

Solicitors Qualifying Examination (SQE) Stage 1 Functioning Legal Knowledge (FLK) 1 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. Which statement describes negative resolution procedure for delegated legislation?**
 - A. It becomes law unless either House passes a motion to reject within a time limit.**
 - B. It requires an affirmative vote in both Houses to become law.**
 - C. It requires a referendum.**
 - D. It is never subject to scrutiny.**

- 2. If the deadline lands on a day when the court office is closed, the submission is timely if done on which day?**
 - A. The next open day**
 - B. The next bank holiday**
 - C. The same day anyway**
 - D. The following Monday only**

- 3. Which remedy is sometimes used to restrain ongoing or threatened breaches of contract?**
 - A. Damages**
 - B. Specific performance**
 - C. Rescission and damages**
 - D. Injunction**

- 4. When will a court set aside a judgment in default?**
 - A. Only when the claimant consents to set aside.**
 - B. When the defendant can show a real prospect of defending the claim, or other good reasons the judgment should be set aside, varied or the defendant allowed to defend.**
 - C. When new evidence emerges after judgment.**
 - D. When the defendant pays the claim in full.**

- 5. What is the duty of client care in legal practice?**
 - A. Provide competent service, keep clients informed, avoid conflicts, protect information, and act in the client's best interests**
 - B. Focus on making as much money as possible**
 - C. Keep clients uninformed**
 - D. Avoid advising on complex matters**

- 6. In a traditional partnership, what describes liability for debts and obligations?**
- A. Each partner has unlimited personal liability; contractual debts are jointly liable; tort liability is joint and severable.**
 - B. Each partner has limited liability proportional to capital contribution.**
 - C. The partnership bears all liability with no personal liability for partners.**
 - D. Partners are liable only for negligence, not for other debts.**
- 7. What is contributory negligence and its effect on damages?**
- A. If the claimant is partly to blame, damages are increased.**
 - B. Damages are reduced in proportion to the claimant's fault.**
 - C. Damages are unaffected by the claimant's fault.**
 - D. Claimant cannot recover at all.**
- 8. Which statement best describes the role of the SRA Principles?**
- A. To guide professional conduct by setting core ethical standards**
 - B. To regulate marketing strategies for law firms**
 - C. To determine court procedure rules**
 - D. To standardize fee structures**
- 9. How is proportionality used in human rights analysis?**
- A. Assess whether the measure is appropriate, necessary, and proportionate to the legitimate aim.**
 - B. It is about fairness of process only.**
 - C. It is about cost-benefit analysis.**
 - D. It is about the speed of decision-making.**

10. Describe the typical court hierarchy in England and Wales for civil and criminal matters.

- A. High Court handles all civil and criminal matters**
- B. Magistrates' Court handles criminal matters; Crown Court handles serious crimes; High Court handles civil matters; Court of Appeal and Supreme Court handle appeals and final points of law**
- C. Court of Appeal handles all appeals**
- D. Magistrates' Court and Crown Court handle criminal matters; County Court handles most civil; High Court handles complex civil; Court of Appeal and Supreme Court handle appeals and final points of law**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement describes negative resolution procedure for delegated legislation?

A. It becomes law unless either House passes a motion to reject within a time limit.

B. It requires an affirmative vote in both Houses to become law.

C. It requires a referendum.

D. It is never subject to scrutiny.

Negative resolution procedure means a delegated instrument becomes law unless Parliament actively rejects it within a set period. When such an instrument is laid before Parliament, there is a time window (often around 40 days) during which either House can pass a motion to reject it. If no such motion is passed, the instrument takes effect without further approval. This contrasts with affirmative resolution, where the instrument must be expressly approved, and with other concepts like referendums or complete lack of scrutiny. So the statement that it becomes law unless either House passes a motion to reject within a time limit describes negative resolution correctly.

