

NURSING RESEARCH 1 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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 type of validity assesses whether the independent variable really made the change in the dependent variable?**
 - A. Internal validity
 - B. External validity
 - C. Construct validity
 - D. Content validity

- 2. What is an important aspect of conducting literature reviews in qualitative research?**
 - A. Focusing solely on quantitative results
 - B. Inclusion of personal opinions
 - C. Using a mix of primary and secondary sources
 - D. Prioritizing recent findings over existing theories

- 3. Which of the following terms refers to the degree of association between measurement error and true score?**
 - A. Reliability coefficient
 - B. Construct validity
 - C. Concurrent validity
 - D. Test-retest reliability

- 4. What is the main purpose of a meta-analysis in research?**
 - A. To summarize qualitative findings
 - B. To provide a focused synthesis using statistical methodology
 - C. To describe phenomena without testing hypotheses
 - D. To analyze single case studies

- 5. What does the human right to anonymity entail regarding participant information in research?**
 - A. The information must be published publicly.
 - B. Identities of subjects should remain linked to their provided information.
 - C. Individual identities of subjects will not be disclosed or linked to their information.
 - D. All information must be submitted for peer review.

- 6. What concept is illustrated by a researcher providing sufficient detail in a qualitative research report for evaluating data relevance?**
- A. Fittingness
 - B. Reliability
 - C. Generalizability
 - D. Validity
- 7. In a study involving pain medication, what might cause both the experimental and control groups to feel a reduction in pain?**
- A. Maturation
 - B. Reactivity
 - C. Instrumentation
 - D. Selection effects
- 8. Which of the following describes a qualitative study's focus?**
- A. Testing effect of treatment
 - B. Examining patient experiences and perceptions
 - C. Comparing treatment outcomes quantitatively
 - D. Establishing clinical guidelines
- 9. Which method is NOT a means of controlling extraneous variables?**
- A. Randomly selecting subjects
 - B. Using a homogeneous sample
 - C. Manipulating the independent variable
 - D. Conducting interviews with participants
- 10. Which level is characteristic of the strength of the evidence provided by the results of a quasi-experimental study?**
- A. Level I
 - B. Level II
 - C. Level III
 - D. Level IV

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which type of validity assesses whether the independent variable really made the change in the dependent variable?

- A. Internal validity**
- B. External validity
- C. Construct validity
- D. Content validity

Internal validity is crucial in research as it determines whether the observed effect in the dependent variable can be confidently attributed to the manipulation of the independent variable. This type of validity focuses on establishing a cause-and-effect relationship within the study. When researchers ensure that their study controls for confounding variables and biases, they strengthen internal validity. A high internal validity means that the results are more likely to reflect a true relationship, rather than being influenced by outside factors. This is particularly important in experimental research where the goal is to determine the impact of an intervention or treatment. In contrast, external validity refers to the generalizability of the study findings beyond the specific context in which the research was conducted. Construct validity involves whether the tools used in a study accurately measure the theoretical constructs they are intended to measure. Content validity evaluates how well a test or tool covers the representative domain of the construct it aims to measure. While all these types of validity are important in their rights, internal validity specifically addresses the issue of causation between variables in a controlled environment.

2. What is an important aspect of conducting literature reviews in qualitative research?

- A. Focusing solely on quantitative results
- B. Inclusion of personal opinions
- C. Using a mix of primary and secondary sources**
- D. Prioritizing recent findings over existing theories

Using a mix of primary and secondary sources is vital in conducting literature reviews in qualitative research because it allows researchers to capture a comprehensive understanding of the topic under investigation. Primary sources, which include original research articles, interviews, and firsthand accounts, provide direct insights into the phenomena being studied. Secondary sources, such as reviews, meta-analyses, and theoretical papers, offer broader context, synthesize existing knowledge, and can highlight gaps in the literature. This integrative approach not only enriches the qualitative analysis but also ensures that the research is grounded in both current findings and established theories. By balancing both types of sources, researchers can critically evaluate past research, identify trends, and build upon previous work while being aware of different perspectives and methodologies within the field. This enhances the rigor and depth of the literature review, which is crucial for qualitative research that often seeks to explore complex social phenomena. In contrast, focusing solely on quantitative results limits the scope, as qualitative research aims to understand experiences and meanings that cannot be adequately captured through numbers alone. Inclusion of personal opinions may introduce bias and does not constitute rigorous academic research. Prioritizing recent findings over existing theories could lead to the neglect of foundational concepts that are essential for understanding the broader context in which new findings are

