

NES English Language Arts Secondary Endorsement 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. Which tense is formed using "has" or "have" with the past participle?**
 - A. Future Perfect Tense**
 - B. Present Perfect Tense**
 - C. Past Perfect Tense**
 - D. Present Progressive Tense**

- 2. What is one common consequence of using a misplaced modifier in writing?**
 - A. Enhances the sentence's rhythm**
 - B. Increases the word count unnecessarily**
 - C. Changes the intended meaning of the sentence**
 - D. Improves emotional impact**

- 3. What term describes the attitude towards the subject or audience in a piece of writing?**
 - A. Voice**
 - B. Style**
 - C. Tone**
 - D. Mood**

- 4. Which figure of speech allows for the expression of an idea by relating it to human attributes?**
 - A. Apostrophe**
 - B. Personification**
 - C. Metaphor**
 - D. Hyperbole**

- 5. Which literary device entails giving human characteristics to a nonhuman entity?**
 - A. Metaphor**
 - B. Personification**
 - C. Alliteration**
 - D. Apostrophe**

6. What is the term for a figure of speech that uses gross exaggeration for emphasis or effect?

- A. Hyperbole**
- B. Allusion**
- C. Simile**
- D. Metaphor**

7. Which tense is characterized by the structure "was/were + verb -ing"?

- A. Present Perfect Tense**
- B. Past Progressive Tense**
- C. Future Progressive Tense**
- D. Present Progressive Tense**

8. The structure "will have + past participle" is used to form which tense?

- A. Past Perfect Tense**
- B. Future Perfect Tense**
- C. Present Perfect Tense**
- D. Future Progressive Tense**

9. What is the term for a figure of speech that equates two dissimilar things without using a comparative phrase?

- A. Simile**
- B. Metaphor**
- C. Extended Metaphor**
- D. Analogy**

10. Which approach is used primarily when an author wishes to create a vivid impression of thoughts and emotions?

- A. Stream of Consciousness**
- B. Cause and Effect**
- C. Consonance**
- D. Problem/Solution Writing**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which tense is formed using "has" or "have" with the past participle?

- A. Future Perfect Tense**
- B. Present Perfect Tense**
- C. Past Perfect Tense**
- D. Present Progressive Tense**

The present perfect tense is formed by combining "has" or "have" with the past participle of a verb. This construction allows us to convey actions or events that have occurred at an unspecified time in the past and are relevant to the present, emphasizing the connection between past actions and their present implications. For instance, in the sentence "She has completed her homework," the verb "has" and the past participle "completed" together illustrate that the action of completing the homework has been accomplished and is significant to the current moment. In contrast, the other tenses listed do not use this specific structure. The future perfect tense utilizes "will have" with the past participle, while the past perfect tense is formed with "had" and the past participle. The present progressive tense is characterized by a form of "be" combined with the present participle, completely different from the perfect tense structure.

2. What is one common consequence of using a misplaced modifier in writing?

- A. Enhances the sentence's rhythm**
- B. Increases the word count unnecessarily**
- C. Changes the intended meaning of the sentence**
- D. Improves emotional impact**

Using a misplaced modifier can significantly alter the intended meaning of a sentence, leading to confusion or misinterpretation for the reader. A modifier is a word or phrase that provides description or adds detail, and when it is not placed correctly, it can suggest incorrect relationships between words in the sentence. For example, in the sentence "She almost drove her kids to school every day," the placement of "almost" implies she was close to driving them but did not. If the intended meaning was that she drove her kids to school every day without exception, the modifier is misplaced and changes the overall message. Correct placement of modifiers is crucial for clarity and precision in writing, ensuring that the reader interprets the sentence as the writer intended.

3. What term describes the attitude towards the subject or audience in a piece of writing?

- A. Voice**
- B. Style**
- C. Tone**
- D. Mood**

The term that describes the attitude towards the subject or audience in a piece of writing is "tone." Tone reflects how the writer feels about the subject matter and conveys that attitude through word choice, sentence structure, and overall writing style. It can range from formal to informal, serious to humorous, and can evoke different emotions in the reader. Essentially, tone helps to set the emotional backdrop for the piece and influences how the audience interprets the message. For instance, a sarcastic tone can imply a sense of irony or mockery, while a sympathetic tone can create a connection between the writer and the audience, eliciting feelings of empathy. Understanding tone is crucial for both writers and readers, as it significantly shapes the overall impact of a text.

4. Which figure of speech allows for the expression of an idea by relating it to human attributes?

- A. Apostrophe**
- B. Personification**
- C. Metaphor**
- D. Hyperbole**

The correct answer is personification, as it is a figure of speech that attributes human qualities, emotions, or actions to non-human entities, objects, or concepts. This literary device effectively brings inanimate things or abstract ideas to life, making them more relatable and engaging for the reader. For example, when one says, "The wind whispered through the trees," the wind is given the human ability to whisper, which helps convey a sense of gentleness and intimacy in the scene. This not only enhances the imagery but also allows readers to connect with the subject on a more emotional level. Apostrophe, on the other hand, is a figure of speech where an absent or imaginary person, or a personified abstraction, is addressed directly. While it involves addressing entities that are not physically present, it does not primarily focus on giving human characteristics to non-human elements. Metaphor involves a direct comparison between two unlike things without using "like" or "as," which serves to create deeper meanings and associations, but does not necessarily attribute human traits or qualities to non-human aspects. Hyperbole is an exaggerated statement that is not meant to be taken literally, often used for emphasis or effect, and does not involve attributing human characteristics to non-human

