

TEAS ENGLISH AND LANGUAGE USAGE PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED 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. 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 of the following sentences contains the appropriate use of an apostrophe?**
 - A. The Malone's are coming over for dinner this evening.
 - B. The storm was beginning to rear it's ugly head.
 - C. The players on the soccer team left they're sports equipment all over the gym.
 - D. The group of employees arranged to have flowers delivered on Boss's Day.
- 2. What effect does varying sentence length have on writing?**
 - A. It creates confusion for the reader
 - B. It keeps the reader engaged and adds rhythm
 - C. It simplifies complex ideas
 - D. It reduces the overall word count
- 3. How can you identify an oxymoron?**
 - A. It uses metaphorical language
 - B. It combines contradictory terms
 - C. It employs alliteration for effect
 - D. It is a form of exaggeration
- 4. What is a key characteristic of a persuasive text?**
 - A. It primarily informs the reader
 - B. It aims to entertain the reader
 - C. It aims to convince the reader of a particular viewpoint
 - D. It provides a narrative of events
- 5. Which of the following sentences is an example of a complex sentence?**
 - A. I like coffee, and she likes tea.
 - B. Because I was tired, I went to bed early.
 - C. The sun set, and the stars appeared.
 - D. I read a book yesterday.
- 6. What is the purpose of transitional words in writing?**
 - A. To provide definitions
 - B. To guide the reader through the text and show relationships between ideas
 - C. To summarize the information
 - D. To introduce new topics

- 7. What is the effect of using active voice in writing?**
- A. It makes sentences longer and more complex
 - B. It emphasizes the action and makes the writing clearer
 - C. It provides less clarity than passive voice
 - D. It removes the subject from the sentence
- 8. What is an important feature of formal language?**
- A. Use of contractions
 - B. Use of slang
 - C. Increased level of vocabulary
 - D. Use of first-person perspective
- 9. What type of phrase is used in the sentence: "Running through the park, she felt free and alive."?**
- A. Participial phrase
 - B. Prepositional phrase
 - C. Gerund phrase
 - D. Infinitive phrase
- 10. Which phrase follows the rules of capitalization?**
- A. Professor Hopping
 - B. Thanksgiving day
 - C. uncle Larry
 - D. Northern Canada

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following sentences contains the appropriate use of an apostrophe?

- A. The Malone's are coming over for dinner this evening.
- B. The storm was beginning to rear it's ugly head.
- C. The players on the soccer team left they're sports equipment all over the gym.
- D. The group of employees arranged to have flowers delivered on Boss's Day.**

The sentence that demonstrates the appropriate use of an apostrophe is the one that mentions "Boss's Day." In this context, the apostrophe is used to indicate possession, showing that the day belongs to or is dedicated to the boss. This usage is correct because it properly illustrates that it is the boss who is being honored on this particular day. In the other examples, the use of apostrophes is either incorrect or unnecessary. The first option improperly uses an apostrophe to denote possession for a plural noun. The second option mistakenly uses "it's," which is a contraction for "it is," when the intent was to indicate possession (the ugly head of the storm). The third option incorrectly uses "they're," which is a contraction for "they are," instead of the correct possessive form "their" to refer to the sports equipment belonging to the players. Understanding these distinctions helps clarify the correct application of apostrophes in writing.

2. What effect does varying sentence length have on writing?

- A. It creates confusion for the reader
- B. It keeps the reader engaged and adds rhythm**
- C. It simplifies complex ideas
- D. It reduces the overall word count

Varying sentence length contributes significantly to the overall rhythm and flow of writing, which helps maintain the reader's interest. Short sentences can create a sense of urgency or emphasis, while longer, more complex sentences may provide detailed information or elaborate on ideas. This deliberate mix of sentence structures encourages readers to engage with the text more actively, creating a dynamic reading experience. In contrast, uniformity in sentence length often leads to monotony, potentially causing readers to lose interest. Thus, the strategic use of varying lengths can enhance the emotional and intellectual engagement of the reader, making the writing more compelling and enjoyable.

3. How can you identify an oxymoron?

- A. It uses metaphorical language
- B. It combines contradictory terms**
- C. It employs alliteration for effect
- D. It is a form of exaggeration

An oxymoron is identified by its characteristic of combining contradictory terms, which creates a unique and often thought-provoking expression. These pairs of words juxtapose opposing meanings, resulting in a phrase that captures complex ideas or heightened emotions in a concise manner. For example, phrases like "deafening silence" or "bittersweet" clearly illustrate how opposing concepts can coexist, allowing the reader or listener to consider the deeper meaning behind the contradiction. The other options highlight different linguistic techniques or devices that do not specifically define an oxymoron. Metaphorical language is broader and may involve comparisons without contradiction, while alliteration focuses on the repetition of consonant sounds rather than opposing meanings. Exaggeration, often seen in hyperbole, does not involve the direct contrast inherent in an oxymoron. Thus, the essence of an oxymoron lies explicitly in the combination of contradictory terms.

