

Praxis My School Psychology Practice Exam (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 statement best describes a multi-way ANOVA?**
 - A. Tests a single dependent variable across one independent variable**
 - B. Examines all treatment level combinations with equal variance**
 - C. Focuses on the interaction effects of one independent variable**
 - D. Compares means of two dependent variables**

- 2. What should be the primary focus of a crisis response immediately following an event?**
 - A. Limiting access to resources**
 - B. Identifying youth and supporting adults**
 - C. Implementing punitive measures**
 - D. Reassessing school policies**

- 3. What does reliability refer to in standardized tests?**
 - A. Consistency and stability of test scores over time**
 - B. Accuracy of test results in measuring cognitive skills**
 - C. Variation of results across different test scores**
 - D. Differences in performance based on testing conditions**

- 4. What does momentary time sampling measure?**
 - A. Behavior over the entire time interval**
 - B. Behavior only at the start of a timed interval**
 - C. Intensity of behaviors throughout the observation**
 - D. Frequency of behaviors over a prolonged period**

- 5. What is a phoneme in the context of language?**
 - A. The smallest unit of meaning**
 - B. The smallest unit of sound affecting meaning**
 - C. A type of syllable used in language**
 - D. A complex sound made up of multiple syllables**

- 6. What significant event related to school psychology occurred in 2008?**
- A. NASP adopts new professional standards**
 - B. Passage of NCLB**
 - C. Reauthorization of IDEA**
 - D. Expansion of NASP identity and practice**
- 7. Which figure is most associated with existential counseling?**
- A. Albert Ellis**
 - B. Carl Rogers**
 - C. Viktor Frankl**
 - D. Sigmund Freud**
- 8. What is the key focus of the "Identity vs Role Confusion" stage?**
- A. Learning self-control**
 - B. Establishing emotional intimacy**
 - C. Development of a strong sense of self**
 - D. Achieving academic success**
- 9. What aspects of behavior are considered key in measurement?**
- A. Frequency and quality**
 - B. Duration and complexity**
 - C. Frequency, duration, and intensity**
 - D. Intensity and variability**
- 10. Why should the DAS-1 be used with caution?**
- A. It lacks sufficient normative data**
 - B. Its norms are older than 10 years**
 - C. It is a self-report measure**
 - D. It is not aligned with current educational standards**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement best describes a multi-way ANOVA?

- A. Tests a single dependent variable across one independent variable
- B. Examines all treatment level combinations with equal variance**
- C. Focuses on the interaction effects of one independent variable
- D. Compares means of two dependent variables

A multi-way ANOVA, also known as a factorial ANOVA, is designed to evaluate the impacts of two or more independent variables on a single dependent variable while considering all possible combinations of the independent variable levels. This method allows researchers to look at not just the main effects of each independent variable but also the interaction effects between them. The correct choice highlights the fact that a multi-way ANOVA examines all treatment level combinations, which is essential for identifying how the independent variables may interact with one another and influence the dependent variable. This consideration is critical in research design when assessing complex relationships and drawing conclusions about how different factors work together. Moreover, when a study involves multiple independent variables, it's crucial to assess the assumption of equal variance among groups to ensure the validity of the ANOVA results. This concept aligns with the idea of examining all treatment combinations, as it refers to the ability of the analysis to handle different groups appropriately. In contrast, the other statements fail to encapsulate the comprehensive nature of a multi-way ANOVA. Testing a single dependent variable across one independent variable does not capture the complexity inherent in multi-way designs. Focusing on the interaction effects of one independent variable ignores the multi-faceted nature of examining two or more variables. Finally, comparing means

2. What should be the primary focus of a crisis response immediately following an event?

- A. Limiting access to resources
- B. Identifying youth and supporting adults**
- C. Implementing punitive measures
- D. Reassessing school policies

The primary focus of a crisis response immediately following an event is to identify youth who may be affected and to support the adults around them. This approach acknowledges that during a crisis, such as a natural disaster, violent event, or traumatic incident, the emotional and psychological needs of students and staff are paramount. Providing support to affected individuals is crucial to help them process the event, manage their feelings, and restore a sense of safety and stability. Supporting adults—teachers, counselors, and staff—plays a vital role in creating a safe environment for students, as these adults can facilitate communication, provide reassurance, and model appropriate responses to stress. This creates a caring atmosphere where students feel secure and can begin to heal. In comparison to the other options, limiting access to resources could exacerbate feelings of isolation or distress among students and staff after a crisis. Implementing punitive measures does not address the emotional impact or provide necessary support to those affected and might lead to more harm than good in such a sensitive time. Reassessing school policies is essential for long-term improvements but is less urgent immediately following an event than caring for those directly impacted. Therefore, focusing on identifying youth and providing support aligns with the immediate needs of a community grappling with a crisis.

