

# MTEL Communication Literacy Skills : Reading 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 happens to the letter 'e' at the end of a root word when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added?**
  - A. The 'e' is retained**
  - B. The 'e' is dropped**
  - C. The 'e' changes to 'i'**
  - D. The 'e' is changed to 'y'**
  
- 2. Which suffix is commonly associated with forming adjectives that describe an excess or surplus of something?**
  - A. -less**
  - B. -ful**
  - C. -ic**
  - D. -ous**
  
- 3. Which prefix means "in" or "into"?**
  - A. In-**
  - B. Hyper-**
  - C. Over-**
  - D. Para-**
  
- 4. What defines a root in the context of word analysis?**
  - A. The prefix that modifies the meaning**
  - B. The ending that indicates tense or plurality**
  - C. The main part of a word that carries its meaning**
  - D. The combination of letters that create a word**
  
- 5. What does the use of structural analysis help to identify?**
  - A. The historical origin of words**
  - B. The grammatical rules of language**
  - C. The components that determine a word's meaning**
  - D. The context of the sentence**
  
- 6. How can one draw conclusions from a reading selection?**
  - A. By only using the main idea presented**
  - B. By combining information from the text with prior knowledge**
  - C. By ignoring supporting details**
  - D. By relying solely on emotional reactions**

- 7. What is the implication of the verb suffix -fy?**
- A. Make or call into being**
  - B. Cause to be or treat with**
  - C. Act or condition**
  - D. State or quality**
- 8. What does the prefix "inter-" imply in a word?**
- A. Within**
  - B. Among, between**
  - C. Through**
  - D. Around**
- 9. Which prefix indicates a position 'under'?**
- A. Hypo-**
  - B. Sub-**
  - C. Pro-**
  - D. Retro-**
- 10. Which definition corresponds to the prefix 'hypo-'?**
- A. Forward**
  - B. Under, beneath**
  - C. Back, backward**
  - D. Not-opposing**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What happens to the letter 'e' at the end of a root word when a suffix beginning with a vowel is added?**

- A. The 'e' is retained
- B. The 'e' is dropped**
- C. The 'e' changes to 'i'
- D. The 'e' is changed to 'y'

When a suffix that begins with a vowel is added to a root word that ends in 'e', the general rule is that the final 'e' is typically dropped. This practice helps to maintain the flow of pronunciation and conforms to various spelling conventions in English. For example, in the word "create," when the suffix "-ive" is added, it becomes "creative," and the 'e' at the end is omitted to prevent awkwardness in pronunciation. This approach avoids doubling vowels or creating awkward letter combinations that can arise from maintaining the 'e' when the suffix starts with a vowel. It streamlines the word and contributes to a more fluid transition between the root and the suffix.

**2. Which suffix is commonly associated with forming adjectives that describe an excess or surplus of something?**

- A. -less
- B. -ful
- C. -ic
- D. -ous**

The suffix "-ous" is commonly used to form adjectives indicating an abundance or surplus of a particular quality or characteristic. This suffix suggests that something is packed with or characterized by the noun it modifies. For example, "famous" indicates having many claims to fame, while "gracious" implies an abundance of grace. Each of these adjectives conveys a sense of plentifulness regarding the trait being described, highlighting the richness or excess in that quality. In contrast, the other suffixes serve different purposes: "-less" suggests the absence of something, "-ful" denotes a full quantity of a specific quality, and "-ic" often relates to a characteristic or pertaining to a certain subject rather than indicating abundance. This distinction underscores why the "-ous" suffix is particularly aligned with describing excess.

**3. Which prefix means "in" or "into"?**

- A. In-**
- B. Hyper-
- C. Over-
- D. Para-

The prefix "in-" means "in" or "into," indicating a movement or an action that brings an object or subject into a particular place or condition. This prefix is derived from Latin and is commonly used in words like "insert" or "input," where it denotes the action of placing something inside or into another entity. This understanding of the prefix is essential in recognizing how it modifies the meaning of base words in the English language. The other prefixes have different meanings: "hyper-" typically denotes excess or over, "over-" indicates something that is above or higher, and "para-" implies alongside or beyond. Each of these prefixes provides a distinct contextual meaning that does not align with the concept of "in" or "into." Thus, only "in-" accurately represents the intended meaning in the question.

#### 4. What defines a root in the context of word analysis?

- A. The prefix that modifies the meaning
- B. The ending that indicates tense or plurality
- C. The main part of a word that carries its meaning**
- D. The combination of letters that create a word

In the context of word analysis, a root is the main part of a word that carries its meaning. It serves as the fundamental building block from which words can be formed, often providing the core semantic content. For example, in the word "unhappiness," the root "happy" conveys the essential meaning of the word, while the prefix "un-" modifies its meaning to indicate negation, and the suffix "-ness" changes it into a noun form. The other options, while related to word structure, do not accurately capture the definition of a root. The prefix modifies the meaning of a root rather than being part of it, the ending indicates grammatical changes rather than the core meaning, and a combination of letters may not specifically refer to the fundamental part of a word but rather the entire word or its variations. Thus, identifying the root as the main part of a word that conveys its core meaning is crucial for understanding linguistics and word formation.

