

Occupational English Test (OET) Reading Practice Exam (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 does 'to hinder' refer to in the context of progress?**
 - A. To promote success**
 - B. To create obstacles**
 - C. To provide support**
 - D. To ensure completion**

- 2. Which of the following best captures the meaning of feeling 'gutted'?**
 - A. Excited**
 - B. Disappointed**
 - C. Energized**
 - D. Fulfilled**

- 3. What surgical procedure involves the removal of the adenoids?**
 - A. Adenoidectomy**
 - B. Tonsillectomy**
 - C. Appendectomy**
 - D. Cholecystectomy**

- 4. What is characterized by excessive sleepiness, often a symptom of fatigue?**
 - A. Drowsiness**
 - B. Naps**
 - C. Somnolence**
 - D. Fatigue**

- 5. What is defined as the crime of killing a human being without malice aforethought?**
 - A. Manslaughter**
 - B. Homicide**
 - C. Assault**
 - D. Negligence**

6. Which word best describes something of utmost importance?

- A. Hypercapnia**
- B. Refactory**
- C. Paramount**
- D. Novel**

7. Which phrase could effectively start an additional consideration in an argument?

- A. On the contrary**
- B. Furthermore**
- C. Specifically**
- D. Consequently**

8. Which medical professional would you consult for issues related to foot care?

- A. Orthopedic Surgeon**
- B. Dermatologist**
- C. Podiatrist**
- D. Cardiologist**

9. What is the function of counseling psychology?

- A. To treat physical diseases**
- B. To help with personal problems and well-being**
- C. To conduct research on animal behaviors**
- D. To manage financial issues**

10. In what context would you most often hear about someone being "drafted"?

- A. In a sports or military selection**
- B. In a medical diagnosis**
- C. Regarding mental health assessment**
- D. In casual conversation**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does 'to hinder' refer to in the context of progress?

- A. To promote success**
- B. To create obstacles**
- C. To provide support**
- D. To ensure completion**

In the context of progress, "to hinder" means to create obstacles or impede advancement toward a goal. This term implies that there are barriers or challenges that can slow down or completely stop the forward movement of initiatives, projects, or personal goals. When something hinders progress, it prevents effective movement or development, which can be detrimental in various contexts, such as healthcare, education, and business. For example, in a healthcare setting, certain factors like lack of resources or support can hinder a patient's recovery process, meaning that these factors act as roadblocks to their progress towards better health. Understanding this term is essential, as recognizing what hinders progress can help identify solutions to remove those obstacles and pave the way for success.

2. Which of the following best captures the meaning of feeling 'gutted'?

- A. Excited**
- B. Disappointed**
- C. Energized**
- D. Fulfilled**

Feeling 'gutted' is an informal expression that conveys a sense of deep disappointment or emotional devastation. The term often describes the feeling of being utterly disheartened by an event or situation that has not gone as hoped or expected. It captures a profound sense of loss, typically in reaction to negative news or outcomes that leave someone feeling empty or adversely affected. In contrast, the other options suggest positive or neutral emotions. Feeling excited is the opposite of disappointment, as it implies enthusiasm and joy. Being energized also denotes a sense of vitality or alertness, not the letdown associated with being gutted. Lastly, feeling fulfilled refers to a sense of satisfaction and completion, again contrasting sharply with the disappointment that comes with feeling gutted. Thus, disappointment is the term that closely aligns with the emotional weight carried by the expression.

3. What surgical procedure involves the removal of the adenoids?

- A. Adenoidectomy**
- B. Tonsillectomy**
- C. Appendectomy**
- D. Cholecystectomy**

The surgical procedure that involves the removal of the adenoids is indeed adenoidectomy. This procedure specifically targets the adenoid tissue, which is located at the back of the nasal cavity and can become enlarged, leading to breathing difficulties, recurrent infections, and other health issues in children. Adenoidectomy is often performed in pediatric patients who experience chronic nasal congestion, obstructive sleep apnea, or frequent ear infections connected to adenoid hypertrophy. The primary goal is to alleviate these symptoms and improve the quality of life for the patient. The other procedures mentioned focus on different anatomical regions and organs.

Tonsillectomy involves the removal of the tonsils, which are lymphoid tissues located in the throat but distinct from the adenoids. Appendectomy is the surgical removal of the appendix, and cholecystectomy refers to the removal of the gallbladder. Each of these procedures addresses different medical conditions and does not involve the adenoids directly. Thus, the emphasis on removing the adenoids makes adenoidectomy the correct answer to the question.

4. What is characterized by excessive sleepiness, often a symptom of fatigue?

- A. Drowsiness**
- B. Naps**
- C. Somnolence**
- D. Fatigue**

The choice of drowsiness as the correct answer is valid because it directly refers to a state of being sleepy or in a condition of reduced alertness, which aligns with excessive sleepiness often linked to fatigue. Drowsiness can manifest as a tendency to fall asleep in situations that would typically require attention, making it a prominent characteristic associated with fatigue. In contrast, the other options present different concepts. Naps refer to short periods of sleep, usually taken during the day, and while they can be related to overall sleep patterns, they do not directly characterize a symptom.

Somnolence, while it also describes a state of sleepiness, is often used in a more clinical or medical context rather than as a general term. Fatigue, on the other hand, describes an overall state of tiredness and lack of energy, which can lead to drowsiness, but does not itself denote excessive sleepiness directly. By focusing on drowsiness, the answer connects closely with the symptom being described.

