FOUNDATIONS OF READING (890) 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. How does group reading function in a classroom environment?

A. It encourages competition among students

B. It allows students to share insights and support each other

C. It isolates students during reading time

D. It focuses solely on independent reading

2. What is a key advantage of allowing students to choose their reading materials?

A. It standardizes their reading level across the board

B. It fosters a personal connection to reading

C. It enforces certain literary styles

D. It restricts exposure to unfamiliar genres

3. What is the main purpose of phonemic awareness in reading development?

A. To help children recognize and manipulate sounds in spoken words

B. To improve handwriting and spelling skills

C. To increase interest in reading through storytelling

D. To connect written and spoken language

4. Which letter combination should a first-grade teacher introduce first according to systematic phonics instruction?

A. sh

B. th

C. ch

D. ph

5. Which component of reading instruction is essential for students learning to decode new words?

A. Story analysis

B. Emphasizing phonics and syllable types

C. Writing exercises

D. Whole language approaches

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6. Which question would best promote higher-order thinking about a narrative passage?

A. What does the character want?

B. How does the narrator's relationship with Zander differ from that with Coach?

C. Where does the story take place?

D. Who is the main character?

7. What is the main goal of teaching students to deconstruct sentences?

A. To improve their spelling skills

B. To enhance their ability to produce complex texts

C. To increase their understanding of sentence structures

D. To promote their independent reading habits

8. If students demonstrate poor comprehension despite fluency in reading an informational text, how should the teacher address this?

A. Encouraging students to summarize what they read

B. Introducing key vocabulary and supporting close reading of key passages

C. Assigning more reading to increase familiarity with topics

D. Providing silent reading time to build endurance

9. In a read-aloud session, the teacher modeling metacognitive strategies helps students to:

A. Become more familiar with vocabulary

B. Practice typing notes about the text

C. Enhance their understanding of their own thinking processes

D. Improve their speed in reading

10. For students receiving differentiated instruction, what is a critical guideline for planning progress monitoring?

A. utilizing assessments with a strict grading scale

B. selecting instruments that show even small improvements

C. focusing on annual testing results

D. only measuring performance at the end of the year

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How does group reading function in a classroom environment?

A. It encourages competition among students

B. It allows students to share insights and support each other

C. It isolates students during reading time

D. It focuses solely on independent reading

Group reading in a classroom environment significantly enhances the learning experience by fostering collaboration among students. This approach allows them to share insights, perspectives, and understanding of the text they are reading. When students engage in group reading, they can communicate their interpretations and questions, which deepens their comprehension and overall engagement with the material. Moreover, group reading encourages a sense of community and support among students. They may feel more comfortable discussing their thoughts and struggles with peers rather than when working alone, which can lead to increased confidence and motivation. Together, they can explore various themes and ideas, making the reading experience richer and more dynamic. While competition, isolation, and a focus solely on independent reading can all limit students' interactions and growth, group reading promotes an environment where collaboration is key, making it a powerful tool in teaching literacy.

2. What is a key advantage of allowing students to choose their reading materials?

A. It standardizes their reading level across the board

B. It fosters a personal connection to reading

C. It enforces certain literary styles

D. It restricts exposure to unfamiliar genres

Allowing students to choose their reading materials fosters a personal connection to reading, which is crucial for developing a lifelong interest in literature. When students select books or texts that align with their interests, tastes, and experiences, they are more likely to engage deeply with the content, making reading a more enjoyable and meaningful activity. This intrinsic motivation encourages students to read more frequently, which in turn enhances their literacy skills, comprehension, and critical thinking abilities. Moreover, when students feel a sense of ownership over their reading choices, they are more likely to invest time and effort into understanding and interacting with the text, leading to a richer educational experience. This approach stands in contrast to the other options, which suggest a more restrictive or standardized view of reading that may not support individual engagement or the diverse interests of students.

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3. What is the main purpose of phonemic awareness in reading development?

