiratory health and anatomy.

#### 6. When observing a wound, what might "Contus-" imply?

- A. It is healing
- B. It is bruised
- C. It is infected
- D. It is lacerated

The term "Contus-" is derived from the Latin word "contusus," which means bruised or to be struck. In medical terminology, when you encounter the prefix "contus," it specifically refers to a bruise or contusion, indicating that the tissue has been damaged without breaking the skin, typically resulting from a blunt force impact. This understanding highlights that the presence of "Contus-" implies that the wound presents characteristics associated with bruising—darkened tissue, swelling, and tenderness—rather than other states of wound healing, infection, or laceration. Thus, recognizing "Contus-" as it relates to bruising allows for precise communication about the type of injury being observed.

## 7. What is indicated by the suffix "-itis"?

- A. Condition of excessive growth
- B. Inflammation**
- C. Removal or excision
- D. Formation of stones

The suffix "-itis" is derived from the Greek word for inflammation and is used in medical terminology to indicate an inflammatory condition in various parts of the body. When this suffix is attached to a root word, it signifies that there is an inflammatory process occurring in the organ or system referred to by the root. For example, "appendicitis" refers to inflammation of the appendix, while "arthritis" indicates inflammation of the joints. Each usage denotes a health condition where swelling, redness, heat, and pain are commonly present, making it essential in diagnosing and treating various medical conditions related to inflammation. This distinction highlights the specific role of "-itis" in medical language and its importance in conveying information about diseases and health issues.

## 8. Which prefix indicates "between"?

- A. Sub-
- B. Inter-**
- C. Hypo-
- D. Brady-

The prefix that indicates "between" is "inter-". This prefix is derived from Latin, where it means "among" or "between." In medical terminology, it is commonly used to describe structures or conditions that occur between two or more entities. For example, in the term "intercostal," which refers to the muscles located between the ribs, the "inter-" prefix highlights the relationship between different rib pairs. The other prefixes do not convey the idea of being between. "Sub-" suggests a position that is below or beneath, "hypo-" indicates a deficiency or under normal levels, and "brady-" refers to slow. These meanings clarify why "inter-" is the correct prefix for indicating a relationship or position that is between two or more items or areas.

## 9. The suffix '-emia' is associated with which bodily substance?

- A. Blood**
- B. Fluid
- C. Tissue
- D. Protein

The suffix '-emia' is specifically related to blood. This is derived from the Greek word "haima," which means blood. When this suffix is used in medical terminology, it usually indicates a condition that is related to the presence or concentration of a specific substance within the bloodstream. For instance, "anemia" refers to a deficiency of red blood cells or hemoglobin in the blood, while "hyperglycemia" refers to an excess of glucose in the blood. The other answers refer to different bodily substances and conditions. For instance, fluid would be more accurately indicated with terms like "hydro-" or "-orrhea," while "tissue" is related to terms that use "tiss-" or "-plasia." Protein could be recognized in terms like "proteinuria," which involves proteins found in urine rather than blood. Therefore, the association of '-emia' with blood is what makes the first choice the correct answer.

## 10. What does the suffix "-rhexis" mean?

- A. Ulceration
- B. Rupture**
- C. Inflammation
- D. Scarring

*The suffix "-rhexis" refers specifically to the concept of rupture. It is derived from the Greek word that means "to break" or "to burst." This suffix is commonly used in medical terminology to describe conditions or situations where there is a tearing or breaking in a bodily structure, such as in terms like "enterorrhexis" (rupture of the intestine) or "myorrhexis" (rupture of muscle). Understanding these kinds of suffixes is crucial in medical terminology as they provide insight into the nature of a condition or injury, allowing healthcare professionals to communicate more effectively about diagnoses and treatment plans.*

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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://hosaprefixsuffixes.examzify.com>

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

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