

PACT Writing 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. What characterizes the use of the second person point of view in instructional texts?**
 - A. It makes the text more engaging for readers.**
 - B. It broadens the perspective of the narrative.**
 - C. It focuses on the author's personal experiences.**
 - D. It allows for detailed character development.**

- 2. In a scenario where students are small business owners, which genre would be the most appropriate for presenting to investors?**
 - A. a persuasive speech describing why their product/service is useful**
 - B. an advertisement for a newspaper**
 - C. a biographical piece about the company**
 - D. an informative brochure about the business including data and financial information**

- 3. What sentence structure error is present in 'is Ms. Ellis and Ms. Stephenson'?**
 - A. Needs to use 'are' instead of 'is'**
 - B. Missing a conjunction**
 - C. Incorrect subject-verb agreement**
 - D. Needs an additional subject**

- 4. Which statement is true about the occurrence of tornadoes?**
 - A. They mostly occur in Europe.**
 - B. They rarely occur anywhere but the United States.**
 - C. They can occur in various regions of the world.**
 - D. They only occur during summer months.**

- 5. In the sentence "From the mountaintop, Julian and Libby looked down upon the valley, under a double rainbow, blooming before them," which phrase is misplaced?**
 - A. From the mountaintop,**
 - B. upon the valley,**
 - C. under a double rainbow,**
 - D. blooming before them.**

- 6. Which phrase indicates that men were unprepared for hard labor?**
- A. Wield the spade and guide the plough**
 - B. Contending with stern realities**
 - C. Made to believe in rain of gold**
 - D. Perfectly unfitted by previous habits**
- 7. What word is used incorrectly in the sentence: "The advent of the rifle and of the lawless skin hunter soon turned all big game into fugitives of excessive shyness and wariness?"**
- A. advent**
 - B. lawless**
 - C. turned**
 - D. excessive**
- 8. What grammatical error exists in the sentence about Brian and the bus?**
- A. No error**
 - B. Using "run quick" instead of "run quickly"**
 - C. Incorrect use of "shouted to his brother"**
 - D. "will likely leave" should be "will leave likely"**
- 9. What is the error in the quote "How many cups of coffee must I drink," she asked herself, "in order to study all night for her test?"**
- A. drink,**
 - B. she asked herself,**
 - C. "in order to study**
 - D. her test?**

10. How do main ideas in narratives differ from those in expository writing?

- A. Narratives convey moral themes while expository texts prove ideas true.**
- B. A thesis statement is the same as a theme.**
- C. Expository writing lacks narrative elements; narratives contain informative segments.**
- D. An expository text centers around a concept supported with evidence; narratives describe events.**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What characterizes the use of the second person point of view in instructional texts?

- A. It makes the text more engaging for readers.**
- B. It broadens the perspective of the narrative.**
- C. It focuses on the author's personal experiences.**
- D. It allows for detailed character development.**

The use of the second person point of view in instructional texts is characterized by directly addressing the reader as "you." This approach creates a personal connection, making the content feel more engaging and relatable. It allows readers to see themselves in the instructions or information being presented, fostering a sense of involvement and immediacy. This engagement is particularly valuable in instructional materials where the goal is to guide the reader through a specific process or task. While broadening perspective, focusing on personal experiences, and developing characters can be essential in other contexts, they do not apply as directly to instructional texts in the same way that a second person point of view does. Instructional texts typically aim to inform and instruct, rather than to tell a story or explore characters, thus emphasizing the effectiveness of engaging the reader directly.

2. In a scenario where students are small business owners, which genre would be the most appropriate for presenting to investors?