5. Which literary device entails giving human characteristics to a nonhuman entity?

- A. Metaphor**
- B. Personification**
- C. Alliteration**
- D. Apostrophe**

The correct answer is personification, which is a literary device that involves attributing human traits, emotions, or behaviors to nonhuman entities, such as animals, objects, or abstract concepts. This technique allows writers to create vivid imagery and foster emotional connections between the reader and the subject, making it easier to convey complex ideas and feelings. For example, when a writer describes the wind as "whispering through the trees" or "angry waves crashing against the shore," they are personifying natural elements, helping the reader to visualize and relate to those experiences on a human level. This device enhances storytelling by allowing nonhuman characters or elements to act and react in ways that we can understand and empathize with. While metaphor involves direct comparisons between different things to illustrate a point, personification specifically relates to bestowing human qualities. Alliteration focuses on the repetition of initial consonant sounds in a series of words, creating rhythm or emphasis rather than imbuing nonhuman entities with human characteristics. Apostrophe is a figure of speech wherein a speaker addresses an absent person, an idea, or a thing, enhancing emotional expression rather than creating human traits in nonhuman entities. Thus, personification stands out as the distinctive device for providing human characteristics to non

6. What is the term for a figure of speech that uses gross exaggeration for emphasis or effect?

- A. Hyperbole**
- B. Allusion**
- C. Simile**
- D. Metaphor**

The term that refers to a figure of speech which employs gross exaggeration for emphasis or effect is hyperbole. This rhetorical device is often used in literature and everyday language to create a strong impression or to evoke strong feelings from the audience. For example, saying "I'm so hungry I could eat a horse" is a hyperbole that exaggerates hunger to emphasize how starved the speaker feels. Hyperbole is effective because it conveys intensity and captures attention, allowing the listener or reader to visualize the exaggeration vividly. The other terms listed do not fulfill this function. Allusion is a reference to a person, place, event, or literary work that is not explicitly mentioned but evokes a deeper meaning or context. A simile is a comparison between two different things using "like" or "as" to illustrate similarities. A metaphor is also a comparison but it describes one thing as if it were another, without using "like" or "as." Each of these figures of speech serves a different purpose in language and writing.

7. Which tense is characterized by the structure "was/were + verb -ing"?

- A. Present Perfect Tense**
- B. Past Progressive Tense**
- C. Future Progressive Tense**
- D. Present Progressive Tense**

The tense characterized by the structure "was/were + verb -ing" is indeed the Past Progressive Tense. This tense is used to indicate actions that were ongoing in the past at a specific time or during a particular event. For example, in the sentence, "I was reading when the phone rang," the use of "was reading" showcases an action that was in progress before it was interrupted by another action (the phone ringing). In this structure, "was" or "were" serves as the auxiliary verb, while the main verb takes on the "-ing" form to convey the ongoing nature of the action in the past. This clearly distinguishes it from the present perfect, future progressive, and present progressive tenses, which have different structures and purposes. The present perfect tense uses "have" or "has" combined with the past participle, the future progressive includes "will be" plus the "-ing" form, and the present progressive employs "am/is/are" followed by the "-ing" form.

8. The structure "will have + past participle" is used to form which tense?

- A. Past Perfect Tense**
- B. Future Perfect Tense**
- C. Present Perfect Tense**
- D. Future Progressive Tense**

The structure "will have + past participle" is used to form the Future Perfect Tense. This tense is utilized to describe an action that will be completed before a specified point in the future. The Future Perfect Tense emphasizes the completion of an activity or event by a certain future time, highlighting its expected outcome. For example, in the sentence "By next year, I will have completed my degree," the phrase "will have completed" indicates that the action of completing the degree is anticipated to be done before a future time marker (next year). This tense is particularly useful for establishing timelines and making predictions about future accomplishments.

9. What is the term for a figure of speech that equates two dissimilar things without using a comparative phrase?

- A. Simile**
- B. Metaphor**
- C. Extended Metaphor**
- D. Analogy**

The term that refers to a figure of speech equating two dissimilar things without using comparative phrases like "like" or "as" is a metaphor. A metaphor asserts that one thing is another, directly linking them in a way that highlights their similarities in a more implicit manner. For example, saying "Time is a thief" suggests that time steals moments from us, creating a vivid image without explicitly stating the comparison. In contrast, a simile uses comparative phrases to highlight similarities between two different things, such as in "Life is like a journey." An extended metaphor builds on the initial metaphor by continuing to draw comparisons throughout a piece of writing, while an analogy often explains an idea or thing by comparing it to something more familiar. Each of these figures of speech contributes to language in unique ways, but the defining characteristic of a metaphor is its directness and lack of comparative phraseology.

10. Which approach is used primarily when an author wishes to create a vivid impression of thoughts and emotions?

- A. Stream of Consciousness**
- B. Cause and Effect**
- C. Consonance**
- D. Problem/Solution Writing**

The stream of consciousness approach is a narrative technique that effectively captures the inner thoughts and emotions of characters in a detailed and immersive way. This method reflects the continuous flow of a character's thoughts, feelings, and sensory experiences as they occur, often presenting them in a seemingly unstructured or chaotic manner. By employing this technique, authors can convey a deeper understanding of a character's psyche, allowing readers to experience their thoughts and emotions in a more visceral and immediate way. It often includes rapid shifts in perspective and a lack of clear transitions, resembling the way thoughts naturally occur in the human mind, thereby creating a vivid impression that draws the reader into the character's subjective experience. In contrast, the other options focus on different aspects of writing. Cause and effect examines relationships between events, consonance deals with the repetition of consonant sounds in language, and problem/solution writing emphasizes identifying issues and proposing resolutions. None of these techniques are primarily concerned with the intimate portrayal of thoughts and emotions in the same way that stream of consciousness is.

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://neselasecondary.examzify.com>

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

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