A. To help children recognize and manipulate sounds in spoken words

B. To improve handwriting and spelling skills

C. To increase interest in reading through storytelling

D. To connect written and spoken language

The main purpose of phonemic awareness is centered around enabling children to recognize and manipulate sounds in spoken words. This foundational skill is critical for reading development because it lays the groundwork for understanding the relationship between phonemes (the smallest units of sound) and the letters that represent those sounds. By developing phonemic awareness, children learn to identify, blend, segment, and manipulate sounds, which are essential skills for decoding words when they begin to read text. Recognizing and manipulating sounds helps learners break down words into components they can easily understand and construct, forming a solid basis for their reading abilities. This core skill is instrumental in moving towards more advanced literacy skills, such as phonics and comprehension, as it directly influences a child's ability to figure out how to read and spell words accurately. While improving handwriting and spelling skills, increasing interest in reading through storytelling, and connecting written and spoken language all play important roles in literacy, they are not the primary focus of phonemic awareness. The emphasis is specifically on sound recognition and manipulation, which is a crucial step in a child's reading development journey.

4. Which letter combination should a first-grade teacher introduce first according to systematic phonics instruction?

A. sh

B. th

C. ch

D. ph

The best approach to systematic phonics instruction for young learners, such as first graders, is to start with letter combinations that are both frequent and phonetically straightforward. The 'th' combination, which includes sounds that are voiced (as in "the") and voiceless (as in "think"), plays a crucial role in expanding students' phonemic awareness and their ability to decode a wide range of words. Introducing 'th' can help children identify both sounds in meaningful contexts, as these sounds occur in many common words they will encounter in their reading. This foundational knowledge supports their phonics development and lays the groundwork for reading fluency. Other combinations such as 'sh,' 'ch,' and 'ph' may also be valuable, but they typically appear less frequently in everyday language. These combinations are also distinct sounds but do not provide the same level of functional vocabulary for early readers as 'th' does. Focusing on 'th' first can thus enhance children's decoding skills and promote confidence in their reading right from the beginning.

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5. Which component of reading instruction is essential for students learning to decode new words?

A. Story analysis

B. Emphasizing phonics and syllable types

C. Writing exercises

D. Whole language approaches

The essential component of reading instruction for students learning to decode new words is emphasizing phonics and syllable types. Phonics instruction teaches students the relationship between letters and sounds, enabling them to understand how to decode unfamiliar words. By focusing on phonics, students learn the rules governing the sounds of letters and letter combinations, which is crucial for building their decoding skills. Syllable types further support this by providing students with a structure for breaking words down into manageable parts. Understanding syllable rules allows students to approach more complex words systematically, aiding in their ability to read fluently and accurately. This foundational skill is vital for developing proficient reading abilities, as it equips students with the tools they need to tackle new vocabulary independently. Story analysis, writing exercises, and whole language approaches, while valuable in their own right, do not specifically target the skills necessary for decoding new words and do not provide the direct phonetic instruction that is most beneficial for emerging readers.

6. Which question would best promote higher-order thinking about a narrative passage?

A. What does the character want?

B. How does the narrator's relationship with Zander differ from that with Coach?

C. Where does the story take place?

D. Who is the main character?

The question that promotes higher-order thinking about a narrative passage is one that encourages deeper analysis and exploration of the text beyond basic comprehension. In this case, asking how the narrator's relationship with Zander differs from that with Coach invites students to engage in critical thinking. It requires them to analyze character dynamics, motivations, and the evolution of relationships within the story, which are essential elements of narrative structure and themes. This type of question encourages students to synthesize information from the passage and consider the implications of character interactions. It fosters a discussion about character development and theme, which are crucial for a comprehensive understanding of the narrative. By examining different relationships within the story, students can draw conclusions about the characters' growth and the narrative's underlying messages, thus enhancing their analytical skills. In contrast, questions that focus on basic elements of the story, such as identifying the main character or the setting, primarily assess recall rather than analysis. These types of inquiries do not challenge students to think critically or interpret the relationships and themes present in the narrative.

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7. What is the main goal of teaching students to deconstruct sentences?

