

Research and Evaluation Exam 1 Practice (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. Evaluation research is characterized by...**
 - A. Using data gathered to modify a program**
 - B. Building theory from data**
 - C. Simply describing social trends**
 - D. Conducting experiments in controlled settings**

- 2. A testable statement about the relationship between variables is called a**
 - A. Theory**
 - B. Hypothesis**
 - C. Data Codebook**
 - D. RFP**

- 3. Which option best describes the relationship between validity and reliability as stated?**
 - A. They always occur together**
 - B. They never relate**
 - C. They do not necessarily exist together**
 - D. They are identical concepts**

- 4. CSA stands for Campus Sexual Assault in this context?**
 - A. Campus Sexual Assault**
 - B. Campus Security Assessment**
 - C. College Student Activity**
 - D. Community Safety Analysis**

- 5. Which organization is associated with the NCVS data according to the material?**
 - A. National Center for Statistics**
 - B. Bureau of Justice Statistics**
 - C. United States Census Bureau**
 - D. National Institute of Justice**

- 6. Which of the following is one of the core principles identified in the Belmont Report?**
- A. Respect for Persons**
 - B. Anonymity**
 - C. Confidentiality**
 - D. Financial incentive**
- 7. Which researcher is most closely associated with prostitution stings research involving decoys?**
- A. Carlos Cuevas**
 - B. Mary Dodge**
 - C. Elizabeth Groff**
 - D. Heather Zaykowski**
- 8. Qualitative data uses which type of data?**
- A. Numbers**
 - B. Words**
 - C. Figures**
 - D. Percentages**
- 9. Which statement best describes the concept of 'attributes' in data collection?**
- A. Grouping of data collected**
 - B. The order of data collection**
 - C. The method of sampling**
 - D. The sample size**
- 10. Do reliability and validity always exist together?**
- A. Yes**
 - B. No**
 - C. Sometimes**
 - D. In all cases**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Evaluation research is characterized by...

- A. Using data gathered to modify a program**
- B. Building theory from data**
- C. Simply describing social trends**
- D. Conducting experiments in controlled settings**

Evaluation research centers on using data to improve programs. The core idea is to gather information about how a program is functioning and what outcomes it produces, then feed those findings back into decisions about how to modify or enhance the program. This action-oriented, improvement-focused use of evidence distinguishes evaluation research from simply describing trends or building theory. Building theory from data addresses developing new explanations or frameworks, which isn't the primary aim of evaluation. Simply describing social trends focuses on what is happening without necessarily informing changes to the program in place. Conducting experiments in controlled settings describes a particular research method, which can be used in evaluation but isn't the defining feature—evaluation emphasizes using data to make practical improvements in real-world programs.

2. A testable statement about the relationship between variables is called a

- A. Theory**
- B. Hypothesis**
- C. Data Codebook**
- D. RFP**

A testable statement about the relationship between variables is a hypothesis. In research, a hypothesis makes a specific prediction about how two or more variables relate and is phrased so that evidence from data can support or refute it. It can be directional (predicting the expected direction of the relationship) or non-directional, but it must be testable through measurement and analysis. A theory, in contrast, is a broader, well-supported explanation that ties together many observations and hypotheses. A data codebook is a documentation of how data are coded, including variable names, values, and meanings. An RFP is a request for proposal, a document used in procurement, not in research.

3. Which option best describes the relationship between validity and reliability as stated?

- A. They always occur together**
- B. They never relate**
- C. They do not necessarily exist together**
- D. They are identical concepts**

Reliability and validity are two separate properties of measurement. Reliability is about consistency—do you get similar results across repeated administrations or scorers? Validity is about accuracy—does the test actually measure what you intend to measure? A measure can be reliable but not valid, meaning it gives consistent results that don't reflect the intended construct. A valid measure, by necessity, must be reliable, but reliability alone does not guarantee validity. So the best description is that they do not necessarily exist together. In practice, you want both, with reliability acting as a prerequisite for validity.

4. CSA stands for Campus Sexual Assault in this context?

- A. Campus Sexual Assault**
- B. Campus Security Assessment**
- C. College Student Activity**
- D. Community Safety Analysis**

Interpreting abbreviations depends on the context in which they're used. In this scenario, the topic is campus sexual assault, so CSA is intended to stand for Campus Sexual Assault, which matches the discussion and vocabulary you'd expect. The initials align directly with the phrase, making it the best fit for the context. The other possible meanings refer to security roles or generic analyses and don't align with the sexual assault focus shown here.