#### 5. What does the use of structural analysis help to identify?

- A. The historical origin of words
- B. The grammatical rules of language
- C. The components that determine a word's meaning**
- D. The context of the sentence

The selection that focuses on structural analysis accurately highlights how this technique helps in breaking down words into their fundamental parts, such as prefixes, roots, and suffixes. By examining these components, one can discern how they contribute to a word's overall meaning. Understanding the structural elements of words enables readers to decode unfamiliar vocabulary, enhancing comprehension and fostering a deeper grasp of the language. This process of analysis is pivotal in literacy development, as it empowers individuals to make educated guesses about the meanings of new words based on their structure. The other choices, while related to language, do not specifically encapsulate the purpose of structural analysis. Understanding the historical origin of words pertains more to etymology, grammatical rules focus on syntax and language structure, and context emphasizes the situational meaning within sentences rather than the intrinsic meaning derived from a word's components.

## 6. How can one draw conclusions from a reading selection?

- A. By only using the main idea presented
- B. By combining information from the text with prior knowledge**
- C. By ignoring supporting details
- D. By relying solely on emotional reactions

Drawing conclusions from a reading selection effectively involves synthesizing information found within the text with one's own prior knowledge and experiences. This process allows readers to understand the broader implications of the information presented and to make informed judgments about the content. By integrating new information with what they already know, readers can uncover deeper meanings, identify patterns, and develop insights that are not explicitly stated in the text. Using only the main idea presented would limit understanding, as main ideas often do not encompass all the nuances and details necessary for forming a conclusion. Ignoring supporting details can lead to an incomplete perspective, as those details provide context and clarity to the main arguments. Additionally, relying solely on emotional reactions can cloud judgment and lead to biased interpretations, which may not accurately reflect the intended message of the text. Thus, combining information from the text with prior knowledge is the most comprehensive approach for drawing meaningful conclusions.

## 7. What is the implication of the verb suffix -fy?

- A. Make or call into being
- B. Cause to be or treat with**
- C. Act or condition
- D. State or quality

The suffix -fy is derived from the Latin -ficare, which typically means "to make" or "to cause to be." This suffix is commonly used in English to form verbs that express the action of causing something to enter a certain state or condition. For instance, "amplify" means to make something larger or more intense, while "terrify" means to cause someone to feel fear. The correct implication of -fy focuses on the action of causing a specific condition or state. This is evident in the way the suffix is used to modify root words into verbs that indicate making something happen or treating it in a particular way. Understanding how prefixes and suffixes function in the formation of words is essential in grasping the nuances of the English language. In contrast, other provided options describe aspects that do not accurately capture the primary function of the suffix. The option that suggests "make or call into being" may imply creation but lacks the specificity tied to the action of causing a change or treatment inherent in -fy. The terms "act or condition" and "state or quality" focus more on the resultant state rather than the action of effecting that state, which emphasizes why the implication of the verb suffix -fy relates predominantly to

## 8. What does the prefix "inter-" imply in a word?

- A. Within
- B. Among, between**
- C. Through
- D. Around

The prefix "inter-" is derived from Latin, meaning "between" or "among." It is commonly used in various words to indicate a relationship or interaction that occurs between multiple entities. For instance, in words like "international," it denotes connections or relationships between nations. Similarly, "interact" signifies the action that takes place between individuals or groups. This prefix clearly emphasizes the concept of relational proximity and interaction, making "among" or "between" the most accurate interpretation in terms of what the prefix conveys.

## 9. Which prefix indicates a position 'under'?

- A. Hypo-**
- B. Sub-
- C. Pro-
- D. Retro-

The prefix that indicates a position 'under' is typically "sub-". This prefix comes from Latin, where it means "under, below, or beneath." For instance, in terms like "submarine," it refers to something that operates below the surface of the water. In contrast, "hypo-" also indicates something that is below, but it generally refers to a deficiency or a lower level, particularly in medical contexts, such as "hypoglycemia," meaning low blood sugar. However, in many usage contexts, "sub-" is more directly aligned with the notion of position beneath something. "Pro-" indicates favoring or in support of something, unrelated to positioning, while "retro-" refers to backward or past in terms of direction or time. Thus, the best choice for a prefix indicating a position 'under' is "sub-."

## 10. Which definition corresponds to the prefix 'hypo-'?

- A. Forward
- B. Under, beneath**
- C. Back, backward
- D. Not-opposing

The prefix 'hypo-' is derived from Greek, meaning 'under' or 'beneath.' This prefix is commonly used in various terms in English. For example, in the medical context, 'hypoglycemia' refers to a condition where there is an abnormally low level of sugar (glucose) in the blood, illustrating the concept of being 'beneath' normal levels. This demonstrates how the prefix conveys the idea of something being lower than a standard or expected condition. The other definitions do not align with the meaning of 'hypo-'; they correspond to different prefixes that indicate various spatial or relational concepts.

## 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://mtelcommunicationliteracyskills-reading.examzify.com>**

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

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