3. Which of the following terms refers to the degree of association between measurement error and true score?

- A. Reliability coefficient**
- B. Construct validity
- C. Concurrent validity
- D. Test-retest reliability

The term that describes the degree of association between measurement error and the true score is the reliability coefficient. The reliability coefficient quantifies how much a measurement is free from random error, which is crucial in determining the consistency and stability of a measurement tool over time or across different conditions. A higher reliability coefficient indicates a stronger association between the true score and the measured score, meaning that the measurement is reliable and can accurately reflect the true characteristic being measured. In contrast, construct validity refers to how well a test measures the theoretical construct it is intended to measure, rather than focusing on the association between measurement error and true score. Concurrent validity assesses how well a new measure correlates with a well-established measure at the same time, while test-retest reliability pertains specifically to the consistency of results when the same test is administered to the same subjects at different times. These concepts are related to validity and consistency of measures, but they do not directly address the association between measurement error and true scores as the reliability coefficient does.

4. What is the main purpose of a meta-analysis in research?

- A. To summarize qualitative findings
- B. To provide a focused synthesis using statistical methodology**
- C. To describe phenomena without testing hypotheses
- D. To analyze single case studies

The main purpose of a meta-analysis is to provide a focused synthesis of research findings using statistical methodologies. This involves aggregating results from multiple studies that address a common research question or hypothesis. By doing so, meta-analysis allows researchers to draw more reliable and generalized conclusions than would be possible from individual studies alone. In a meta-analysis, the quantitative data from the studies are combined and analyzed statistically to identify patterns, effects, or relationships. This process increases the overall power of the findings, allowing for greater confidence in the conclusions drawn. It also helps in identifying inconsistencies between studies and can highlight areas where further research may be needed. This contrasts with the other choices, which do not align with the primary goal of a meta-analysis. Summarizing qualitative findings refers to synthesizing non-numeric data, while describing phenomena without testing hypotheses focuses on observational studies. Analyzing single case studies lacks the broader synthesis that is characteristic of meta-analysis, which typically involves a larger number of studies to draw comprehensive insights.

5. What does the human right to anonymity entail regarding participant information in research?

- A. The information must be published publicly.
- B. Identities of subjects should remain linked to their provided information.
- C. Individual identities of subjects will not be disclosed or linked to their information.**
- D. All information must be submitted for peer review.

The human right to anonymity in research emphasizes the protection of individual identities, ensuring that participants' information cannot be traced back to them. This principle is essential for ethical research practices, as it fosters trust between researchers and participants. By guaranteeing that the individual identities of subjects will not be disclosed or linked to their provided information, researchers can encourage participation without fear of potential repercussions or breaches of privacy. This protection is crucial, particularly in sensitive research areas where the sharing of personal information could lead to stigma or harm. Preserving anonymity is important for maintaining the integrity of the research process, as it allows subjects to express themselves freely, knowing that their responses will remain confidential. In contrast, options depicting the publication of information or retaining links between identities and information would contravene the principle of anonymity, putting participants at risk. Similarly, requiring all information to undergo peer review does not directly relate to the right to anonymity in the context of participant information, as peer review pertains to the evaluation of research quality rather than the confidentiality of participant identities.

6. What concept is illustrated by a researcher providing sufficient detail in a qualitative research report for evaluating data relevance?

- A. Fittingness**
- B. Reliability
- C. Generalizability
- D. Validity

The concept illustrated by a researcher providing sufficient detail in a qualitative research report for evaluating data relevance is fittingness. Fittingness refers to the degree to which the findings of a qualitative study are applicable or appropriate in a different context or to another population. When researchers present detailed descriptions of their research context, methodology, and data, it allows readers and other researchers to assess how well the findings might fit into different situations or settings. By ensuring that there is enough contextual information, those evaluating the research can determine whether the findings are relevant to their specific circumstances, thereby facilitating the application of the information in practice. This aspect of qualitative research is crucial, as it emphasizes the importance of contextual understanding in interpreting results. In contrast, concepts like reliability, generalizability, and validity focus on different aspects of research integrity and applicability.

