

PA General Academic Vocabulary 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. Which word means to classify or arrange in order by rank?**
 - A. Rank**
 - B. Classify**
 - C. Arrange**
 - D. Order**

- 2. Which term describes the process of breaking something down to reveal its essential elements?**
 - A. Analyze**
 - B. Apply**
 - C. Analysis**
 - D. Appropriate**

- 3. Which term describes the level of detail or variability in measurements?**
 - A. Accuracy**
 - B. Precision**
 - C. Validity**
 - D. Reliability**

- 4. Which word means To develop and explain all the details of an idea, thought, or conclusion?**
 - A. identify**
 - B. integrate**
 - C. formulate**
 - D. explain**

- 5. In the sentence 'The data indicate a positive correlation,' what does correlation mean?**
 - A. A mutual relationship or association between two or more variables.**
 - B. A random coincidence with no relation.**
 - C. A measure of average value.**
 - D. A method of data collection.**

- 6. When a word ends with '-tion,' what part of speech is it most often?**
- A. Verb**
 - B. Adjective**
 - C. Noun**
 - D. Adverb**
- 7. Which tone is most suitable for a formal research report?**
- A. Humorous**
 - B. Objective and formal**
 - C. Casual**
 - D. Sympathetic**
- 8. Which term means to combine two or more things into a whole?**
- A. evaluate**
 - B. evidence**
 - C. integrate**
 - D. excerpt**
- 9. What is the difference between 'precision' and 'accuracy' in data reporting?**
- A. Precision refers to the level of detail or variability in measurements; accuracy refers to closeness to the true value**
 - B. Precision refers to closeness to the true value; accuracy refers to the level of detail or variability in measurements**
 - C. They are the same**
 - D. Precision measures bias; accuracy measures precision**
- 10. Is the use of 'falsifiable' appropriate in a scientific hypothesis?**
- A. Yes**
 - B. No**
 - C. Only sometimes**
 - D. Never**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which word means to classify or arrange in order by rank?

- A. Rank**
- B. Classify**
- C. Arrange**
- D. Order**

The main idea here is choosing a verb that specifically means placing items in a hierarchy or levels of importance. Rank directly conveys arranging by degree, status, or grade, which is exactly what “in order by rank” implies. When you rank things, you’re ordering them from higher to lower or by some level of superiority, making it the precise word for arranging by rank. The other verbs describe different kinds of organization. Classify means to put things into categories, which doesn’t necessarily involve ordering by rank. Arrange is a general term for putting things in order, but it doesn’t inherently emphasize hierarchical levels. Order can also mean sequence, but it’s broader and can even mean to command; it doesn’t focus on rank as a measure of status or degree.

2. Which term describes the process of breaking something down to reveal its essential elements?

- A. Analyze**
- B. Apply**
- C. Analysis**
- D. Appropriate**

The main idea here is naming the act of examining something by breaking it into its parts. The term that fits this description is analysis. It’s a noun that refers to the process of careful examination to reveal structure, components, and relationships. The verb form, analyze, would describe the action of doing this, but the prompt asks for the term that names the process itself. The other options don’t fit because apply means to use something in a practical way, and appropriate means suitable or proper; neither describes the act of breaking down something to understand its essential elements.

3. Which term describes the level of detail or variability in measurements?

- A. Accuracy**
- B. Precision**
- C. Validity**
- D. Reliability**

Precision describes how tightly repeated measurements cluster together, reflecting the level of detail or variability in the data. When measurements vary little and are close to one another, precision is high; when they spread out more, precision is low. This is distinct from accuracy, which asks how close measurements are to the true value. Validity concerns whether the measurement method actually measures the intended thing, and reliability relates to consistency across trials or observers. Since the focus here is on how much the results vary from one measurement to another, precision is the term that fits best.

4. Which word means To develop and explain all the details of an idea, thought, or conclusion?

- A. identify
- B. integrate
- C. formulate**
- D. explain

The main idea being tested is choosing a verb that conveys creating and presenting all the details of an idea or conclusion. Formulate fits best because it means to devise and present something in a careful, organized way. It implies building a complete structure—developing the idea and laying out the steps, reasoning, and conclusions clearly. For example, you might formulate a detailed proposal that outlines the problem, the analysis, and the recommended actions. By contrast, identify means to name or recognize, integrate means to combine parts into a whole, and explain means to make something clear without necessarily building out all the details.

