

ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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. Why was McMurphy transferred to the ward?

- A. Because he was sick.
- B. To be closer to family in town.
- C. To join a different ward.
- D. He said he requested to be transferred to the hospital to escape the drudgery of the Pendleton Work Farm, and that life seemed easier at the ward.

2. During group meetings, the patients begin to voice criticisms about what?

- A. Ward rules
- B. Their food
- C. The weather
- D. Their families

3. When McMurphy steps out of the shower, what is he wearing underneath his towel?

- A. A plain white T-shirt.
- B. A black pair of boxer shorts with white whales on them.
- C. Red plaid boxers.
- D. No underwear.

4. Why doesn't Sefelt take his medication?

- A. It rots his gums and makes his teeth fall out.
- B. It makes him drowsy during the day.
- C. It upsets his stomach.
- D. It tastes bitter.

5. Who is the 'Big Nurse'?

- A. Chief Bromden
- B. Randle McMurphy
- C. Nurse Ratched
- D. Dale Harding

6. What is the outcome of the vote?

- A. Nurse Ratched declares the proposal defeated, and the vote is closed.
- B. The proposal passes after Bromden's vote.
- C. The vote is inconclusive and postponed.
- D. The vote is declared invalid due to procedure.

7. In the group meeting, what motive does Ratched attribute to McMurphy?

- A. He is a con artist befriended them for money
- B. He is a martyr seeking their respect
- C. He is an undercover agent
- D. He is an honest man trying to reform the ward

8. What does Bromden do during his last night in the ward?

- A. Bromden refuses to participate in the escape
- B. Bromden warns the staff and cooperates
- C. Bromden confesses his crimes
- D. Bromden suffocates McMurphy with a pillow

9. Who are the 'aunts' accompanying the patients on the fishing trips?

- A. Two prostitutes
- B. Two nurses
- C. Two visiting teachers
- D. Two social workers

10. How did the Nurse Station glass break for the third time?

- A. McMurphy broke it with a chair.
- B. It shattered due to an earthquake.
- C. Scanlon accidentally smashed it with a basketball, which Ratched then threw away.
- D. A patient dropped a bottle, causing it to break.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Why was McMurphy transferred to the ward?

- A. Because he was sick.
- B. To be closer to family in town.
- C. To join a different ward.
- D. He said he requested to be transferred to the hospital to escape the drudgery of the Pendleton Work Farm, and that life seemed easier at the ward.**

The idea being tested is why McMurphy chooses to move to the hospital ward—the motivation behind his transfer. He asks to be moved to the hospital rather than staying on the Pendleton Work Farm because he wants to escape the grind and hard labor of the farm. He even suggests that life in the ward would be easier, which shows his practical, somewhat rebellious approach to surviving within the system. This moment highlights his tendency to manipulate the situation to his advantage and sets up the power dynamic with Nurse Ratched. The other reasons don't fit the scene: he isn't transferring due to illness, nor to be closer to family, and it isn't merely about joining a different ward—it's about avoiding the farm's drudgery by choosing the hospital environment.

2. During group meetings, the patients begin to voice criticisms about what?

- A. Ward rules**
- B. Their food
- C. The weather
- D. Their families

In group meetings, patients vent about how the ward is run—the rules and routines imposed by the staff. This setting is all about challenging authority and the way the institution controls their daily lives. That focus on ward rules makes it the best answer because it directly reflects the power dynamics at play in the group sessions. Discussions about weather, families, or meals aren't the central issues these meetings are designed to surface; those items don't capture the ongoing pushback against the hospital's rules and regimen that the group format is meant to channel.

3. When McMurphy steps out of the shower, what is he wearing underneath his towel?

- A. A plain white T-shirt.
- B. A black pair of boxer shorts with white whales on them.**
- C. Red plaid boxers.
- D. No underwear.

This moment uses a small visual detail to reveal McMurphy's character and how he confronts authority. By stepping out of the shower with underwear that's bold and a bit humorous, he signals his willingness to mock the hospital's rules and to defy Nurse Ratched's control. The black boxer shorts with white whales are not just a fashion choice; they embody his irreverent, fearless attitude and his habit of turning the ward's seriousness into something wry and subversive. That undercuts the sterile power of the ward and sets up his role as a provocateur who challenges the system. If he wore something plain and conventional, like a plain white T-shirt, the moment would read as ordinary and less defiant. A different pattern, such as red plaid boxers, might still be playful but wouldn't carry the same sharp, distinctive edge. Going without underwear would strip away that personal statement and the humor that makes the scene memorable.

4. Why doesn't Sefelt take his medication?

- A. It rots his gums and makes his teeth fall out.
- B. It makes him drowsy during the day.
- C. It upsets his stomach.
- D. It tastes bitter.

Sefelt resists taking his medicine because he believes it will harm his teeth—specifically that it rots his gums and makes his teeth fall out. This worry about dental damage becomes his justification for avoiding the pills, showing how the patients weigh the risks to their bodies and autonomy against the treatment they're given. The other common side effects—drowsiness, upset stomach, or a bitter taste—aren't the reason he cites, so the dental harm claim best explains his behavior in this moment.

