National Dental Assisting Examining Board (NDAEB) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

BY EXAMZIFY

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Sample study guide. For the full version with hundreds of questions, visit: https://ndaeb.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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**

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. What is a common practice to ensure even distribution of light body impression material?

A. Extrude material from a distance

B. Use a spatula to spread

C. Keep the tip submerged in the material

D. Applying pressure to the tray

2. How often should dental staff practice their assigned roles for emergencies?

A. Once a year

B. Once a month

C. Twice a month

D. Every week

3. What are the normal spaces between the primary teeth called?

A. Interdental Spaces

B. Primate Space

C. Primary Gaps

D. Transitional Space

4. What does the gauge of a needle refer to?

A. The length of the needle

B. The color of the needle

C. The thickness of the needle

D. The angle of the needle

5. Which type of teeth are described as single rooted and located at the front of the mouth?

A. Molars

B. Incisors

C. Canines

D. Premolars

SAMPLE

6. What is a unique capability of dentin?

- **A. It is capable of regeneration**
- **B. It is the hardest calcified substance in the body**
- **C. It forms the outer layer of the tooth**
- **D. It is an excellent electrical insulator**

7. What does a radiograph confirming the success of root canal therapy suggest about the radiolucency at the apex?

- **A. Healthy alveolar bone is now growing in the radiolucent area**
- **B. Infection still remains in the tooth structure**
- **C. The tooth is likely to require extraction**
- **D. No significant changes have occurred**

8. A common requirement after mixing dental materials is to:

- **A. Store them for future use**
- **B. Discard any excess immediately**
- **C. Apply them without waiting**
- **D. Let them set before cleaning**

9. What is the term for an agent that holds two things together in dentistry?

- **A. Adhesive**
- **B. Bonding agent**
- **C. Luting agent**
- **D. Sealant**

10. What is true regarding the occlusion of erupting permanent teeth?

- **A. It is solely dependent on the strength of the primary teeth.**
- **B. It is independent of the primary teeth.**
- **C. It depends on the occlusion of the primary teeth as they are shed.**
- **D. It is only relevant for the first molars.**

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is a common practice to ensure even distribution of light body impression material?

A. Extrude material from a distance

B. Use a spatula to spread

C. Keep the tip submerged in the material

D. Applying pressure to the tray

Keeping the tip submerged in the material is a common practice to ensure even distribution of light body impression material. When the tip is submerged, it allows for a consistent flow of the material, which helps prevent air bubbles from being trapped and ensures that the material will evenly coat the surfaces of the prepared area. This method promotes a more accurate impression by allowing for smooth and controlled application, ultimately leading to better detail reproduction in the final impression. The other methods can lead to variations in the distribution of the material; for instance, extruding material from a distance can cause it to lose its consistency and may result in uneven application. Using a spatula to spread the material could also introduce air and create uneven layers, while applying pressure to the tray might not facilitate the even distribution of the light body material, as it could push the material away from the desired areas rather than distributing it uniformly.

2. How often should dental staff practice their assigned roles for emergencies?

A. Once a year

B. Once a month

C. Twice a month

D. Every week

Practicing assigned roles for emergencies once a month is a key measure to ensure that dental staff are well-prepared and coordinated when an actual emergency occurs. Regular practice helps maintain competency and boosts the staff's confidence in executing their responsibilities effectively during a high-pressure situation. Monthly training ensures that all team members are familiar with emergency procedures, understand their specific roles, and can communicate effectively with one another. This frequency strikes a balance between retention of information and skills and the practicalities of staff scheduling, allowing for adequate refreshers while also minimizing disruption to regular operations. In contrast, less frequent practices might hinder the staff's ability to react swiftly and efficiently in an emergency, as skills and knowledge could fade over time without regular reinforcement.

SAMPLE

3. What are the normal spaces between the primary teeth called?

A. Interdental Spaces

B. Primate Space

C. Primary Gaps

D. Transitional Space

The normal spaces between the primary teeth are referred to as primate spaces. These are essential anatomical features that typically occur in the primary dentition to accommodate the larger permanent teeth that will erupt later. Primate spaces allow for proper alignment and spacing of the erupting permanent teeth, facilitating a smooth transition from primary to permanent dentition. These spaces primarily occur in the maxillary arch between the canine and lateral incisor, as well as in the mandibular arch between the canine and first molar. Their presence is a natural aspect of dental development as they help prevent crowding of the permanent teeth, contributing to overall oral health and proper occlusion. The other terms listed do not accurately describe these specific spaces in primary teeth. For instance, interdental spaces refer more broadly to gaps between any two adjacent teeth, while terms like primary gaps or transitional space do not specifically relate to the spaces noted within the primary dentition. Hence, primate spaces is the most precise and relevant term for this context.

4. What does the gauge of a needle refer to?

A. The length of the needle

B. The color of the needle

C. The thickness of the needle

D. The angle of the needle

The gauge of a needle specifically indicates its thickness or diameter. A higher gauge number corresponds to a thinner needle, while a lower gauge number represents a thicker needle. Understanding needle gauge is essential in clinical practice, as it affects the flow rate of fluids and can influence patient comfort during procedures like injections. Selecting an appropriate needle gauge is critical for achieving desired outcomes in various dental procedures, such as local anesthesia administration. The length of the needle, its color, and the angle are important aspects in clinical settings but are not determined by the gauge measurement.

