

PSLE SCIENCE – GENERAL PRACTICE TEST (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. Which part of the plant is responsible for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil?**
 - A. Stems
 - B. Leaves
 - C. Roots
 - D. Flowers

- 2. Which microscopic organism is often used in the study of cell biology due to its simplicity?**
 - A. Amiba
 - B. Yeast
 - C. E. coli
 - D. Amoeba

- 3. What do you call the energy stored in an object due to its position?**
 - A. Potential energy
 - B. Kinetic energy
 - C. Thermal energy
 - D. Mechanical energy

- 4. What defines a pollutant?**
 - A. A substance that promotes growth in natural environments
 - B. A natural resource that benefits organisms
 - C. A substance that contaminates air, water, or soil
 - D. A chemical that aids in plant growth

- 5. What are the two main categories of energy?**
 - A. Kinetic and Elastic energy
 - B. Kinetic and Potential energy
 - C. Potential and Thermal energy
 - D. Kinetic and Nuclear energy

- 6. What is the main purpose of flowers in plants?**
- A. Photosynthesis
 - B. Reproduction
 - C. Growth
 - D. Protection
- 7. What are the tiny openings on the underside of a leaf that allow for gas exchange?**
- A. Chloroplasts
 - B. Stomata
 - C. Guard cells
 - D. Vascular bundles
- 8. What is the process of evaporation?**
- A. The condensation of vapor into liquid
 - B. The transformation of liquid into vapor
 - C. The solidification of liquids into solids
 - D. The saturation of air with moisture
- 9. What term describes resources that are not replaceable and take a long time to be naturally replenished?**
- A. Renewable
 - B. Non-renewable
 - C. Biodegradable
 - D. Sustainable
- 10. What is the role of the heart in the circulatory system?**
- A. To filter blood and remove waste
 - B. To pump blood throughout the body
 - C. To transport oxygen to the lungs
 - D. To produce red blood cells

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which part of the plant is responsible for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil?

- A. Stems
- B. Leaves
- C. Roots**
- D. Flowers

The roots of the plant are the part responsible for absorbing water and nutrients from the soil. They serve as the anchor for the plant, securing it in place while also extending into the soil to gather essential resources. Roots have specialized structures called root hairs, which increase the surface area for absorption, allowing them to efficiently take up water and dissolved minerals. This absorption is crucial for the plant's growth and overall health, as these nutrients are transported through the stem to other parts of the plant, supporting various functions such as photosynthesis and growth. In contrast, other parts of the plant play different roles. Stems primarily provide support and transportation of nutrients and water between roots and leaves. Leaves are vital for photosynthesis, converting sunlight into energy, while flowers are involved in reproduction by facilitating pollination and seed production. Each part contributes to the plant's life cycle, but it is the roots that specialize in nutrient and water absorption from the soil.

2. Which microscopic organism is often used in the study of cell biology due to its simplicity?

- A. Amiba
- B. Yeast
- C. E. coli
- D. Amoeba**

*The correct choice reflects a commonly studied organism in cell biology due to its simple cellular structure and ease of manipulation in laboratory settings. Amoeba, as a single-celled organism, provides a clear representation of fundamental cellular processes. Researchers can easily observe its cellular mechanisms because its body consists of a single cell that undergoes various functions like movement, feeding, and reproduction, allowing for a straightforward examination of basic biological principles. While yeasts, specifically types like *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, are also useful in genetic studies and are widely used in research for their eukaryotic cell structure, the simplicity and versatility of the amoeba make it particularly advantageous for exploring essential concepts in cell biology, such as cell shape, movement, and cellular reactions. *E. coli*, a type of bacteria, is another important organism in molecular biology and genetics, widely used in studies involving DNA and protein synthesis. However, it is a prokaryotic cell, which presents a different level of complexity compared to the eukaryotic structures of amoeba and yeast. In considering microscopic organisms for fundamental studies in cell biology, amoeba stands out due to its straightforward structure, making it an ideal choice for educational purposes.*

3. What do you call the energy stored in an object due to its position?

- A. Potential energy**
- B. Kinetic energy
- C. Thermal energy
- D. Mechanical energy

The energy stored in an object due to its position is known as potential energy. This type of energy depends on factors such as the height of an object relative to the ground or its position within a gravitational or elastic field. For example, when you lift a book off the floor and place it on a shelf, the book has potential energy because of its elevated position. This energy has the potential to be converted into kinetic energy if the book were to fall, illustrating how potential energy relates to the position and state of an object. Kinetic energy, on the other hand, refers to the energy of an object in motion, which is markedly different from the concept of energy stored due to position. Thermal energy is associated with the internal temperature of an object, arising from the motion of its particles, while mechanical energy is a broader term that encompasses both kinetic and potential energy in a system. Thus, potential energy is specifically concerned with the energy an object has because of where it is located.

4. What defines a pollutant?

- A. A substance that promotes growth in natural environments
- B. A natural resource that benefits organisms
- C. A substance that contaminates air, water, or soil**
- D. A chemical that aids in plant growth

A pollutant is defined as a substance that contaminates air, water, or soil, negatively impacting the environment and the organisms that live within it. Pollutants can be harmful chemicals or even materials that, when introduced into the environment, disrupt natural processes and ecosystems. This definition indicates that pollutants interfere with the natural balance of ecosystems, leading to potential harm to both the environment and human health. The other options describe substances that either contribute positively to natural processes or are beneficial resources, which is contrary to the definition of a pollutant. For instance, promoting growth in natural environments or aiding in plant growth classifies substances that typically enhance ecosystem function rather than degrade it. Additionally, a natural resource that benefits organisms emphasizes the constructive role of certain substances in supporting life, further illustrating the stark contrast with the negative implications of a pollutant.

