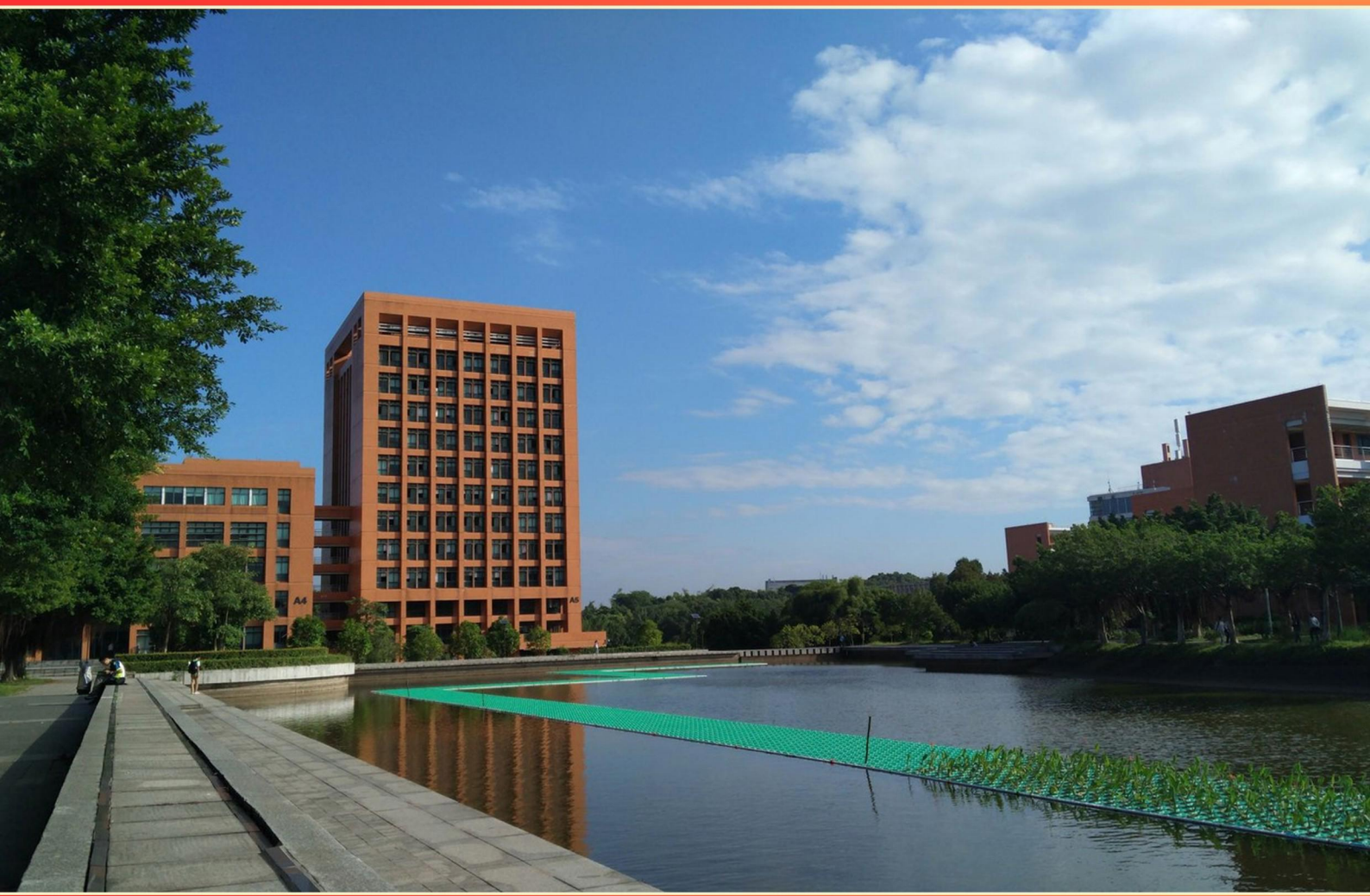
GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY (GSU) CIS 2010 INTRODUCTION TO INFORMATION SYSTEMS EXAM 1 PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://gsu-cis2010exam1.examzify.com

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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. What is the role of governance in IS project management?

A. Governance establishes decision rights, accountability, and oversight to ensure projects meet objectives and comply with policies.

B. Governance handles day-to-day user support.

C. Governance sets hardware procurement budgets only.

D. Governance writes software code.

2. Which framework evaluates industry profitability by examining five forces affecting competition?

A. Value Chain Analysis

B. VRIO Framework

C. PESTLE Analysis

D. Porter's Five Forces Model

3. Which option is NOT a cloud service model?

A. SaaS

B. PaaS

C. IaaS

D. DaaS

4. Which concept describes viewing the organization as a whole with interconnected parts and feedback loops?

A. Systems Thinking

B. Data Governance

C. Business Intelligence

D. Database Normalization

5. Which statement best describes data warehouses and data lakes in relation to reporting and analytics?

A. A data warehouse stores structured, cleaned, and integrated data optimized for reporting/BI; a data lake stores large volumes of raw, unprocessed data in its native format for diverse analytics.

