

IGCSE ICT Theory 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 kind of data does optical storage primarily deal with?**
 - A. Temporary files**
 - B. Permanent files**
 - C. Live streaming data**
 - D. Mobile application data**

- 2. Which of the following is an example of hardware?**
 - A. Windows Vista**
 - B. Monitor**
 - C. Database manipulation program**
 - D. Microsoft Word**

- 3. What are 'wearable devices'?**
 - A. Machines used for monitoring climate conditions**
 - B. Electronic devices that can be worn on the body, often tracking health metrics and providing connectivity**
 - C. Software applications for personal devices**
 - D. Accessories designed for enhanced gaming experience**

- 4. What type of device is a barcode reader categorized as?**
 - A. Input device**
 - B. Output device**
 - C. Both input and output devices**
 - D. Neither input nor output device**

- 5. What is 'web hosting'?**
 - A. A service for creating web applications**
 - B. A service that allows websites to be posted on the internet**
 - C. A platform for managing digital content**
 - D. A method for securing digital information**

- 6. What is the main difference between primary storage and secondary storage?**
- A. Primary storage is slower and permanent; secondary storage is faster and volatile**
 - B. Primary storage is faster and volatile; secondary storage is permanent and slower**
 - C. Primary storage is used for network communication; secondary storage is used for local storage**
 - D. Primary storage uses optical media; secondary storage uses magnetic media**
- 7. Which of the following describes a key characteristic of social media?**
- A. It is primarily a paid advertising service**
 - B. It allows for real-time interaction and content sharing**
 - C. It is exclusively used for professional networking**
 - D. It consists only of text-based posts**
- 8. Which of the following is NOT an advantage of LCDs and TFTs?**
- A. They are light**
 - B. They take a small amount of desk space**
 - C. They produce less glare**
 - D. They have poor color accuracy**
- 9. What device is responsible for converting analogue data into digital form?**
- A. Analogue to digital converter**
 - B. Digital to analogue converter**
 - C. Input device**
 - D. Output device**
- 10. Which feature is an advantage of TFT displays?**
- A. They are heavy**
 - B. They offer high color accuracy**
 - C. They are affordable**
 - D. They take up less desk space**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What kind of data does optical storage primarily deal with?

- A. Temporary files
- B. Permanent files**
- C. Live streaming data
- D. Mobile application data

Optical storage primarily deals with permanent files. This type of storage medium, including CDs, DVDs, and Blu-ray discs, is designed to store data long-term. Once data is written to an optical disc, it remains there until it is intentionally erased or the disc itself is damaged. This permanence makes optical storage ideal for archiving purposes, such as storing music, movies, software, and important documents. Unlike temporary files, which are often lost when a system shuts down or programs are closed, optical storage retains data without needing power. The characteristics of optical storage differentiate it from other types, such as volatile memory that only holds data temporarily, or live streaming data, which involves data that is transmitted in real-time rather than stored. Similarly, mobile application data can be stored on various platforms, but optical storage's primary function is not to handle that type of data in a temporary or live context.

2. Which of the following is an example of hardware?

- A. Windows Vista
- B. Monitor**
- C. Database manipulation program
- D. Microsoft Word

The monitor is an example of hardware because it is a physical component of a computer system that displays visual output. Hardware refers to the tangible parts of a computer or any electronic device that you can physically touch and interact with, such as the monitor, keyboard, and hard drive. These components are essential for a computer's operation and are designed to perform specific physical functions. In contrast, the other options, such as Windows Vista, a database manipulation program, and Microsoft Word, are all types of software. Software consists of programs and applications that instruct the hardware on what tasks to perform, but they do not have a physical form that can be touched. Understanding the distinction between hardware and software is crucial in ICT, as it lays the foundation for comprehending how computer systems operate and how different components work together to perform various tasks.

3. What are 'wearable devices'?

- A. Machines used for monitoring climate conditions
- B. Electronic devices that can be worn on the body, often tracking health metrics and providing connectivity**
- C. Software applications for personal devices
- D. Accessories designed for enhanced gaming experience

Wearable devices refer to electronic devices designed to be worn on the body, typically for the purpose of monitoring health metrics and providing connectivity. These devices can include smartwatches, fitness trackers, and smart clothing, all of which collect data such as heart rate, physical activity, sleep patterns, and more. The information gathered can help users track their health and fitness goals, while the connectivity features often allow for integration with smartphones and other devices, enhancing user experience and accessibility. In contrast, the other options describe different types of technology but do not match the definition of wearable devices. Monitoring climate conditions applies to environmental sensors rather than personal devices. Software applications refer to programs running on computers or mobile devices, which is unrelated to the concept of wearability. Accessories designed for enhanced gaming experiences focus on improving the gaming interaction rather than tracking health or providing relevant data to the user.

4. What type of device is a barcode reader categorized as?

- A. Input device**
- B. Output device
- C. Both input and output devices
- D. Neither input nor output device

A barcode reader is categorized as an input device because its primary function is to capture and input data into a computer system. When a barcode reader scans a barcode, it decodes the information represented by the barcode and transmits this data to the computer for processing. This data typically includes product information, pricing, or inventory data, enabling the system to perform various functions such as inventory management and checkout processes. In contrast, output devices are responsible for conveying data from a computer to the user, such as printers or monitors. Since a barcode reader does not perform these output functions, it solely serves the role of an input device. Consequently, the classification of a barcode reader aligns with its specific purpose in the data collection and processing workflow.

