BU CENTER FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION (CASLI) 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.

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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!

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Questions

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1. Which of the following best describes the ADA coverage areas?

A. Public transportation

B. Public accommodations

C. Employment

D. Public transportation, public accommodations, employment, telecommunications, and state and local government activities

2. Which statement is NOT a reason not to interpret for friends and family?

A. It can blur boundaries

B. It can cause burnout

C. You can become a better friend to them

D. It can compromise confidentiality

3. If a newer interpreter is scheduled for a two-hour assignment but later a different agency offers an all-day assignment that conflicts with it, what should they do?

A. Turn down the all-day assignment and keep the two-hour assignment.

B. Accept the all-day assignment and cancel the two-hour assignment.

C. Do both assignments at the same time.

D. Hire an assistant to cover the all-day.

4. The CPC tenet violation in the described scenario is which?

A. Interpreters conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the specific interpreting situation

B. Interpreters must always deliver verbatim transcripts

C. Interpreters should ignore the context

D. Interpreters are free to deviate to simplify

5. Which statement is true about professional development when moving across settings?

A. It's only for beginners

B. Different settings require different skills

C. Training is optional

D. It reduces job opportunities

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6. In the described conference scenario, how many DeafBlind consumers used tactile ASL?

A. One

B. Two

C. Three

D. Four

7. What is your first course of action when you observe a colleague's choices to be blatantly unethical?

A. Speak to the colleague in private during a break, asking if they can help you understand these choices

B. Report the colleague to supervision

C. Ignore

D. Confront publicly

8. In interpreting, you should wait for full or complete thought to form proper English sentence or phrase.

A. False

B. True

C. Sometimes

D. Never

9. Before starting a joint interpretation with Deaf and hearing participants, the hearing interpreters should ask the Deaf interpreters their preferred mode of receiving the message.

A. True

B. It depends

C. Only for long assignments

D. False

10. During a home-based assignment, you develop an allergic reaction to a family's dogs. What is the appropriate action?

A. Continue with the assignment and manage symptoms silently

B. Inform the agency that you will need to be replaced by another interpreter and share any pertinent information regarding the assignment

C. Ask the family to relocate the session to a dog-free environment

D. Cancel the assignment without notifying anyone

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which of the following best describes the ADA coverage areas?

A. Public transportation

B. Public accommodations

C. Employment

D. Public transportation, public accommodations, employment, telecommunications, and state and local government activities

The ADA protects people with disabilities across five broad areas: employment, public accommodations, public transportation, telecommunications, and state and local government activities. This means equal chances to work and advance in a job, access to places and services like stores, restaurants, and hotels, access to transit systems, accessible communication options such as captioned media and relay services, and access to government programs and services and their facilities. The option that lists all five areas best describes the overall scope of the ADA, while choices mentioning only one or a subset don't capture the full coverage.

2. Which statement is NOT a reason not to interpret for friends and family?

A. It can blur boundaries

B. It can cause burnout

C. You can become a better friend to them

D. It can compromise confidentiality

Interpreting for friends and family raises real professional concerns about boundaries, capacity, and privacy. When you interpret for someone close, the line between personal and professional can blur, making it hard to maintain objectivity, appropriate roles, and clear expectations. That blur can lead to boundary issues where you're pulled into personal matters or feel obligated beyond your role. Burnout is another risk: interpreting for loved ones can demand time, emotional energy, and availability that extend beyond what's appropriate for a formal assignment, leaving you drained or unavailable for other responsibilities. Confidentiality can also be compromised if private information is shared in informal settings or discussed outside proper channels, or if the interpreter doesn't have safeguards in place for handling sensitive data. The statement about becoming a better friend to them describes a potential positive outcome, not a risk. It's not a reason to avoid interpreting for someone you know, whereas the other points describe clear ethical and practical reasons to refrain.

3. If a newer interpreter is scheduled for a two-hour assignment but later a different agency offers an all-day assignment that conflicts with it, what should they do?

A. Turn down the all-day assignment and keep the two-hour assignment.

B. Accept the all-day assignment and cancel the two-hour assignment.

C. Do both assignments at the same time.

D. Hire an assistant to cover the all-day.

Balancing assignments and honoring commitments to ensure reliability and quality is the idea at work here. When you've already got a confirmed two-hour assignment, taking on a longer all-day job that conflicts with it would mean you can't be in both places or give each assignment your full attention. Protecting your credibility as a new interpreter means sticking to the guaranteed engagement and declining the conflicting one, so you can deliver the best possible service to the client who booked you first. If possible, you can explore rescheduling or arranging coverage with proper authorization, but the responsible move in this scenario is to turn down the all-day assignment and keep the two-hour one.

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4. The CPC tenet violation in the described scenario is which?

A. Interpreters conduct themselves in a manner appropriate to the specific interpreting situation

B. Interpreters must always deliver verbatim transcripts

C. Interpreters should ignore the context

D. Interpreters are free to deviate to simplify

Interpreting professionally means tailoring your behavior and approach to fit the specific situation, including the setting, participants, language needs, and purpose of the encounter. This involves staying professional, respecting boundaries, maintaining confidentiality, and striving for accurate and respectful communication. You don't have to provide a word-for-word transcript in every case; instead, you aim to convey meaning and intent clearly while preserving nuance, register, and cultural context. This principle best matches the scenario because it centers on acting in a way that's appropriate for the interpreting context and avoids rigid, one-size-fits-all methods. Choosing to stick to a verbatim transcript ignores the need to adapt to the situation and can hinder communication. Ignoring context or trying to simplify by deviating can distort meaning and undermine accuracy and fairness.

