

# Theology, Cosmology, and Philosophy 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. Not sure whether God exists or not.**
  - A. Theist**
  - B. Atheist**
  - C. Agnostic**
  - D. Covenant**
  
- 2. Which term is the act of making things legally and morally right?**
  - A. Justice**
  - B. Adoption**
  - C. Pantheon**
  - D. Yahweh**
  
- 3. Which Hebrew word means servant or slave?**
  - A. Faith**
  - B. Ebed**
  - C. Haram**
  - D. Idolatry**
  
- 4. Which concept involves small, adaptive changes within a species?**
  - A. Microevolution**
  - B. Macroevolution**
  - C. Spontaneous Generation**
  - D. Supernatural**
  
- 5. Which term names the belief that all living beings share a single, ancient ancestor?**
  - A. Tree of Life**
  - B. Universal Common Ancestry**
  - C. Knowledge**
  - D. Postmodernism**

- 6. Which theory posits the universe began about 14 billion years ago?**
- A. Big Bang Theory**
  - B. Quantum Physics**
  - C. Second Law of Thermodynamics**
  - D. General Revelation**
- 7. What term refers to the collection of biblical writings commonly accepted as genuine and authoritative?**
- A. Elohim**
  - B. Covenant**
  - C. Grace**
  - D. Canon**
- 8. Which law describes the thermodynamic trend that energy quality degrades over time in a closed system?**
- A. Second Law of Thermodynamics**
  - B. Quantum Physics**
  - C. Cosmology**
  - D. Design Argument**
- 9. Which scientific law states that the usable energy in a closed system decreases over time, suggesting a beginning of the universe?**
- A. Second Law of Thermodynamics**
  - B. Quantum Physics**
  - C. Cosmology**
  - D. Kalam Cosmological Argument**
- 10. Which belief says that everything in the universe is ultimately divine?**
- A. Monism**
  - B. Theism**
  - C. Pantheism**
  - D. Atheism**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Not sure whether God exists or not.

- A. Theist
- B. Atheist
- C. Agnostic**
- D. Covenant

This question tests how you categorize positions on knowing about God's existence. Saying you're not sure whether God exists expresses an epistemic stance rather than a firm belief or disbelief. The best label is agnostic, which describes someone who neither affirms nor denies God's existence and often holds that the truth is unknown or not yet knowable given current evidence. Theism would mean you affirm that God exists, while atheism would mean you deny or doubt God's existence. Covenant refers to a binding agreement in religious contexts, not to a stance on whether God exists. So the statement fits agnosticism.

## 2. Which term is the act of making things legally and morally right?

- A. Justice**
- B. Adoption
- C. Pantheon
- D. Yahweh

The main idea being tested is justice—the practice of making things right in a way that is fair and lawful. Justice involves applying laws and norms so that people receive what they deserve, while also upholding ethical standards of fairness and equality. It captures both the legal dimension (following rules, remedies for wrongs) and the moral dimension (what is right and due to others). That combination is why justice is the best match for “the act of making things legally and morally right.” Adoption is about joining a family, Pantheon refers to a group of gods, and Yahweh is a divine name; none of these describe the act of aligning legality with moral rightness.

## 3. Which Hebrew word means servant or slave?

- A. Faith
- B. Ebed**
- C. Haram
- D. Idolatry

In Hebrew, the word for servant or slave is a noun formed from the root meaning to serve. The term עֶבֶד (eved) captures both ideas: someone who is in bondage as a slave and someone who fulfills a duty as a devoted servant. This flexibility shows up in Scripture, where a person can be described as a slave in a household or as a servant of the Lord, highlighting a relationship of service and loyalty rather than merely a legal status. That broad, well-attested usage is why this term is the right choice here. The other options do not mean servant: faith refers to belief or trust (not a noun for a person in service), haram is not a Hebrew word for servant and is usually encountered in contexts outside Biblical Hebrew, and idolatry in Hebrew is typically described as avod zarah, meaning foreign worship, not a designation of a person.

**4. Which concept involves small, adaptive changes within a species?**

- A. Microevolution**
- B. Macroevolution**
- C. Spontaneous Generation**
- D. Supernatural**

Microevolution is the idea that small, adaptive changes happen within a population over generations. It focuses on shifts in allele frequencies from one generation to the next due to mechanisms like natural selection, mutation, gene flow, and genetic drift. Over time, these incremental changes accumulate and you see variation within the species, such as different color forms in a moth population or bacteria developing drug resistance. This is distinct from macroevolution, which looks at larger-scale changes that can lead to new species and broader patterns across lineages. Spontaneous generation is an outdated notion about life arising from nonliving matter, and the supernatural falls outside scientific explanations. So the concept describing small, adaptive changes within a species is microevolution.