SAMPLE

5. Which type of teeth are described as single rooted and located at the front of the mouth?

A. Molars

B. Incisors

C. Canines

D. Premolars

Incisors are categorized as single-rooted teeth that are situated at the front of the mouth. Their primary function is to cut and shear food, which aligns with their sharp, thin shapes. They typically have a flat edge that aids in biting into food, making them essential for the initial phase of mastication. In contrast, molars, located at the back of the mouth, usually possess multiple roots and are designed for grinding food, featuring a broader surface area. Canines, while they do have a single root like incisors, are positioned next to them and serve a different role—primarily tearing food due to their pointed shapes. Premolars, situated between canines and molars, usually have two or more roots and are larger than incisors, functioning mainly to crush and grind food. Hence, incisors are distinct for their front positioning and singular root structure.

6. What is a unique capability of dentin?

A. It is capable of regeneration

B. It is the hardest calcified substance in the body

C. It forms the outer layer of the tooth

D. It is an excellent electrical insulator

Dentin has a unique capability of regeneration, largely due to the presence of odontoblasts, which are specialized cells located at the pulp-dentin interface. These cells can respond to stimuli such as injury or carious lesions by producing new dentin, a process known as secondary dentin formation. This regenerative capacity allows dentin to contribute to the repair of the tooth structure, which is crucial in maintaining dental health and integrity over time. In contrast, while other options mention characteristics of dentin, they do not pertain to its regenerative capability. Dentin is not the hardest substance in the body; enamel holds that title. Additionally, it does not form the outer layer of the tooth—enamel does that job. Dentin is not an excellent electrical insulator either; it has some conductivity, which is significant for tooth sensitivity and responses to external stimuli. Understanding the regenerative nature of dentin is key in dental health, particularly in restorative dentistry and the management of tooth decay.

SAMPLE

7. What does a radiograph confirming the success of root canal therapy suggest about the radiolucency at the apex?

A. Healthy alveolar bone is now growing in the radiolucent area

B. Infection still remains in the tooth structure

C. The tooth is likely to require extraction

D. No significant changes have occurred

A radiograph confirming the success of root canal therapy suggests that healthy alveolar bone is now growing in the radiolucent area. After successful root canal treatment, the expected outcome is the reduction or elimination of the radiolucent area at the apex of the tooth, which indicates the resolution of infection and the healing of the surrounding bone. The presence of radiolucency typically signifies that there was an infection or pathology affecting the apex of the tooth, such as an apical abscess or periapical lesion. Once the root canal therapy has been properly performed, there should be evidence of healing, which includes new bone formation. This is visualized radiographically as a decrease in the radiolucent appearance, eventually leading to normal radiopaque bone surrounding the roots of the tooth. This interpretation hinges on the understanding of how successful endodontic treatment results in the restoration of health around the tooth rather than the persistence of infection, the necessity for extraction, or a lack of significant changes. Continuation of radiolucency, or the presence of infection, would indicate that the treatment was not successful, and there might be a need for further intervention.

8. A common requirement after mixing dental materials is to:

A. Store them for future use

B. Discard any excess immediately

C. Apply them without waiting

D. Let them set before cleaning

After mixing dental materials, it is critical to discard any excess immediately to ensure patient safety and material integrity. Many dental materials, such as impression materials or restorative composites, have specific working times and can begin to harden or react once mixed. Keeping excess material could lead to inaccuracies in procedures or contamination if the material does not remain within the controlled environment needed for effective use. Immediate disposal of excess material helps prevent any potential cross-contamination between used and unused materials, which is vital in maintaining sterile conditions in a dental practice. It also ensures that the mixed materials are only used when they are at their optimal working stage, reducing the risk of applying materials that may not be effective due to having surpassed their usable working time. Other options involve methods that could compromise the quality of the dental procedure, such as storing mixed materials for future use, which is generally not advisable due to their altered state after mixing, or applying them without waiting, as that might lead to complications if the material has begun to set too early.

SAMPLE

9. What is the term for an agent that holds two things together in dentistry?

A. Adhesive

B. Bonding agent

C. Luting agent

D. Sealant

The term that refers to an agent that holds two things together in dentistry is "luting agent." Luting agents are primarily used to bond indirect restorations, such as crowns, bridges, and inlays, to the tooth structure. They create a durable bond between the restoration and the tooth, ensuring stability and longevity of the dental work. Luting agents are typically made from materials that possess strong adhesive properties and are designed to fill any microscopic gaps between the restoration and the tooth surface, which helps to prevent microleakage and potential decay. They often include resins or glass ionomers that harden when set, providing a secure attachment. Other agents mentioned in the choices serve different functions. Adhesives generally refer to materials that bond two surfaces together, whereas bonding agents are often specific to creating a bond between tooth enamel or dentin and restorative materials. Sealants are used to protect teeth from decay by sealing the grooves and pits in the tooth surface, rather than holding two structures together. Each of these has a specific role in dental practice, but in the context of holding two things together, the luting agent is the most appropriate term.

10. What is true regarding the occlusion of erupting permanent teeth?

A. It is solely dependent on the strength of the primary teeth.

B. It is independent of the primary teeth.

C. It depends on the occlusion of the primary teeth as they are shed.

D. It is only relevant for the first molars.

Erupting permanent teeth are significantly influenced by the occlusion of the primary teeth. As the primary teeth are shed, they create space and guidance for the eruption of the permanent teeth. The relationship between the primary and permanent teeth during this transition is crucial for ensuring that the permanent teeth erupt into proper alignment and occlusion. The nature of this relationship is essential, as any malocclusion or premature loss of primary teeth can disrupt the intended pathway for the eruption of the corresponding permanent teeth. The primary teeth serve as a guide and help maintain the necessary space until the permanent teeth are ready to emerge. Therefore, the occlusion of the primary teeth has a direct impact on how the permanent teeth will align and occlude once they erupt, making the influence of primary teeth significantly important during this developmental stage.

SAMPLE

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://ndaeb.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE