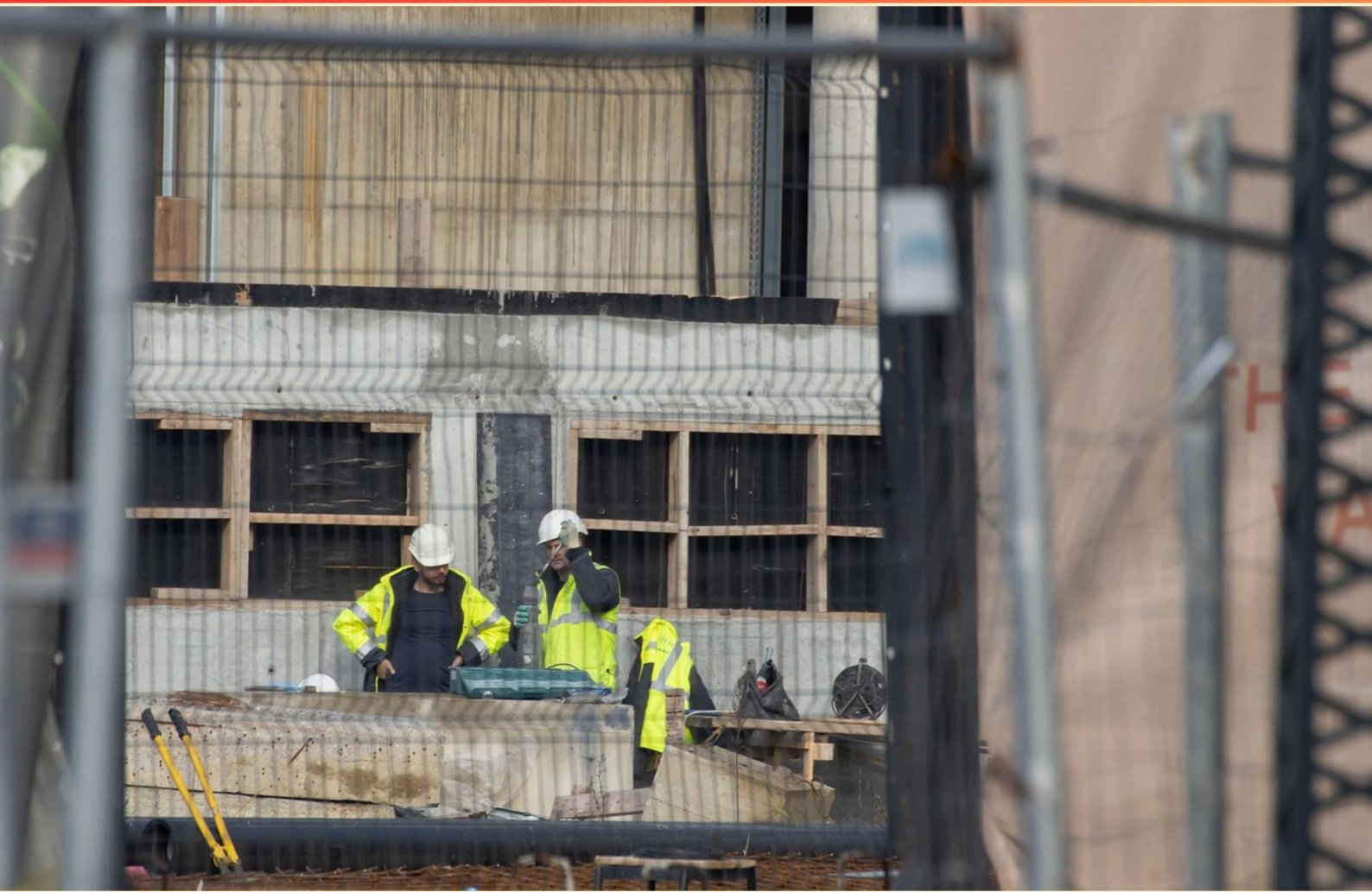


NORTH CAROLINA LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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 of the following is a characteristic of perennial plants?**
 - A. They die after one season
 - B. They can live for multiple years
 - C. They require replanting each spring
 - D. They bloom only in summer
- 2. What term refers to the main stem that forms the axis of a woody plant?**
 - A. Lateral
 - B. Leader
 - C. Branch
 - D. Root
- 3. What is a common reason for using ground cover in landscape design?**
 - A. To enhance lighting
 - B. To maintain temperature
 - C. To prevent soil erosion
 - D. To facilitate pollination
- 4. In horticulture, what term refers to the practice of growing, storing, and processing seeds?**
 - A. Seed collection
 - B. Seed saving
 - C. Seed cultivation
 - D. Seed propagation
- 5. What does the term 'crown' refer to in relation to a tree?**
 - A. The area of groundwater surrounding roots
 - B. The area of the main stem that is just underground
 - C. The total area of the tree's branches, or canopy
 - D. The volume of soil that supports the tree
- 6. What tool is essential for accurately measuring soil moisture?**
 - A. A soil moisture meter
 - B. A garden spade
 - C. A pH meter
 - D. A soil tester