**5. Which term names the belief that all living beings share a single, ancient ancestor?**

- A. Tree of Life**
- B. Universal Common Ancestry**
- C. Knowledge**
- D. Postmodernism**

Descent from a single origin is the idea that all living beings are related through a common ancestry, a view that ties the diversity of life back to one ancient ancestor. The term that names this belief is Universal Common Ancestry. It highlights that life on Earth shares a common origin and has diversified through branching lineages over time, which is supported by evidence like the universal genetic code and conserved genes found across all organisms. The Tree of Life is a helpful diagram that visualizes these relationships and how species are connected through shared ancestry, but it's a visualization rather than the name of the belief itself. Knowledge is a broad term about what is known, not a specific claim about the origin of life, and Postmodernism is a philosophical stance about truth and knowledge, not a biological claim about ancestry.

**6. Which theory posits the universe began about 14 billion years ago?**

- A. Big Bang Theory**
- B. Quantum Physics**
- C. Second Law of Thermodynamics**
- D. General Revelation**

The idea being tested is how scientists describe the origin and age of the universe. The Big Bang Theory holds that the universe began from a hot, dense state about 13.8 to 14 billion years ago and has been expanding ever since. This model is supported by key evidence: the observed redshift of distant galaxies showing expansion, the almost uniform cosmic microwave background radiation dating from the early hot era, and the predicted abundances of light elements like hydrogen and helium from the early nucleosynthesis. Together, these lines of evidence align with a universe that started in a rapid, energetic expansion and evolved over billions of years. Quantum physics deals with the behavior of matter and energy at the smallest scales and informs cosmology, but it doesn't by itself pin down a specific origin time for the universe. The Second Law of Thermodynamics describes how entropy tends to increase in closed systems, not the origin or age of the cosmos. General Revelation speaks to knowledge of the divine through the natural world, not a scientific model of cosmic origins.

**7. What term refers to the collection of biblical writings commonly accepted as genuine and authoritative?**

- A. Elohim**
- B. Covenant**
- C. Grace**
- D. Canon**

This term refers to the collection of biblical writings commonly accepted as genuine and authoritative. A canon is formed when a religious community recognizes certain texts as inspired, trustworthy, and binding for faith and practice. Over time, different traditions—Jewish, Catholic, Orthodox, and various Protestant groups—discern which books belong, leading to slightly different canons. The word comes from the Greek *kanon*, meaning a rule or standard, signaling that these writings set the standard for belief and conduct. The other terms point to separate ideas—Elohim is a Hebrew word for God; Covenant is a binding agreement between God and people; Grace is God's unmerited favor. None of those designate a recognized collection of scriptures, which is why canon is the best fit.

**8. Which law describes the thermodynamic trend that energy quality degrades over time in a closed system?**

**A. Second Law of Thermodynamics**

**B. Quantum Physics**

**C. Cosmology**

**D. Design Argument**

The main concept here is that energy quality declines in a closed system because entropy tends to increase. In an isolated system, the total amount of energy stays the same, but processes tend to spread energy more evenly. High-quality energy—energy that can readily do work, like a concentrated fuel or a gradient—becomes low-quality energy, such as dispersed heat that’s hard to harness for doing work. This shift is what people describe when they say energy degrades over time. A concrete way to see it is a cup of hot coffee in a sealed room: the coffee’s thermal energy gradually spreads to the surrounding air. The energy is still there, but it’s less available to drive processes, so its usefulness for doing work decreases. This tendency—energy becoming more dispersed and less able to do work—embodies the law that governs such systems. Other topics mentioned aren’t about this thermodynamic principle. The focus here is the law that describes the inevitable move toward greater disorder and less usable energy over time.

**9. Which scientific law states that the usable energy in a closed system decreases over time, suggesting a beginning of the universe?**

**A. Second Law of Thermodynamics**

**B. Quantum Physics**

**C. Cosmology**

**D. Kalam Cosmological Argument**

Usable energy decreases as processes run because entropy, a measure of disorder and energy spread, tends to increase. The Second Law of Thermodynamics states that in any closed (isolated) system, the total entropy cannot decrease; energy becomes more dispersed and less able to do work. When you think of the universe as a whole, this principle implies it started in a far more ordered, low-entropy state and has been moving toward higher entropy ever since. That connection between a low-entropy beginning and the ongoing increase in entropy is why this law is the best descriptor for the idea that usable energy fades over time and points toward a beginning of the cosmos. The other options don’t capture this specific thermodynamic principle: quantum physics is a broad field, not a single law about energy availability over time; cosmology is the study of the universe, not a law; the Kalam Cosmological Argument is a philosophical claim about the universe’s cause, not about energy and entropy dynamics.

**10. Which belief says that everything in the universe is ultimately divine?**

**A. Monism**

**B. Theism**

**C. Pantheism**

**D. Atheism**

Pantheism says that God is identical with the universe and that the divine pervades all things. In this view, the entire cosmos is a manifestation of the divine, so everything—from galaxies to thoughts to trees—carries a sacred, divine reality. There isn't a separate, personal God distinct from creation; rather, God and the universe are one. This is different from theism, which holds that a personal God exists who created and stands outside the world. It's also different from atheism, which denies the existence of God, and from monism in its various forms, which upholds a single underlying substance but does not necessarily claim that this substance is divine. Pantheism uniquely identifies the divine with the totality of existence. Spinoza's philosophy is a classic example of this perspective.

## 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://theologycosmologyphilosophy.examzify.com>**

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

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