Neuropsychology 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

1. Wernicke's area is located in which lobe?

A. Left Parietal Lobe

B. Left Frontal Lobe

C. Right Temporal Lobe

D. Left Temporal Lobe

2. Which procedure is primarily used to visualize vascular abnormalities after introducing a contrast agent?

A. MRI

B. Angiography

C. PET Scan

D. EEG

3. Brodmann area 17 designates which functional area?

A. Angular gyrus

B. Motor cortex

C. Primary visual area

D. Heschl's gyrus

4. In most people, aphasia results from damage to which hemisphere?

A. Left Hemisphere

B. Right Hemisphere

C. Both Hemispheres

D. Occipital

5. Which term means toward the midline?

A. Lateral

B. Anterior

C. Posterior

D. Medial

6. Which term is another word for Top?

A. Rostral

B. Medial

C. Dorsal (superior)

D. Lateral

7. Computed tomography (CT) scan is best described as which of the following?

A. Ultrasound imaging of tissues

B. Positron emission tomography

C. Magnetic resonance imaging

D. Computed tomography scan

8. What term describes the grooves between the gyri on the brain surface?

A. Gyri

B. Fissures

C. Sulci

D. Lobes

9. Which term describes the sagittal section that separates left and right hemispheres?

A. Sagittal section

B. Coronal section

C. Transverse section

D. Frontal plane

10. Which idea states that the brain is the source of all behavior?

A. Brain Hypothesis

B. Ventricular Localization Hypothesis

C. Rene Descartes

D. Aphasia

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Wernicke's area is located in which lobe?

A. Left Parietal Lobe

B. Left Frontal Lobe

C. Right Temporal Lobe

D. Left Temporal Lobe

Wernicke's area is the language comprehension center and is located in the temporal lobe of the dominant hemisphere, usually the left side. Anatomically, it sits in the posterior part of the superior temporal gyrus, near the auditory cortex, where spoken language input is processed and understood. This is why damage to this area impairs understanding while leaving speech fluent but often nonsensical—classic Wernicke's aphasia. The parietal lobe is more about somatosensory functions, and the frontal lobe houses Broca's area, which deals with speech production. The right temporal lobe is not the standard language-dominant region for most people. Therefore, the left temporal lobe is the correct location.

2. Which procedure is primarily used to visualize vascular abnormalities after introducing a contrast agent?

A. MRI

B. Angiography

C. PET Scan

D. EEG

Visualizing blood vessels after injecting a contrast agent relies on radiographic imaging that highlights the vessel lumen. By introducing a radiopaque contrast into the bloodstream, the vessels become visible on X-ray-based imaging, allowing clinicians to see the shape, course, and caliber of arteries and veins in real time. This approach, typically performed as conventional angiography with fluoroscopy and often processed as digital subtraction angiography, provides high-resolution images of the vessels themselves and can reveal even small abnormalities in the vessel walls, flow patterns, or connections. Because the contrast directly illuminates the blood vessels, this method is especially well suited for identifying vascular abnormalities such as stenosis, aneurysms, occlusions, and arteriovenous malformations, and it can also guide interventional procedures. While other imaging modalities can visualize vessels (for example, MR or CT angiography uses contrast to show vessels), the traditional angiography technique is specifically designed to illuminate the vascular lumen with high detail and in dynamic flow, which is why it is the best fit for this purpose. The remaining options assess different aspects of brain physiology or structure—metabolic activity with PET or electrical activity with EEG—rather than providing the direct, detailed view of blood vessels that angiography offers.

3. Brodmann area 17 designates which functional area?

A. Angular gyrus

B. Motor cortex

C. Primary visual area

D. Heschl's gyrus

Brodmann area 17 designates the primary visual cortex, the first cortical stage that processes visual information. Located in the occipital lobe along the calcarine sulcus, it receives input from the lateral geniculate nucleus and creates the initial retinotopic representations of the visual field, handling basic features like edges and contrast. Damage to this area tends to disrupt vision in the opposite visual field, reflecting its role as the main entry point for visual processing. The other options map to different modalities or regions: the angular gyrus is tied to language, numbers, and spatial aspects; the motor cortex drives voluntary movement; and Heschl's gyrus is the primary auditory cortex.

