

NES Elementary Reading Instruction 104 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 another name for orthographic tendencies as described in the material?**
 - A. Phonemic awareness**
 - B. Morphology**
 - C. Syntax**
 - D. Code knowledge**

- 2. Which is a type of context clue?**
 - A. Pun.**
 - B. Metaphor.**
 - C. Rhyme.**
 - D. Inference.**

- 3. Which term is a genre of fiction?**
 - A. Realistic**
 - B. Biography**
 - C. Expository writing**
 - D. Almanac**

- 4. Which intervention is recommended to support fluency by repeated reading?**
 - A. Listen to audio recordings**
 - B. Frequent modeling, repeated reading**
 - C. Texts at middle level, not too low or too high**
 - D. Rhyming repetition to encourage prosody**

- 5. For Fluent Readers, which practice involves using prior knowledge?**
 - A. Teach/model using prior knowledge**
 - B. Close reading only**
 - C. Skipping unfamiliar words**
 - D. Focus on phonics alone**

- 6. Which stage of reading development is characterized by decodable texts, rapid word recognition, and simple comprehension?**
- A. Emergent**
 - B. Transitional**
 - C. Fluent**
 - D. Early reading**
- 7. Which strategy helps learners by activating prior knowledge through cues such as bolded texts and cueing techniques?**
- A. Avoiding prior knowledge and focusing on new information**
 - B. Activating prior knowledge through cues such as bolded texts and cueing techniques**
 - C. Waiting to test after long delay**
 - D. Using only rote memorization**
- 8. Which item is a level in Bloom's Taxonomy?**
- A. Knowledge**
 - B. Emotion**
 - C. Coordination**
 - D. Mobility**
- 9. What is one recommended approach to teach evaluative comprehension?**
- A. Focus on literal recall**
 - B. Use only multiple-choice questions**
 - C. Model thinking and provide evaluative sentence stems**
 - D. Avoid discussing opinions**
- 10. Visual literacy is best described as the ability to**
- A. Ability to comprehend, evaluate, and create visuals**
 - B. Ability to locate, analyze and evaluate information**
 - C. Making informed decisions about financial resources to prepare for a secure future**
 - D. Gather and process through listening**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is another name for orthographic tendencies as described in the material?

- A. Phonemic awareness**
- B. Morphology**
- C. Syntax**
- D. Code knowledge**

Orthographic tendencies refer to the patterns and conventions learners use when spelling words. This relates to understanding the code behind written language—the way letters encode sounds and spellings in words. That broader area is called code knowledge, which includes recognizing and applying spelling patterns and the relationships between sounds and letters. Phonemic awareness is about hearing and manipulating individual sounds in words, not about the spelling system itself. Morphology deals with word parts like roots and affixes, shaping meaning rather than spelling conventions. Syntax concerns sentence structure and grammar. So code knowledge best captures the idea of orthographic tendencies.

2. Which is a type of context clue?

- A. Pun.**
- B. Metaphor.**
- C. Rhyme.**
- D. Inference.**

Context clues help you figure out what a new word means by using the words around it. One common way is inference: you use the surrounding details to guess the meaning of the word. For example, the boy trudged through the heavy snow, his boots dragging and sinking with every step. From this, you can infer that trudged means walked slowly and with effort. Puns, metaphors, and rhymes are different language tools. A pun is playful wordplay based on multiple meanings, a metaphor is a direct comparison that isn't literal, and a rhyme is about sounds at the ends of words. They aren't the way you deduce an unfamiliar word's meaning from surrounding text, which is why inference is the correct type of context clue here.

3. Which term is a genre of fiction?

- A. Realistic**
- B. Biography**
- C. Expository writing**
- D. Almanac**

Understanding fiction genres means knowing which terms describe stories created from imagination versus factual writing. Realistic fiction is a category of fiction that presents believable events and characters that could happen in real life. That makes it a genre of fiction because it's a made-up story told in a way that could occur in the real world. Why this is the best choice: it signals a fictional story with plausible settings and ordinary people, rather than reporting on real people or providing information. A realistic story uses everyday language and situations, so readers feel it could really happen. Why the other options don't fit as a fiction genre: a biography is about a real person's life and is non-fiction. Expository writing explains or informs, also non-fiction. An Almanac is a reference book full of facts and data, not a narrative fiction.

4. Which intervention is recommended to support fluency by repeated reading?

- A. Listen to audio recordings
- B. Frequent modeling, repeated reading**
- C. Texts at middle level, not too low or too high
- D. Rhyming repetition to encourage prosody

Frequent modeling paired with repeated reading helps students build fluency by giving them a clear example of smooth, expressive reading to imitate, then giving them multiple chances to practice that same text aloud. The model shows proper pacing, phrasing, and expression; after hearing it, the student reads the passage several times, receives feedback, and repeats. With each practice, accuracy and speed improve, and prosody becomes more natural because the reader internalizes how the text should sound. As fluency grows, decoding becomes easier, freeing cognitive resources for understanding the text. Other options touch on related ideas but don't provide the same targeted practice. Listening to audio offers a model but doesn't require the student to read aloud and receive feedback through repeated performance. Selecting texts by general difficulty helps, but it doesn't specify the repeated reading with modeling structure that directly builds fluency. Rhyming repetition can support prosody, but it doesn't encompass the full cycle of modeling plus repeated, monitored practice that strengthens fluent reading overall.