5. Who is the 'Big Nurse'?

- A. Chief Bromden
- B. Randle McMurphy
- C. Nurse Ratched
- D. Dale Harding

This question tests your knowledge of who is called "Big Nurse" in the story. The Big Nurse is Nurse Ratched, the head nurse who runs the psychiatric ward with strict, calculating control. She shapes every routine, medication schedule, and interaction to maintain order and authority, using psychological pressure to keep the patients in line. The nickname comes from Chief Bromden, the narrator, who describes her as a towering, intimidating presence—embodying the institution's power more than any individual power. That sense of size and dominance is why she's known as the Big Nurse. Randle McMurphy is the rebellious patient who challenges her rules, while Dale Harding is another patient dealing with authority; neither is the figure referred to by that nickname. So Nurse Ratched is the best answer because she is the person Chief Bromden signifies with that label.

6. What is the outcome of the vote?

- A. Nurse Ratched declares the proposal defeated, and the vote is closed.
- B. The proposal passes after Bromden's vote.
- C. The vote is inconclusive and postponed.
- D. The vote is declared invalid due to procedure.

The key idea here is how power and procedure in the ward shape outcomes as much as any one patient's opinion. Nurse Ratched presides over the meeting with formal control—she sets the tone, enforces the rules, and has the authority to declare results and end the discussion. When she states that the proposal is defeated and that the vote is closed, it shows that her control over the process determines the result, not any last-minute shift in mood or a single vote. The moment underscores her ability to shut down dissent and maintain order. This fits the scene because the chair's final say ends the proceedings immediately, leaving no room for further argument or delay. The other possibilities—passing after Bromden's vote, the vote being inconclusive and postponed, or the vote being invalid due to procedure—don't align with what actually happens, where the vote is concluded with the defeat declared and the meeting closed.

7. In the group meeting, what motive does Ratched attribute to McMurphy?

A. He is a con artist befriended them for money

B. He is a martyr seeking their respect

C. He is an undercover agent

D. He is an honest man trying to reform the ward

This question is about how Nurse Ratched uses manipulation to keep control. In this moment, she labels McMurphy as a con artist who befriended the patients for money, framing his friendly behavior as calculated deceit. This tactic aims to sow distrust among the group and undermine his influence, so the ward stays under her authority and the patients see him as someone exploiting them rather than as a genuine ally. Seeing him as a martyr, an undercover agent, or an honest reformer would not fit her purpose. Those views could legitimize his leadership or imply outside motives, which would threaten her grip on the ward. By casting him as a con artist, she preserves the power dynamic and keeps the patients suspicious of his intentions.

8. What does Bromden do during his last night in the ward?

A. Bromden refuses to participate in the escape

B. Bromden warns the staff and cooperates

C. Bromden confesses his crimes

D. Bromden suffocates McMurphy with a pillow

The key moment here is Bromden's decisive act of mercy on the last night in the ward. After McMurphy has been subjected to the hospital's attempt to quash him—essentially leaving him brain-damaged by a lobotomy—Bromden makes a personal, intimate choice to end McMurphy's suffering by suffocating him with a pillow. This act isn't about cooperation with the staff or avoiding trouble; it's Bromden reclaiming a measure of control in the face of an oppressive system and choosing to spare his friend from a brutal, dehumanizing fate. It also signals Bromden's own awakening from his years of passivity, and it foreshadows his break from the ward as he moves toward freedom.

9. Who are the 'aunts' accompanying the patients on the fishing trips?

A. Two prostitutes

B. Two nurses

C. Two visiting teachers

D. Two social workers

The main idea here is how the hospital uses outside companionship to control the patients during their outings. On the fishing trips, the two women who accompany the group are not relatives or staff but prostitutes hired to join them. Their role isn't about care or instruction; it's a utilitarian, transactional presence that helps keep the patients placated and reinforces the hospital's authority. The label "aunts" is ironic, masking the real relationship as paid companionship rather than family ties. So the two prostitutes is the correct understanding of who the aunts are.

10. How did the Nurse Station glass break for the third time?

- A. McMurphy broke it with a chair.
- B. It shattered due to an earthquake.
- C. Scanlon accidentally smashed it with a basketball, which Ratched then threw away.
- D. A patient dropped a bottle, causing it to break.

The moment tests how small acts of resistance shape the ward's power dynamic. The third time the Nurse Station glass breaks comes from Scanlon accidentally hitting it with a basketball during a game, and Nurse Ratched then discards the broken pane. This shows that even an innocent-feeling incident can become a symbol of the patients testing authority, fitting the pattern of escalating tension between the inmates and Ratched. It also clarifies why other scenarios aren't the match for this moment: McMurphy isn't the one breaking it in this instance, there isn't an earthquake in the plot, and a bottle drop isn't the event described.

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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:

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

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