5. What are the two main categories of energy?

- A. Kinetic and Elastic energy
- B. Kinetic and Potential energy**
- C. Potential and Thermal energy
- D. Kinetic and Nuclear energy

The two main categories of energy are kinetic and potential energy. Kinetic energy refers to the energy an object possesses due to its motion. Any moving object, whether it's a rolling ball or a running athlete, has kinetic energy that is dependent on its mass and velocity. As an object moves faster or has more mass, its kinetic energy increases. On the other hand, potential energy is stored energy based on an object's position or state. It is the energy that is associated with the gravitational position of an object, such as a book resting on a shelf, which has potential energy due to its height above the ground. When the book falls, that stored energy is converted to kinetic energy as it moves downward. These two categories encompass most forms of energy we encounter, including how they relate to various physical systems and their transformations. Understanding the distinction between kinetic and potential energy is fundamental in physics and helps in analyzing motion and forces effectively.

6. What is the main purpose of flowers in plants?

- A. Photosynthesis
- B. Reproduction**
- C. Growth
- D. Protection

The main purpose of flowers in plants is reproduction. Flowers are the reproductive structures that facilitate the process of pollination and fertilization. They contain the reproductive organs of a plant, which include the male parts (stamens) that produce pollen and the female parts (pistils) that contain the ovules. When pollination occurs, pollen is transferred from the male stamens to the female pistils, leading to fertilization and eventually the formation of seeds. This process ensures the continuation of plant species, making reproduction vital for the survival of plants in nature. While photosynthesis is essential for a plant's energy production, it is not the primary function of flowers. Growth refers to the overall increase in size and maturity of the plant structure, and protection may involve various plant parts like thorns or bark, but flowers specifically serve the reproductive function that supports plant propagation.

7. What are the tiny openings on the underside of a leaf that allow for gas exchange?

- A. Chloroplasts
- B. Stomata**
- C. Guard cells
- D. Vascular bundles

The tiny openings on the underside of a leaf that facilitate gas exchange are known as stomata. These structures are essential for the process of photosynthesis, as they allow carbon dioxide to enter the leaf while enabling oxygen and water vapor to exit. Stomata open and close to regulate the exchange of gases and to help prevent water loss through transpiration. In relation to the context of the question, chloroplasts are the organelles where photosynthesis occurs, but are not openings for gas exchange. Guard cells are specialized cells that surround each stoma and control its opening and closing, playing a crucial role in regulating gas exchange and water loss, but they themselves are not the openings. Vascular bundles consist of xylem and phloem, which transport water, nutrients, and food throughout the plant, but they do not function as openings for gas exchange. Thus, stomata is the correct choice in this scenario as they are directly responsible for the gas exchange in leaves.

8. What is the process of evaporation?

- A. The condensation of vapor into liquid
- B. The transformation of liquid into vapor**
- C. The solidification of liquids into solids
- D. The saturation of air with moisture

Evaporation is the process by which a liquid changes into a vapor or gas. This occurs when molecules in the liquid gain enough energy, often from heat, to overcome the intermolecular forces that hold them together, allowing them to escape into the air as vapor. For example, when water is heated, the temperature rises, and some molecules at the surface can break away from the liquid state and enter the gaseous state, which is what we observe as evaporation. In contrast, condensation refers to the change of vapor back into liquid, which is not what occurs during evaporation. The solidification of liquids into solids describes freezing, while saturation of air with moisture involves humidity and can occur only after evaporation has taken place. Therefore, the transformation of liquid into vapor is the accurate description of evaporation, making it the correct answer.

9. What term describes resources that are not replaceable and take a long time to be naturally replenished?

- A. Renewable
- B. Non-renewable**
- C. Biodegradable
- D. Sustainable

The term that accurately describes resources that are not replaceable and take a long time to be naturally replenished is non-renewable. Non-renewable resources, such as fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas) and minerals, exist in finite quantities on Earth. Once they are extracted and used, they cannot be replenished within a human timescale. The formation of these resources can take millions of years, making them a limited supply. This definition distinguishes them clearly as non-renewable resources in contrast to renewable resources, which can be replenished in a relatively short period. The other terms have different meanings. Renewable resources, like solar and wind energy, are those that can be replenished naturally in a short time frame. Biodegradable materials are capable of being broken down by natural processes, while sustainable refers to practices that maintain resource availability over time without causing environmental harm.

10. What is the role of the heart in the circulatory system?

- A. To filter blood and remove waste
- B. To pump blood throughout the body**
- C. To transport oxygen to the lungs
- D. To produce red blood cells

The heart serves as the central pump in the circulatory system, playing a crucial role in maintaining blood circulation throughout the body. Its primary function is to contract and relax in a coordinated manner, which propels blood into the arteries and ensures that oxygen-rich blood is delivered to various tissues and organs. This pumping action is essential for transporting nutrients and oxygen while also facilitating the removal of carbon dioxide and other metabolic wastes from cells. By continuously circulating blood, the heart helps to maintain homeostasis, regulating body temperature, and supporting the immune system by transporting white blood cells where they are needed. In contrast, filtering blood and waste removal is primarily the function of the kidneys, while oxygen transportation to the lungs occurs via the respiratory system, and the production of red blood cells is conducted in the bone marrow, not the heart.

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://pslesciencesgeneral.examzify.com>

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

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