5. For Fluent Readers, which practice involves using prior knowledge?

- A. Teach/model using prior knowledge**
- B. Close reading only
- C. Skipping unfamiliar words
- D. Focus on phonics alone

Activating and using background knowledge helps readers construct meaning by connecting what they already know to what they're reading. For fluent readers, this means they can quickly relate a new text to their experiences, make predictions, and infer ideas that aren't stated outright. Teaching and modeling how to bring that prior knowledge into reading shows students explicit steps: how to recall relevant experiences, ask themselves guiding questions, and apply those connections to understand characters, events, and themes more deeply. This approach stands out because it links decoding with meaning. Closing reading, by itself, focuses on analyzing the text in a single pass without emphasizing how to bring in personal or world knowledge. Skipping unfamiliar words is mainly about decoding accuracy, not about using background knowledge to understand. Focusing on phonics alone centers on sound-letter relationships and often overlooks how knowledge from experience enhances comprehension.

6. Which stage of reading development is characterized by decodable texts, rapid word recognition, and simple comprehension?

- A. Emergent**
- B. Transitional**
- C. Fluent**
- D. Early reading**

The description points to the early reading stage. At this stage, learners rely on phonics to sound out words using decodable texts, which helps them recognize words quickly and read with accuracy. The focus is on building decoding skills first, so the comprehension remains simple as students practice the basics of meaning while they grow fluency. Emergent readers are just starting to explore print and pretend reading, transitional readers handle longer and more varied words with growing comprehension, and fluent readers read smoothly with automatic recognition and more complex ideas.

7. Which strategy helps learners by activating prior knowledge through cues such as bolded texts and cueing techniques?

- A. Avoiding prior knowledge and focusing on new information**
- B. Activating prior knowledge through cues such as bolded texts and cueing techniques**
- C. Waiting to test after long delay**
- D. Using only rote memorization**

Activating prior knowledge through cues such as bolded texts and cueing techniques helps learners connect new information to what they already know. Bolded terms signal key concepts and prompt students to recall related ideas, while cueing techniques provide prompts that guide retrieval of relevant knowledge at the moment of learning, making the new material easier to understand and remember. This approach builds meaningful learning rather than presenting isolated facts. Relying only on new information without those anchors or using rote memorization doesn't support the same level of comprehension or long-term retention.

8. Which item is a level in Bloom's Taxonomy?

- A. Knowledge**
- B. Emotion**
- C. Coordination**
- D. Mobility**

Bloom's Taxonomy maps different kinds of thinking students use, and one of those levels is Knowledge, which centers on recalling facts, terms, and basic information from memory. In reading instruction, this might involve remembering a character's name or a key detail from the story. The other terms point to different domains outside this cognitive level: Emotion relates to feelings and attitudes (affective domain), while Coordination and Mobility describe physical actions (psychomotor domain). Since Bloom's taxonomy focuses on thinking processes, Knowledge fits as a level within that framework.

9. What is one recommended approach to teach evaluative comprehension?

- A. Focus on literal recall**
- B. Use only multiple-choice questions**
- C. Model thinking and provide evaluative sentence stems**
- D. Avoid discussing opinions**

Evaluative comprehension means judging the quality or usefulness of information in a text and explaining your reasoning. A strong way to teach this is to model thinking aloud as you read and discuss how you reach judgments, showing students how to weigh evidence, compare ideas, and consider the author's purpose and any bias. Provide evaluative sentence stems they can plug into their responses, such as "I think this part is convincing because..." "The evidence here supports that claim, but..." or "The author might be trying to persuade, so I question this part because..." These stems give students a ready-made language to articulate their evaluations and justify them with reasoning and evidence. This approach helps students practice articulating and defending their judgments, which is essential for evaluative comprehension. Focusing only on literal recall teaches students to remember facts rather than assess meaning; relying solely on multiple-choice questions often doesn't require students to justify their thinking; and avoiding opinions prevents the kind of discussion that builds evaluative skills.

10. Visual literacy is best described as the ability to

- A. Ability to comprehend, evaluate, and create visuals**
- B. Ability to locate, analyze and evaluate information**
- C. Making informed decisions about financial resources to prepare for a secure future**
- D. Gather and process through listening**

Visual literacy means understanding and using visual information to communicate and make meaning. It involves more than just looking at pictures: you comprehend what the visuals show, evaluate their message or credibility, and you can create visuals to express your own ideas. This combination—understanding, judging, and creating visuals—best describes visual literacy. The other options describe different kinds of literacy: locating, analyzing, and evaluating information in general; making informed financial choices; and gathering and processing information through listening.

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://neselemreadinginstruction104.examzify.com>

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

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