COMPUTER BASICS DEVICES, DATA, STORAGE, AND INTERNET CONCEPTS 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. **A file is 1,000,000 bytes. Using decimal megabytes (1 MB = 1,000,000 bytes), how many MB is the file?**

   A. 1 MB

   B. 0.1 MB

   C. 10 MB

   D. 100 MB

2. **Which option best describes a wireless network that uses wireless connections for some transmissions?**

   A. VPN

   B. LAN

   C. WLAN

   D. WAN

3. **Which statement about lossless data compression is NOT true?**

   A. Reduces file size without losing information.

   B. Allows exact restoration of the original data after decompression.

   C. ZIP is an example of lossless compression.

   D. Lossless compression discards some data to reduce size.

4. **Which term describes a network provider that offers access to networks across a region or nation?**

   A. Internet

   B. Local Area Network

   C. OSP

   D. Wide Area Network

5. **A megabyte is defined as which of the following?**

   A. 1024 bytes.

   B. 1 billion bytes.

   C. 1 trillion bytes.

   D. 1 million bytes.

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6. What is the difference between lossless and lossy audio compression?

A. Lossless reduces file size more than lossy

B. Lossless preserves all audio data, lossy discards some data to reduce file size

C. Lossless uses lossy algorithms

D. Lossless only works on text

7. Which term describes a collection of computers and devices connected together via communications devices and transmission media?

A. Cloud

B. Internet

C. Network

D. Intranet

8. What are the three primary components of a CPU and what does each do?

A. Cache stores firmware; RAM holds data temporarily; ROM holds data permanently.

B. ALU stores data; CU executes programs; RAM is for graphics.

C. Arithmetic Logic Unit performs calculations and logic operations; Control Unit fetches, decodes, and coordinates instruction execution; Registers hold data and addresses temporarily during processing.

D. Motherboard chipset controls power; CPU timers manage speed; GPU handles storage.

9. What is the software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals?

A. Operating System

B. Application Software

C. Firmware

D. The software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals.

10. Which cloud service model delivers software applications over the internet?

A. IaaS

B. SaaS

C. PaaS

D. CaaS

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A file is 1,000,000 bytes. Using decimal megabytes (1 MB = 1,000,000 bytes), how many MB is the file?

A. 1 MB

B. 0.1 MB

C. 10 MB

D. 100 MB

Converting bytes to megabytes uses the decimal definition, where 1 MB equals 1,000,000 bytes. To find how many MB 1,000,000 bytes equals, divide by the number of bytes per MB: 1,000,000 ÷ 1,000,000 = 1. So the file is 1 MB. If you've seen MB vs MiB, note that a mebibyte (MiB) uses 1,048,576 bytes per unit, so 1,000,000 bytes is about 0.9537 MiB, but this question specifies decimal MB. The other values would correspond to 0.1 MB (100,000 bytes), 10 MB (10,000,000 bytes), or 100 MB (100,000,000 bytes).

2. Which option best describes a wireless network that uses wireless connections for some transmissions?

A. VPN

B. LAN

C. WLAN

D. WAN

A Wireless Local Area Network describes a network in a limited area that uses wireless links to connect devices. This type of network relies on radios (like Wi Fi) for devices to talk to a wireless access point, which is usually connected to a wired backbone. That means some transmissions are wireless, while the underlying network can still use wired connections for the rest of the path. This fits the description of a network that uses wireless connections for some transmissions within a local footprint. In contrast, a LAN can be entirely wired or include both wired and wireless parts but isn't defined by wireless access, a WAN covers wide geographic areas, and VPN refers to securely tunneling data over a network rather than describing a network's basic form. A practical example is a home Wi Fi network where devices connect wirelessly to a router that is linked to the internet.

3. Which statement about lossless data compression is NOT true?

A. Reduces file size without losing information.

B. Allows exact restoration of the original data after decompression.

C. ZIP is an example of lossless compression.

D. Lossless compression discards some data to reduce size.

Lossless data compression reduces file size without losing any information. It works by encoding data more efficiently so that, when you decompress, you can recreate the exact original data bit-for-bit. A real-world example is ZIP, which uses lossless compression to shrink files without any loss of detail. The statement that lossless compression discards some data is not true because discarding data would prevent an exact reconstruction and is what happens in lossy compression, where some information is permanently removed to achieve smaller sizes.

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4. Which term describes a network provider that offers access to networks across a region or nation?

A. Internet

B. Local Area Network

C. OSP

D. Wide Area Network

Think about long-distance connectivity: a provider that offers access to networks across a region or nation is dealing with transport across wide areas. An Outside Service Provider (OSP) is the kind of entity that builds and maintains the infrastructure—like fiber networks or wireless backhaul—that carries data over large geographic distances, enabling connectivity across regional or national scopes. That makes OSP the best fit for describing a provider that offers access to networks over wide areas. The Internet is a global system of networks rather than a single provider. A Local Area Network refers to a small, localized network, not a provider. A Wide Area Network describes a network that spans large distances, but it's the type of network, not the provider, that delivers such reach. So the correct concept is the OSP, the service that enables wide-area connectivity.

