

PROFESSIONAL LEGAL TRAINING COURSE (PLTC) FAMILY LAW PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. If a lawyer's client cannot afford to pay for an expert, what can the lawyer consider?**
 - A. Filing for bankruptcy
 - B. Applying for interim distribution of assets
 - C. Finding a pro bono expert
 - D. Ignoring the expert requirement
- 2. Can someone be considered a spouse if they have lived together for less than two years when children are involved?**
 - A. Yes, if they support each other financially
 - B. No, they must live together for at least two years
 - C. Yes, for support and parenting arrangements
 - D. No, child support only applies to married couples
- 3. What is the legal status of a guardian regarding child support obligations?**
 - A. A guardian can be required to pay child support
 - B. A guardian is wholly liable for child support
 - C. A guardian has no obligation to pay child support if not a parent
 - D. A guardian must pay child support if they receive financial compensation
- 4. How long does it generally take for a divorce order to come into effect?**
 - A. 14 days after the judgment is rendered.
 - B. 31 days after the judgment is rendered.
 - C. 60 days after the judgment is rendered.
 - D. It becomes effective immediately upon judgment.
- 5. Do relocation and change of residence have different requirements under the FLA and the DA?**
 - A. Yes
 - B. No
- 6. Under the DA, what identifies a change of place of residence as opposed to a relocation?**
 - A. It significantly affects the child's relationship with another party
 - B. There are no provisions for the receiving party to object
 - C. It requires a court hearing
 - D. It must involve an emotional impact on the child

- 7. If a couple lived together for two years before getting married, how is their marriage length determined?**
- A. From the marriage date only
 - B. From the separation date
 - C. Two years plus the duration of the marriage
 - D. Only the total years they have known each other
- 8. What is a potential outcome of an ex parte application?**
- A. A comprehensive hearing with both parties present
 - B. A temporary order without the other party's knowledge
 - C. A request for mediation
 - D. A requirement for subsequent hearings
- 9. Who is entitled to bring a parenting order application?**
- A. Only biological parents
 - B. Any family member
 - C. Either spouse or a person standing in for a parent
 - D. Only legal guardians
- 10. Can a lawyer represent both parties in a family law dispute?**
- A. No, it's against the law
 - B. Yes, but only if they are family members
 - C. Yes, under specific conditions that include advising clients about confidentiality
 - D. Yes, but only after obtaining a court order

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. If a lawyer's client cannot afford to pay for an expert, what can the lawyer consider?

- A. Filing for bankruptcy
- B. Applying for interim distribution of assets**
- C. Finding a pro bono expert
- D. Ignoring the expert requirement

In family law cases, when a client is unable to afford an expert, one potential avenue is applying for an interim distribution of assets. This option may involve seeking a court order for an early distribution of marital assets to cover necessary expenses, such as expert fees. By demonstrating the need for expert testimony and the client's financial constraints, the lawyer can present a case to the court, arguing that this distribution is essential for the client's fair representation and to ensure that justice is served in the proceedings. This approach acknowledges the importance of expert evidence in various aspects of family law, such as child custody assessments or property valuations. By seeking interim distributions, the lawyer is taking proactive steps to ensure that the client has access to the necessary resources to adequately present their case. While other options, like finding a pro bono expert, may be considered, there could be challenges in actually securing such services depending on the availability of experts willing to work without compensation. Ignoring the expert requirement is clearly not a viable option, as the ramifications could severely impact the outcome of the case. In essence, applying for an interim distribution of assets balances the need for expert input with the financial reality faced by the client, ensuring that proper legal representation can be achieved.

2. Can someone be considered a spouse if they have lived together for less than two years when children are involved?

- A. Yes, if they support each other financially
- B. No, they must live together for at least two years
- C. Yes, for support and parenting arrangements**
- D. No, child support only applies to married couples

In family law, the definition of a spouse can vary based on jurisdiction and specific circumstances surrounding the relationship. When children are involved, the law often recognizes that the nature of the relationship extends beyond merely living together for a specific duration. It emphasizes the roles and responsibilities both parents have toward their children, regardless of whether they meet a cohabitation duration such as two years. Choosing the option that states a person can be considered a spouse for support and parenting arrangements acknowledges that the courts often focus on the function of the relationship rather than strictly adhering to cohabitation length. This perspective allows for the recognition of partners in situations where they have demonstrated a commitment to supporting each other and co-parenting, which is crucial when children are involved. Furthermore, this answer aligns with many family law principles that prioritize the welfare of the children over the formal recognition of the couple's relationship status. In cases where financial support and parenting responsibilities are at play, the courts may consider such individuals as equal partners in their roles, even if they haven't lived together for the legally specified period. Recognizing a relationship based on support and parenting arrangements can enable more equitable outcomes for children and greater consideration of their best interests, which is a fundamental principle in family law.

