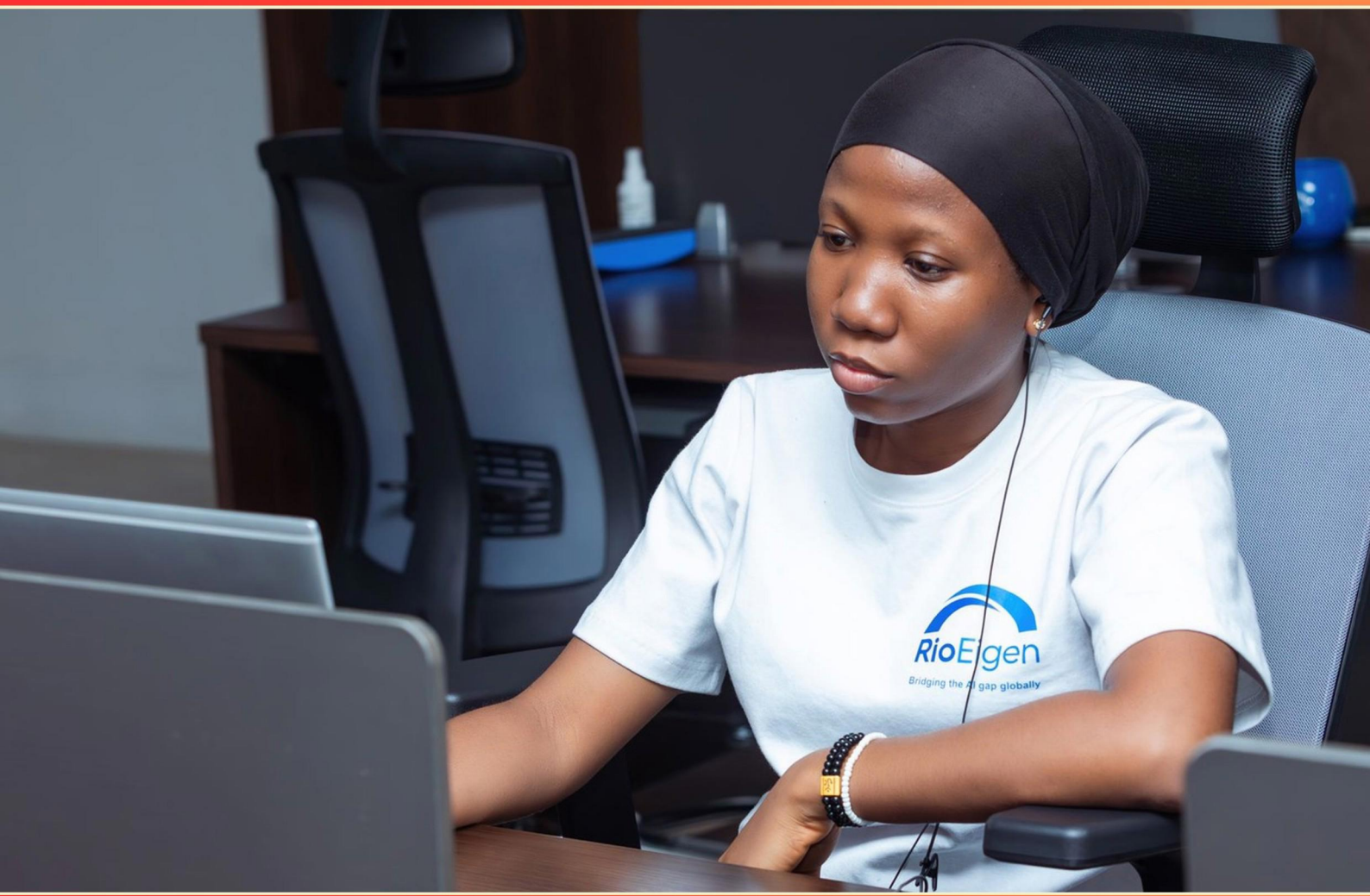
DSST COMPUTING AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://dsstcomputingit.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 16

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. What is often a primary reason for companies to outsource their operations?

