

Studies of Religion (SOR) II

Religion & Non-Religion

Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

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- 1. Which statement most closely expresses the view of an agnostic?**
 - A. There is no such thing as a god. I draw energy from the universe.**
 - B. There might be a god, but I need evidence.**
 - C. I know we face difficulties but thinking problems through should help us.**
 - D. I control my destiny. I seek inspiration from tarot readings.**
- 2. Sam is an atheist and is engaged to Kim who is a theist. On which of the following are they most likely to have different views?**
 - A. The location of the wedding reception**
 - B. The inclusion of prayers in the wedding ceremony**
 - C. The type of food to be served at the wedding reception**
 - D. Acknowledging the traditional landowners at the beginning of the wedding ceremony**
- 3. Which of the following is an example of monotheism?**
 - A. Atheism**
 - B. Pentecostalism**
 - C. Rationalism**
 - D. Secularism**
- 4. Which statement best describes the belief of animists?**
 - A. Polytheists believe in one god.**
 - B. Monotheists believe in many gods.**
 - C. Polytheists believe in materialism.**
 - D. Animists believe all things have a spirit.**
- 5. In the conversation, who expresses a humanist point of view?**
 - A. Lee**
 - B. Mel**
 - C. Pat**
 - D. Sam**

6. What best outlines the position of a Rational Humanist?

- A. Human enquiry and practice should be guided by belief in a deity.**

- B. Human enquiry and practice should not be guided by belief in a deity.**

- C. Human enquiry and practice should be guided by rigorous experimental testing.**

- D. Human enquiry and practice should not be guided by superstitions and unthinking tradition.**

7. Statement 1: Hinduism is the dominant religion of Tibet. Statement 2: Islam is the dominant religion of India. Which of the following is correct?

- A. Both statements are true.**

- B. Both statements are false.**

- C. Statement 1 is false and statement 2 is true.**

- D. Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.**

8. What function do myths serve in society according to sociological perspectives?

- A. They provide historical accounts of events.**

- B. They serve to explain cultural values, identity, and social norms.**

- C. They entertain and amuse the population.**

- D. They uphold legal frameworks and regulations.**

9. What is the primary focus of the ethics of belief?

- A. The obligation to promote faith publicly**

- B. The responsibilities to hold well-founded beliefs**

- C. The encouragement of spiritual practices**

- D. The establishment of communal beliefs**

10. What is the major belief of agnosticism?

- A. The existence of God is known**

- B. The existence of God is unknown or unknowable**

- C. The existence of God cannot be disproven**

- D. The existence of God is a matter of faith**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement most closely expresses the view of an agnostic?

- A. There is no such thing as a god. I draw energy from the universe.**
- B. There might be a god, but I need evidence.**
- C. I know we face difficulties but thinking problems through should help us.**
- D. I control my destiny. I seek inspiration from tarot readings.**

The statement that expresses the view of an agnostic is that there might be a god, but evidence is necessary to believe. Agnosticism fundamentally revolves around the idea of uncertainty regarding the existence of a deity or deities. Agnostics tend to suspend judgment on the existence of god until they are presented with convincing evidence. This viewpoint reflects a skeptical approach to questions of divinity, emphasizing the need for rational inquiry and evidence before forming a belief. In contrast, the first statement outright denies the existence of a god, indicating a belief likely aligned with atheism rather than agnosticism. The third statement focuses on problem-solving and coping with difficulties, which does not pertain to divine existence or the epistemological stance of agnosticism. The fourth statement suggests a belief in personal control over destiny through mystical practices, which leans more towards a spiritual or esoteric view rather than the open-ended inquiry characteristic of agnosticism. The focus of agnosticism is on the uncertainty and demand for proof, making the second statement the most fitting representation of an agnostic perspective.

2. Sam is an atheist and is engaged to Kim who is a theist. On which of the following are they most likely to have different views?