3. What is the legal status of a guardian regarding child support obligations?

- A. A guardian can be required to pay child support
- B. A guardian is wholly liable for child support
- C. A guardian has no obligation to pay child support if not a parent**
- D. A guardian must pay child support if they receive financial compensation

The correct understanding of the legal status of a guardian regarding child support obligations is that a guardian has no obligation to pay child support if they are not a biological or adoptive parent of the child. This is based on the principle that child support obligations primarily arise from parental relationships. In most jurisdictions, the law identifies biological parents or legal parents as those who have the responsibility to provide child support for their children. Guardians, while they may have caregiving responsibilities and may be involved in the child's life, typically do not assume the financial support obligations unless they are also the child's parent. This principle recognizes the distinct roles of guardians and parents. Guardians may be appointed to ensure the child's welfare and make decisions in the child's best interest, but unless they take on parental status through adoption or a similar legal process, they do not automatically become liable for child support. Thus, the answer highlights an important distinction between guardianship and parental responsibility within family law.

4. How long does it generally take for a divorce order to come into effect?

- A. 14 days after the judgment is rendered.
- B. 31 days after the judgment is rendered.**
- C. 60 days after the judgment is rendered.
- D. It becomes effective immediately upon judgment.

The correct understanding is that a divorce order generally becomes effective 31 days after the judgment is rendered. This 31-day period is significant because it allows for various considerations, including the possibility for either party to appeal the decision if they choose to do so. This period serves as a buffer that recognizes the emotional and financial implications involved in a divorce, granting time for adjustments and contemplation regarding the outcomes of the court's ruling. The rationale behind the timing of when a divorce order takes effect is rooted in the need for stability and finality in legal proceedings. While the court may issue a judgment and provide its decision, it does not automatically mean the order is enforceable or final without this waiting period. When considering other options, immediate effectiveness might misrepresent the thoroughness of legal processes that aim to uphold fairness and provide time for appeals. Options that suggest shorter durations, such as 14 days or 60 days, either underemphasize the allowance for appeals or overstate the time required to finalize the divorce. Thus, acknowledging the standard 31-day period is essential in understanding the timeline and legal implications surrounding a divorce order.

5. Do relocation and change of residence have different requirements under the FLA and the DA?

A. Yes

B. No

Under the Family Law Act (FLA) and the Divorce Act (DA), relocation and change of residence indeed have different requirements and processes, reflecting the specific considerations and legal frameworks that apply to each. When it comes to the FLA, which governs parenting arrangements for children outside of marriage, the legislation places significant emphasis on the best interests of the child. It outlines specific guidelines that a parent must follow when seeking to relocate with their child. This includes providing proper notice to the other parent and potentially obtaining permission, which can involve assessing how the move may affect the child's relationship with both parents. On the other hand, the DA applies to parents who are divorcing. While it also aims to prioritize the welfare of the child, the provisions regarding relocation can differ significantly from those under the FLA. For instance, the DA may set different criteria or thresholds for what constitutes a significant change in residence and the legal obligations surrounding notification and consent in these scenarios. Thus, due to the varied legal frameworks and considerations under the FLA and the DA, relocation and change of residence require adherence to different requirements, making this distinction essential for legal practitioners and parents navigating these laws.

6. Under the DA, what identifies a change of place of residence as opposed to a relocation?

A. It significantly affects the child's relationship with another party

B. There are no provisions for the receiving party to object

C. It requires a court hearing

D. It must involve an emotional impact on the child

In the context of determining a change of place of residence as opposed to a relocation under the Divorce Act (DA), the correct identification is that there are no provisions for the receiving party to object. This distinction is important because a change of a child's place of residence may handle day-to-day or temporary changes that do not impact the parental rights or the child's relationship with the other parent in the same way that a relocation would. Relocations typically involve more significant moves that could alter the child's living situation and time with their parents, thereby opening up the possibility for objections from the other party. When there are no provisions allowing the other party to object, it indicates that the move does not invoke the same level of concern or legal scrutiny as a relocation would. This lack of objection aligns with the less formal nature of changes that do not profoundly affect the custody or visitation orders already in place. By contrast, the other options reference implications or processes (such as significant impacts on relationships, court hearings, or emotional impacts) that are generally related to more formal relocations, which often require judicial oversight and can lead to disputes between parties. Understanding that a simple change of residence is a category that does not merit objection emphasizes its more routine nature in family law, reflecting