7. How does shade affect plant selection in landscapes?

- A. It encourages the use of low-growing shrubs
- B. It limits the types of plants that can thrive due to reduced sunlight
- C. It allows for more colorful blooms
- D. It has no effect on plant selection

8. Name a method used for controlling landscape weeds.

- A. Fertilizing
- B. Mulching
- C. Irrigating
- D. Pruning

9. What is the process called when a leaf turns yellow due to a deficiency, typically of iron?

- A. Chlorophyll
- B. Chlorosis
- C. Clone
- D. Caliper

10. Which plant characteristic is essential for attracting pollinators?

- A. Brightly colored flowers
- B. Fragrant leaves
- C. Deciduous nature
- D. Resistance to pests

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following is a characteristic of perennial plants?

- A. They die after one season
- B. They can live for multiple years**
- C. They require replanting each spring
- D. They bloom only in summer

Perennial plants are distinguished by their ability to live for multiple years, which is a key characteristic that sets them apart from annual plants, which complete their life cycle in one growing season, and biennial plants, which live for two seasons. Perennials typically go through cycles of growth and dormancy, emerging from the ground each spring and dying back to their roots in the colder months but returning again in subsequent years. This longevity makes them valuable for creating stable landscapes, providing continuous blooms and foliage over time without the need for replanting each season or year. In considering the other choices, annual plants, not perennials, are characterized by dying after one season and requiring replanting each spring. Furthermore, the blooming habits of perennials can vary widely; while some bloom in summer, others may bloom in spring, fall, or at various times throughout the year, making the statement about their blooming period too restrictive. Thus, the defining feature of perennials is indeed their ability to thrive over multiple years.

2. What term refers to the main stem that forms the axis of a woody plant?

- A. Lateral
- B. Leader**
- C. Branch
- D. Root

The term that refers to the main stem that forms the axis of a woody plant is known as the leader. In botanical terminology, the leader is the primary vertical stem of a tree or shrub that is responsible for upward growth. It typically determines the overall shape and form of the plant, often becoming the tallest part as it grows. This central stem serves as the core from which other branches develop, helping to establish the plant's structure and biomass. In contrast, lateral structures refer to branches or segments that grow away from the main axis, while the root is the part of the plant that anchors it to the soil and absorbs nutrients and water. Understanding the role of the leader is crucial for concepts related to plant health, pruning practices, and landscape design, as it significantly influences a plant's growth pattern and aesthetic appeal.

3. What is a common reason for using ground cover in landscape design?

- A. To enhance lighting
- B. To maintain temperature
- C. To prevent soil erosion**
- D. To facilitate pollination

Using ground cover in landscape design is often done to prevent soil erosion. Ground cover plants typically have an extensive root system that helps stabilize the soil. This is particularly useful on slopes or in areas where water runoff is a concern, as the roots help anchor the soil and reduce the likelihood of it washing away during heavy rains or storms. Additionally, ground cover can protect the soil surface from the impact of raindrops, further minimizing erosion. While enhancing lighting, maintaining temperature, and facilitating pollination may have their place in landscape design, they do not directly relate to the primary function of ground cover. Ground covers are primarily utilized for their ability to cover and protect the soil, making them a vital element in erosion control strategies.

4. In horticulture, what term refers to the practice of growing, storing, and processing seeds?

- A. Seed collection**
- B. Seed saving
- C. Seed cultivation
- D. Seed propagation

The term that accurately describes the practice of growing, storing, and processing seeds is seed saving. This practice involves collecting seeds from plants, which may include specific techniques for ensuring the seeds remain viable for future planting, as well as managing the conditions under which seeds are stored to maintain their quality. Seed saving is a vital part of sustainable horticulture, allowing for the preservation of plant varieties and genetic diversity within crops. Seed collection would typically refer to the act of gathering seeds from their plants, but it doesn't encompass the aspects of storing and processing those seeds. Seed cultivation involves the growing of plants from seeds, while seed propagation broadly refers to any method of reproducing plants from seeds or other means, neither of which fully addresses the specific processes of storage and processing involved in seed saving.

5. What does the term 'crown' refer to in relation to a tree?

- A. The area of groundwater surrounding roots
- B. The area of the main stem that is just underground
- C. The total area of the tree's branches, or canopy**
- D. The volume of soil that supports the tree

The term 'crown' in relation to a tree specifically refers to the total area of the tree's branches, or canopy. This is a crucial aspect of tree morphology as the crown is responsible for photosynthesis, providing the tree with the energy it needs to grow and thrive. The crown is also where leaves are located, which play a vital role in the tree's health by converting sunlight into chemical energy through photosynthesis. Furthermore, the crown influences the tree's ability to capture water and nutrients from rain and contributes to the habitat for various organisms, including birds and insects. Understanding the structure and function of the crown helps landscape contractors make informed decisions regarding tree care, including pruning, shaping, and maintenance to ensure optimal growth and health of the tree. The other choices pertain to different aspects of tree anatomy or soil interactions but do not define what the crown actually is within the context of a tree's structure and function.

