

NYU Dental Interview 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 action did the group leader take when a member was not contributing?**
 - A. Exclude from project**
 - B. Meet privately with him to address the issue**
 - C. Publicly criticize**
 - D. Ignore the issue**

- 2. Which method is listed as a way to handle stress?**
 - A. Meditation, Yoga, Exercise**
 - B. Procrastination**
 - C. Avoid planning**
 - D. Ignore tasks**

- 3. Which strategy was mentioned as helping overcome it?**
 - A. Open channel of communication with parents or all parties involved**
 - B. Ignoring the issue and continuing without changes**
 - C. Procrastinating until deadlines**
 - D. Dropping courses to reduce workload**

- 4. Which statement best reflects the speaker's determination about their future in dentistry?**
 - A. I might not work in dentistry**
 - B. I'm going to work hard, be a leader in the dental field, and achieve all the things I want to achieve**
 - C. I plan to avoid leadership roles**
 - D. I will change majors**

- 5. Which specialty is primarily concerned with gum health and supporting structures?**
 - A. Endodontics**
 - B. Periodontics**
 - C. Prosthodontics**
 - D. Oral Medicine**

- 6. How long may a patient be without teeth during the dentures process?**
- A. One week**
 - B. Up to three months**
 - C. Six months**
 - D. One year**
- 7. Which statement about handling assignments is highlighted?**
- A. I always delegate tasks early**
 - B. I avoid taking on multiple projects**
 - C. I often spend more time than necessary on a task or take on tasks personally**
 - D. I never miss a deadline**
- 8. Which approach is described to combat antibiotic resistance?**
- A. Using higher antibiotic doses**
 - B. Relying on vaccines**
 - C. Bacteriophage with CRISPR-Cas system inserted into phages to target antibiotic resistance genes**
 - D. Traditional yeast-based therapy**
- 9. Outreach experiences are described as providing learning opportunities and exposure to what?**
- A. Exposure to different specialties**
 - B. Increased tuition costs**
 - C. Reduced faculty interaction**
 - D. Fewer clinical hours**
- 10. Which tool is commonly used for carving amalgam restorations?**
- A. Diamond carver**
 - B. Hollenback carver**
 - C. Parallelogram carver**
 - D. Ball burnisher**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What action did the group leader take when a member was not contributing?

- A. Exclude from project**
- B. Meet privately with him to address the issue**
- C. Publicly criticize**
- D. Ignore the issue**

When a group member isn't contributing, the best approach is to address it directly but privately. A private meeting lets the leader discuss specific concerns, hear the member's perspective, and set clear expectations and steps for improvement without putting them on the defensive. This preserves trust, makes accountability possible, and helps the group stay cohesive while working toward a better outcome. Excluding the member from the project is punitive and unfair without attempting to resolve the issue; publicly criticizing damages morale and trust; and ignoring it lets the problem persist and harms the team's progress.

2. Which method is listed as a way to handle stress?

- A. Meditation, Yoga, Exercise**
- B. Procrastination**
- C. Avoid planning**
- D. Ignore tasks**

Engaging in practices that calm the mind and regulate the body is a reliable way to handle stress. Meditation helps quiet racing thoughts and lowers the body's stress response, aiding emotional regulation. Yoga combines mindful breathing with gentle movement, reducing tension and improving awareness of stress signals. Regular exercise releases endorphins, lowers stress hormones like cortisol, and improves mood and sleep. Together, these strategies address both the mental and physical aspects of stress, building resilience over time. Procrastination tends to increase stress as deadlines loom, avoiding planning removes a sense of control and predictability, and ignoring tasks leads to a growing load of work and greater anxiety. Those approaches don't alleviate stress; they often amplify it.

3. Which strategy was mentioned as helping overcome it?

- A. Open channel of communication with parents or all parties involved**
- B. Ignoring the issue and continuing without changes**
- C. Procrastinating until deadlines**
- D. Dropping courses to reduce workload**

Open communication with parents and all parties involved is the most effective way to overcome the challenge because it brings everyone into the loop, aligns goals, and coordinates support. When you invite input from caregivers, patients, and the care team, you uncover concerns early, clarify expectations, and agree on a realistic plan. This reduces miscommunication, increases buy-in, and helps identify and address barriers before they derail treatment or progress. It also demonstrates collaborative, patient-centered care, which is essential in dentistry where successful outcomes depend on coordinated efforts. Other strategies don't address the root issue: ignoring the problem lets it fester and worsen; procrastinating delays necessary action and can create unnecessary stress; dropping courses reduces workload but doesn't resolve the underlying challenge and can harm progress and accountability.

4. Which statement best reflects the speaker's determination about their future in dentistry?

A. I might not work in dentistry

B. I'm going to work hard, be a leader in the dental field, and achieve all the things I want to achieve

C. I plan to avoid leadership roles

D. I will change majors

The core idea being tested is a student's determination and commitment to a dental career. The strongest statement shows a clear, proactive plan: you will work hard, take on leadership in the dental field, and pursue your goals with purpose. That kind of resolve signals to interviewers that you're serious about dentistry and ready to invest the effort needed to succeed, including stepping into leadership roles that shape the profession. The other options hint at doubt or a change of direction—saying you might not work in dentistry, planning to avoid leadership, or intending to switch majors—so they don't reflect the determined, goal-focused mindset that this question seeks.