A. To improve their spelling skills

B. To enhance their ability to produce complex texts

C. To increase their understanding of sentence structures

D. To promote their independent reading habits

The main goal of teaching students to deconstruct sentences is centered on increasing their understanding of sentence structures. By breaking down sentences into their individual components—such as subjects, predicates, phrases, and clauses—students can gain insight into how these elements work together to convey meaning. This understanding is foundational for developing more sophisticated reading and writing skills, enabling students to analyze texts more critically and construct their own sentences with greater clarity and complexity. Mastery of sentence structures also underpins other language skills, including grammar and composition, making it a crucial aspect of literacy development.

8. If students demonstrate poor comprehension despite fluency in reading an informational text, how should the teacher address this?

A. Encouraging students to summarize what they read

B. Introducing key vocabulary and supporting close reading of key passages

C. Assigning more reading to increase familiarity with topics

D. Providing silent reading time to build endurance

The correct choice emphasizes the need for explicit vocabulary instruction and a structured approach to closely analyze significant portions of the text. When students display fluency in reading but struggle with comprehension, it often indicates that they may not fully grasp the essential concepts or terminology within the text. By introducing key vocabulary, the teacher helps to build a robust foundational understanding of the content, which is vital for effective comprehension. Additionally, supporting close reading of key passages allows students to engage with the text at a deeper level. This involves reading carefully to analyze structure, identify main ideas, and understand complex information. Close reading strategies can foster critical thinking skills and encourage students to draw connections within the text, enhancing their overall comprehension. The other choices, while beneficial in certain contexts, may not effectively target the specific comprehension issues indicated. Summarizing what they read can reinforce understanding, yet it may not directly address gaps in vocabulary knowledge. Assigning more reading could potentially overwhelm students further without addressing their specific comprehension hurdles. Providing silent reading time, while useful for building endurance, does not directly tackle comprehension issues tied to vocabulary and understanding of key concepts from the text.

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9. In a read-aloud session, the teacher modeling metacognitive strategies helps students to:

A. Become more familiar with vocabulary

B. Practice typing notes about the text

C. Enhance their understanding of their own thinking processes

D. Improve their speed in reading

In a read-aloud session, when a teacher models metacognitive strategies, it greatly assists students in enhancing their understanding of their own thinking processes. This approach encourages students to think about how they approach reading and comprehension. By verbalizing their thoughts and strategies such as predicting, questioning, clarifying, and summarizing, students learn to reflect on their cognitive processes. As they listen to the teacher articulate their thinking, students become more aware of how they can monitor their understanding and adjust their reading strategies accordingly. This self-awareness is foundational in developing better comprehension skills and fostering a more intentional approach to reading that can be applied across various texts and tasks. In this context, becoming familiar with vocabulary is important, but it is not the primary focus of modeling metacognitive strategies. Practicing typing notes is also beneficial for some aspects of learning, yet it doesn't directly relate to the understanding of one's thinking. Improving reading speed is a different skill set altogether and is not the primary objective of metacognitive modeling in reading sessions.

10. For students receiving differentiated instruction, what is a critical guideline for planning progress monitoring?

A. utilizing assessments with a strict grading scale

B. selecting instruments that show even small improvements

C. focusing on annual testing results

D. only measuring performance at the end of the year

The emphasis on selecting instruments that show even small improvements is critical for progress monitoring in a differentiated instruction framework. This approach recognizes that students' learning trajectories can vary significantly, and progress may not always be reflected in large, significant leaps. By focusing on instruments capable of capturing incremental advancements, educators can provide more detailed and responsive feedback regarding each student's development. Using assessments that reveal small improvements allows teachers to adjust instruction promptly, ensuring that each student receives the support needed to build upon their successes. It fosters a growth mindset by celebrating progress, no matter how minor, and encourages continued effort and motivation. This method aligns with the principles of differentiated instruction, which seeks to tailor learning experiences to meet individual needs. In contrast, relying on a strict grading scale, focusing solely on annual test results, or measuring performance only at the end of the year can overlook the nuances of individual student progress, potentially disregarding the developmental stages many students go through. These approaches may fail to capture the ongoing growth and could lead to misjudgments about a student's capabilities or needs.

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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://foundationsofreading890.examzify.com

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

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