5. Which statement is true about professional development when moving across settings?

A. It's only for beginners

B. Different settings require different skills

C. Training is optional

D. It reduces job opportunities

Moving between settings requires you to tailor your skills to fit each environment. Different settings bring different audiences, protocols, confidentiality requirements, terminology, and collaboration patterns. So professional development should be targeted to the specific demands of the new setting you'll encounter, helping you build the right competencies as you gain experience. For instance, educational settings involve working with students and teachers and understanding IEP processes; healthcare requires accurate medical terminology and patient privacy; legal settings emphasize precise translation and courtroom protocols; conferences often demand rapid processing and memory management. This ongoing, context-specific growth is essential for staying prepared for new opportunities, not just for beginners. Training isn't optional in a professional path, and continuing development tends to expand job opportunities rather than limit them.

6. In the described conference scenario, how many DeafBlind consumers used tactile ASL?

A. One

B. Two

C. Three

D. Four

The main idea is to identify how many DeafBlind consumers explicitly used tactile ASL, counting each person once based on the description. Tactile ASL is the signing method where signs are felt by the recipient through touch, used by DeafBlind individuals to communicate. In the described conference, the text specifies two DeafBlind attendees used this method. So the correct count is two. Other participants might have used different communication aids or accommodations, but the question focuses on those who used tactile ASL, and the description provides that two individuals did so. If someone switched methods, you'd still count them for tactile ASL only if the scenario describes them using it, and then only once for that method.

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7. What is your first course of action when you observe a colleague's choices to be blatantly unethical?

A. Speak to the colleague in private during a break, asking if they can help you understand these choices

B. Report the colleague to supervision

C. Ignore

D. Confront publicly

When you notice blatantly unethical choices, the best first move is to talk with the colleague in private, during a calm moment like a break, and ask to understand their perspective. Approaching privately keeps the door open for honest dialogue, gives them a chance to explain or correct course, and helps you gather necessary context before taking further steps. This shows you're addressing concerns seriously without shaming or escalating the situation publicly, which can preserve trust and the working relationship while still upholding ethical standards. If the private conversation reveals misuse or if the behavior continues or poses risk to clients, escalate through the appropriate channels with clear documentation. On the other hand, ignoring the issue or confronting publicly tends to escalate conflict, damage professional relationships, and may put clients at risk or create a hostile work environment. Private, respectful inquiry is the prudent first step that balances accountability with a constructive path to resolution.

8. In interpreting, you should wait for full or complete thought to form proper English sentence or phrase.

A. False

B. True

C. Sometimes

D. Never

In interpreting, you aim to render meaning in the target language as a coherent, complete unit. Waiting until the full thought is formed ensures you capture all parts of the message—the main idea, modifiers, tense, relationships between elements, and the natural flow of English. This prevents fragmentary or misleading renditions and helps you choose the right words and structure to convey the message clearly and accurately. While there can be moments when you need to move quickly or provide a quick gist, the preferred practice for producing a proper English sentence or phrase is to wait for the complete thought. So the statement is true because it reflects prioritizing accuracy, completeness, and naturalness in interpretation.

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9. Before starting a joint interpretation with Deaf and hearing participants, the hearing interpreters should ask the Deaf interpreters their preferred mode of receiving the message.

A. True

B. It depends

C. Only for long assignments

D. False

Before starting a joint interpretation, hearing interpreters should ask the Deaf interpreter how they want to receive the message. Deaf interpreters may prefer different ways to access the content—such as receiving it directly in ASL or through another accessible mode—and this can vary from session to session. Clarifying this upfront ensures the Deaf interpreter can process the material accurately and efficiently, which helps deliver a clear, accessible message to the Deaf participants and reduces the risk of misunderstandings later. It also helps establish how the workflow will run and aligns expectations between the interpreters and participants. This readiness supports even brief assignments, not just long ones. So the statement is true.

10. During a home-based assignment, you develop an allergic reaction to a family's dogs. What is the appropriate action?

A. Continue with the assignment and manage symptoms silently

B. Inform the agency that you will need to be replaced by another interpreter and share any pertinent information regarding the assignment

C. Ask the family to relocate the session to a dog-free environment

D. Cancel the assignment without notifying anyone

When health and safety could be compromised during a session, the responsible move is to communicate with the supervising agency right away and arrange appropriate coverage. In this scenario, an allergic reaction to the dogs present in the home is a health issue that can affect your ability to interpret accurately and safely. Informing the agency that you need to be replaced allows them to arrange a qualified interpreter and to share pertinent details about the assignment, such as the presence of animals, any needed accommodations, and the level of allergy risk. This approach protects you and the clients, maintains the quality of the interpretation, and ensures continuity of service. If symptoms worsen, seek medical attention as needed, and provide a note or documentation to help plan future accommodations. Other options either place you at risk, disrupt the service without proper coordination, or place the client at a disadvantage by leaving them without appropriate coverage.

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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:

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

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