

Ontario Grade 12 Religion 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 naturalism propose about the nature of existence?**
 - A. Supernatural events are common**
 - B. Only the natural world exists**
 - C. Spiritual explanations are valid**
 - D. Mythical beings influence reality**

- 2. Which of the following beliefs were held by the Pharisees?**
 - A. Rejection of written Law**
 - B. Belief in resurrection and traditions**
 - C. Focus solely on the Torah**
 - D. Denial of supernatural occurrences**

- 3. What impact does technology have on contemporary religious practices?**
 - A. It hinders worship experiences**
 - B. It enhances and facilitates community building**
 - C. It restricts access to teachings**
 - D. It promotes isolation from traditions**

- 4. Which of the following is one of the four Canonical Gospels?**
 - A. Matthew**
 - B. Hermes**
 - C. Revelation**
 - D. Acts**

- 5. Which Gospel emphasizes Jesus' compassion and inclusion of marginalized individuals?**
 - A. Mark**
 - B. Matthew**
 - C. Luke**
 - D. John**

- 6. Who is described as the most successful Apostle in the early Christian church?**
- A. St. Peter**
 - B. St. Paul**
 - C. St. James**
 - D. St. John**
- 7. What are the primary actions involved in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?**
- A. Worship, song, and prayer**
 - B. Confession, contrition, penance, and absolution**
 - C. Baptism and Eucharist**
 - D. Reading scripture and community gathering**
- 8. How do social justice issues align with religious teachings?**
- A. They promote individual gain over community**
 - B. They encourage addressing social inequalities**
 - C. They separate ethics from actions**
 - D. They support maintaining the status quo**
- 9. What is the role of women in religious leadership roles?**
- A. Women are always excluded from leadership**
 - B. Women have equality in all religious roles**
 - C. Women's roles vary across religions**
 - D. Women are only allowed to lead in informal settings**
- 10. Why is self-esteem significant in personal development?**
- A. It determines one's academic success**
 - B. It impacts how one values themselves**
 - C. It predicts social relationships**
 - D. It is influenced by physical appearance**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What does naturalism propose about the nature of existence?

- A. Supernatural events are common**
- B. Only the natural world exists**
- C. Spiritual explanations are valid**
- D. Mythical beings influence reality**

Naturalism proposes that only the natural world exists, asserting that everything can be explained through natural laws and processes without the influence of supernatural or mystical elements. This worldview emphasizes the importance of empirical evidence and scientific reasoning, rejecting the notion of supernatural events or beings as explanations for existence. In the framework of naturalism, all phenomena, including mental states and consciousness, are seen as products of natural processes. This perspective encourages a reliance on observation, experimentation, and rationale to understand the universe, which is a cornerstone of scientific inquiry. The other options reflect beliefs that include elements beyond the natural world, such as the acceptance of supernatural events, spiritual explanations, or the existence of mythical beings, which are not compatible with the naturalistic view.

2. Which of the following beliefs were held by the Pharisees?

- A. Rejection of written Law**
- B. Belief in resurrection and traditions**
- C. Focus solely on the Torah**
- D. Denial of supernatural occurrences**

The belief in resurrection and traditions is central to the understanding of the Pharisees. They were a Jewish sect known for their emphasis on both the written Law (Torah) and oral traditions, which they believed were crucial for interpreting and applying the Law in everyday life. The Pharisees affirmed the resurrection of the dead, a belief that distinguishes them from other groups, such as the Sadducees, who did not accept this idea. Their commitment to a robust collection of traditions, which included interpretations and additional laws derived from the Torah, set them apart as a group that sought to apply their faith in meaningful and relevant ways in their communities. This combination of beliefs shaped their theological perspectives and practices significantly, illustrating their influence on Jewish thought and the development of early Christianity.