5. What is defined as the crime of killing a human being without malice aforethought?

A. Manslaughter

B. Homicide

C. Assault

D. Negligence

The crime of killing a human being without malice aforethought is defined as manslaughter. This distinguishes manslaughter from other forms of homicide, which typically involve an intent or malice towards the victim. Manslaughter is often considered a lesser charge because it can happen in situations where the perpetrator may have acted in the heat of passion or under circumstances that do not involve premeditation or intent to kill. Homicide is a broader term that encompasses all instances of one human killing another, including both lawful and unlawful acts, so it does not specifically define the lack of malice aforethought. Assault refers to the act of inflicting physical harm or threatening someone, which is different from killing. Negligence involves failure to take reasonable care to avoid causing injury or loss to another party, but it is not specifically a type of killing. Therefore, manslaughter accurately captures the essence of the crime described in the question.

6. Which word best describes something of utmost importance?

A. Hypercapnia

B. Refactory

C. Paramount

D. Novel

The term that best signifies something of utmost importance is "paramount." This word conveys the idea that an item, issue, or principle takes precedence over all others, and it underscores its significance in a particular context. It indicates that this aspect should be prioritized or regarded as the most critical compared to other elements involved. In contrast, "hypercapnia" refers to an excess of carbon dioxide in the bloodstream, making it irrelevant in discussions of importance. "Refractory" is often used to describe a material that is resistant to heat or a person who is unmanageable, neither of which conveys the idea of significance. "Novel" means new or original, which does not inherently suggest a level of importance but rather focuses on innovation or freshness. This distinction highlights why "paramount" is the term that aptly describes something that holds the highest importance.

7. Which phrase could effectively start an additional consideration in an argument?

- A. On the contrary**
- B. Furthermore**
- C. Specifically**
- D. Consequently**

The phrase "Furthermore" is an effective way to start an additional consideration in an argument because it indicates that the speaker or writer is about to present more information that builds on or adds to the previous points made. It serves to introduce extra details or arguments that reinforce the main idea, showing continuity in the discussion and enhancing the overall strength of the argument. In contrast, other choices can suggest different relationships between statements. "On the contrary" typically introduces a point that opposes what was previously stated, which may distract from adding further supportive arguments. "Specifically" often narrows down to a detail or example, which doesn't inherently provide additional support or argumentation but rather elaborates on a point. "Consequently" suggests a cause-and-effect relationship, indicating a result derived from earlier statements, rather than introducing further ideas into the discussion. Therefore, "Furthermore" aptly aligns with the context of expanding upon an argument.

8. Which medical professional would you consult for issues related to foot care?

- A. Orthopedic Surgeon**
- B. Dermatologist**
- C. Podiatrist**
- D. Cardiologist**

Podiatrists are specialized medical professionals focused on the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of foot and ankle disorders. They have extensive training in both the anatomy of the foot and the various medical conditions that can affect foot health, such as diabetes-related complications, sports injuries, and structural abnormalities. While other specialists like orthopedic surgeons may handle foot conditions relating to bones and joints, their focus is broader and not exclusively on foot care. Dermatologists are experts in skin conditions, which may include issues affecting the skin of the feet, but they do not typically address the full range of foot-related problems. Cardiologists specialize in heart conditions and cardiovascular health, which may indirectly affect foot care but are not focused on the feet specifically. Thus, consulting a podiatrist is the most appropriate choice for any issues specifically related to foot care.

9. What is the function of counseling psychology?

- A. To treat physical diseases
- B. To help with personal problems and well-being**
- C. To conduct research on animal behaviors
- D. To manage financial issues

The function of counseling psychology primarily focuses on helping individuals navigate personal problems and enhance their overall well-being. This branch of psychology is designed to address a variety of issues, such as emotional difficulties, relationship problems, and life transitions, through a supportive and therapeutic relationship. Counseling psychologists employ various techniques to facilitate personal growth and provide strategies for dealing with life's challenges, promoting mental health and resilience. The emphasis on improving personal well-being highlights the role of counseling psychologists in providing guidance and support rather than treating physical ailments, conducting animal behavior research, or managing finances, which are functions associated with other professional domains.

10. In what context would you most often hear about someone being "drafted"?

- A. In a sports or military selection**
- B. In a medical diagnosis
- C. Regarding mental health assessment
- D. In casual conversation

The term "drafted" is predominantly used in the context of sports or military selection. In sports, it refers to the process by which teams select eligible players to join their ranks, often during events like college or amateur drafts where new talent is considered. In the military context, being drafted typically indicates that an individual has been selected for mandatory service during a time of war or national emergency, often through a lottery or selective service system. These contexts revolve around formal selection processes that involve criteria and regulations. Other contexts, such as medical diagnosis, mental health assessment, or casual conversation, do not commonly use the term "drafted" in a meaningful way. Conversations around medical diagnoses typically involve terminology pertaining to symptoms, conditions, or treatment plans, while mental health assessments focus on evaluations and therapeutic discussions. In casual conversation, while people may use the term informally, it does not carry any specific meaning like it does in sports or military contexts. Thus, the correct choice highlights the most relevant and commonly understood applications of the term.

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://oetreading.examzify.com>

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

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