

Western Governors University (WGU) ENGL1712 D270 Composition: Successful Self-Expression Midterm 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. What term most closely aligns with 'the policy of governing through a fatherly approach'?**
 - A. Paternalism**
 - B. Social Stratification**
 - C. Future Orientation**
 - D. Masculinity**

- 2. Which region experienced a substantial increase in its middle class since 1980?**
 - A. Asia**
 - B. United States**
 - C. Europe**
 - D. Africa**

- 3. Which term describes the risk of an unpredictable event that causes severe losses to many people at once?**
 - A. Market Risk**
 - B. Credit Risk**
 - C. Regulatory Risk**
 - D. Catastrophic Risk**

- 4. What term describes an investor taking a controlling investment in a foreign country?**
 - A. Offshoring**
 - B. Foreign Direct Investment**
 - C. Reshoring**
 - D. Outsourcing**

- 5. What is the name of a risk that affects a large number of assets and is often called market risk?**
 - A. Systematic Risk**
 - B. Procedural Risk**
 - C. Political Risk**
 - D. Political Freedom**

- 6. What term describes membership defined by birth such as gender, ethnicity, or nation?**
- A. Masculinity**
 - B. Hierarchy of Needs**
 - C. Ascribed Group Membership**
 - D. Autocracy**
- 7. Which term describes birth-defined membership in groups such as gender or ethnicity?**
- A. Paternalism**
 - B. Ascribed Group Membership**
 - C. Social Stratification**
 - D. Autocracy**
- 8. What is Green Field Investment?**
- A. A form of foreign direct investment where a parent company starts a new venture in a foreign country by constructing new facilities from the ground up.**
 - B. A license agreement allowing a foreign partner to use technology.**
 - C. Acquisition of an existing foreign company.**
 - D. Franchising a local business.**
- 9. Which term refers to governing people in a fatherly way, often supplying their needs?**
- A. Paternalism**
 - B. Social Stratification**
 - C. Ascribed Group Membership**
 - D. Power Distance**
- 10. Globalization 1.0 occurred during which period?**
- A. 1950-1998**
 - B. 200BC-1700AD, silk road/start of trade between East and West**
 - C. 1500-1945**
 - D. The industrial age**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What term most closely aligns with 'the policy of governing through a fatherly approach'?

- A. Paternalism**
- B. Social Stratification**
- C. Future Orientation**
- D. Masculinity**

Paternalism describes governing in a fatherly, benevolent way—acting as a guardian who makes decisions for people to protect their welfare, often restricting choices in the name of their own good. That fatherly approach is exactly what “the policy of governing through a fatherly approach” signals, so this term is the best fit. The other options don’t capture that governance style: social stratification is about layered social ranks, future orientation is about planning for what lies ahead, and masculinity refers to gendered traits.

2. Which region experienced a substantial increase in its middle class since 1980?

- A. Asia**
- B. United States**
- C. Europe**
- D. Africa**

The main idea is how the middle class expanded most dramatically in Asia since 1980. Rapid growth in large economies like China and India, along with widespread industrialization and urbanization, pushed hundreds of millions of people into middle-income brackets. That rise altered consumer demand for goods, housing, education, and services, and reshaped global markets. In contrast, the United States and Europe already had sizable middle classes before 1980, so their growth in numbers was less dramatic in comparison. Africa has seen gains too, but the overall scale of Asia’s middle-class expansion remains the most substantial.

3. Which term describes the risk of an unpredictable event that causes severe losses to many people at once?

- A. Market Risk**
- B. Credit Risk**
- C. Regulatory Risk**
- D. Catastrophic Risk**

A risk type described as an unpredictable event that triggers severe losses for a large number of people at the same time is catastrophic risk. This covers events like natural disasters, pandemics, or major cyberattacks that strike many individuals or institutions simultaneously, often with low frequency but very high impact. Market risk concerns changes in asset prices driven by market movements. Credit risk is the chance that a borrower fails to repay a loan. Regulatory risk involves shifts in laws or regulations that could affect operations. Because catastrophic risk specifically captures those rare but massively damaging events affecting many parties at once, it is the best fit.

4. What term describes an investor taking a controlling investment in a foreign country?

A. Offshoring

B. Foreign Direct Investment

C. Reshoring

D. Outsourcing

Taking a controlling investment in a foreign country is described by foreign direct investment. This term signals ownership and real influence over a business located abroad—often through acquiring a foreign company or establishing and running new operations that the investor controls. The emphasis here is on control across management and policy decisions, not just moving work elsewhere or contracting it out. Offshoring refers to relocating activities to another country to cut costs or access resources, but it doesn't require owning or controlling the foreign entity. Reshoring means bringing production or operations back to the home country. Outsourcing involves hiring another company to handle work without taking ownership or control of that foreign entity. Foreign direct investment stands out because it explicitly denotes ownership and control overseas.