- A. a persuasive speech describing why their product/service is useful**
- B. an advertisement for a newspaper**
- C. a biographical piece about the company**
- D. an informative brochure about the business including data and financial information**

The most appropriate genre for presenting to investors in this scenario is an informative brochure about the business, which includes data and financial information. Investors typically require detailed and comprehensive insights into a business to make informed decisions about funding. An informative brochure can effectively present key aspects such as the business model, target market, financial projections, and other relevant data that showcase the viability and potential for growth of the business. This type of presentation allows students to concisely convey their business's strengths and plans in a format that investors can easily reference and evaluate. The other options, while useful in certain contexts, may not provide the depth and specificity investors seek. A persuasive speech focuses on convincing an audience of the product's value without necessarily offering quantitative data that investors often need. An advertisement is designed to attract customers rather than provide the in-depth financial insights necessary for investors. A biographical piece about the company may offer background information but lacks the critical financial data and market analysis crucial for making investment choices. Thus, the informative brochure stands out as the most effective tool for engaging investors.

3. What sentence structure error is present in 'is Ms. Ellis and Ms. Stephenson'?

- A. Needs to use 'are' instead of 'is'**
- B. Missing a conjunction**
- C. Incorrect subject-verb agreement**
- D. Needs an additional subject**

In the phrase 'is Ms. Ellis and Ms. Stephenson', the error lies in the use of 'is' instead of 'are'. This phrase refers to two subjects, Ms. Ellis and Ms. Stephenson, which is a plural subject. In English, when a compound subject is joined by 'and', it requires a plural verb to agree with the multiple subjects. Therefore, the correct verb form to use in this case would be 'are', making the phrase 'are Ms. Ellis and Ms. Stephenson'. This ensures that the sentence adheres to the rules of subject-verb agreement, which are essential for clear and correct communication.

4. Which statement is true about the occurrence of tornadoes?

- A. They mostly occur in Europe.**
- B. They rarely occur anywhere but the United States.**
- C. They can occur in various regions of the world.**
- D. They only occur during summer months.**

The correct statement emphasizes that tornadoes can occur in various regions of the world. While the United States, particularly an area known as "Tornado Alley," experiences a high frequency of tornadoes, these weather phenomena can also be found in other countries and regions. Places such as Canada, parts of Europe, and even Australia and Bangladesh have reported tornado occurrences. This global perspective on tornadoes is key, as it highlights that they are not limited to one specific area, supporting the understanding that severe weather patterns can manifest in diverse geographic locations. Other options inaccurately generalize the occurrences and limitations concerning tornado formation. The claim that they mostly happen in Europe overlooks the significant prevalence in the United States and suggests a singular focus that is misleading. Asserting they rarely occur anywhere but the United States ignores documented cases in other parts of the world. Lastly, stating they only occur during summer months is incorrect since tornadoes can form in multiple seasons, although peak times may vary based on regional climatic conditions.

5. In the sentence "From the mountaintop, Julian and Libby looked down upon the valley, under a double rainbow, blooming before them," which phrase is misplaced?

- A. From the mountaintop,
- B. upon the valley,
- C. under a double rainbow,
- D. blooming before them.**

The phrase "blooming before them" is considered misplaced because it creates ambiguity regarding what is actually blooming. In the context of the sentence, it's unclear whether "blooming" refers to the valley or the double rainbow. Placing this phrase in a different location or restructuring the sentence could clarify the intended meaning. For example, specifying that the valley is blooming would clear up any confusion. The other phrases are structured correctly and clearly indicate locations or perspectives, making them fit well within the context of Julian and Libby's experience from the mountaintop.

6. Which phrase indicates that men were unprepared for hard labor?

- A. Wield the spade and guide the plough
- B. Contending with stern realities
- C. Made to believe in rain of gold
- D. Perfectly unfitted by previous habits**

The phrase "Perfectly unfitted by previous habits" indicates that men were unprepared for hard labor because it directly suggests that their past experiences and influences have not equipped them for the demands of such work. This description highlights a contrast between their previous lifestyles and the labor they now face, implying that their prior habits have rendered them unable to grapple with the physical and mental challenges that hard labor entails. In this context, the other phrases do not convey the same sense of unpreparedness. "Wield the spade and guide the plough" denotes an action associated with agricultural labor, implying readiness rather than unpreparedness. "Contending with stern realities" suggests a confrontation with difficult situations but does not specifically address preparedness or lack thereof. "Made to believe in rain of gold" implies a false sense of security or unrealistic expectations but does not directly indicate a lack of preparation for hard work. Therefore, the chosen phrase effectively encapsulates the idea of unpreparedness for hard labor.