5. Which specialty is primarily concerned with gum health and supporting structures?

A. Endodontics

B. Periodontics

C. Prosthodontics

D. Oral Medicine

Periodontics is the field that concentrates on the gums and the supporting tissues around teeth. This includes the gingiva, cementum, periodontal ligament, and alveolar bone. Professionals in periodontics diagnose and treat conditions that affect these structures, such as gingivitis and periodontitis, and perform procedures to maintain or restore the health of the periodontium (like scaling and root planing, flap surgery, grafts, and other periodontal therapies). Endodontics focuses on tooth pulp and root canal therapy, prosthodontics handles restorations and replacements of teeth (crowns, bridges, dentures, implants with a focus on the prosthetic aspect), and oral medicine deals with diseases affecting the oral cavity and systemic connections. Because gum health and the supporting structures are the primary concern, periodontics is the specialty described.

6. How long may a patient be without teeth during the dentures process?

- A. One week
- B. Up to three months**
- C. Six months
- D. One year

During denture fabrication there is a window when the patient may be without natural teeth while the new dentures are being made. That whole process—taking impressions, making casts, recording jaw relations, designing the trial denture, processing the final denture, and any needed adjustments—often spans several weeks and can extend to a few months. A practical upper limit used in practice is about three months, because clinicians can provide interim or temporary dentures to maintain appearance, speech, and chewing function and to protect the oral tissues. If the timeline is expected to exceed that, alternative temporization options are considered to minimize the period without teeth. Shorter timeframes like one week are generally not enough for a full denture workflow, and much longer periods (six months or a year) would risk tissue changes and functional problems.

7. Which statement about handling assignments is highlighted?

- A. I always delegate tasks early
- B. I avoid taking on multiple projects
- C. I often spend more time than necessary on a task or take on tasks personally**
- D. I never miss a deadline

The main idea here is recognizing a pattern that hurts productive work: spending more time than needed on a single task or taking tasks personally. This highlights a tendency to over-invest in one assignment and to shoulder all the responsibility yourself, rather than using efficient processes or team support. In practice, this can slow things down, reduce overall output, and make you less able to handle multiple responsibilities, which is not ideal in a fast-paced dental setting where timely, collaborative work matters. While delegating tasks early can improve efficiency, avoiding taking on many projects helps prevent overload, and aiming to never miss a deadline shows reliability, the statement in focus points to the common pitfall of overdoing tasks and taking things personally instead of using smart time management and teamwork.

8. Which approach is described to combat antibiotic resistance?

- A. Using higher antibiotic doses**
- B. Relying on vaccines**
- C. Bacteriophage with CRISPR-Cas system inserted into phages to target antibiotic resistance genes**
- D. Traditional yeast-based therapy**

Targeted, programmable phage therapy using CRISPR-Cas to disable antibiotic resistance genes is being studied as a way to tackle resistance. The idea is to use bacteriophages as delivery vehicles to bring a CRISPR-Cas system into specific bacteria. The CRISPR component is programmed to recognize particular resistance genes, so when the phage infects a bacterium, it cuts those genes. This can either kill the resistant bacterium or, more often, remove the resistance traits and allow the bacterium to be treated effectively with the right antibiotic again. This approach is advantageous because it targets only the resistant bacteria and their resistance determinants, potentially sparing beneficial microbes and adapting to different resistance mechanisms as they emerge. Yet challenges remain, such as the limited range of bacteria a given phage can infect, the possibility of bacteria evolving resistance to the phage, and the complexities of delivering this therapy safely in humans. Other options, like simply giving higher antibiotic doses, can worsen resistance and toxicity; vaccines help prevent infections and reduce antibiotic use; and traditional yeast-based therapies are not established strategies for countering antibiotic resistance.

9. Outreach experiences are described as providing learning opportunities and exposure to what?

- A. Exposure to different specialties**
- B. Increased tuition costs**
- C. Reduced faculty interaction**
- D. Fewer clinical hours**

Outreach experiences broaden learning by giving you hands-on exposure to different specialties and how they approach patient care in real settings. You'll see a range of practice areas—restorative, pediatric, orthodontics, periodontics, public health, and more—and observe how each specialty diagnoses, plans treatment, and works with patients and other professionals. This kind of exposure helps you understand the distinct skills, approaches, and considerations of each field, which is invaluable for making informed choices about your own career path and for developing a more holistic view of dental care in the community. Options that focus on tuition costs, reduced faculty interaction, or fewer clinical hours don't align with what outreach is meant to provide. The purpose is to expand hands-on experience and professional insight, not to limit learning or increase costs.

10. Which tool is commonly used for carving amalgam restorations?

- A. Diamond carver**
- B. Hollenback carver**
- C. Parallelogram carver**
- D. Ball burnisher**

Carving amalgam restorations benefits from a tool that can sculpt both the occlusal anatomy and the proximal walls with precision. The Hollenback carver is designed with blades on opposite sides, so you can shape and refine internal features and contact areas from multiple directions in a single pass. This dual-blade setup makes it especially effective for contouring proximal surfaces and defining crisp margins without gouging adjacent tooth structure. It provides control over where material is removed, helping achieve accurate anatomy and proper contacts. A ball burnisher, by contrast, is used mainly to smooth and burnish the surface after carving, not for shaping the anatomy. A diamond carver relies on abrasive cutting and is not the typical instrument for the standard carving and contouring of amalgam. A parallelogram carver is less commonly used for this specific purpose and doesn't offer the same dual-direction carving capability. So, the instrument that best fits the task of carving amalgam restorations is the Hollenback carver.

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://nyudentalinterview.examzify.com>

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

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