5. Which organization is associated with the NCVS data according to the material?

- A. National Center for Statistics**
- B. Bureau of Justice Statistics**
- C. United States Census Bureau**
- D. National Institute of Justice**

The data for the National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS) are produced and published by the Bureau of Justice Statistics. This agency, within the U.S. Department of Justice, is the official source for major national crime data and specifically administers the NCVS, which collects information from households about victimizations to provide a picture of crime that complements police records. The Census Bureau mainly handles the decennial census and surveys like the Current Population Survey, not NCVS. The National Institute of Justice is the research arm of the DOJ that funds and conducts research, but it does not produce NCVS data. The option that aligns with NCVS data production is the Bureau of Justice Statistics.

6. Which of the following is one of the core principles identified in the Belmont Report?

- A. Respect for Persons**
- B. Anonymity**
- C. Confidentiality**
- D. Financial incentive**

The Belmont Report identifies three guiding principles for research with human subjects: respect for persons, beneficence, and justice. Among the options, the one that matches these principles is Respect for Persons. This principle means recognizing individuals as autonomous agents capable of making their own decisions and providing extra protection for those with diminished autonomy. In practice, this is reflected in informed consent, voluntary participation, and clear information about risks and benefits, ensuring people can decide whether to participate without coercion and with comprehension. Anonymity and confidentiality are important privacy protections in research but are not labeled core principles in the Belmont Report itself. Financial incentive can raise concerns about undue influence or coercion, but it is not a core principle named in the Belmont Report.

7. Which researcher is most closely associated with prostitution stings research involving decoys?

- A. Carlos Cuevas
- B. Mary Dodge**
- C. Elizabeth Groff
- D. Heather Zaykowski

Prostitution sting research using decoys focuses on how decoy operations are designed, implemented, and evaluated to understand their effectiveness, ethical implications, and impact on both offenders and the community. The researcher most closely linked to this line of work is Mary Dodge, who has been associated with studies examining decoy stings in prostitution enforcement and their outcomes. Her work helps illuminate how decoy strategies are set up, what kinds of behaviors they elicit, and what the resulting enforcement patterns can tell us about deterrence, resource use, and potential harms such as entrapment or victimization. Other researchers listed are known for related criminology topics, but none are as strongly tied to decoy prostitution sting research as Dodge.

8. Qualitative data uses which type of data?

- A. Numbers
- B. Words**
- C. Figures
- D. Percentages

Qualitative data are descriptions that convey qualities, meanings, and attributes using words rather than numbers. It captures how people experience, interpret, or describe something, so the data come in the form of text—interview transcripts, open-ended responses, field notes, and similar narratives. This contrasts with numerical data such as numbers, figures, or percentages, which quantify things and are used in quantitative analysis.

9. Which statement best describes the concept of 'attributes' in data collection?

- A. Grouping of data collected**
- B. The order of data collection
- C. The method of sampling
- D. The sample size

Attributes are the characteristics or properties that describe each data item. They're the qualities you observe or record about units in your study, such as color, type, status, or category. These characteristics let you organize data into groups or categories, which is why grouping data collected is the best way to describe attributes. By classifying data according to these attributes, you can compare across groups and identify patterns. The other ideas refer to different aspects of data collection: the order in which data is gathered, the method used to choose which units to include, or how many units you end up collecting. These relate to sequencing, sampling technique, and sample size, not to the descriptive characteristics that define groups.

10. Do reliability and validity always exist together?

- A. Yes
- B. No**
- C. Sometimes
- D. In all cases

Reliability and validity are about different qualities of a measurement. Reliability means scores are consistent across repeated measurements or raters. Validity means the scores actually reflect the thing you intend to measure and relate to other evidence in expected ways. These two don't always go together. A test can be very reliable—giving nearly identical results across trials—yet be invalid if it isn't measuring the intended construct. For example, a questionnaire that consistently yields the same scores but taps general fatigue rather than the specific trait you want to assess would be reliable but not valid. Conversely, you might see some validity evidence even if there's some measurement error, but high reliability is not, by itself, a guarantee of validity. So reliability and validity do not always exist together.

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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://researcheval1.examzify.com>

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

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