

The Enlightenment in England - Modern Humanities 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. The statement "We hold these truths to be self-evident" uses which rhetorical approach?**
 - A. Logos by appealing to reason and universal truths**
 - B. Pathos by stirring emotional appeals**
 - C. Ethos by citing credibility**
 - D. Kairos by urgent call to action**

- 2. The best definition of the underlined word 'hapless' in the Johnson preface sentence is:**
 - A. unlucky or unfortunate; pitiable**
 - B. unknown or unfamiliar; mysterious**
 - C. without intelligence; foolish**
 - D. without tenderness; harsh**

- 3. In filmmaking, which task is specifically described as occurring during the production phase?**
 - A. securing financing for the film**
 - B. writing the script**
 - C. the actual recording of the video and audio**
 - D. investigating marketing strategies**

- 4. In the Declaration of Independence excerpt, which statement best describes Jefferson's diction?**
 - A. Jefferson uses words with neutral connotations to present a claim based on reason and precedent.**
 - B. Jefferson uses words with positive connotations to praise his listeners for their political activism.**
 - C. Jefferson uses words with neutral connotations to suggest that there is no need for change.**
 - D. Jefferson uses words with negative connotations to undermine the opposition.**

- 5. Which phrase does Johnson use to describe the writers whose works he draws from as sources for the dictionary?**
 - A. the boundless chaos of a living speech**
 - B. the wells of English undefiled**
 - C. the time of their authors**
 - D. the dictionaries of old**

- 6. In the Declaration of Sentiments excerpt, which word conveys the negative impact of denying voting rights?**
- A. deprived**
 - B. elective**
 - C. representation**
 - D. oppressed**
- 7. Which statement best captures the combined message about education and opportunity?**
- A. Education and perseverance enable individuals to overcome early hardship.**
 - B. Education is unnecessary for enslaved people.**
 - C. Education should be avoided to prevent rebellion.**
 - D. Only luck matters for advancement.**
- 8. Which evaluation best captures the thesis about Foley artists?**
- A. The thesis is effective because it covers a broad topic while maintaining an objective viewpoint.**
 - B. The thesis is ineffective because it lacks clear transitions between the thoughts of the writer.**
 - C. The thesis is effective because it contains a topic that is focused and a viewpoint that is clear.**
 - D. The thesis is ineffective because it lacks proper citations and does not grab the reader's attention.**
- 9. Which is an effective thesis?**
- A. There are many bees in the world, such as the ones in your garden.**
 - B. Bees are a crucial part of any thriving ecosystem, including your garden.**
 - C. While bees have some benefits, the buzzing around the garden gets annoying.**
 - D. Generally speaking, bees are okay so long as they stay outside in the garden.**

- 10. What is the overarching conclusion these excerpts promote about slavery and literacy?**
- A. They ignore the issue.**
 - B. They reject literacy as a means of improvement.**
 - C. They accept slavery as a natural order.**
 - D. They advocate abolition and literacy as paths to dignity.**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. The statement "We hold these truths to be self-evident" uses which rhetorical approach?

- A. Logos by appealing to reason and universal truths**
- B. Pathos by stirring emotional appeals**
- C. Ethos by citing credibility**
- D. Kairos by urgent call to action**

Logos. By presenting truths as self-evident, the statement appeals to reason and shared, universal principles that can be seen as obvious upon reflection, rather than relying on emotion or the speaker's authority. It grounds the argument for rights and independence in rational principles—natural law and universal truths—rather than eliciting feelings (pathos) or asserting credibility (ethos) or stressing urgency (kairos). In context, this move strengthens a persuasive case by inviting readers to recognize these rights as evident and rational, not merely asserted by those in power.