B. A data warehouse stores raw data; a data lake stores only curated, cleaned data for reporting.

C. They both store data in the exact same way.

D. Data lakes are only for image data.

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6. Which information system is commonly used to support tactical decision-making through reports and analyses?

A. MIS

B. TPS

C. ESS

D. DSS

7. Which statement best describes a foreign key in relational databases?

A. A foreign key references a primary key in another table.

B. A foreign key uniquely identifies records within its own table.

C. A foreign key stores binary data.

D. A foreign key cannot be null.

8. GDPR data privacy law focus?

A. Protection of intellectual property rights.

B. Regulating how personal data is collected, stored, and processed with consent and rights.

C. Marketing automation.

D. Network bandwidth pricing.

9. What does data governance primarily involve?

A. Designing user interfaces for data entry.

B. Backing up data systems overnight.

C. The management of data availability, usability, integrity, and security through policies and accountability.

D. Writing SQL queries.

10. Which statement best describes a data warehouse?

A. A data warehouse stores only current operational data.

B. A data warehouse is designed for real-time transaction processing.

C. A data warehouse integrates data from multiple sources to support analysis and reporting.

D. A data warehouse duplicates every row of the operational database.

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the role of governance in IS project management?

A. Governance establishes decision rights, accountability, and oversight to ensure projects meet objectives and comply with policies.

B. Governance handles day-to-day user support.

C. Governance sets hardware procurement budgets only.

D. Governance writes software code.

Governance in IS project management provides the structure for who decides, who is held accountable, and how projects are overseen. It defines decision rights, clarifies responsibilities, and sets up oversight mechanisms so projects stay aligned with organizational goals, policies, and risk tolerance. Through governance bodies and formal processes, it determines who approves milestones, how progress is tracked, and how issues are escalated and resolved. This makes sure projects deliver the intended outcomes, comply with rules, and avoid drift or scope creep. Day-to-day user support belongs to IT operations and service management, not governance. Setting hardware procurement budgets is part of financial planning and procurement activities, which are broader than governance's steering and oversight role. Writing software code is the work of developers and engineers, not governance itself.

2. Which framework evaluates industry profitability by examining five forces affecting competition?

A. Value Chain Analysis

B. VRIO Framework

C. PESTLE Analysis

D. Porter's Five Forces Model

Understanding how industry profitability is shaped by competitive forces is essential for strategic analysis. Porter's Five Forces Model provides a clear way to gauge this by examining five external pressures that determine how attractive an industry is in terms of profitability. These five forces are: the threat of new entrants, which can erode profits as new competitors enter; the threat of substitutes, which caps how much you can charge; the bargaining power of suppliers, which can push costs up; the bargaining power of buyers, which can push prices down; and the intensity of rivalry among existing competitors, which drives price and margin pressure. When these forces are strong, industry profitability tends to be lower; when they're weak, profits can be higher. Other frameworks focus on different aspects: Value Chain Analysis looks at the internal activities a firm uses to create value; VRIO analyzes a company's resources and capabilities for sustained advantage; PESTLE analyzes broad macro-environment factors. None of these directly assess how five competitive forces shape industry profitability the way Porter's model does.

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3. Which option is NOT a cloud service model?

A. SaaS

B. PaaS

C. IaaS

D. DaaS

Cloud service models describe the level at which the provider takes care of resources and tooling. The three main models define a progression from managing infrastructure to managing platforms to delivering software. Infrastructure as a Service gives you the fundamental hardware, storage, and networking; Platform as a Service provides a development and runtime environment on top of that infrastructure; Software as a Service delivers finished software applications you use over the internet. Desktop as a Service, while a real delivery model for virtual desktops, is a specialized way of providing a desktop experience and typically relies on the underlying cloud layers rather than representing a separate, general service layer. Because it isn't one of the standard service-model categories, it isn't considered a core cloud service model in this taxonomy. That's why it's the correct choice for NOT being a cloud service model.

4. Which concept describes viewing the organization as a whole with interconnected parts and feedback loops?

A. Systems Thinking

B. Data Governance

C. Business Intelligence

D. Database Normalization

Systems Thinking views the organization as a whole with interconnected parts and feedback loops. It treats the business as a system where departments, processes, and resources influence one another, and where actions in one area ripple through others over time. The idea of feedback loops helps explain how changes can have unintended or amplified effects, highlighting where small shifts can lead to meaningful improvements. Data governance focuses on policies and stewardship of data, business intelligence is about analyzing data for decisions, and database normalization concerns structuring data; none of these capture the holistic, interdependent view of the organization that systems thinking provides.

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5. Which statement best describes data warehouses and data lakes in relation to reporting and analytics?

