

IAC White Set Science Bee 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. What is the boundary around a black hole beyond which nothing can escape?**
 - A. Singularity**
 - B. Event Horizon**
 - C. Accretion Disk**
 - D. Pulsar**

- 2. Lyonization can convert one form of these structures into a Barr body.**
 - A. X chromosome**
 - B. Y chromosome**
 - C. Autosomes**
 - D. Mitochondria**

- 3. Which space telescope was responsible for discovering many exoplanets by the transit method before its retirement in 2018?**
 - A. Kepler Space Telescope**
 - B. Hubble Space Telescope**
 - C. Spitzer Space Telescope**
 - D. James Webb Space Telescope**

- 4. Which region sits directly beneath the Earth's mantle in the planet's center and contains a solid inner part and a surrounding molten layer?**
 - A. Outer core**
 - B. Inner core**
 - C. Mantle**
 - D. Crust**

- 5. Which process do plants use to convert light energy into sugars?**
 - A. Photosynthesis**
 - B. Fermentation**
 - C. Transpiration**
 - D. Respiration**

- 6. Which metallic element has atomic number 92 and includes the isotope U-235 used in power plants and weapons?**
- A. Plutonium**
 - B. Thorium**
 - C. Radium**
 - D. Uranium**
- 7. Which planet is known for a famous storm called the Great Red Spot?**
- A. Jupiter**
 - B. Mars**
 - C. Saturn**
 - D. Neptune**
- 8. *Drosophila melanogaster* is commonly known as the _____, widely used in genetic studies because it has a short generation time.**
- A. Fruit fly**
 - B. Mouse**
 - C. Zebrafish**
 - D. *C. elegans***
- 9. According to the no-hair theorem in astrophysics, which three properties fully determine a black hole's external field?**
- A. Mass, Charge, and Angular Momentum**
 - B. Mass, Radius, and Temperature**
 - C. Spin, Magnetic Field, and Luminosity**
 - D. Size, Density, and Color**
- 10. This mathematician contributed to levers and proposed an early method to estimate pi; identify him.**
- A. Pythagoras**
 - B. Archimedes**
 - C. Euclid**
 - D. Fibonacci**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the boundary around a black hole beyond which nothing can escape?

A. Singularity

B. Event Horizon

C. Accretion Disk

D. Pulsar

The main idea here is the boundary that defines the point beyond which nothing can escape a black hole. This boundary is called the event horizon. It's not a solid surface, but a limit in spacetime where the escape velocity equals the speed of light. Once something crosses this boundary, even light cannot get back out, so information from inside can't reach the outside universe. Inside the horizon, all possible paths lead inward toward the center, toward the singularity. The other terms refer to different features: the singularity is the infinitely dense point at the center, the accretion disk is the rotating disk of gas that often surrounds the black hole outside the horizon, and a pulsar is a rapidly spinning neutron star, not a black hole. The event horizon is the boundary that matters for what can leave the black hole.

2. Lyonization can convert one form of these structures into a Barr body.

A. X chromosome

B. Y chromosome

C. Autosomes

D. Mitochondria

Lyonization is X-chromosome inactivation in female mammals. To balance gene expression between males (one X) and females (two Xs), one X chromosome in each cell is largely silenced. The silenced X condenses into a dense, inactive form called a Barr body, typically located near the nuclear envelope. This targeted silencing happens specifically to the X chromosome, not to the Y chromosome, autosomes, or mitochondria, which don't form Barr bodies. So lyonization converts an X chromosome into a Barr body, explaining the mosaic pattern of X-linked gene expression in females.

3. Which space telescope was responsible for discovering many exoplanets by the transit method before its retirement in 2018?

- A. Kepler Space Telescope**
- B. Hubble Space Telescope**
- C. Spitzer Space Telescope**
- D. James Webb Space Telescope**

The main idea tested is how the transit method works and why a mission designed to monitor many stars over a long time can discover many exoplanets. The Kepler Space Telescope was built to watch a fixed patch of the sky continuously for years, measuring the brightness of tens of thousands of stars with extraordinary precision. When a planet passes in front of its star, the star's light dips very slightly and briefly; by catching these dips repeatedly, Kepler could confirm planets and determine their sizes and orbital periods. This approach led to the discovery of thousands of exoplanets, more than any other mission, before it was retired in 2018 due to fuel depletion. Other telescopes played important roles in exoplanet science, but Kepler's dedicated, long-duration, wide-field transit survey is what produced the large number of discoveries.

4. Which region sits directly beneath the Earth's mantle in the planet's center and contains a solid inner part and a surrounding molten layer?

- A. Outer core**
- B. Inner core**
- C. Mantle**
- D. Crust**

Think of Earth's interior as layers beneath the surface: crust, mantle, and core. The core has two parts: a solid inner core at the very center and a surrounding liquid outer core. The region directly beneath the mantle is the outer core, which is molten and envelops the solid inner core. This arrangement—a central solid sphere with a surrounding molten layer—fits perfectly. The inner core alone is just the solid center, not the surrounding molten part, and the mantle or crust lie above, not at the center.