5. A megabyte is defined as which of the following?

A. 1024 bytes.

B. 1 billion bytes.

C. 1 trillion bytes.

D. 1 million bytes.

A megabyte represents about a million bytes. In decimal terms, the prefix mega means 10^6, so a megabyte equals 1,000,000 bytes. Some contexts use a binary approach where a megabyte is 1,048,576 bytes, but that is often called a mebibyte to avoid confusion. The other numbers correspond to different units: 1024 bytes is a kilobyte in binary usage, one billion bytes is a gigabyte in decimal, and one trillion bytes is a terabyte in decimal. So, the one-million-bytes definition matches the common decimal usage for a megabyte.

6. What is the difference between lossless and lossy audio compression?

A. Lossless reduces file size more than lossy

B. Lossless preserves all audio data, lossy discards some data to reduce file size

C. Lossless uses lossy algorithms

D. Lossless only works on text

The main idea is whether the compression keeps every bit of the original data or not. In lossless compression, you shrink the file but can restore the exact original audio when you decompress it—no information is discarded that affects playback. This makes it ideal for archiving, mastering, or any situation where perfect fidelity is important. In lossy compression, some data is intentionally removed during encoding based on what is less perceptible to human ears, so the decompressed audio is an approximation of the original. It reduces file size more aggressively, which is useful for streaming or portable listening where bandwidth or storage is limited. So the key difference is that lossless preserves all audio data, while lossy discards some data to save space.

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7. Which term describes a collection of computers and devices connected together via communications devices and transmission media?

A. Cloud

B. Internet

C. Network

D. Intranet

A network is the idea being tested here. It's a system where multiple computers and other devices are linked together through communication hardware (like cables, wireless links, routers, and switches) so they can share data and resources such as files, printers, and Internet access. The defining point is the ability of the connected devices to communicate and cooperate as a single system. The other terms describe different concepts. The cloud refers to remote services and storage accessed over the network, focusing on where data and applications reside rather than the structure of a local collection of devices. The Internet is the global web of networks that interconnects countless networks around the world, not just a single group of devices in one place. An intranet is a private network used within an organization, which is still a network but operates inside a restricted scope rather than as a general, broad collection of connected devices.

8. What are the three primary components of a CPU and what does each do?

A. Cache stores firmware; RAM holds data temporarily; ROM holds data permanently.

B. ALU stores data; CU executes programs; RAM is for graphics.

C. Arithmetic Logic Unit performs calculations and logic operations; Control Unit fetches, decodes, and coordinates instruction execution; Registers hold data and addresses temporarily during processing.

D. Motherboard chipset controls power; CPU timers manage speed; GPU handles storage.

Three main parts work together inside a CPU: the Arithmetic Logic Unit performs calculations and logic operations; the Control Unit fetches instructions from memory, decodes them, and coordinates what the other parts should do; and registers are small, fast storage locations that hold operands, intermediate results, and addresses during processing. The Control Unit directs data to the ALU and moves results into registers or memory as a program runs, enabling correct sequencing and timing of operations. This combination—calculation, control, and quick storage—explains how a CPU carries out instructions efficiently. Other descriptions misstate roles, such as saying the ALU stores data or that RAM is solely for graphics, which aren't accurate representations of how the CPU's internal parts function.

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9. What is the software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals?

A. Operating System

B. Application Software

C. Firmware

D. The software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals.

The main idea here is identifying the software that manages a computer's basic operations and coordinates how everything else runs. The description provided—software that supports a computer's basic functions, such as scheduling tasks, executing applications, and controlling peripherals—fits this role exactly. That's what an operating system does: it schedules processes so multiple programs can run, launches and manages applications, and provides the drivers and interfaces that let the computer communicate with hardware like printers, disks, and input devices. While applications are for performing user tasks and firmware is low-level code tied to specific hardware, they don't encompass the broad, coordinating responsibilities that the operating system handles. So this description points to the operating system as the best match.

10. Which cloud service model delivers software applications over the internet?

A. IaaS

B. SaaS

C. PaaS

D. CaaS

Delivering software applications over the internet means you use the program through a web browser without installing it locally. This is the essence of Software as a Service: the provider hosts the application, handles maintenance, updates, and infrastructure, and you access it via the internet, usually paying on a subscription. You don't manage servers, runtimes, or storage—that work is done by the service provider. This contrasts with IaaS, where you rent virtual machines and manage the OS and software yourself; PaaS, where you're given a platform to develop and deploy your own apps while the provider handles the underlying runtime and middleware; and CaaS, which centers on container management rather than full software applications. So the model that fits "software applications over the internet" is Software as a Service.

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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://computerbasics.examzify.com

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

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