2. If the deadline lands on a day when the court office is closed, the submission is timely if done on which day?

A. The next open day

B. The next bank holiday

C. The same day anyway

D. The following Monday only

When a deadline lands on a day the court is closed, the time limit moves to the next day the court is open. This ensures you're not disadvantaged by closures and allows you to submit on the first available business day. For example, if the due date falls on a weekend or a bank holiday and the court isn't open, filing on the next open day is treated as timely. The essential idea is that submissions must be made on a day the court is actually operating.

3. Which remedy is sometimes used to restrain ongoing or threatened breaches of contract?

- A. Damages
- B. Specific performance
- C. Rescission and damages
- D. Injunction**

An injunction is used to stop someone from doing something or to compel them to do something, making it the go-to remedy when the concern is preventing ongoing or threatened breach. When a contract is at risk of being breached or is being breached already, monetary damages may not prevent the harm—especially if the breach would be ongoing or cause irreparable injury. An injunction can order the breaching party to stop the conduct immediately or to refrain from particular actions, preserving the situation as it was and allowing time for a full legal resolution. Interim injunctions can guard against harm before a final decision, while permanent injunctions can restrain recurrent breaches. By contrast, damages compensate for harm after the breach but do not prevent it from continuing, and specific performance compels actual performance rather than merely restraining conduct, which isn't the focus when the aim is to stop ongoing or threatened breaches. Rescission and damages unwinds the contract and compensates losses, not primarily to prevent further breach.

4. When will a court set aside a judgment in default?

- A. Only when the claimant consents to set aside.
- B. When the defendant can show a real prospect of defending the claim, or other good reasons the judgment should be set aside, varied or the defendant allowed to defend.**
- C. When new evidence emerges after judgment.
- D. When the defendant pays the claim in full.

The court has discretion to set aside a default judgment when there is a real chance of defending the claim, or when there are other good reasons to reopen the case. “Real prospect of defending” means the defendant’s proposed defence is arguable and not merely speculative. The “other good reasons” catch-all covers situations like procedural faults, service problems, or fairness concerns that justify undoing the default. New evidence emerging after judgment isn’t by itself a standard ground to set aside; it wouldn’t usually justify reopening the judgment unless it demonstrates a viable defence or other compelling fairness reasons. Paying the claim in full doesn’t automatically set aside a default judgment. In short, setting aside hinges on showing an arguable defence or some other good reason, not on consent, post-judgment evidence, or mere payment.

5. What is the duty of client care in legal practice?

- A. Provide competent service, keep clients informed, avoid conflicts, protect information, and act in the client's best interests**
- B. Focus on making as much money as possible**
- C. Keep clients uninformed**
- D. Avoid advising on complex matters**

The duty of client care in legal practice is about ensuring clients receive trustworthy, professional service. It includes five key elements: providing competent service, keeping clients informed about progress, options, and costs; avoiding conflicts of interest and managing them properly if they arise; protecting client information and maintaining confidentiality; and acting in the client's best interests by prioritizing their objectives, offering clear, honest advice, and avoiding actions driven by the lawyer's or firm's own interests. When these parts come together, the lawyer demonstrates reliable, ethical stewardship of the client's case. Choices that emphasize profit over service, keep the client uninformed, or avoid giving necessary advice clearly miss the obligation to treat the client with due care, transparency, and integrity.

6. In a traditional partnership, what describes liability for debts and obligations?

- A. Each partner has unlimited personal liability; contractual debts are jointly liable; tort liability is joint and severable.**
- B. Each partner has limited liability proportional to capital contribution.**
- C. The partnership bears all liability with no personal liability for partners.**
- D. Partners are liable only for negligence, not for other debts.**

In a traditional general partnership, partners have unlimited personal liability for the debts and obligations of the partnership. This means creditors can pursue each partner's personal assets to satisfy the partnership's debts. For contractual debts, liability is joint and several, so a creditor can sue any one partner for the full amount and then seek contribution from the others. For torts, liability is also typically joint and severable (joint and several), so a partner can be liable for the full damages arising from the partnership's activities or from the actions of other partners in the course of the business. This description best captures how liability operates in a traditional partnership. The other options don't fit: liability isn't limited to a partner's capital contribution, and partners aren't insulated from personal liability in a general partnership; nor is the partnership itself solely liable with no personal liability, or liability limited to negligence alone.