7. If a couple lived together for two years before getting married, how is their marriage length determined?

- A. From the marriage date only
- B. From the separation date
- C. Two years plus the duration of the marriage**
- D. Only the total years they have known each other

The duration of the marriage is typically determined from the date of the marriage itself. However, in the context of family law, when answering this particular question, it is essential to understand the concept of cohabitation prior to marriage. When a couple cohabits for two years before getting married, those two years can be factored into specific legal considerations regarding their relationship, such as the length of the marriage for purposes such as spousal support or property division. Choosing the option that includes both the duration of cohabitation and the duration of the marriage reflects an understanding that many jurisdictions acknowledge the time spent together before formalized marriage as an important aspect of the relationship's continuity. This perspective is particularly pertinent in cases where the nature of the couple's relationship may influence legal outcomes, such as in the establishment of common-law marriage rights or entitlements. This approach recognizes the years spent together as significant to the relationship and often allows courts to consider these years in evaluating the couple's overall commitment and the implications of their separation or dissolution of marriage in legal terms.

8. What is a potential outcome of an ex parte application?

- A. A comprehensive hearing with both parties present
- B. A temporary order without the other party's knowledge**
- C. A request for mediation
- D. A requirement for subsequent hearings

An ex parte application is specifically designed to allow one party to seek a court order without the presence or prior notice to the other party. This mechanism is often used in urgent situations where immediate relief is necessary, and notifying the other party might result in harm or prejudice. As such, the potential outcome of an ex parte application can indeed be the granting of a temporary order based solely on the applicant's representations to the court, without the other party's knowledge or input. This stands in contrast to the other options provided. A comprehensive hearing that involves both parties typically occurs in regular proceedings where both sides can present their arguments and evidence. Similarly, a request for mediation is usually a collaborative approach that requires input from both parties rather than a unilateral application. Lastly, a requirement for subsequent hearings would indicate a process that is more typical of standard legal proceedings where all parties are involved, rather than the immediate relief sought through an ex parte application.

9. Who is entitled to bring a parenting order application?

- A. Only biological parents
- B. Any family member
- C. Either spouse or a person standing in for a parent**
- D. Only legal guardians

The correct choice indicates that either spouse or a person standing in for a parent is entitled to bring a parenting order application. This encompasses a broader range of individuals beyond just the biological parents. In family law, particularly in cases dealing with parenting orders, the legal framework acknowledges the roles that various parties may play in the child's life. This includes not only biological parents but also stepparents, other relatives, or guardians who may have a significant relationship with the child and a genuine interest in their welfare. The law aims to prioritize the best interests of the child, allowing those who are actively involved in the child's upbringing or have a legitimate concern regarding their care to seek the necessary orders from the court. This flexibility is essential in promoting the welfare of the child since it accommodates diverse family structures and situations where non-biological parents may be central to a child's life. Other options are more restrictive in nature, excluding certain individuals who may be vital in the child's life. The emphasis on both spouses or an individual standing in for a parent reflects a modern understanding of family dynamics, ensuring that relevant parties can advocate for the child's best interests within the legal framework.

10. Can a lawyer represent both parties in a family law dispute?

- A. No, it's against the law
- B. Yes, but only if they are family members
- C. Yes, under specific conditions that include advising clients about confidentiality**
- D. Yes, but only after obtaining a court order

A lawyer can represent both parties in a family law dispute under specific conditions, which is why this answer is the correct choice. This arrangement is typically referred to as joint representation. However, for it to be ethically and legally sound, the attorney must ensure that both clients are fully informed about the implications of joint representation. This includes discussing potential conflicts of interest and obtaining informed consent from both parties. One significant consideration in these situations is the issue of confidentiality. The lawyer must clarify how the duty of confidentiality operates when representing more than one client. Since both parties may share sensitive information, the lawyer needs to explain that some information may not remain confidential between them. This understanding is critical to ensure that all parties are aware of how their relationship will affect the information shared during the legal process. Other options provide limited or incorrect views. Suggesting that it is against the law to represent both parties overlooks situations where joint representation can be appropriate with the right precautions. Proposing representation only if the parties are family members restricts the context too much, as it doesn't account for couples who are not related but wish to engage the same counsel competently. Lastly, stating that representation can occur only after obtaining a court order implies a procedural requirement that is not typically applicable in these cases.

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.

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

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