- A. The location of the wedding reception**
- B. The inclusion of prayers in the wedding ceremony**
- C. The type of food to be served at the wedding reception**
- D. Acknowledging the traditional landowners at the beginning of the wedding ceremony**

In a scenario where one partner identifies as an atheist and the other as a theist, differing views on spiritual matters are likely to surface. The inclusion of prayers in the wedding ceremony would be a significant aspect in which they are most likely to hold contrasting opinions. For Kim, the theist, incorporating prayers might hold religious significance, symbolizing a connection to her beliefs and traditions. In contrast, Sam, as an atheist, may feel uncomfortable with the idea of prayer in a ceremony that he believes should be secular or non-religious. This fundamental difference in their beliefs about spirituality and ritual elements in the wedding ceremony is what makes the inclusion of prayers a central topic of divergence for the couple. As for the other options, they tend to be more neutral or practical considerations rather than deeply rooted in belief systems. The location of the wedding reception, the type of food served, and acknowledging traditional landowners may be influenced by personal preferences, cultural practices, or logistical factors rather than a fundamental conflict in their respective worldviews.

3. Which of the following is an example of monotheism?

- A. Atheism**
- B. Pentecostalism**
- C. Rationalism**
- D. Secularism**

Pentecostalism is an example of monotheism because it adheres to the belief in one God. This Christian denomination emphasizes a direct personal experience with God through the Holy Spirit, which aligns with the monotheistic principle of the existence of a single deity. Monotheism, in religious studies, is the belief that there is only one God, a concept that is foundational in many religions, including Christianity. Pentecostalism not only embraces this belief but also engages in practices such as prayer, worship, and community gatherings that focus on their relationship with one God. Atheism, being the lack of belief in any deity, does not fulfill the definition of monotheism. Rationalism, which focuses on reason and knowledge, does not specifically address the existence of deities and can be compatible with a variety of perspectives, including both theistic and atheistic views. Secularism, advocating for a separation between religion and public life, also does not promote the concept of a single deity.

4. Which statement best describes the belief of animists?

- A. Polytheists believe in one god.**
- B. Monotheists believe in many gods.**
- C. Polytheists believe in materialism.**
- D. Animists believe all things have a spirit.**

Animism is a belief system that holds that not only humans but also animals, plants, rocks, and even certain natural phenomena possess spirits or a spiritual essence. This worldview emphasizes a connection and reverence for the natural world, suggesting that all elements of the environment are imbued with life and soul. Therefore, the statement that animists believe all things have a spirit accurately encapsulates their belief system. In contrast, polytheism involves the worship of multiple gods, and monotheism focuses on the belief in a single deity. Materialism emphasizes a focus on physical or material aspects of existence, often denying spiritual elements. None of these other perspectives align with the essence of animism, which uniquely recognizes the spiritual significance of all entities within the natural world.

5. In the conversation, who expresses a humanist point of view?

- A. Lee
- B. Mel
- C. Pat
- D. Sam**

The choice that represents a humanist point of view often emphasizes the value of human beings, individual dignity, and a reliance on reason and ethics, rather than on religious beliefs or supernatural elements. In this context, the character who expresses a humanist perspective likely focuses on human concerns, values personal experiences, and advocates for ethical decision-making based on human welfare and social justice. Sam's dialogue likely emphasizes the importance of human experiences and values without invoking any religious doctrine, highlighting themes such as compassion, reason, and the responsibility we hold toward one another in a secular context. This aligns closely with humanist principles, which prioritize human agency and ethical frameworks grounded in human experiences rather than divine authority. The other characters may not embody this perspective as distinctly, perhaps drawing on religious beliefs, traditions, or supernatural considerations instead. Understanding the essence of humanism through Sam's character can provide more clarity on how humanist values shape discussions around morality, ethics, and social responsibility. This character thus exemplifies the humanist worldview effectively through their thoughts and expressions.

6. What best outlines the position of a Rational Humanist?

- A. Human enquiry and practice should be guided by belief in a deity.
- B. Human enquiry and practice should not be guided by belief in a deity.
- C. Human enquiry and practice should be guided by rigorous experimental testing.
- D. Human enquiry and practice should not be guided by superstitions and unthinking tradition.**

The position of a Rational Humanist is best outlined by the idea that human enquiry and practice should not be guided by superstitions and unthinking tradition. This perspective emphasizes the importance of reason, critical thinking, and evidence-based understanding in approaching human life and the world. Rational Humanism advocates for making decisions and developing beliefs based on rational analysis rather than accepting ideas that stem from superstition or cultural practices that lack critical scrutiny. This viewpoint aligns closely with the philosophy of humanism, which seeks to prioritize human welfare, ethics, and knowledge derived from scientific inquiry rather than reliance on unchallenged traditions or myths. By advocating a stance against superstitions and promoting thoughtfulness in human practices, Rational Humanists support the development of a more informed and progressive society that leverages reason and collective human insight for advancement. The other options, while touching on relevant themes, do not encapsulate the essence of Rational Humanism as effectively. Belief in a deity, while it may be considered in other frameworks, does not align with Rational Humanism. Similarly, the emphasis on rigorous experimental testing is more associated with the scientific method rather than the broader humanist ideology. Thus, the key aspect of avoiding superstition and unthinking tradition accurately reflects the core stance.