7. What is contributory negligence and its effect on damages?

- A. If the claimant is partly to blame, damages are increased.
- B. Damages are reduced in proportion to the claimant's fault.**
- C. Damages are unaffected by the claimant's fault.
- D. Claimant cannot recover at all.

Contributory negligence means the claimant's own carelessness contributed to the harm they suffered. The effect on damages is that the amount awarded is reduced in proportion to the claimant's share of fault. The court or tribunal determines how much of the blame lies with the claimant and cuts the damages accordingly. So, if total damages would be 100 and the claimant is 40% at fault, the award is reduced to 60. If the claimant is entirely to blame, the damages can be reduced to zero. This approach ensures the injured party isn't overcompensated for harm partly caused by their own negligence, while still allowing recovery for the portion not caused by their fault.

8. Which statement best describes the role of the SRA Principles?

- A. To guide professional conduct by setting core ethical standards**
- B. To regulate marketing strategies for law firms
- C. To determine court procedure rules
- D. To standardize fee structures

The SRA Principles provide the ethical framework that governs how solicitors and regulated firms must behave. They set core standards for professional conduct—things like acting with integrity, placing clients' interests first, maintaining trust, and complying with legal and regulatory obligations. These principles guide decision-making and accountability across all areas of practice, shaping how professionals respond to ethical tensions, conflicts, and regulatory duties. They aren't about marketing strategies, court procedure rules, or standardizing fees; those areas are addressed by separate rules and guidance. So the statement that the Principles guide professional conduct by setting core ethical standards best captures their role.

9. How is proportionality used in human rights analysis?

- A. Assess whether the measure is appropriate, necessary, and proportionate to the legitimate aim.**
- B. It is about fairness of process only.
- C. It is about cost-benefit analysis.
- D. It is about the speed of decision-making.

In human rights analysis, proportionality checks that any restriction on a protected right is justified and not excessive. The idea is to see whether the chosen measure to achieve a legitimate aim is appropriate, necessary, and proportionate to that aim. Think of it as a careful balancing test: is the measure suitable to achieve the objective, is there a less intrusive way to achieve it, and do the benefits of restricting the right outweigh the harms caused? This goes beyond a simple cost assessment or speed of decision-making and isn't only about process fairness. It's about ensuring the restriction is the least burdensome means to reach a legitimate public interest, with a genuine justification for the intrusion on rights.

10. Describe the typical court hierarchy in England and Wales for civil and criminal matters.

- A. High Court handles all civil and criminal matters**
- B. Magistrates' Court handles criminal matters; Crown Court handles serious crimes; High Court handles civil matters; Court of Appeal and Supreme Court handle appeals and final points of law**
- C. Court of Appeal handles all appeals**
- D. Magistrates' Court and Crown Court handle criminal matters; County Court handles most civil; High Court handles complex civil; Court of Appeal and Supreme Court handle appeals and final points of law**

The main point here is how civil and criminal cases are routed through England and Wales' court system and where appeals go. For criminal matters, most minor offences are dealt with in the Magistrates' Court, while more serious crimes go to the Crown Court for trial (often by jury). In civil matters, the bulk of claims are heard in the County Court; more complex or higher-value civil disputes move to the High Court. When it comes to appeals, civil cases climb from the County Court or High Court to the Court of Appeal (Civil Division) and, for final and far-reaching points of law, to the Supreme Court. Criminal appeals go from the Crown Court to the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) and then to the Supreme Court for the final point of law. This matches the described structure: criminal matters start in Magistrates' Court or Crown Court; civil matters start in the County Court, with the High Court handling more complex civil work; and appeals flow to the Court of Appeal and ultimately the Supreme Court. The other options misstate where civil disputes or appeals are handled (for example, implying the High Court handles all civil matters or that all appeals go only to the Court of Appeal).

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://sqe1flk1.examzify.com>

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

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