

Wonderlic Basic Skills Test (WBST) Practice Exam (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 change is necessary in lines 11 and 12?**
 - A. Change the question mark after valuable to a period.**
 - B. Change Chinese to chinese.**
 - C. Add a comma after hand-painted.**
 - D. Make no change.**

- 2. According to the recipe, what should be the first step in making chicken gumbo soup?**
 - A. boil water in a pot**
 - B. saute onions and garlic**
 - C. remove the meat from the bones**
 - D. simmer the broth, tomatoes, okra, and corn**

- 3. A donation is a:**
 - A. speech**
 - B. gift**
 - C. rule**
 - D. tale**

- 4. How can you identify the main idea of a reading passage?**
 - A. Look for irrelevant details**
 - B. Focus on concluding sentences**
 - C. Identify topic sentences and repeated themes**
 - D. Read the passage in reverse order**

- 5. Identify the error in the sentence: "At age 85, Mr. Robinson's father, that had been the city mayor in the 1970's, now lives in Florida, with his dog Rico."**
 - A. At age 85**
 - B. City mayor in the 1970's**
 - C. Now lives in Florida**
 - D. No error**

- 6. Why is practice important for the WBST?**
- A. It helps improve physical endurance for the test**
 - B. It helps familiarize candidates with question formats and improves time management**
 - C. It allows for memorization of answers**
 - D. It has no significant impact on results**
- 7. What role do test-taking strategies play in WBST preparation?**
- A. They help in memorizing test content**
 - B. They can enhance performance by improving focus and efficiency**
 - C. They provide answers to test questions**
 - D. They are unnecessary for good students**
- 8. A pose is a:**
- A. piece of wood**
 - B. sign**
 - C. sum of money**
 - D. position**
- 9. Which of the following practices is advisable before taking the WBST?**
- A. Ignoring practice tests**
 - B. Developing a clear study plan**
 - C. Relying solely on classroom instruction**
 - D. Studying in a crowded environment**
- 10. Anyone who _____ to go can leave now.**
- A. wants**
 - B. want**
 - C. with a want**
 - D. wanting**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What change is necessary in lines 11 and 12?

- A. Change the question mark after valuable to a period.
- B. Change Chinese to chinese.
- C. Add a comma after hand-painted.**
- D. Make no change.

The correct answer involves adding a comma after "hand-painted" to improve the clarity and readability of the sentence. In a list or series where multiple adjectives are used to describe a noun, clarity can often be enhanced with the use of commas. In this case, the term "hand-painted" is modifying a noun, and separating it with a comma from the next descriptive part can help clarify the structure of the sentence. This allows the reader to easily understand that "hand-painted" is one of several descriptors and maintains a consistent style throughout the writing. Adding the comma serves a grammatical function that highlights the separate qualities being presented, ensuring the sentence flows better and is clearer in meaning.

2. According to the recipe, what should be the first step in making chicken gumbo soup?

- A. boil water in a pot**
- B. saute onions and garlic
- C. remove the meat from the bones
- D. simmer the broth, tomatoes, okra, and corn

In making chicken gumbo soup, the first step typically involves preparing the base for the soup, which is often done by heating up liquids such as water or broth in a pot. Boiling water is crucial because it allows you to start building flavors and ensures that any ingredients added later can effectively cook. This step is foundational as it sets the stage for the sautéing of vegetables or the addition of proteins, which come after the water is heated. Once the water is boiling, the cook can proceed to add ingredients such as sautéed onions and garlic or start the process of integrating flavors into the soup. Therefore, starting with boiling water is a logical and necessary first step in the sequence of preparing chicken gumbo soup.

3. A donation is a:

- A. speech
- B. gift**
- C. rule
- D. tale

A donation is correctly identified as a gift, which embodies the act of giving something voluntarily without expecting anything in return. Donations are typically associated with charitable contributions, where an individual or organization provides goods, services, or money to support those in need or to further a cause. On the other hand, the other options do not accurately represent the nature of a donation. A speech involves verbal communication, often meant to inform or persuade, while a rule is a prescribed guide for conduct that dictates behavior. A tale refers to a narrative or story, which is unrelated to the concept of giving or donations. This distinctive characteristic of a donation being a voluntary transfer of resources aligns it specifically with the notion of a gift.

4. How can you identify the main idea of a reading passage?

- A. Look for irrelevant details
- B. Focus on concluding sentences
- C. Identify topic sentences and repeated themes**
- D. Read the passage in reverse order

Identifying the main idea of a reading passage involves recognizing the core concepts that the author wants to communicate. One effective strategy is to look for topic sentences, which often express the primary idea of a paragraph, and to pay attention to repeated themes throughout the text. These elements highlight what the author considers important, allowing readers to grasp the essence of the passage clearly. When you focus on topic sentences, you can determine the key points that the author is making. Repeated themes can further reinforce the main idea, as they show what the author emphasizes throughout the text. Other approaches, such as seeking concluding sentences or reading in reverse, do not directly aid in identifying the main idea. While conclusions can summarize concepts, they may not capture the overall message conveyed earlier in the passage. Similarly, reading in reverse order disrupts the natural flow of information, making it challenging to understand the author's intended message. Thus, focusing on topic sentences and repeated themes proves to be the most effective method for identifying the main idea.