7. What word is used incorrectly in the sentence: "The advent of the rifle and of the lawless skin hunter soon turned all big game into fugitives of excessive shyness and wariness?"

- A. advent
- B. lawless
- C. turned
- D. excessive**

In the given sentence, the word "excessive" is used incorrectly because it implies an overwhelming degree of shyness and wariness that may not accurately reflect the behavior of big game animals as a direct response to the presence of hunters and rifles. While animals may indeed become more cautious or alert due to threats, describing their behavior as "excessive" suggests an unnatural or exaggerated response that isn't typically part of their behavior in a balanced ecosystem. The other words in the sentence fit appropriately within the context. "Advent" refers to the arrival of something significant, which is relevant to the introduction of rifles and hunters. "Lawless" accurately describes hunters who engage in illegal practices, while "turned" appropriately indicates a change in the status of wildlife due to external factors. Thus, the term "excessive" stands out as the one that is incorrectly applied.

8. What grammatical error exists in the sentence about Brian and the bus?

- A. No error
- B. Using "run quick" instead of "run quickly"**
- C. Incorrect use of "shouted to his brother"
- D. "will likely leave" should be "will leave likely"

The identification of "run quick" instead of "run quickly" as the error highlights the importance of using the correct adverb form in English grammar. In this context, "quickly" serves as the appropriate adverb to modify the verb "run." Adverbs enhance verbs, adjectives, or other adverbs by providing more detail about how an action is performed. Since "quick" functions as an adjective, it cannot correctly modify the verb "run." Therefore, the proper phrase should be "run quickly" to communicate that the action of running is being done in a quick manner. The other options do not accurately address the grammatical error present in the sentence about Brian and the bus. The phrasing related to "shouted to his brother" might be grammatically acceptable depending on context, while "will leave likely" is less typical in formal English—though it could arguably suggest an informal speech pattern rather than a strict grammatical error. Hence, focusing on the need for correct adverb usage clarifies why the choice about "run quick" is considered the key error.

9. What is the error in the quote "How many cups of coffee must I drink," she asked herself, "in order to study all night for her test?"

- A. drink,
- B. she asked herself,
- C. "in order to study
- D. her test?**

The issue with the quote arises from the context of direct versus indirect speech alongside punctuation usage. In this instance, the phrase is a mixture of a question within a statement. When the speaker asks a question and then continues with another thought, punctuation needs to reflect this appropriately. The phrase "her test?" should have a period instead of the question mark. The question mark is already included in the preceding part of the quote, which negates the need for a second question mark within the entire statement. Therefore, the quotation should conclude with the correct punctuation to maintain clarity and adhere to grammatical conventions, indicating the end of the complete thought. This punctuation adjustment ensures that the structure of the sentence properly conveys the intended meaning and maintains the flow between the direct question and the subsequent commentary.

10. How do main ideas in narratives differ from those in expository writing?

- A. Narratives convey moral themes while expository texts prove ideas true.
- B. A thesis statement is the same as a theme.
- C. Expository writing lacks narrative elements; narratives contain informative segments.
- D. An expository text centers around a concept supported with evidence; narratives describe events.**

The answer highlights a key distinction between narrative writing and expository writing. In narrative texts, the focus is on telling a story, which involves characters, settings, and events that unfold in a structured way. These elements are used to engage the reader and convey experiences or lessons through the narrative arc, which may include conflict and resolution. In contrast, expository writing aims to inform, explain, or argue a specific idea or concept. It centers around presenting information in a clear and logical manner, often supported by evidence, facts, and examples. The goal is to educate the reader about a subject without necessarily including personal stories or dramatic elements. This difference in focus—narratives revolving around events and experiences versus expository writing centered on clear concepts supported with evidence—illustrates how each type of writing serves distinct purposes and requires different approaches.

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://pactwriting.examzify.com>

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

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