5. In the sentence 'The data indicate a positive correlation,' what does correlation mean?

- A. A mutual relationship or association between two or more variables.**
- B. A random coincidence with no relation.
- C. A measure of average value.
- D. A method of data collection.

Correlation describes the relationship between two or more variables, specifically how they tend to move together. A positive correlation means that as one variable increases, the other tends to increase as well. Saying the data indicate a positive correlation means the observed data show this kind association rather than just random variation. It's not about an average value, it isn't describing how data were collected, and it doesn't by itself prove that one variable causes the other. The core idea is that correlation signals a pattern of linked changes between variables.

6. When a word ends with '-tion,' what part of speech is it most often?

- A. Verb
- B. Adjective
- C. Noun**
- D. Adverb

Ending in -tion is a common way to form a noun. It often turns a verb into a noun that names an action, a process, or the result of that action. For example, inform becomes information, create becomes creation, decide becomes decision. These -tion words function as nouns in sentences; they can be subjects, objects, or be paired with articles and determiners. The suffix doesn't create verbs or adverbs, and adjectives or adverbs follow different patterns. So when you see -tion at the end of a word, you're most likely looking at a noun.

7. Which tone is most suitable for a formal research report?

- A. Humorous
- B. Objective and formal**
- C. Casual
- D. Sympathetic

An objective and formal tone is essential for a formal research report. This approach communicates findings with neutrality, relies on evidence and methodology, and maintains credibility by avoiding personal opinions or emotional language. It keeps the focus on data, analysis, and results, making it easier for readers to assess validity, compare methods, and apply conclusions. Humorous language can distract and undermine seriousness, casual wording signals informality, and sympathetic language may introduce bias by steering interpretation through emotion rather than evidence. By using precise terminology, a clear structure, and careful presentation of results, the report remains trustworthy and professional.

8. Which term means to combine two or more things into a whole?

- A. evaluate
- B. evidence
- C. integrate**
- D. excerpt

The main idea being tested is finding a word that means bringing two or more things together into a single whole. Integrate describes this act of uniting parts so they function as one system or idea. It's used when you combine different elements—whether you're merging features in a product, blending ideas in a plan, or combining ingredients into a cohesive whole. The other words don't capture that sense: evaluate means to judge something's quality; evidence refers to information used to support a claim; excerpt is a short section taken from a larger text. So the option that best matches the meaning is integrate.

9. What is the difference between 'precision' and 'accuracy' in data reporting?

- A. Precision refers to the level of detail or variability in measurements; accuracy refers to closeness to the true value**
- B. Precision refers to closeness to the true value; accuracy refers to the level of detail or variability in measurements
- C. They are the same
- D. Precision measures bias; accuracy measures precision

Think about what each term says about your data: precision is about how consistent repeated measurements are, while accuracy is about how close those measurements are to the true value. If you measure the same object many times and the results cluster tightly together, you have high precision. If those clustered results also sit right on the true value, you have high accuracy. But you can have high precision with low accuracy if the measurements are all very close to each other but far from the true value (a systematic bias). Conversely, you can have high accuracy with low precision if the measurements are spread out but their average is near the true value. In short, precision = consistency/variability; accuracy = closeness to the true value.

10. Is the use of 'falsifiable' appropriate in a scientific hypothesis?

A. Yes

B. No

C. Only sometimes

D. Never

Falsifiability is essential for a scientific hypothesis. In science, a hypothesis should make testable predictions—outcomes you could observe that would show the idea to be false. If there exists a possible observation that could disprove it, the hypothesis is falsifiable. This lets experiments challenge ideas and only keep those that survive rigorous testing. It doesn't mean the idea is false; it means it can be tested. If repeated experiments support it, confidence grows; if a credible test contradicts it, scientists revise or reject it. For example, the claim that a drug cures a disease only in a specific subset of patients predicts measurable results that can be tested in a controlled study; if results show no improvement or a broader failure, the hypothesis is falsified. Conversely, statements that cannot be tested in principle aren't scientific, because there's no possible evidence that could prove them wrong. Therefore, using falsifiable language in a scientific hypothesis is appropriate because it signals testability and openness to evidence.

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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:

<https://pagenacadvocab.examzify.com>

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

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