5. Identify the error in the sentence: "At age 85, Mr. Robinson's father, that had been the city mayor in the 1970's, now lives in Florida, with his dog Rico."

- A. At age 85
- B. City mayor in the 1970's**
- C. Now lives in Florida
- D. No error

The correct identification of the error relates to the phrase "city mayor in the 1970's." The term "1970's" incorrectly uses an apostrophe, as it suggests possession rather than forming a plural. The proper way to indicate multiple years in a decade is simply to write "1970s" without the apostrophe. This maintains clarity that it's referring to the decade and avoids grammatical confusion regarding possession. Therefore, the phrase indicates that the error involves grammatical usage regarding decade representation, making it clear why the option pointing out this mistake is the right choice. The other elements of the sentence do not contain similar issues, thus reinforcing the accuracy of the selected error.

6. Why is practice important for the WBST?

- A. It helps improve physical endurance for the test
- B. It helps familiarize candidates with question formats and improves time management**
- C. It allows for memorization of answers
- D. It has no significant impact on results

Practice is crucial for the WBST because it aids in familiarizing candidates with the different question formats and enhances their time management skills. The test consists of various types of questions, including verbal reasoning, mathematical problem-solving, and reading comprehension. By practicing, candidates can become accustomed to how these questions are structured, which in turn helps to reduce anxiety during the actual test. Furthermore, through repeated practice, test-takers can develop strategies for managing their time effectively during the exam. Understanding how long to spend on each question ensures they can complete the test within the allotted time while maximizing their performance. This combination of familiarity and time management is key to achieving a better score on the WBST, making practice an essential part of preparation for potential test-takers.

7. What role do test-taking strategies play in WBST preparation?

- A. They help in memorizing test content
- B. They can enhance performance by improving focus and efficiency**
- C. They provide answers to test questions
- D. They are unnecessary for good students

Test-taking strategies are crucial for enhancing performance on assessments like the Wonderlic Basic Skills Test. These strategies help candidates improve their focus and efficiency during the test, which can lead to better time management and decision-making when answering questions. By implementing effective strategies, test-takers can prioritize certain types of questions, manage their pacing throughout the test, and reduce anxiety, which often results in a clearer mindset. Additionally, these strategies can guide individuals in approaching different question formats and styles, allowing them to tackle each question with confidence and clarity. This is particularly beneficial in timed tests where every second counts, as being focused and efficient can make a significant difference in the overall score. In contrast, while memorization can be helpful in some contexts, it does not directly enhance test performance in the same way that strategic preparation does. Furthermore, while test-taking strategies do not provide outright answers, they equip test-takers with techniques to deduce and evaluate answer choices more effectively. They play a pivotal role for all students, underscoring their importance regardless of a student's overall academic capabilities.

8. A pose is a:

- A. piece of wood**
- B. sign**
- C. sum of money**
- D. position**

A pose is defined as a position or stance that a person adopts, especially in the context of art, photography, or acting. When someone strikes a pose, they are deliberately positioning their body in a specific way to convey an impression or to create a certain aesthetic for an observer. This usage is commonly seen in modeling, dance, and other performing arts. In contrast, the other options do not align with the definition of a pose. A piece of wood, while it can be shaped or formed, does not relate to the concept of a stance or posture. A sign typically refers to a symbol or indicator and does not denote a physical posture. Similarly, a sum of money is an entirely different concept and unrelated to body positioning. Thus, the definition of a pose as a position makes it the correct choice.

9. Which of the following practices is advisable before taking the WBST?

- A. Ignoring practice tests**
- B. Developing a clear study plan**
- C. Relying solely on classroom instruction**
- D. Studying in a crowded environment**

Developing a clear study plan is essential before taking the WBST because it helps to organize your preparation effectively. A structured approach allows you to allocate specific times for each subject area covered in the test, ensuring you cover all necessary materials systematically. It also enables you to track your progress over time, adjust your study strategies as needed, and identify areas where you may need more practice. This focused preparation can significantly enhance your confidence and performance on the test day, as you'll be well-equipped with the knowledge and skills required. A study plan also reduces anxiety by providing a roadmap to follow, making the preparation process more manageable and structured.

10. Anyone who _____ to go can leave now.

- A. wants**
- B. want**
- C. with a want**
- D. wanting**

The correct choice is "wants" because it appropriately matches the singular subject "anyone" with the correct verb form. In English, when using "anyone" as the subject, it is treated as a singular noun, so the singular verb "wants" is required to ensure subject-verb agreement. In this context, the sentence conveys that anyone who has the desire or intention (wants) to leave is free to do so. Using "wants" maintains grammatical correctness and clarity. The other options do not fit grammatically within the structure of the sentence. For instance, "want" would lack the necessary subject-verb agreement, "with a want" changes the structure and meaning incorrectly, and "wanting" is a gerund that does not serve as a suitable verb in this context.

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://wonderlicwbst.examzify.com>

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

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