5. Which process do plants use to convert light energy into sugars?

A. Photosynthesis

B. Fermentation

C. Transpiration

D. Respiration

Plants convert light energy into sugars through photosynthesis. Chlorophyll in the chloroplasts captures sunlight and drives reactions that use carbon dioxide and water to make glucose, releasing oxygen along the way. The process has two stages: the light-dependent reactions produce energy carriers (ATP and NADPH), and the Calvin cycle uses those to fix CO₂ into sugar molecules. This is how plants store solar energy in chemical form as sugars that fuel growth and metabolism. Other terms describe different processes: fermentation generates energy from sugars without light, transpiration is just water loss from leaves, and respiration breaks down sugars to release energy using oxygen. The essential idea is that capturing light energy for building sugars is what photosynthesis does.

6. Which metallic element has atomic number 92 and includes the isotope U-235 used in power plants and weapons?

A. Plutonium

B. Thorium

C. Radium

D. Uranium

Atomic number identifies the element, and 92 corresponds to uranium, a heavy metallic element. The isotope U-235 is special because it is fissile—when a neutron hits U-235, it splits and releases energy plus more neutrons, which can start a self-sustaining chain reaction. In power plants, this chain reaction is carefully controlled to turn heat into electricity. In weapons, the reaction is rapid and unchecked, producing a massive energy release. Natural uranium contains only a small amount of U-235, so fuel is enriched to increase that fraction for reactors. The key idea is that uranium is the metal with atomic number 92, and U-235 is the isotope used for fission in both civilian and military contexts.

7. Which planet is known for a famous storm called the Great Red Spot?

- A. Jupiter**
- B. Mars**
- C. Saturn**
- D. Neptune**

The important idea here is recognizing which planet hosts a famous long-lasting storm. The Great Red Spot is a colossal, centuries-old storm that sits in Jupiter's turbulent atmosphere, large enough to contain multiple Earths. Its red color comes from chemicals in the upper clouds and ongoing upwelling that keeps the feature vibrant. This storm is a defining feature of Jupiter, driven by its powerful jet streams and deep, dynamic atmosphere. Other planets do have storms—for example, Mars has seasonal dust storms, and Saturn and Neptune have their own weather patterns—but none are defined by a single, enduring feature called the Great Red Spot. So, the planet known for that famous storm is Jupiter.

8. *Drosophila melanogaster* is commonly known as the _____, widely used in genetic studies because it has a short generation time.

- A. Fruit fly**
- B. Mouse**
- C. Zebrafish**
- D. *C. elegans***

Drosophila melanogaster is commonly known as the fruit fly, and its key advantage in genetic studies is its very short generation time. Because it goes from egg to reproducing adult in about a week under typical lab conditions, researchers can observe several generations in a relatively short period, which makes it ideal for tracking inheritance patterns, performing crosses, and mapping genes. Its small size, ease of care, large numbers of offspring, and many well-characterized mutations have made it a foundational model organism in genetics, following the early discoveries about how traits are inherited. Other organisms like mice, zebrafish, or *C. elegans* are valuable too, but their longer generation times can slow experiments that rely on rapid genetic analysis, whereas the fruit fly accelerates discovery and teaching in this field.

9. According to the no-hair theorem in astrophysics, which three properties fully determine a black hole's external field?

A. Mass, Charge, and Angular Momentum

B. Mass, Radius, and Temperature

C. Spin, Magnetic Field, and Luminosity

D. Size, Density, and Color

The idea being tested is that a stationary black hole's external field is completely described by three quantities: its mass, electric charge, and angular momentum. These are the only externally observable, conserved properties that shape the spacetime outside the black hole. Mass sets the overall strength and scale of the gravitational field; charge adds the electromagnetic field surrounding the hole; and angular momentum (spin) determines frame-dragging effects and the rotational geometry (Kerr or Kerr-Newman solutions). Other supposed descriptors like radius or temperature aren't independent external parameters. The horizon radius is determined by mass, charge, and spin; temperature arises from quantum effects (Hawking radiation) and isn't part of the classical external field; and magnetic field or luminosity depend on the environment around the black hole, not on its intrinsic parameters. So the external field is fully determined by mass, charge, and angular momentum.

10. This mathematician contributed to levers and proposed an early method to estimate pi; identify him.

A. Pythagoras

B. Archimedes

C. Euclid

D. Fibonacci

Archimedes is the figure described. He formalized the lever as a simple machine, showing that the turning effect depends on the product of force and lever arm length, which lets a smaller force move a larger load with a longer lever—the famous idea of moving the earth with a lever underscores this insight. He also pioneered estimating pi through geometry by using inscribed and circumscribed regular polygons inside and around a circle. By increasing the number of polygon sides, he gradually tightened the bounds for pi. With a 96-sided polygon, he showed pi lies between $3 \frac{1}{7}$ and $3 \frac{10}{71}$, a remarkably accurate approximation for his era. That combination of work on levers and early geometric estimation of pi points to Archimedes.

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://iacwhitesetsciencebee.examzify.com>

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

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