2. The best definition of the underlined word 'hapless' in the Johnson preface sentence is:

- A. unlucky or unfortunate; pitiable**
- B. unknown or unfamiliar; mysterious**
- C. without intelligence; foolish**
- D. without tenderness; harsh**

The key idea is to know how hapless expresses misfortune. Hap means luck or fortune, and adding -less makes something lacking that quality. So hapless literally means lacking luck—unlucky or unfortunate, often with a sense of pitiable circumstance. In Johnson's preface, using hapless would describe someone or something that is unfortunate yet sympathetic, not mysterious or stupid or cruel. The other options push the sense in the wrong direction: unknown or unfamiliar would describe something obscure, not something deprived of luck; without intelligence points to foolishness; and without tenderness suggests harshness. So the best fit is the idea of being unlucky or pitiable.

3. In filmmaking, which task is specifically described as occurring during the production phase?

- A. securing financing for the film**
- B. writing the script**
- C. the actual recording of the video and audio**
- D. investigating marketing strategies**

In filmmaking, the production phase is when the film is actually shot. This is the period when cameras roll, actors perform, lighting is set, and audio and video are recorded. Financing and writing the script happen earlier, in pre-production, while marketing strategies are typically planned and executed around or after production, often in post-production or during distribution. So the task that happens during production is the actual recording of video and audio.

4. In the Declaration of Independence excerpt, which statement best describes Jefferson's diction?

- A. Jefferson uses words with neutral connotations to present a claim based on reason and precedent.**
- B. Jefferson uses words with positive connotations to praise his listeners for their political activism.
- C. Jefferson uses words with neutral connotations to suggest that there is no need for change.
- D. Jefferson uses words with negative connotations to undermine the opposition.

The language in Jefferson's excerpt is chosen to present a claim that rests on reason and universal principle rather than emotion or flattery. He favors formal, elevated diction that invokes natural law and the social contract—phrases like self-evident truths and unalienable rights—so the argument reads as rational and legitimate, not personal or sentimental. By laying out a chain of abuses and appeals to the laws of nature and equality, he builds a case that independence follows from established principles and prior precedent, not from praise or anger alone. While he critiques the king, the emphasis remains on reasoned justification and universal rights, which is why this option best captures the diction. The other options don't fit because the diction is not chiefly about flattering the audience, nor does it argue that no change is needed, and it isn't aimed at undermining the opposition through negative sentiment alone. The tone is disciplined and logic-driven, aligning with Enlightenment ideals and the aim of securing legitimacy for independence.

5. Which phrase does Johnson use to describe the writers whose works he draws from as sources for the dictionary?

- A. the boundless chaos of a living speech
- B. the wells of English undefiled**
- C. the time of their authors
- D. the dictionaries of old

Johnson casts the writers he draws from as pure reservoirs of language: they are "the wells of English undefiled." This metaphor shows his view that real, good English comes from careful, authoritative authors whose works preserve the language in its cleanest, most authentic form. By tapping into those writers, he grounds the dictionary in genuine usage rather than in his own guesses, aiming to present words as they truly appear in respected prose and poetry. The phrase emphasizes depth and purity—many sources, but all contributing undefiled English to guide definitions and examples. The other options miss this image entirely: one describes language as chaotic, which doesn't align with Johnson's purpose of fixing and clarifying English; another hints at a period rather than a source of linguistic authority; and the last suggests borrowing from other dictionaries, which isn't how he framed his sources for illustrating usage.

6. In the Declaration of Sentiments excerpt, which word conveys the negative impact of denying voting rights?

- A. deprived**
- B. elective**
- C. representation**
- D. oppressed**

The main idea here is how language in the Declaration of Sentiments communicates the harm caused by denying voting rights. The word that fits this best is **oppressed** because it conveys more than just a lack of rights—it expresses a systemic injustice that weighs on people, limiting their freedom and agency through social and political domination. This tone matches the document’s purpose of highlighting the moral wrong of denying women the vote. **Deprived** suggests a missing entitlement but lacks the strong sense of ongoing oppression and coercive impact. **Representation** refers to the goal of having a voice in government rather than the harm of being denied it. **Elective** is unrelated to the harm and speaks to the act of voting, not the consequence of denial. **Oppressed** encapsulates the lived experience of injustice the text seeks to convey.