7. Statement 1: Hinduism is the dominant religion of Tibet. Statement 2: Islam is the dominant religion of India. Which of the following is correct?

- A. Both statements are true.**
- B. Both statements are false.**
- C. Statement 1 is false and statement 2 is true.**
- D. Statement 1 is true and statement 2 is false.**

The correct response indicates that both statements regarding the dominant religions in Tibet and India are inaccurate. Hinduism is not the dominant religion of Tibet; rather, Tibetan Buddhism is the primary religious tradition practiced by the majority of the population in Tibet. This form of Buddhism, which incorporates unique cultural and spiritual practices, has been foundational to Tibetan identity and life. Similarly, in India, while Islam is a significant religion with a large following, it does not hold the status of the dominant religion. Hinduism is the largest religion in India, practiced by approximately 79% of the population, making it the predominant faith in the country. Therefore, since both statements contain inaccuracies regarding the religious demographics of Tibet and India, the indication that both are false is the correct assessment.

8. What function do myths serve in society according to sociological perspectives?

- A. They provide historical accounts of events.**
- B. They serve to explain cultural values, identity, and social norms.**
- C. They entertain and amuse the population.**
- D. They uphold legal frameworks and regulations.**

Myths play a crucial role in society by serving to explain cultural values, identity, and social norms. From a sociological perspective, myths are not merely stories but are foundational narratives that help individuals understand their place within a community and the broader world. They encapsulate the beliefs, values, and practices that define a culture and provide guidelines for behavior. Through myths, societies can convey important lessons, reinforce collective identity, and promote social cohesion. These narratives often address the fundamental questions of existence, morality, and the nature of the universe, helping individuals navigate their lives within the context of their culture. Thus, myths are instrumental in maintaining social order by affirming shared beliefs and expectations, which ultimately contributes to social stability. While myths may occasionally contain historical accounts or provide entertainment, their primary sociological function lies in the way they articulate and reinforce the fundamental aspects of cultural identity and the norms that govern social behavior.

9. What is the primary focus of the ethics of belief?

- A. The obligation to promote faith publicly
- B. The responsibilities to hold well-founded beliefs**
- C. The encouragement of spiritual practices
- D. The establishment of communal beliefs

The primary focus of the ethics of belief centers on the responsibilities individuals have toward holding well-founded beliefs. This concept emphasizes that people should not only believe whatever comes to their mind or what they feel inclined to accept without adequate justification. Instead, it promotes the idea that beliefs should be based on evidence and reasoning. The ethics of belief argues for a principled approach to belief formation, suggesting that there is an ethical obligation to seek truth and ensure that one's beliefs align with the best available evidence. This fundamental principle helps maintain intellectual integrity and encourages a responsible approach to knowledge and faith. The other options do not encapsulate the core focus on the responsibility of individuals regarding their beliefs. For example, promoting faith publicly, encouraging spiritual practices, or establishing communal beliefs all pertain to broader social or community aspects rather than the individual's obligation to justify and critically evaluate their own beliefs.

10. What is the major belief of agnosticism?

- A. The existence of God is known
- B. The existence of God is unknown or unknowable**
- C. The existence of God cannot be disproven
- D. The existence of God is a matter of faith

The belief that aligns with agnosticism is that the existence of God is unknown or unknowable. Agnosticism is a philosophical position that asserts that it is impossible to have certainty regarding the existence or non-existence of a deity or deities. This perspective emphasizes that knowledge about spiritual matters or the divine is beyond human comprehension, thus fostering an attitude of inquiry and openness rather than dogmatism. Agnostics may not claim outright disbelief (as atheists often do) or belief (as theists generally hold), but instead maintain that the evidence for or against the existence of God remains insufficient to reach a concrete conclusion. This nuanced position distinguishes agnosticism from outright theism or atheism by embracing doubt and uncertainty as integral to the discussion surrounding spirituality.

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://sor2religionnonreligion.examzify.com>

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

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