3. What impact does technology have on contemporary religious practices?

- A. It hinders worship experiences
- B. It enhances and facilitates community building**
- C. It restricts access to teachings
- D. It promotes isolation from traditions

The impact of technology on contemporary religious practices is particularly significant in how it enhances and facilitates community building. In today's digital age, technology provides various platforms for individuals to connect, share, and participate in religious activities, regardless of geographical barriers. For instance, many religious communities use social media, websites, and video conferencing to create virtual gatherings, share teachings, and engage with followers. This means that people who may not be able to attend physical services—due to distance, health issues, or other constraints—can still participate in religious life. Technology allows for live streaming of services, online discussions, and digital prayer groups, which strengthen the sense of community among members. Moreover, technology can foster deeper connections by allowing individuals from diverse backgrounds to share their experiences and practices, thus enriching the communal aspect of faith. By facilitating conversations and relationships that transcend physical boundaries, technology can create a more inclusive and supportive environment for spiritual growth and collaboration within religious communities.

4. Which of the following is one of the four Canonical Gospels?

- A. Matthew**
- B. Hermes
- C. Revelation
- D. Acts

The Gospel of Matthew is one of the four Canonical Gospels in the New Testament, alongside Mark, Luke, and John. These texts are called "Canonical" because they have been recognized as authoritative and sacred scripture within Christianity. The Gospel of Matthew specifically focuses on the life, teachings, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ and is notable for its emphasis on Jesus' role as the Messiah and its connections to Jewish prophecy. In contrast, the other options listed do not belong to the canonical Gospels. Hermes is not a Gospel; it does not make up part of the New Testament. The Book of Revelation, while also a part of the New Testament, is classified as an apocalyptic text rather than a Gospel. Similarly, the Acts of the Apostles is a historical account of the early church and the spread of the Gospel after Christ's ascension, but it is not one of the Gospels. Thus, Matthew stands out as the correct answer due to its direct portrayal of Jesus' life and teachings as an Evangelist.

5. Which Gospel emphasizes Jesus' compassion and inclusion of marginalized individuals?

- A. Mark
- B. Matthew
- C. Luke**
- D. John

The Gospel of Luke is particularly noted for its strong emphasis on Jesus' compassion and inclusion of marginalized individuals. Throughout this Gospel, Luke highlights various instances where Jesus reaches out to the poor, the outcasts, women, and sinners, demonstrating a profound commitment to those who were often overlooked by society. For example, in the parable of the Good Samaritan, Luke illustrates the idea that love and compassion should extend beyond societal boundaries. Additionally, the story of Zacchaeus, the tax collector, showcases how Jesus actively seeks out and embraces those who are marginalized, reinforcing the theme of acceptance and redemption. Luke's narrative style consistently seeks to present Jesus as a figure of mercy and empathy, making it clear that his message and ministry are inclusive. This focus on social justice and the dignity of every individual sets Luke apart from the other Gospels, providing a lens through which readers can appreciate the depth of Jesus' compassion and his mission to uplift those in society who are often treated unjustly.

6. Who is described as the most successful Apostle in the early Christian church?

- A. St. Peter
- B. St. Paul**
- C. St. James
- D. St. John

The identification of St. Paul as the most successful Apostle in the early Christian church is well-founded based on his extensive contributions to Christian theology and the church's expansion. Following his dramatic conversion experience on the road to Damascus, St. Paul became a fervent advocate for spreading the teachings of Jesus Christ beyond Jewish communities, notably to Gentiles (non-Jews). His missionary journeys across the Roman Empire allowed him to establish numerous Christian communities and churches in key cities such as Corinth, Ephesus, and Thessalonica. St. Paul's letters, or epistles, which compose a significant portion of the New Testament, provide foundational teachings on Christian doctrine and ethics. These writings have had a lasting impact on Christian theology and practice, shaping the beliefs of millions over the centuries. In contrast, while figures such as St. Peter, St. James, and St. John also played critical roles in the early church, their focus was primarily more localized. St. Peter is often seen as a leader among the apostles and played a pivotal role in the Jerusalem church, but his influence was more confined to the Jewish community. St. James is associated with the leadership in the Jerusalem church, emphasizing adherence to Jewish law. St. John is recognized for his

7. What are the primary actions involved in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

- A. Worship, song, and prayer
- B. Confession, contrition, penance, and absolution**
- C. Baptism and Eucharist
- D. Reading scripture and community gathering