4. In most people, aphasia results from damage to which hemisphere?

A. Left Hemisphere

B. Right Hemisphere

C. Both Hemispheres

D. Occipital

Language is largely localized in the left hemisphere for most people, especially those who are right-handed. Aphasia occurs when this left-hemisphere language network—areas like Broca's for speech production and Wernicke's for comprehension—is damaged, leading to difficulties in speaking, understanding, reading, or writing. Damage to the right hemisphere can affect aspects of communication such as tone, rhythm, and social use of language, but it doesn't produce the classic aphasia pattern. Occipital damage impacts vision, not language. In some individuals with atypical brain organization—more common among left-handers—the pattern might differ, but the usual cause of aphasia is left-hemisphere injury.

5. Which term means toward the midline?

A. Lateral

B. Anterior

C. Posterior

D. Medial

In anatomical terms, the word describing movement toward the center line is medial. The midline is the imaginary line that divides the body into left and right halves. Medial means closer to that line, while lateral means farther from it. For example, in the eye, the medial rectus moves the eye toward the nose, toward the midline, whereas structures farther from the center are described as lateral. Anterior and posterior refer to front and back, not distance from the midline. So, the term that means toward the midline is medial.

6. Which term is another word for Top?

A. Rostral

B. Medial

C. Dorsal (superior)

D. Lateral

Understanding anatomical orientation helps you map locations on the body. When we talk about the "top," we're referring to the upper part of the body, which in anatomical terms is described as superior. In the brain and spinal cord, the term dorsal is often used in the same way to denote the upper or back surface. So the term that best matches "top" is dorsal (superior) because it designates the upper/top aspect of the structure. The other terms describe different directions: rostral toward the nose or head front, medial toward the midline, and lateral away from the midline.

7. Computed tomography (CT) scan is best described as which of the following?

A. Ultrasound imaging of tissues

B. Positron emission tomography

C. Magnetic resonance imaging

D. Computed tomography scan

The main idea is that computed tomography is an imaging method that uses rotating X-ray beams and computer reconstruction to create cross-sectional pictures of the body. Saying it is a computed tomography scan is correct because the term "scan" simply refers to the data-collection process of that same technique, resulting in the CT images. The other options describe different imaging methods: ultrasound uses sound waves to image tissues, PET uses a radioactive tracer to visualize metabolic activity, and MRI uses strong magnetic fields and radiofrequency pulses to image soft tissues. So the description that matches the actual technique by name is the CT scan.

8. What term describes the grooves between the gyri on the brain surface?

A. Gyri

B. Fissures

C. Sulci

D. Lobes

Sulci are the grooves between the ridges (gyri) on the brain's surface. They form part of the wrinkled cortex that increases surface area for neural processing. Fissures are deeper grooves that separate major brain regions, such as the longitudinal fissure between hemispheres or the lateral (Sylvian) fissure that helps separate frontal/temporal from parietal areas. Gyri are the raised ridges themselves, and lobes are the large brain divisions. For example, the central sulcus lies between the precentral gyrus and postcentral gyrus.

9. Which term describes the sagittal section that separates left and right hemispheres?

A. Sagittal section

B. Coronal section

C. Transverse section

D. Frontal plane

The key idea is how planes of section divide the brain. A sagittal plane runs from front to back and splits the brain into left and right halves. A cut along that plane—called a sagittal section—reveals left and right hemispheres. If the cut goes exactly down the middle, it's called a midsagittal (or medial) section, but the general term for a left-right separating cut remains sagittal section. In contrast, a coronal (frontal) plane separates front from back, and a transverse plane separates top from bottom. So the term that describes the left-right separation is sagittal section.

10. Which idea states that the brain is the source of all behavior?

A. Brain Hypothesis

B. Ventricular Localization Hypothesis

C. Rene Descartes

D. Aphasia

The brain-based view holds that behavior arises from neural activity in the brain, so the brain is the source of all behavior. This Brain Hypothesis is supported by countless findings showing that brain damage changes how people act, think, and feel, and that different brain areas are linked to specific functions through lesions and neuroimaging. By contrast, the Ventricular Localization Hypothesis attributes mental faculties to the brain's ventricles, which is an outdated idea and not supported by modern evidence. Descartes is a philosopher associated with mind-body dualism, not a theory asserting the brain as the sole source of behavior. Aphasia is a language impairment resulting from brain damage, not a theory about where behavior originates.

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://neuropsychology.examzify.com

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