4. What is a key characteristic of a persuasive text?

- A. It primarily informs the reader
- B. It aims to entertain the reader
- C. It aims to convince the reader of a particular viewpoint**
- D. It provides a narrative of events

A key characteristic of a persuasive text is that it aims to convince the reader of a particular viewpoint. This type of writing employs various rhetorical strategies, such as emotional appeals, logical reasoning, and credibility of the author, to influence the audience's beliefs or actions. Persuasive texts often present arguments and counterarguments to support a specific position, urging readers to adopt that stance or take a specific action. In contrast, texts that primarily inform the reader focus on providing facts and information without necessarily trying to convince the audience of a specific viewpoint. Entertaining texts prioritize enjoyment and engagement, often through storytelling and humor, rather than persuasion. Texts that provide a narrative of events concentrate on storytelling elements, such as character development and plot, which may not necessarily aim to sway opinions. Thus, the distinctive feature of persuasive text is its focus on influencing the reader's perspective or behavior.

5. Which of the following sentences is an example of a complex sentence?

- A. I like coffee, and she likes tea.
- B. Because I was tired, I went to bed early.**
- C. The sun set, and the stars appeared.
- D. I read a book yesterday.

A complex sentence is defined as one that contains an independent clause and at least one dependent (or subordinate) clause. In the provided example, "Because I was tired, I went to bed early," there is a dependent clause ("Because I was tired") that cannot stand alone as a complete sentence because it introduces a condition or reason. This clause is connected to the independent clause "I went to bed early," which can stand alone as a complete thought. The combination of these clauses is what characterizes the sentence as complex. In contrast, other options are simple or compound sentences. For instance, the first option contains two independent clauses joined by a conjunction, making it compound rather than complex. Similarly, the third option consists of two independent clauses and is therefore also compound. The fourth sentence presents a single independent clause, making it a simple sentence. Recognizing the structure of clauses within a sentence is essential for identifying complex sentences accurately.

6. What is the purpose of transitional words in writing?

- A. To provide definitions
- B. To guide the reader through the text and show relationships between ideas**
- C. To summarize the information
- D. To introduce new topics

Transitional words serve a crucial role in writing by guiding the reader through the text and illustrating the relationships between different ideas. These words or phrases help to create a smooth flow, making it easier for readers to understand the connections between sentences and paragraphs. For example, transitions can indicate a continuation of thought, a contrast, an addition, or even a conclusion, allowing the reader to follow the writer's arguments or narratives with greater ease. This enhances overall comprehension and maintains the logical structure of the text, helping to clarify how one idea relates to another. While definitions, summarization, and topic introductions are important elements of writing, they do not capture the primary function of transitional words, which is to ensure clarity and coherence by linking ideas throughout the text.

7. What is the effect of using active voice in writing?

- A. It makes sentences longer and more complex
- B. It emphasizes the action and makes the writing clearer**
- C. It provides less clarity than passive voice
- D. It removes the subject from the sentence

Using active voice in writing emphasizes the action and makes the writing clearer. In an active voice construction, the subject of the sentence performs the action, leading to more direct and straightforward expressions. This clarity helps readers easily understand who is performing the action, enhancing engagement and comprehension. Active voice tends to make sentences more vigorous and dynamic, which adds to the overall effectiveness of communication. In contrast to passive voice, where the subject may be obscured or less relevant, active voice maintains the focus on the subject and the action, fostering a sense of immediacy and involvement in the writing. Additionally, employing active voice typically results in more concise sentences, making the writing more impactful.

8. What is an important feature of formal language?

- A. Use of contractions
- B. Use of slang
- C. Increased level of vocabulary**
- D. Use of first-person perspective

An important feature of formal language is the increased level of vocabulary. Formal language typically involves a more sophisticated and precise use of words, reflecting a higher level of education or professionalism. This type of language is often employed in academic or official settings, where clarity and adherence to standard grammar rules are prioritized. By using advanced vocabulary, speakers and writers can convey their thoughts with greater nuance and formality, establishing a tone that is appropriate for serious discussions, reports, presentations, and other formal communications.

9. What type of phrase is used in the sentence: "Running through the park, she felt free and alive."?

- A. Participial phrase**
- B. Prepositional phrase
- C. Gerund phrase
- D. Infinitive phrase

The phrase "Running through the park" in the sentence serves as a participial phrase. This type of phrase begins with a present or past participle and usually acts as an adjective, providing more information about the subject—in this case, "she." The participial phrase describes what she was doing while feeling free and alive, effectively giving context and enhancing the imagery of the sentence. By expressing an action that is occurring simultaneously with the main verb, the participial phrase creates a vivid scene that contributes to the overall meaning of the sentence. This is why the identification of it as a participial phrase is accurate in this context.

10. Which phrase follows the rules of capitalization?

A. Professor Hopping

B. Thanksgiving day

C. uncle Larry

D. Northern Canada

The choice "Professor Hopping" correctly follows the rules of capitalization because it includes a title that precedes a proper noun. In English grammar, titles referring to specific individuals, such as "Professor," are capitalized when they are used directly before a person's name. "Hopping" is a proper noun in this context, and it's customary to capitalize both the title and the individual's name. In contrast, "Thanksgiving day" should be "Thanksgiving Day," as the holiday name is considered a proper noun and requires capitalization of both words. "uncle Larry" is incorrect because "uncle" is a common noun and should be capitalized only if used as part of a direct address or when it forms part of a proper noun (like "Uncle Larry"). Lastly, "Northern Canada" could be considered correct, as both words could be capitalized, but geographical references frequently follow specific styling rules that might allow for variations depending on the context. However, in this case, the clear and unambiguous example is "Professor Hopping," which adheres strictly to capitalization guidelines.

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://teasenglanguage.examzify.com>

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

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