The primary actions involved in the Sacrament of Reconciliation are confession, contrition, penance, and absolution. Each of these actions plays a crucial role in the process of reconciliation with God and the community. Confession is the act of admitting one's sins to a priest, acknowledging shortcomings, and taking responsibility for actions. This step is important as it emphasizes honesty and the need for spiritual healing. Contrition refers to the sincere sorrow for having sinned, coupled with a resolve to avoid sin in the future. This heartfelt remorse is vital, as it demonstrates a true desire for change and reconciliation with God. Penance involves the acts of repentance that the priest assigns to help make amends for sins committed. This can include prayers, fasting, or other forms of acts of service to foster a sense of restitution and growth in faith. Absolution is the sacramental forgiveness granted by the priest in the name of Christ, which signifies God's mercy and the restoration of the penitent's relationship with Him. This action reassures the individual of God's forgiving nature and grace. Through these actions, the Sacrament of Reconciliation emphasizes both personal accountability and the transformative power of forgiveness, restoring individuals and fostering a renewed commitment to spiritual growth and community.

8. How do social justice issues align with religious teachings?

- A. They promote individual gain over community
- B. They encourage addressing social inequalities**
- C. They separate ethics from actions
- D. They support maintaining the status quo

The alignment of social justice issues with religious teachings is fundamentally rooted in the principle of advocating for fairness, equity, and compassion within society. Many religious traditions emphasize the idea of caring for the marginalized and the poor, promoting social responsibility, and working toward the common good. By encouraging the addressing of social inequalities, religious teachings often motivate believers to actively engage in efforts that seek to rectify imbalances in wealth, power, and opportunity. This aligns with various scriptural passages and doctrines that call for justice and mercy, urging adherents to pursue what is just and to support those who are disenfranchised. In contrast, the other options do not reflect the essence of social justice as understood within a religious context. Promoting individual gain over community undermines the communal values that many religions uphold. Separating ethics from actions contradicts the belief that faith should guide behavior, promoting an ethical approach in relationships and societal structures. Supporting the status quo runs counter to the call for reform and justice in many religious narratives that strive for a more equitable society.

9. What is the role of women in religious leadership roles?

- A. Women are always excluded from leadership
- B. Women have equality in all religious roles
- C. Women's roles vary across religions**
- D. Women are only allowed to lead in informal settings

The role of women in religious leadership roles varies significantly across different religious traditions, which is why the chosen answer is appropriate. Many religions have distinct teachings, cultural contexts, and historical developments that shape women's involvement in leadership. In some traditions, women may hold high positions, such as rabbis in Judaism, priests in some Christian denominations, or leaders in certain Islamic communities, indicating a recognition of their capabilities and contributions to spiritual leadership. Conversely, other religions or denominations may restrict women's roles, limiting them to specific functions or entirely excluding them from formal leadership roles based on their teachings or societal norms. This diversity highlights the complexity of women's roles across various faiths, emphasizing that generalizations cannot be universally applied. Understanding this variance is crucial in appreciating the dynamics of gender within religious contexts.

10. Why is self-esteem significant in personal development?

- A. It determines one's academic success
- B. It impacts how one values themselves**
- C. It predicts social relationships
- D. It is influenced by physical appearance

Self-esteem is significant in personal development primarily because it impacts how one values themselves. When individuals possess healthy self-esteem, they are more likely to recognize their own worth, which fosters a positive self-image. This sense of value is crucial as it influences decision-making, resilience in the face of challenges, and the pursuit of goals. People with high self-esteem tend to view themselves as capable and deserving of success, which encourages them to take on new experiences and develop their skills further. Additionally, this positive valuation of oneself underlies various aspects of personal growth, such as setting and achieving personal goals, embracing new opportunities, and maintaining motivation through life's ups and downs. A healthy self-regard can also contribute to more satisfying relationships, as individuals with good self-esteem are often more comfortable with themselves and better equipped to engage positively with others. While self-esteem can influence academic success, social relationships, and may be connected to physical appearance, its core significance lies in how individuals perceive and value themselves, impacting overall development.

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://ontariograde12religion.examzify.com>

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

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