3. What does reliability refer to in standardized tests?

- A. Consistency and stability of test scores over time**
- B. Accuracy of test results in measuring cognitive skills**
- C. Variation of results across different test scores**
- D. Differences in performance based on testing conditions**

Reliability in standardized tests refers to the consistency and stability of test scores over time. This means that if a student takes the same test or a similar version of the test on different occasions, their scores should be relatively similar if the test is reliable. High reliability indicates that the test yields stable results, reflecting true differences in the trait being measured rather than random error or fluctuating conditions. For example, if a test is designed to measure mathematics ability, a reliable test would yield approximately the same score if administered to the same individual multiple times under similar conditions. This demonstrates that the test consistently assesses what it intends to measure rather than being affected by outside factors. Hence, the emphasis on consistency is crucial in evaluating the trustworthiness of standardized assessments in educational settings.

4. What does momentary time sampling measure?

- A. Behavior over the entire time interval**
- B. Behavior only at the start of a timed interval**
- C. Intensity of behaviors throughout the observation**
- D. Frequency of behaviors over a prolonged period**

Momentary time sampling is a method used in behavioral observation to measure the presence or absence of a behavior at specific intervals throughout an observation period. In this technique, observers note whether a behavior occurs at predetermined moments, typically at the end of set intervals. This means the observer only records the behavior that is happening at that exact moment, not throughout the entire interval or its intensity. Therefore, the choice that aligns with this method is the option that states behavior is recorded only at the start of an interval. This allows for a quick assessment of whether the behavior is occurring at specific points in time without the need to track behavior continuously over the entire duration of the observation. This method efficiently provides data on behavior while requiring less intensive observation than continuous recording.

5. What is a phoneme in the context of language?

- A. The smallest unit of meaning
- B. The smallest unit of sound affecting meaning**
- C. A type of syllable used in language
- D. A complex sound made up of multiple syllables

A phoneme is defined as the smallest unit of sound in a language that can distinguish meaning. This means that phonemes are individual sounds that, when altered, can change the meaning of a word. For example, in the words "pat" and "bat," the initial sounds /p/ and /b/ are different phonemes that change the meaning of the word entirely. The concept of phonemes is crucial in linguistics and phonetics as it provides foundational understanding of how sounds operate within any given language. By recognizing phonemes, individuals can better understand how to pronounce words accurately and how different sounds contribute to meaning. The other choices, while related to aspects of language, do not accurately define a phoneme. The smallest unit of meaning refers to a morpheme, which can be a word or a meaningful part of a word. A type of syllable relates to the structure of sound combinations, while a complex sound made up of multiple syllables refers to phrases or larger units of sound rather than the distinct individual sounds that phonemes represent.

6. What significant event related to school psychology occurred in 2008?

- A. NASP adopts new professional standards
- B. Passage of NCLB
- C. Reauthorization of IDEA**
- D. Expansion of NASP identity and practice

The reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) in 2004 is often associated with significant changes in special education, impacting school psychology practices. However, in 2008, there wasn't a reauthorization event specifically related to IDEA, as significant legislative efforts can take years and often lead to further regulations or amendments rather than a complete reauthorization. In contrast, 2008 marked the adoption of new professional standards by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). This event established updated guidelines for services, training, and practice for school psychologists, reflecting the evolving nature of the field and integrating contemporary research and best practices. This milestone was crucial in guiding school psychologists in their roles and responsibilities and aligning their practices with the current needs of students and educational environments. It's important to understand the broader implications of professional standards, as they directly influence how practitioners approach assessment, intervention, and collaboration within schools. The adoption of new standards in 2008 provided a framework for improving school mental health services and ensuring practitioners remained competent and effective in their roles.

