

# PAX NLN Registered Nurse (RN) 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 'sensational' or shocking in a lurid way?
  - A. Subtle
  - B. Calm
  - C. Mundane
  - D. Lurid
  
2. Which root means to write?
  - A. Graph, Gram
  - B. Hydr, Hydro
  - C. Ject, Jac
  - D. Pend, Pense
  
3. Which word means 'disqualified'?
  - A. Domicile
  - B. Agrarian
  - C. Indigent
  - D. Ineligible
  
4. What is the definition of Bedlam?
  - A. Not Able to Comfort
  - B. Uproar and Confusion
  - C. Keep Self in the Background
  - D. Relating to Beauty
  
5. What is the definition of Scurrilous?
  - A. Not Able to Comfort
  - B. Little or No Emotion
  - C. Coarse and Abusive Language
  - D. Sparing Eat and Drink
  
6. In embryology, the outer skin or layer is called what?
  - A. Ectoderm
  - B. Epidermis
  - C. Endoderm
  - D. Mesoderm

- 7. Which word means 'to move or run with a long stride'?**
- A. Canter**
  - B. Lope**
  - C. Falter**
  - D. Tentative**
- 8. Which term refers to the dictionary or literal meaning of a word?**
- A. Connotation**
  - B. Denotation**
  - C. Animosity**
  - D. Explicit**
- 9. Which word would you use to describe something with a lasting, unerasable mark?**
- A. Vicissitude**
  - B. Indelible**
  - C. Biennial**
  - D. Veracity**
- 10. Which term refers to writer of libretto for musical theater like opera?**
- A. Librettist**
  - B. Passe**
  - C. Feasible**
  - D. Schist**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. Which word means 'sensational' or shocking in a lurid way?

- A. Subtle
- B. Calm
- C. Mundane
- D. Lurid**

This question asks you to identify a word that conveys sensational or shocking in a lurid way. Lurid describes something vividly shocking or sensational, often with graphic or gaudy details that feel disturbing or morally lurid. It carries a strong negative sense, highlighting the shocking nature of the information or presentation. Subtle means understated or not obvious, calm describes peace or quiet, and mundane means ordinary or everyday—none of these capture the idea of exaggerated, lurid shock. You'll often see lurid used with headlines, details, or colors to signal something meant to grab attention in a shocking, sometimes sensationalist way. For example: "The newspaper printed lurid details about the crime."

### 2. Which root means to write?

- A. Graph, Gram**
- B. Hydr, Hydro
- C. Ject, Jac
- D. Pend, Pense

The idea being tested is recognizing which root family means writing. Graph- comes from Greek graphein, meaning to write or record, and appears in words like graphic (relating to writing or drawings) or autograph (a person writing their own name). The suffix -gram also ties to writing or a written record, as in cardiogram or kilogram, which historically trace back to a written or recorded form. In contrast, hydr/hydro relates to water, ject/jac means to throw, and pend/pense involves hanging or weighing (and in some cases thinking), none of which connect to writing. So, the root that best conveys the concept of writing is graph, gram.

### 3. Which word means 'disqualified'?

- A. Domicile
- B. Agrarian
- C. Indigent
- D. Ineligible**

Understanding the exact meaning of a term is about picking the word that captures being barred from participation or meeting requirements. Ineligible directly conveys that status—not meeting the necessary criteria or banned from taking part—so it best means "disqualified." Domicile is about where someone lives, agrarian relates to farming, and indigent means lacking money; none of these express disqualification in the sense of eligibility.

#### 4. What is the definition of Bedlam?

- A. Not Able to Comfort
- B. Uproar and Confusion**
- C. Keep Self in the Background
- D. Relating to Beauty

Bedlam means uproar and confusion. The word originates from Bethlehem Royal Hospital in London, famous in its time for chaotic conditions, and over time it came to describe loud, disorderly scenes or madness. When you hear that something was bedlam, think of a wild, tumultuous uproar rather than calmness or order. It's not about comfort, staying out of the spotlight, or beauty; those ideas map to different terms, whereas bedlam specifically captures chaotic disorder. For example, after the announcement, the square erupted in bedlam as people surged and shouted.

#### 5. What is the definition of Scurrilous?

- A. Not Able to Comfort
- B. Little or No Emotion
- C. Coarse and Abusive Language**
- D. Sparing Eat and Drink

Scurrilous refers to speech or writing that is coarse, vulgar, and abusive, especially when it spread scandalous or defamatory statements meant to damage someone's reputation. That makes the description of coarse and abusive language the best fit. The other options describe unrelated ideas—inability to comfort, lack of emotion, or abstaining from eating and drinking—so they don't match the sense of hostile or insulting language that scurrilous conveys.

#### 6. In embryology, the outer skin or layer is called what?

- A. Ectoderm**
- B. Epidermis
- C. Endoderm
- D. Mesoderm

The outermost embryonic layer is the ectoderm. During development, three germ layers form, and the ectoderm is the one that lies on the outside, giving rise to structures at the body's surface and the nervous system. The skin's outermost tissue, the epidermis, originates from this same germ layer, so in embryology the "outer layer" refers to the ectoderm. Endoderm forms the gut lining and associated organs, while mesoderm forms muscles, bones, and other connective tissues.

7. Which word means 'to move or run with a long stride'?

- A. Canter
- B. Lope**
- C. Falter
- D. Tentative

Think about a verb that specifically conveys moving with a long, easy stride. Lope describes that smooth, extended movement—often used for a relaxed, steady pace, like a horse gliding along with long steps. The other words don't fit as well: canter refers to a specific moderate gallop with a particular rhythm, not necessarily defined by long strides; falter means to stumble or hesitate; tentative describes hesitation or uncertainty. So lope is the best match for "to move or run with a long stride."

8. Which term refers to the dictionary or literal meaning of a word?

- A. Connotation
- B. Denotation**
- C. Animosity
- D. Explicit

The main idea here is distinguishing denotation from connotation. Denotation is the literal, dictionary meaning of a word—the explicit definition that most speakers would agree on. Connotation, on the other hand, is the set of associations, feelings, and cultural meanings that a word carries beyond its literal definition. For the term asked, denotation is the best fit because it refers to that dictionary-level meaning. For example, the word "home" denotation is a place where someone lives. Its connotations might include warmth, safety, and family. The other options don't capture the literal meaning: connotation reflects emotional associations, animosity is a feeling or attitude rather than a word's meaning, and explicit refers to something stated clearly rather than the dictionary meaning of a word.

9. Which word would you use to describe something with a lasting, unerasable mark?

- A. Vicissitude
- B. Indelible**
- C. Biennial
- D. Veracity

This question asks for a word that conveys permanence—the idea of leaving a lasting, unerasable mark. Indelible fits best because it literally means not able to be erased or removed; you hear it with phrases like indelible ink or an indelible memory, both signaling something that endures. The other terms don't capture that sense: vicissitude refers to a change or variation in conditions, biennial means occurring every two years, and veracity means truthfulness. So indelible is the right choice for describing a mark that cannot be erased.

**10. Which term refers to writer of libretto for musical theater like opera?**

**A. Librettist**

**B. Passe**

**C. Feasible**

**D. Schist**

The writer of the text for opera and musical theater is called the librettist. The librettist creates the libretto—the dramatic text that includes the dialogue and song lyrics, shaping the story, characters, and how the plot unfolds. This role works closely with the composer to fit the text to the music and overall pacing of the show. The other words don't relate to writing the storyline or lyrics: passe means out of fashion, feasible means possible, and schist is a type of rock.

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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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://paxnlrnvocab.examzify.com>**

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

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