6. What tool is essential for accurately measuring soil moisture?

- A. A soil moisture meter**
- B. A garden spade
- C. A pH meter
- D. A soil tester

A soil moisture meter is an essential tool for accurately measuring soil moisture levels. This device functions by providing precise readings of the water content in the soil, which is critical for making informed decisions regarding irrigation and plant health. The moisture meter typically uses electrical resistance or capacitance to determine the moisture level, allowing for immediate feedback that can guide watering schedules and practices. In contrast, while other tools like a garden spade, pH meter, or general soil tester have their roles in gardening and landscaping, they serve different purposes. A garden spade is primarily used for digging and moving soil, not measuring moisture content. A pH meter is utilized to assess the acidity or alkalinity of the soil, which is important for understanding nutrient availability but does not provide information about moisture levels. Similarly, a soil tester can provide various analyses, including texture and nutrient content, but may not specifically measure moisture directly. Thus, for the specific need of measuring soil moisture accurately, the soil moisture meter is the tool of choice.

7. How does shade affect plant selection in landscapes?

- A. It encourages the use of low-growing shrubs
- B. It limits the types of plants that can thrive due to reduced sunlight**
- C. It allows for more colorful blooms
- D. It has no effect on plant selection

The selection of plants for landscapes is significantly influenced by the amount of sunlight they receive, and shade can have a profound impact on which plants thrive in a particular area. In shaded areas, sunlight is reduced, which affects the plant's ability to photosynthesize effectively. Most plants require a certain amount of direct sunlight each day to grow properly, produce flowers, and maintain overall health. As a result, the presence of shade limits the types of plants that can flourish. In shaded environments, it's essential to choose shade-tolerant species that are adapted to lower light conditions. These plants have specific growth patterns and physiological traits that allow them to survive and thrive without abundant sunlight. Examples include ferns, certain types of hostas, and shade-loving perennials. Therefore, when planning a landscape in shaded areas, the limitation imposed by reduced sunlight must be carefully considered to ensure the selected plants can thrive successfully.

8. Name a method used for controlling landscape weeds.

- A. Fertilizing
- B. Mulching**
- C. Irrigating
- D. Pruning

Mulching is an effective method for controlling landscape weeds because it helps suppress their growth by blocking sunlight, which is necessary for seeds to germinate. When organic or inorganic materials are spread over the soil surface, they create a barrier that limits the exposure of weeds to sunlight, thereby reducing their ability to photosynthesize and grow. Additionally, mulch can retain soil moisture, regulate soil temperature, and improve the overall appearance of the landscape. This technique not only helps manage weed populations but also contributes to the health of desirable plants by creating a more stable growing environment. On the other hand, fertilizing primarily supports plant growth and vigor rather than directly addressing weed control. Irrigating provides water essential for plant health, but without addressing weeds specifically, it can sometimes exacerbate the problem by promoting the growth of both desirable plants and weeds. Pruning is focused on maintaining plant shape and health and does not have a direct impact on weed management. Thus, mulching stands out as a targeted approach to effectively control landscape weeds.

9. What is the process called when a leaf turns yellow due to a deficiency, typically of iron?

- A. Chlorophyll
- B. Chlorosis**
- C. Clone
- D. Caliper

The process of a leaf turning yellow due to a deficiency, especially of iron, is known as chlorosis. This term specifically refers to the yellowing of plant tissues, which occurs when there is insufficient chlorophyll production. Chlorophyll is essential for the green coloration of leaves and is crucial for photosynthesis. In cases where iron is deficient, the plant is unable to synthesize chlorophyll effectively, leading to the characteristic yellowing. Chlorosis can occur in various parts of a plant but is most commonly observed in young leaves, which may exhibit yellow veins while the leaf blades remain green. This is typically due to iron being more mobile within the plant, and younger leaves being the first to show signs of deficiency. The other terms listed do not pertain to this specific process. For instance, "clone" relates to a form of asexual reproduction in plants, while "caliper" is a measurement term used in horticulture to describe the diameter of a tree trunk at a specific height. Understanding the significance of chlorosis can help in diagnosing plant health issues and determining appropriate fertilization methods to rectify nutrient deficiencies.

10. Which plant characteristic is essential for attracting pollinators?

- A. Brightly colored flowers**
- B. Fragrant leaves
- C. Deciduous nature
- D. Resistance to pests

Brightly colored flowers are essential for attracting pollinators because they serve as visual cues that help pollinators identify which plants offer nectar and pollen, resources that are crucial for their survival. Many pollinators, such as bees and butterflies, are drawn to vibrant colors, which signal the presence of food. These colors can vary significantly among different species, but shades of blue, purple, and yellow tend to be particularly appealing to a wide range of pollinators. While fragrant leaves can also attract certain pollinators, it is primarily the visual attractants that play a crucial role in drawing them in. Deciduous nature and resistance to pests are not directly related to the mechanisms of pollinator attraction; they pertain more to plant survival and health rather than the specific traits that entice pollinators to a flower.

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://nclandscapecontractors.examzify.com>

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

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