A. Improvement in local workforce skills

B. Reduction of operational costs

C. Enhancing customer satisfaction

D. Meeting regulatory requirements

2. What is the role of the CPU in a computer system?

A. To manage network traffic

B. To store all data

C. To execute instructions and perform calculations

D. To display output on the screen

3. What does uptime measure in relation to a server?

A. The duration a computer can run without crashing

B. The total storage capacity of a server

C. The speed of data transfer

D. The amount of time a server is available and operational

4. Which type of disc is known for having a higher storage capacity than CDs and DVDs, specifically for high-definition videos?

A. DVD-R

B. Blu-ray

C. HD DVD

D. CD-R

5. Which of the following best describes a zombie computer?

A. A computer that has a high uptime

B. A computer used for performing network tasks

C. A computer maliciously controlled by a hacker

D. A computer that runs application software

SAMPLE

6. Which of the following strategies might be employed to enhance online security against spoofing?

A. Regularly changing passwords

B. Using static IP addresses

C. Minimizing internet usage

D. Adopting a single security protocol

7. Which of the following is a common programming paradigm?

A. Integer programming

B. Object-oriented programming

C. Distributed programming

D. Algorithmic programming

8. Which file format is best suited for high-quality images with no compression?

A. JPEG

B. PNG

C. TIF

D. GIF

9. Which type of backup involves saving only changes made since the last backup?

A. Full backup

B. Incremental backup

C. Differential backup

D. Mirror backup

10. What does RAM stand for in computing?

A. Read Access Memory

B. Random Access Memory

C. Rapid Access Memory

D. Resilient Access Memory

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is often a primary reason for companies to outsource their operations?

A. Improvement in local workforce skills

B. Reduction of operational costs

C. Enhancing customer satisfaction

D. Meeting regulatory requirements

Outsourcing is a strategic move that many companies make primarily to reduce operational costs. By delegating certain business functions to third-party service providers, organizations can avoid the expenses associated with hiring, training, and maintaining a larger in-house staff. This can lead to significant savings in terms of salaries, benefits, and infrastructure costs. For instance, companies can often outsource certain tasks to regions where labor costs are lower, allowing them to maintain or even improve product quality while spending less. In contrast, while improving local workforce skills, enhancing customer satisfaction, and meeting regulatory requirements are important aspects of business operations, they are typically secondary benefits rather than primary motivators for outsourcing. Companies often engage in outsourcing as a direct response to financial pressures, aiming to enhance their profitability and operational efficiency.

2. What is the role of the CPU in a computer system?

A. To manage network traffic

B. To store all data

C. To execute instructions and perform calculations

D. To display output on the screen

The CPU, or Central Processing Unit, is often referred to as the brain of the computer. Its primary role is to execute instructions from programs, which involves performing calculations and processing data. The CPU interprets and carries out commands from the computer's memory, managing tasks like arithmetic operations, logical comparisons, and control of input and output operations. The execution of instructions is fundamental to a computer's operation because it allows software applications to perform their designated functions, ranging from simple calculations to complex algorithms. The CPU uses its components—like the arithmetic logic unit (ALU) for calculations and the control unit for directing operations—to carry out these tasks efficiently. In contrast, managing network traffic pertains more to networking hardware like routers and switches, while storage functions are handled by storage devices such as HDDs or SSDs, which are designed specifically for data retention. Displaying output on a screen is the responsibility of the graphics processing unit (GPU) or the integrated graphics within the CPU, rather than the CPU itself leading that function. Thus, the CPU's critical function revolves around executing instructions and performing calculations, making it an essential component of any computer system.