5. What is 'web hosting'?

- A. A service for creating web applications
- B. A service that allows websites to be posted on the internet**
- C. A platform for managing digital content
- D. A method for securing digital information

Web hosting refers to a service that allows individuals and organizations to post their websites on the internet. This service provides the infrastructure, space, and technology necessary to store website files and make them accessible online. When you create a website, its files (such as HTML documents, images, and scripts) need to be stored on a server that is connected to the internet. Web hosting services ensure that these files are stored and can be accessed by users through their web browsers. This functionality is critical because, without web hosting, a website would not be visible to anyone on the internet. It provides the essential backbone that makes web accessibility possible, allowing visitors to view the content and interact with various features of the site. The other options describe different aspects of the digital landscape but do not accurately convey the primary purpose of web hosting. For instance, creating web applications involves development and coding, managing digital content refers to systems like content management systems (CMS), and securing digital information is related to cybersecurity measures rather than web hosting itself.

6. What is the main difference between primary storage and secondary storage?

- A. Primary storage is slower and permanent; secondary storage is faster and volatile
- B. Primary storage is faster and volatile; secondary storage is permanent and slower**
- C. Primary storage is used for network communication; secondary storage is used for local storage
- D. Primary storage uses optical media; secondary storage uses magnetic media

The main difference between primary storage and secondary storage is that primary storage is designed for speed and is volatile, meaning that it loses its contents when the power is turned off. Examples of primary storage include RAM (Random Access Memory), which allows for quick read and write access by the CPU during operation. This fast access is critical for active processes and tasks that need immediate data retrieval. On the other hand, secondary storage is primarily used for its capacity and permanence. It includes storage media such as hard drives, SSDs, CDs, and USB drives, which retain data even when the power is off. While secondary storage may be slower than primary storage concerning access speed, it plays a crucial role in storing data long-term. The distinction in volatility and speed between these two types of storage is fundamental to understanding how data is processed and managed in computer systems. The characteristics of primary and secondary storage directly influence system performance and data accessibility, making this differentiation key in the study of ICT.

7. Which of the following describes a key characteristic of social media?

A. It is primarily a paid advertising service

B. It allows for real-time interaction and content sharing

C. It is exclusively used for professional networking

D. It consists only of text-based posts

The key characteristic of social media is that it allows for real-time interaction and content sharing. This interactivity is essential to the nature of social media platforms, where users can post updates, comments, and engage in discussions instantaneously. This characteristic enables individuals and organizations to connect with a vast audience, share multimedia content, and engage in conversations that can happen in real-time, creating a dynamic and responsive communication environment. In contrast, social media is not primarily a paid advertising service, as many platforms enable free user-generated content and communication alongside promotional content. It's also not exclusively used for professional networking; platforms like Facebook and Instagram serve broader social purposes. Finally, while some posts might be text-based, social media is characterized by its diverse range of content types, including images, videos, and live streams, rather than being limited to just text.

8. Which of the following is NOT an advantage of LCDs and TFTs?

A. They are light

B. They take a small amount of desk space

C. They produce less glare

D. They have poor color accuracy

The choice indicating poor color accuracy as an advantage of LCDs and TFTs is correct because it's actually a disadvantage. LCD (Liquid Crystal Display) and TFT (Thin Film Transistor) technologies are known for their ability to produce a wide range of colors with good accuracy, making them suitable for various applications including graphic design and photography. The advantages of LCDs and TFTs typically include their lightweight nature, which allows for easier transport and installation compared to older display technologies like CRTs. Additionally, they occupy less desk space, making them ideal for environments where space is a premium. They are also designed to minimize glare compared to many other display types, providing better visibility and comfort in various lighting conditions. This combination of features makes LCDs and TFTs popular choices for modern displays in both consumer and professional settings.

9. What device is responsible for converting analogue data into digital form?

- A. Analogue to digital converter**
- B. Digital to analogue converter**
- C. Input device**
- D. Output device**

An analogue to digital converter (ADC) is the device that transforms analogue data—which is continuous and can take on any value—into a digital format, which is discrete and consists of binary numbers (0s and 1s). This conversion process is essential in digital electronics and computing, where information must be processed in a digital form for further manipulation, storage, or transmission. The ADC samples the analogue signal at defined intervals and quantizes it, providing a digital representation that can be used by computers and digital systems. Other types of devices mentioned serve different functions. For instance, a digital to analogue converter (DAC) performs the opposite function, converting digital data back into analogue signals. Input devices are used to collect data or commands from the user, while output devices are responsible for presenting the processed data to the user in a human-readable format. Thus, the analogue to digital converter specifically fulfills the role of transforming analogue signals into digital, making it the correct choice in this context.

10. Which feature is an advantage of TFT displays?

- A. They are heavy**
- B. They offer high color accuracy**
- C. They are affordable**
- D. They take up less desk space**

TFT (Thin-Film Transistor) displays offer the advantage of taking up less desk space due to their slim and lightweight design. This characteristic makes them suitable for environments where space is limited, such as small offices or home workstations. Their compact nature means they can be easily integrated into various setups without requiring extensive space, which contrasts with bulkier types of displays that may be heavier and larger, consuming more physical room. In a comparison of the advantages, features such as color accuracy and affordability can vary by model and manufacturer, but the lightweight and slim design is a consistently recognized benefit of TFT technology. This makes them particularly favored for modern display devices where aesthetics and spatial efficiency are important.

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://igcseicttheory.examzify.com>

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

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