5. What is the name of a risk that affects a large number of assets and is often called market risk?

A. Systematic Risk

B. Procedural Risk

C. Political Risk

D. Political Freedom

The main idea here is a risk that moves many assets together because of broad market conditions. This is systematic risk, also called market risk, since it stems from factors that affect the overall market—things like economic cycles, shifts in interest rates, inflation, or wide geopolitical events. Because these forces impact a wide range of securities at once, you can't eliminate this risk just by picking different stocks; diversification can reduce unsystematic risk but not this broad, market-wide risk. You can manage it through strategies like asset allocation and hedging, but it remains a fundamental part of investing. Procedural risk relates to internal processes, not market-wide movements. Political risk concerns government actions in a country and may affect assets differently depending on exposure. Political Freedom isn't a standard term for financial risk.

6. What term describes membership defined by birth such as gender, ethnicity, or nation?

- A. Masculinity**
- B. Hierarchy of Needs**
- C. Ascribed Group Membership**
- D. Autocracy**

Membership defined by birth such as gender, ethnicity, or nation is described as ascribed group membership. In sociology, ascribed status is something a person is born into or assigned, not earned or chosen. These birth-defined categories shape how others perceive us and often come with different social expectations and opportunities. This contrasts with achieved group membership, which arises from personal actions or choices, like earning a degree or joining a club. The other terms point to different ideas: masculinity relates to gender identity or expression, the Hierarchy of Needs is a motivational theory, and autocracy is a form of government. So, ascribed group membership best fits the description.

7. Which term describes birth-defined membership in groups such as gender or ethnicity?

- A. Paternalism**
- B. Ascribed Group Membership**
- C. Social Stratification**
- D. Autocracy**

Ascribed group membership describes membership in social groups that is assigned at birth, such as gender or ethnicity, rather than chosen or earned later in life. This concept captures how certain identities are given to you by birth circumstances and shape how society categorizes you from the start. For example, being born into a particular gender or ethnic group places you in those categories regardless of personal choices or changes over time. Paternalism is about authority and guiding others for their supposed good, not about how social groups are defined. Social stratification refers to the hierarchy and unequal distribution of resources in a society, not to the birth-based assignment of group identity. Autocracy is a form of government with a single ruler, unrelated to social membership.

8. What is Green Field Investment?

- A. A form of foreign direct investment where a parent company starts a new venture in a foreign country by constructing new facilities from the ground up.**
- B. A license agreement allowing a foreign partner to use technology.**
- C. Acquisition of an existing foreign company.**
- D. Franchising a local business.**

Green field investment is a form of foreign direct investment where a parent company starts a new venture in a foreign country by constructing new facilities from the ground up. It involves creating new physical assets—like factories, offices, and distribution centers—and often hiring local staff and transferring technology and management practices to build an entirely new subsidiary. This is different from licensing, which just grants rights to use technology; from acquiring an existing foreign company, which buys a preexisting operation; and from franchising, which expands a business model under a brand. A real-world example would be a company building a new manufacturing plant in another country, rather than purchasing an existing company or simply licensing its technology.

9. Which term refers to governing people in a fatherly way, often supplying their needs?

- A. Paternalism**
- B. Social Stratification**
- C. Ascribed Group Membership**
- D. Power Distance**

Paternalism describes governing people in a fatherly way, often supplying their needs, with the belief that those in authority know what's best and should guide or make decisions for others to protect their welfare. This fits the description because the focus is on benevolent control and providing for people, sometimes at the expense of their individual autonomy. Social stratification is about how society is divided into layers or classes, not a leadership style. Ascribed group membership refers to identities someone inherits, such as ethnicity or caste, rather than a method of governance. Power distance looks at how a culture handles unequal power, not a specific approach to governing people directly.

10. Globalization 1.0 occurred during which period?

A. 1950-1998

B. 200BC-1700AD, silk road/start of trade between East and West

C. 1500-1945

D. The industrial age

Globalization in this sense is about long-range connections that knit distant regions together, driven by early empires and state-led trade networks. Globalization 1.0 is the period when governments extended power across regions and built expansive trade routes, linking East and West. The timeframe from about 200 BCE to 1700 CE fits this best because it covers the rise of civilizations along the Silk Road and other wide-ranging networks that moved goods, ideas, and technologies across continents long before industrial production or digital communication reshaped global ties. It highlights how connectivity was primarily propelled by states seeking power and territory, rather than by modern corporations or individuals. In contrast, later options point to eras dominated by industrialization or recent global systems, which belong to Globalization 2.0 and beyond.

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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://wgu-engl1712d270.examzify.com>

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

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