

Pearson Test of English (PTE) 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. An entity is best described as:**
 - A. A Being.**
 - B. An Individual, Complete Unit That Possesses Its Own Unique Characteristics.**
 - C. A Place.**
 - D. A Concept.**

- 2. Which term can mean to impersonate someone?**
 - A. Plus**
 - B. Posterity**
 - C. Pose**
 - D. Posthumous**

- 3. In addition to its common meaning, which option correctly describes another sense of 'medium'?**
 - A. Something in a middle position**
 - B. A way of expressing something, such as photography or print**
 - C. Surrounding objects; environment**
 - D. A chemical substance used as a solvent**

- 4. Which sentence uses profuse correctly to express abundance?**
 - A. I offered profuse thanks to the helpers.**
 - B. The rain was profuse across the city.**
 - C. The room was profuse in size.**
 - D. Her ideas were profuse and confusing.**

- 5. Which definition best describes 'objective' when evaluating information?**
 - A. Unbiased**
 - B. Biased**
 - C. Based on feelings**
 - D. Subjective**

- 6. Which word means belonging to a large company?**
- A. Corporate**
 - B. Private**
 - C. Public**
 - D. Enterprise**
- 7. Which word means following?**
- A. Successor**
 - B. Sum**
 - C. Succinct**
 - D. Substantiate**
- 8. Which term also refers to a self-service table or meal setting?**
- A. Benefit**
 - B. Bias**
 - C. Bond**
 - D. Buffet**
- 9. In the context of devices, which option best defines "device"?**
- A. An explosive, like a bomb**
 - B. A document**
 - C. A contraption used to perform specific tasks**
 - D. A method used to do something**
- 10. Which definition best matches security?**
- A. Safety**
 - B. A general freedom from risks**
 - C. A sense of protection**
 - D. A security system**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. An entity is best described as:

A. A Being.

B. An Individual, Complete Unit That Possesses Its Own Unique Characteristics.

C. A Place.

D. A Concept.

The concept being tested is understanding that an entity is a distinct thing that exists as a single unit with its own properties. The best description fits an individual, complete unit that possesses its own unique characteristics. An entity can be living or nonliving and simply refers to something that has existence as a discrete object or being with identifiable attributes. A being focuses on life and sentience, which is too narrow; a place is a location, not a standalone object with its own features; a concept is abstract and lacks concrete existence as a unit. So the idea of an entity as a standalone thing with its own distinctive characteristics most accurately captures the term.

2. Which term can mean to impersonate someone?

A. Plus

B. Posterity

C. Pose

D. Posthumous

Impersonation involves pretending to be someone else, and the verb that fits this sense is pose, especially in the phrase “pose as.” When someone poses as another person, they adopt that person’s appearance or identity, effectively impersonating them. That sense is exactly what’s being tested: the action of pretending to be someone else. Other words here aren’t about pretending or adopting another identity. Plus means to add or increase, posterity refers to future generations, and posthumous describes something occurring after death. Those meanings don’t capture the act of impersonating.

3. In addition to its common meaning, which option correctly describes another sense of 'medium'?

A. Something in a middle position

B. A way of expressing something, such as photography or print

C. Surrounding objects; environment

D. A chemical substance used as a solvent

Medium is often used to mean something in the middle, an intermediate position. A different use describes the means or channel for expressing an idea—the material or method people use to convey something. In art, the medium is the material or process chosen to create a piece, such as oil paint, photography, or printmaking. In communication or media contexts, the medium is the channel through which information is delivered, like print, radio, or digital platforms. This sense directly answers the question by identifying another meaning of medium beyond the common middle-position sense. The other meanings—surroundings or environment, or a chemical solvent—refer to different uses of the word and don’t fit this sense.

4. Which sentence uses profuse correctly to express abundance?

- A. I offered profuse thanks to the helpers.
- B. The rain was profuse across the city.**
- C. The room was profuse in size.
- D. Her ideas were profuse and confusing.

Profuse means abundant or lavish in amount, used to stress a large quantity of something. In the sentence about rain, saying the rain was profuse across the city communicates a plentiful, widespread amount of rainfall, giving a clear sense of heavy precipitation covering a large area. This natural pairing of profuse with something that can be abundant—rain—makes the meaning straightforward and vivid. The other options either use profuse in less natural collocations (like in size) or describe things in ways that don't convey abundance as cleanly, so the rain example best expresses the intended idea of plentifulness.

5. Which definition best describes 'objective' when evaluating information?

- A. Unbiased**
- B. Biased
- C. Based on feelings
- D. Subjective

Objectivity in evaluating information means not letting personal opinions color your conclusions. When you are objective, you base judgments on facts, evidence, and verifiable data rather than on your own preferences or emotions. This neutral stance helps others reproduce and check the conclusions using the same information, which is why "unbiased" is the best description. The other ideas—being biased, relying on feelings, or being subjective—imply that personal perspective or emotion is shaping the conclusion, which can lead to inconsistent or misleading interpretations.

6. Which word means belonging to a large company?

- A. Corporate**
- B. Private
- C. Public
- D. Enterprise

This item tests vocabulary for describing affiliation with a company. The best choice is corporate, which describes things connected with a corporation, especially a large company. It captures the sense of belonging to or relating to the organization as a whole, as in corporate policy, corporate offices, or corporate culture. Private refers to ownership by individuals or non-governmental entities, not the company as a whole. Public relates to government ownership or to something accessible to everyone. Enterprise can mean a business or company itself, or the effort involved, but it doesn't specifically convey belonging to a large company in the same precise way corporate does.

7. Which word means following?

- A. Successor**
- B. Sum**
- C. Succinct**
- D. Substantiate**

Think about words that describe something or someone that comes after another. The best match for "following" in this sense is a successor, a person who comes after someone else, such as the next holder of a job or position. A successor takes over after the predecessor, which directly captures the idea of what comes next. The other words relate to different ideas: sum means the total; succinct means brief and to the point; substantiate means to provide evidence or support. None of these convey the sense of coming after in a sequence.

8. Which term also refers to a self-service table or meal setting?

- A. Benefit**
- B. Bias**
- C. Bond**
- D. Buffet**

Buffet is the term that refers to a self-service meal setup. In a buffet, dishes are laid out on tables or counters, and guests serve themselves what they want, choosing portions and variety as they move along the line. This style contrasts with meals that are served to each person at a table or prepared à la carte. The other words describe different ideas: benefit means an advantage or positive outcome, bias is a tendency or prejudice, and bond refers to a close connection or a financial debt instrument. None of these relate to a self-service dining arrangement, so buffet is the exact match for the described scenario.

9. In the context of devices, which option best defines "device"?

- A. An explosive, like a bomb**
- B. A document**
- C. A contraption used to perform specific tasks**
- D. A method used to do something**

A device is a piece of equipment or a tool designed to perform a specific task. That makes the description "a contraption used to perform specific tasks" the best fit, because it directly captures the idea of a tangible object built to accomplish a function. The other options refer to things that aren't tools or machines: a document is a written record, a method is a way of doing something, and while an explosive could be a type of device in some contexts, the everyday meaning centers on the physical tool or machine.

10. Which definition best matches security?

A. Safety

B. A general freedom from risks

C. A sense of protection

D. A security system

Security is about being protected from danger and harm; it describes a state of safety where threats are managed. That makes safety the best match because it names the actual condition of being secure from harm. A general freedom from risks is related but describes the absence of risk rather than the lived state of protection. A sense of protection reflects how someone feels and can vary between people, not a definite condition. A security system is a tool or measure to achieve security, not the concept itself.

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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://ptevocab.examzify.com>

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

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