7. Which statement best captures the combined message about education and opportunity?

- A. Education and perseverance enable individuals to overcome early hardship.**
- B. Education is unnecessary for enslaved people.**
- C. Education should be avoided to prevent rebellion.**
- D. Only luck matters for advancement.**

The main idea being tested is that education, combined with personal effort, creates opportunity and helps people rise above difficult beginnings. In Enlightenment thinking, education equips individuals with reason, knowledge, and practical skills, while perseverance turns that learning into real progress in life. So the statement that **education and perseverance enable someone to overcome early hardship** best reflects how knowledge and sustained effort can expand what’s possible for a person, underscoring the era’s belief in human improvement and merit. The other options contradict this view: they either deny the value of education, advocate suppressing learning to keep the status quo, or reduce advancement to luck, all of which clash with the Enlightenment emphasis on reason, self-improvement, and agency.

8. Which evaluation best captures the thesis about Foley artists?

- A. The thesis is effective because it covers a broad topic while maintaining an objective viewpoint.
- B. The thesis is ineffective because it lacks clear transitions between the thoughts of the writer.
- C. The thesis is effective because it contains a topic that is focused and a viewpoint that is clear.**
- D. The thesis is ineffective because it lacks proper citations and does not grab the reader's attention.

A strong thesis clearly states a focused topic and a clear stance. For a statement about Foley artists, this means naming Foley artists as the specific subject and taking a definite position about their role or impact. When the thesis makes a precise claim that can be argued with evidence—such as asserting that Foley artists are essential for creating the realism of film sound—you have a claim you can support with examples and analysis. That combination of a narrow focus and a clear viewpoint is what makes the thesis effective. The other options fail because they either describe the topic too broadly, imply a concern with writing mechanics rather than a debatable claim, or focus on appeal or citations rather than presenting a testable argument. A broad topic with an objective (non-arguable) viewpoint doesn't invite evidence-based support. Emphasizing transitions or organizational issues isn't about the strength of the thesis itself. And mentioning citations or reader grab—but not making a specific, defensible claim about Foley artists—undercuts the purpose of a thesis.

9. Which is an effective thesis?

- A. There are many bees in the world, such as the ones in your garden.
- B. Bees are a crucial part of any thriving ecosystem, including your garden.**
- C. While bees have some benefits, the buzzing around the garden gets annoying.
- D. Generally speaking, bees are okay so long as they stay outside in the garden.

An effective thesis makes a clear, arguable claim that sets up the essay and signals the evidence you'll use. In this option, the statement that bees are a crucial part of any thriving ecosystem, including your garden, does that work well. It takes a definite stance about the importance of bees and ties it to a concrete context—the garden—so you can argue with specific examples like pollination, biodiversity, and ecosystem services. This invites defending the claim with evidence rather than merely stating a fact or expressing a personal feeling. The other lines fail to function as a strong thesis because they either present a general fact without a defensible stance, reveal a biased or dismissive attitude, or hedge the claim so a clear argument isn't promised. For example, stating there are many bees is a basic fact rather than a debatable claim; suggesting bees have some benefits but that buzzing is annoying signals a subjective complaint rather than a position you can substantiate; and saying bees are okay so long as they stay outside is too vague and non-committal to sustain an argument.

10. What is the overarching conclusion these excerpts promote about slavery and literacy?

- A. They ignore the issue.**
- B. They reject literacy as a means of improvement.**
- C. They accept slavery as a natural order.**
- D. They advocate abolition and literacy as paths to dignity.**

Literacy is presented as a powerful catalyst for recognizing the humanity of enslaved people and for enabling their moral and social ascent. The excerpts treat reading and education as tools that empower individuals to think, argue, and participate in public life, which in turn fuels the argument for freedom. By linking literacy with dignity and rational agency, the passages align abolition with the idea that every person deserves access to education and the chance to shape their own life. In this light, abolition and literacy become inseparable paths to human dignity. These texts do not ignore slavery, reject literacy, or treat slavery as a natural order. Instead, they frame literacy as a means to critique slavery and to promote emancipation as a humane and rational progression.

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://enlightenmentinenglandmodernhum.examzify.com>

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

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