A. A data warehouse stores structured, cleaned, and integrated data optimized for reporting/BI; a data lake stores large volumes of raw, unprocessed data in its native format for diverse analytics.

B. A data warehouse stores raw data; a data lake stores only curated, cleaned data for reporting.

C. They both store data in the exact same way.

D. Data lakes are only for image data.

Understanding how data warehouses and data lakes support reporting and analytics hinges on processing level and intended use. A data warehouse is built to support reporting and business intelligence, storing structured, cleaned, and integrated data in a schema designed for fast, reliable querying and consistent metrics. A data lake, by contrast, is a large repository for raw data in its native format—structured, semi-structured, and unstructured—intended for broad analytics, data exploration, and data science where data can be transformed later as needed. This distinction explains why the statement about warehouses housing curated, ready-for-reporting data and lakes holding raw data for diverse analytics is the best fit. The other descriptions don't match how these architectures are typically used: warehouses aren't just raw data stores and lakes aren't limited to curated data; they don't store data identically; and lakes aren't restricted to image data.

6. Which information system is commonly used to support tactical decision-making through reports and analyses?

A. MIS

B. TPS

C. ESS

D. DSS

The main idea here is understanding which information system is best suited for providing regular, structured information to managers to guide day-to-day, tactical decisions through reports and analyses. A management information system (MIS) is designed to pull data from various parts of the organization, organize it into standard formats, and generate routine reports and summaries. These are the kinds of outputs middle managers rely on to monitor performance, spot trends, and make short- to mid-term decisions—things like monthly performance reports, exception reports, and operational dashboards. Other systems serve different needs. A transaction processing system focuses on recording daily operations and transactions, not on generating regular management reports for tactical decisions. A decision support system helps with ad hoc analyses and modeling for more complex, often semi-structured decisions, not the standard reports typical of MIS. An executive support system is aimed at senior leaders and strategic decisions, often emphasizing high-level trends and external data rather than the routine internal reports used at the tactical level. So MIS is the best fit for supporting tactical decision-making through the regular reports and analyses it provides.

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7. Which statement best describes a foreign key in relational databases?

A. A foreign key references a primary key in another table.

B. A foreign key uniquely identifies records within its own table.

C. A foreign key stores binary data.

D. A foreign key cannot be null.

In relational databases, a foreign key is used to link two tables by pointing to the primary key of the related table. This creates a relationship and enforces referential integrity: any non-null value in the foreign key must match an existing primary key value in the other table (or be null if the relationship is optional). This differentiates it from a primary key, which uniquely identifies rows within its own table. A foreign key does not store binary data, and whether it can be null depends on the schema constraints rather than a inherent property of the foreign key itself.

8. GDPR data privacy law focus?

A. Protection of intellectual property rights.

B. Regulating how personal data is collected, stored, and processed with consent and rights.

C. Marketing automation.

D. Network bandwidth pricing.

GDPR focuses on how personal data is handled. It sets rules about collecting, storing, and processing personal information and requires a lawful basis—typically consent—for using that data. It also protects individuals' rights over their data, such as access, correction, portability, and deletion, and imposes responsibilities on data controllers and processors to be transparent, secure, and privacy-minded. This makes the option that describes regulating personal data collection, storage, and processing with consent and rights the best fit. The other topics—intellectual property, marketing automation, or network bandwidth pricing—do not address how personal data is governed or the rights of individuals.

9. What does data governance primarily involve?

A. Designing user interfaces for data entry.

B. Backing up data systems overnight.

C. The management of data availability, usability, integrity, and security through policies and accountability.

D. Writing SQL queries.

Data governance is the framework that treats data as an organizational asset by establishing policies, standards, and clear responsibilities to ensure data is available to the right people, usable for decision making, reliable in quality, and protected by security controls. It sets who is accountable for data, defines data quality rules, access permissions, and how data is managed across the organization, so the data remains consistent and trustworthy. That's why the best answer describes the management of data availability, usability, integrity, and security through policies and accountability. The other options focus on tasks like designing interfaces, performing backups, or writing queries, which are operational activities and not the governance framework itself.

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10. Which statement best describes a data warehouse?

A. A data warehouse stores only current operational data.

B. A data warehouse is designed for real-time transaction processing.

C. A data warehouse integrates data from multiple sources to support analysis and reporting.

D. A data warehouse duplicates every row of the operational database.

A data warehouse is a central repository that integrates data from multiple sources to support analysis and reporting. This integration brings together varied data from different systems, cleans and standardizes it, and stores it in a way that's optimized for querying and analyzing trends over time. Unlike operational databases, which focus on current transactions and fast updates, a data warehouse holds historical data and is designed for read-heavy analysis rather than real-time processing. It isn't meant to duplicate every row of the source databases; instead, it provides a consolidated, consistent view of data for business intelligence, reporting, and decision making.

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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://gsu-cis2010exam1.examzify.com

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

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