7. In a study involving pain medication, what might cause both the experimental and control groups to feel a reduction in pain?

- A. Maturation
- B. Reactivity**
- C. Instrumentation
- D. Selection effects

Reactivity refers to the phenomenon where participants alter their behavior or feelings simply because they know they are part of a study or are being observed. In the context of a study involving pain medication, both the experimental and control groups may experience a reduction in pain due to a psychological effect, often called the placebo effect. This effect is a powerful response where individuals report feeling better even when they are not receiving the active treatment, because they believe they are part of a study aimed at reducing their pain. This can occur because participants might have heightened expectations about the effectiveness of pain management interventions, leading to improved perceived outcomes. The awareness of being studied and the anticipation of relief can trigger actual physiological responses that contribute to pain reduction, affecting both groups similarly regardless of whether they received the active medication or a placebo. Understanding reactivity is crucial in research, as it underscores the importance of accounting for psychological factors that can influence study outcomes, making it an essential consideration in experimental design and analysis.

8. Which of the following describes a qualitative study's focus?

- A. Testing effect of treatment
- B. Examining patient experiences and perceptions**
- C. Comparing treatment outcomes quantitatively
- D. Establishing clinical guidelines

A qualitative study primarily seeks to understand and interpret human experiences, emotions, perceptions, and social phenomena. By examining patient experiences and perceptions, qualitative research delves into the subjective aspects of health care, exploring how individuals feel about their illness, treatment, and interactions with health care providers. This approach is valuable for gaining insights into the complexities of patient experiences, which can inform more personalized and effective care. In contrast, the other options focus on more quantitative aspects. Testing the effect of treatment emphasizes outcomes measured numerically, while comparing treatment outcomes quantitatively involves statistical analysis to assess differences. Establishing clinical guidelines typically requires a synthesis of various research types, including quantitative data, making them less aligned with the qualitative emphasis on subjective understanding. Thus, the focus on examining patient experiences and perceptions distinctly represents the core objective of qualitative research.

9. Which method is NOT a means of controlling extraneous variables?

- A. Randomly selecting subjects
- B. Using a homogeneous sample
- C. Manipulating the independent variable
- D. Conducting interviews with participants**

The option that is not a means of controlling extraneous variables is conducting interviews with participants. This method does not directly influence the study's variables or their relationships, and therefore, it does not serve to control for extraneous factors that could affect the outcomes of the research. Interviews are typically used for gathering qualitative data or insights into participants' experiences, rather than controlling variables within an experimental design. In contrast, randomly selecting subjects helps to distribute extraneous variables evenly across all groups, minimizing their potential impact on the results. Using a homogeneous sample restricts the diversity of subjects to those with similar characteristics, thereby reducing variability that could confound the results. Manipulating the independent variable is fundamental in experimental research, as it seeks to establish causality between the independent and dependent variables while controlling for external influences. Each of these methods directly addresses the management of variables within the study, unlike conducting interviews, which focuses on data collection rather than variable control.

10. Which level is characteristic of the strength of the evidence provided by the results of a quasi-experimental study?

- A. Level I
- B. Level II
- C. Level III**
- D. Level IV

The strength of the evidence provided by the results of a quasi-experimental study is characterized as Level III. This classification is based on the design and methodological rigor of the study. Quasi-experimental studies involve interventions that do not use random assignment of participants to control or treatment groups, which limits their ability to control for confounding variables. Level III evidence typically includes non-randomized controlled trials and cohort or case-control studies that may provide some insights but still fall short of the more robust design offered by randomized controlled trials classified as Level I. Consequently, while quasi-experimental studies can yield valuable findings and contribute to the body of evidence, they are considered less robust than higher-level studies due to their design limitations. This understanding is pivotal in nursing research as it helps in evaluating the reliability and applicability of the findings in clinical practice.

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://nursingresearch1.examzify.com>

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

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