

PA GENERAL ACADEMIC VOCABULARY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence



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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 term means 'Details that support the main idea or the central idea'?
 - A. Main ideas
 - B. Supporting details
 - C. Facts
 - D. Examples
2. In the word inevitable, what is the effect of the suffix "-ible"?
 - A. It helps form an adjective meaning "able to be" or "capable of."
 - B. It marks past tense.
 - C. It forms a noun indicating a thing.
 - D. It indicates a comparative degree.
3. If a scientist tells what will happen next, they _____.
 - A. infer
 - B. describe
 - C. predict
 - D. analyze
4. Which term means a brief portion taken from a text used to illustrate a point?
 - A. explain
 - B. evidence
 - C. excerpt
 - D. formal style
5. A group of words with a meaning; an expression is called what?
 - A. Passage
 - B. Phrase
 - C. Mood
 - D. Justify
6. Which term means 'Back up with details'?
 - A. Explain
 - B. Comment
 - C. Support
 - D. Prove

7. Which term means suitable or right for the purpose?

- A. Analyze
- B. Argue
- C. Assess
- D. Appropriate

8. To arrange or classify is to what?

- A. Paraphrase
- B. Organize
- C. Passage
- D. Justify

9. Which sentence demonstrates connotation rather than denotation?

- A. Home means the place where a person lives.
- B. Home evokes warmth and safety.
- C. Home is a dwelling.
- D. Home is a building with a roof.

10. Which term means to develop all the details of a plan?

- A. Imagine
- B. Formulate
- C. Synthesize
- D. Text

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which term means 'Details that support the main idea or the central idea'?

- A. Main ideas
- B. Supporting details**
- C. Facts
- D. Examples

The main concept tested is recognizing the part of a paragraph that backs up the central point. Details that support the main idea provide evidence, explanations, or illustrations that help the reader see why the main idea is true or important. The best term for this is "supporting details" because it covers all the bits—reasons, facts, descriptions, or examples—that reinforce the central idea. The other terms are narrower: the main idea is the central point, while examples are just one type of supporting detail, and facts, though useful, are not by themselves the umbrella label for the whole set of backing information.

2. In the word inevitable, what is the effect of the suffix "-ible"?

- A. It helps form an adjective meaning "able to be" or "capable of."**
- B. It marks past tense.
- C. It forms a noun indicating a thing.
- D. It indicates a comparative degree.

The suffix -ible is an adjective-forming ending that means "able to be" or "capable of." When it attaches to a root, it turns it into a word that describes capability or possibility. In inevitable, the base idea is evitable (able to be avoided). Adding the prefix in- changes the meaning to "not able to be avoided," giving the sense of something that cannot be avoided. That's why the best interpretation of the suffix here is forming an adjective that expresses a state of being able to be or not be in a certain way. The other ideas don't fit because past tense is shown by suffixes like -ed, noun forms use endings such as -tion or -ness, and comparative forms use -er or more.

3. If a scientist tells what will happen next, they ____.

- A. infer
- B. describe
- C. predict**
- D. analyze

Predicting future outcomes. When someone says what will happen next, they're making a forecast based on evidence, data, or a model. In science, predicting means using the information at hand to anticipate future results or events, not just describing what is currently observed or explaining why things occur. For example, if a scientist notices a pattern that higher temperatures correlate with faster reaction rates, they predict that increasing temperature will speed up the reaction in future experiments. That's different from describing what's happening now or analyzing the components of a system. Describing details is about present observations, while analyzing digs into how parts work together. Inferring would be drawing a conclusion from clues, often about something not directly stated, but not necessarily about what will happen next. So the act of telling what will happen next fits best with predicting.

4. Which term means a brief portion taken from a text used to illustrate a point?

- A. explain
- B. evidence
- C. excerpt**
- D. formal style

A short passage taken from a longer text to illustrate a point is called an excerpt. This term specifically refers to a brief portion chosen to show example language, theme, or detail from the work without presenting it in full. That makes it the best choice because the others describe different ideas: explain is the act of clarifying; evidence is data or facts used to support a claim; formal style refers to the tone and structure of the writing, not to a fragment from the text.

5. A group of words with a meaning; an expression is called what?

- A. Passage
- B. Phrase**
- C. Mood
- D. Justify

Think about how words can be grouped to express a single idea. A phrase is exactly that—a group of words that function as a unit and carry meaning, even though they don't form a complete sentence on their own. For example, "under the weather" or "a bright red ball" convey meaning as a unit. A passage is a longer stretch of writing, not a small unit of meaning. Mood describes the emotional atmosphere, and justify means to give reasons. So, the best fit for a small group of words that has meaning is a phrase.

6. Which term means 'Back up with details'?

- A. Explain
- B. Comment
- C. Support**
- D. Prove

Backing up a claim with evidence and specifics is what this item is about. That idea is captured by the word "support." When you support a statement, you bring in details like data, examples, reasons, or findings to make the claim credible and well-founded. Explain would aim to make something clear, but not necessarily provide evidence. Comment is just an observation or remark, not necessarily tied to supporting evidence. Prove suggests showing something is true beyond doubt, which is stronger than simply providing supporting details in many real-world contexts. Example: a report that supports its conclusion with data from several studies and real-world results.

7. Which term means suitable or right for the purpose?

- A. Analyze
- B. Argue
- C. Assess
- D. Appropriate**

Understanding suitability for a purpose. When something is appropriate, it fits the situation, meets the needs of the task, and aligns with expectations. It's the right choice for the context, signaling that it's proper or fitting for the use at hand. The other actions describe processes rather than fit. Analyze means to break down information to examine its parts; Argue means to present reasons to support or oppose a claim; Assess means to judge or evaluate the quality or value of something. In their uses, they don't convey being suitable for a specific purpose, even though they're often needed in academic work. So, the term that means suitable or right for the purpose is appropriate.

8. To arrange or classify is to what?

- A. Paraphrase
- B. Organize**
- C. Passage
- D. Justify

Arranging or classifying means putting things in a systematic order and grouping related items together. That is exactly what to organize describes—creating a structured setup by sorting and categorizing. Paraphrase is about restating information in your own words, not about ordering or grouping. A passage is simply a chunk of text. To justify is to provide reasons or evidence for a claim. For example, organizing a bookshelf involves sorting books by category and placing them in a logical order, which captures the idea of arranging and classifying.

9. Which sentence demonstrates connotation rather than denotation?

- A. Home means the place where a person lives.
- B. Home evokes warmth and safety.**
- C. Home is a dwelling.
- D. Home is a building with a roof.

Connotation is the emotional or cultural associations a word carries beyond its literal dictionary meaning, while denotation is the exact, explicit definition. The sentence that shows connotation uses language that signals feelings—saying that home evokes warmth and safety points to how the idea of home makes you feel, not just what it is. The other statements describe home in neutral, factual terms—"the place where a person lives," "a dwelling," or "a building with a roof"—which are denotations. So, the sentence that emphasizes warmth and safety demonstrates connotation.

10. Which term means to develop all the details of a plan?

- A. Imagine
- B. Formulate**
- C. Synthesize
- D. Text

Formulate means to develop a plan in a clear, organized way by laying out its specific components—objectives, steps, resources, timeline, and criteria for success—so it can be carried out. It's about turning ideas into an actionable, detailed outline. Imagining is just picturing possibilities without the concrete steps. Synthesizing is about combining ideas into a coherent whole, which is related but not the same as detailing a plan's execution. Text is simply writing, which may document the plan but doesn't by itself develop the plan's details.

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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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