7. Which figure is most associated with existential counseling?

- A. Albert Ellis**
- B. Carl Rogers**
- C. Viktor Frankl**
- D. Sigmund Freud**

Viktor Frankl is most associated with existential counseling due to his foundational contributions to the field and his development of logotherapy, which emphasizes finding personal meaning in life as a core tenet of psychological well-being. Frankl believed that human beings are driven by a fundamental need to find meaning, even in the face of suffering or adversity. His experiences as a Holocaust survivor greatly influenced his perspective on the importance of meaning and purpose, which he believed could help individuals navigate through existential crises. Existential counseling focuses on themes such as freedom, responsibility, and the search for meaning, which are central to Frankl's work. His book "Man's Search for Meaning" outlines these principles and illustrates how meaning can be a crucial element in overcoming life's challenges. Frankl's ideas promote self-reflection and exploration of one's values and beliefs, which are key components of existential therapy. In contrast, while other figures such as Albert Ellis, Carl Rogers, and Sigmund Freud have made significant contributions to psychology, their approaches are more aligned with cognitive-behavioral therapy, humanistic psychology, and psychoanalysis, respectively, rather than the specific principles of existential counseling that define Frankl's work.

8. What is the key focus of the "Identity vs Role Confusion" stage?

- A. Learning self-control**
- B. Establishing emotional intimacy**
- C. Development of a strong sense of self**
- D. Achieving academic success**

The "Identity vs Role Confusion" stage is a crucial component of Erik Erikson's psychosocial development theory, occurring during adolescence. The primary focus during this stage is the development of a strong sense of self. Adolescents grapple with questions of identity and self-perception, exploring different roles, beliefs, and values to establish who they are as individuals. Successfully navigating this stage leads to a coherent and stable identity, which is fundamental for later stages of development and relationships. In contrast, other options revolve around different aspects of development that do not encapsulate the core objective of this specific stage. For instance, learning self-control pertains more to earlier childhood stages, while establishing emotional intimacy and achieving academic success are more focused on later developmental tasks. Thus, the essence of the "Identity vs Role Confusion" stage uniquely highlights the search for a personal identity, making the development of a strong sense of self the correct answer.

9. What aspects of behavior are considered key in measurement?

- A. Frequency and quality
- B. Duration and complexity
- C. Frequency, duration, and intensity**
- D. Intensity and variability

The measurement of behavior is crucial in the field of psychology, particularly in understanding and assessing the various dimensions of behavior. The correct choice highlights three significant aspects: frequency, duration, and intensity. Frequency refers to how often a specific behavior occurs within a given time frame. This is essential for determining patterns and the prevalence of behaviors, which can inform the implementation of interventions or support strategies. Duration measures how long a behavior lasts each time it occurs. This is particularly important for understanding behaviors that may be problematic, as longer durations may indicate more severe issues or require more intensive interventions. Intensity refers to the strength or degree of the behavior as it is exhibited. Understanding the intensity of a behavior can provide insights into its impact on the individual or those around them. High-intensity behaviors may warrant immediate attention or different intervention strategies compared to lower-intensity behaviors. Together, these three aspects allow for a comprehensive assessment of behavior, enabling practitioners to tailor their approaches effectively. By focusing on these key measurement aspects, professionals can better understand the behaviors they are observing and can develop interventions that are appropriately aligned with the individual's needs.

10. Why should the DAS-1 be used with caution?

- A. It lacks sufficient normative data
- B. Its norms are older than 10 years**
- C. It is a self-report measure
- D. It is not aligned with current educational standards

The reason for using the DAS-I with caution primarily stems from the fact that its norms are older than 10 years. Normative data plays a critical role in understanding an individual's performance in comparison to a relevant population. When the normative data is outdated, there may be shifts in educational practices, cultural factors, and societal changes that impact test performance and interpretation. Consequently, using instruments with outdated norms can lead to inaccurate assessments that do not reflect the current demographic and educational landscape. When evaluating the appropriateness of testing measures, it is essential to ensure that the normative data aligns with contemporary populations to maintain the validity and reliability of the assessment results. This relevance can significantly affect diagnoses, interventions, and educational decisions made based on the test results, underscoring the necessity for practitioners to select assessments with up-to-date norms.

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://praxismyschoolpsych.examzify.com>

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

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