SAMPLE

3. What does uptime measure in relation to a server?

A. The duration a computer can run without crashing

B. The total storage capacity of a server

C. The speed of data transfer

D. The amount of time a server is available and operational

Uptime is a critical metric in server management, as it reflects the amount of time that a server is available and operational, meaning it is functioning correctly and accessible for users to perform tasks. High uptime percentages indicate that a server is reliable and consistently available, which is essential for businesses that depend on their server for applications, websites, and data management. The other options focus on different aspects of server performance or capability. One option addresses the duration a computer can run without crashing, which while related to stability, does not directly measure operational availability. Another option discusses total storage capacity, which pertains to the server's ability to hold data rather than its operational status. The final option references data transfer speed, which is concerned with how quickly information moves to and from the server but not the server's uptime. Therefore, the measure of uptime is specifically tied to the server's operational status over time, making the correct choice the one that identifies this directly.

4. Which type of disc is known for having a higher storage capacity than CDs and DVDs, specifically for high-definition videos?

A. DVD-R

B. Blu-ray

C. HD DVD

D. CD-R

Blu-ray discs are recognized for their higher storage capacity compared to CDs and DVDs, making them particularly well-suited for storing high-definition video content. The technology used in Blu-ray allows for more data to be packed into the same physical disc size; it utilizes a blue-laser technology that operates at a shorter wavelength than the red lasers used for CDs and DVDs. This allows Blu-ray to hold significantly more data — typically around 25 GB on a single-layer disc and 50 GB on a dual-layer disc, which is ideal for the larger file sizes associated with high-definition video. The other options, while capable of storing data, do not match Blu-ray's capacity. DVDs typically hold 4.7 GB (single-layer) and 8.5 GB (dual-layer) of data. HD DVDs offered some enhancement over standard DVDs but still fall short of Blu-ray's capacity. CDs generally hold only around 700 MB of data, making them unsuitable for high-definition video storage. Thus, the choice of Blu-ray as the correct answer aligns perfectly with its design purpose and technological advantages in terms of storage capacity for high-definition videos.

SAMPLE

5. Which of the following best describes a zombie computer?

A. A computer that has a high uptime

B. A computer used for performing network tasks

C. A computer maliciously controlled by a hacker

D. A computer that runs application software

A zombie computer refers to a device that has been compromised and is being controlled remotely by a hacker, often without the owner's knowledge. This type of computer is typically part of a larger network of compromised machines known as a botnet, which can be used to perform various malicious activities, such as sending spam emails, conducting distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, or distributing malware. The defining characteristic of a zombie computer is its malicious control, which distinguishes it from other types of computers. For instance, a computer with high uptime does not imply any malicious or compromised status; it simply indicates that the system is operational for long periods. Similarly, while a computer used for performing network tasks or running application software can fulfill legitimate roles, these functions do not relate to malicious control or compromise by an attacker. Therefore, the true essence of a zombie computer lies in the unauthorized control exerted by a hacker, making the identification of option C as correct.

6. Which of the following strategies might be employed to enhance online security against spoofing?

A. Regularly changing passwords

B. Using static IP addresses

C. Minimizing internet usage

D. Adopting a single security protocol

Regularly changing passwords is a fundamental strategy to enhance online security against spoofing. Spoofing often involves an attacker gaining access to a user's account by exploiting weak or compromised passwords. By frequently updating passwords, users reduce the risk of unauthorized access, as even if a password is obtained by an attacker, it becomes quickly outdated and ineffective. This practice helps ensure that any potential breach is minimized over time. Other strategies, while they may provide some level of security, do not directly address the vulnerabilities that come with spoofing attacks. Static IP addresses can help to control network access but can also make the network a target if the IP address becomes known to attackers. Minimizing internet usage may reduce exposure but isn't a practical solution for most users in today's connected world. Adopting a single security protocol can lead to a lack of flexibility and could expose a system to vulnerabilities if that protocol is compromised. Therefore, regularly changing passwords is a proactive measure that specifically counters the likelihood of successful spoofing attempts.

SAMPLE

7. Which of the following is a common programming paradigm?

A. Integer programming

B. Object-oriented programming

C. Distributed programming

D. Algorithmic programming

Object-oriented programming is a widely recognized programming paradigm that organizes software design around data, or objects, rather than functions and logic. In this paradigm, data structures (objects) can contain both data fields and methods that operate on that data. This encapsulation allows for more modular and reusable code, which enhances maintainability and scalability in software development. One of the key features of object-oriented programming is the use of classes and inheritance, which allow for the creation of new classes based on existing ones, promoting code reuse and abstraction. This helps manage the complexity of large software projects by enabling developers to model real-world entities more intuitively. Other choices provided, while related to programming in different contexts, do not represent standalone paradigms in the same sense. Integer programming is a mathematical optimization technique, distributed programming focuses on multiple computing resources working together, and algorithmic programming emphasizes the creation and implementation of algorithms. Each of these areas contributes to computing but does not encapsulate the structured approach to programming that object-oriented programming embodies.

8. Which file format is best suited for high-quality images with no compression?

A. JPEG

B. PNG

C. TIF

D. GIF

The best file format for high-quality images with no compression is TIF, which stands for Tagged Image File Format. This format is widely used in professional photography and publishing because it supports lossless compression or can store images in an uncompressed format. This ensures that the image retains its original quality without any loss of detail, which is crucial for high-resolution prints and archiving. TIF files can also store a large amount of color depth and support various color spaces, making them highly versatile for different applications. Its ability to maintain quality over multiple edits and saves is another reason it is favored among professionals in fields that require precision and clarity. In contrast, the other formats have specific limitations: JPEG uses lossy compression, which reduces file size at the expense of quality; PNG, while lossless, is typically used for web graphics rather than high-resolution photographs; and GIF is limited to a palette of 256 colors, making it unsuitable for high-quality photographic images. Choosing TIF is ideal for scenarios where image quality is paramount.

SAMPLE

9. Which type of backup involves saving only changes made since the last backup?

A. Full backup

B. Incremental backup

C. Differential backup

D. Mirror backup

The type of backup that involves saving only the changes made since the last backup is known as an incremental backup. This method is efficient in terms of storage space and speed, as it focuses solely on the new or altered data since the previous backup occurred. For instance, if a full backup is taken on a Sunday, and incremental backups are conducted on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the backup taken on Monday will only include the changes made from Sunday to Monday, Tuesday's backup will reflect only changes from Monday to Tuesday, and so forth. This allows for quicker backup times and can significantly reduce the amount of data being stored, as only the new or modified information is saved. In contrast, a full backup captures all data each time it is created, resulting in larger backup files. A differential backup saves changes made since the last full backup, which can grow larger over time until the next full backup is performed. A mirror backup creates an exact copy of the source data at a specific time, which means it can overwrite previous versions rather than saving only the changes. Understanding these distinctions is essential for designing efficient backup strategies in data management.

10. What does RAM stand for in computing?

A. Read Access Memory

B. Random Access Memory

C. Rapid Access Memory

D. Resilient Access Memory

RAM stands for Random Access Memory, which is a type of computer memory that allows data to be read and written in any order, providing fast access to data. This capability is essential for efficient processing, as it allows the CPU to quickly retrieve and manipulate information that is currently in use. Random Access Memory is volatile, meaning it loses its content when the power is turned off, which is why it is used for temporary storage of data that the CPU needs immediate access to when executing programs. This is critical for the performance of applications, as it allows for quick retrieval and execution of tasks without the longer delays associated with storage types like hard drives or SSDs. In contrast, other terms like "Read Access Memory" and "Rapid Access Memory" do not accurately describe the characteristics of RAM. The term "Resilient Access Memory" also does not reflect any conventional type of memory used in computing. Understanding that RAM is defined as "Random Access" helps clarify its essential role in computer architecture and processing speed.

SAMPLE

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://dsstcomputingit.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE