GRADE 9 CANADIAN GEOGRAPHY PRACTICE EXAM (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 Canada's geographic location affect its trade relationships, especially with the United States?

A. Geographic isolation from the United States.

B. The United States is not a major trading partner.

C. Trade is hindered by long border controls.

D. Proximity reduces transport costs and supports border trade.

2. Which energy resource and location pairing is correct?

A. Oil sands in Alberta; conventional oil and gas in Alberta and Saskatchewan; hydro in Quebec and British Columbia.

B. Coal in Atlantic Canada; wind in Ontario; hydro in Manitoba

C. Oil sands in Saskatchewan; conventional oil and gas in Alberta; hydro in Ontario.

D. Nuclear in Ontario; oil sands in Newfoundland

3. Which region is a major source of hydroelectric power in Canada?

A. Manitoba and Saskatchewan

B. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

C. Quebec and British Columbia

D. Alberta and Ontario

4. Describe the climate and agricultural characteristics of the Canadian Prairies.

A. Warm, wet winters; rice

B. Tropical climate; sugarcane

C. Permafrost prevents farming

D. Cold, dry winters and warm summers; wheat, canola, barley; fertile black soils (chernozem)

5. The International Date Line is located at which longitude?

A. 0 degrees of longitude

B. 180 degrees of longitude

C. 90 degrees of longitude

D. -180 degrees of longitude

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6. Which statement about Ground Water is true?

A. Seawater found underground

B. Polluted water underground

C. Water in rivers

D. Fresh water found underground

7. How does nearness to water affect climate?

A. Nearness to water causes the moderating effect; water heats and cools more slowly than land.

B. Near water increases climate variability.

C. Water bodies have no effect on land climate.

D. Nearness to water only affects humidity, not temperature.

8. Which feature is formed by melting water off of a glacier?

A. Crevasse

B. Coniferous Tree

C. Braided streams

D. Birth Rate

9. Which factor is a push factor?

A. Job opportunity

B. Family connections

C. Mild climate

D. Persecution or war

10. What are Ordinal Points?

A. Primary compass directions

B. Intermediates such as NW, SW, NNE, ENE

C. The meridians

D. The equator

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How does Canada's geographic location affect its trade relationships, especially with the United States?

A. Geographic isolation from the United States.

B. The United States is not a major trading partner.

C. Trade is hindered by long border controls.

D. Proximity reduces transport costs and supports border trade.

Proximity reduces transport costs and supports border trade. Being right next to the United States means goods can move quickly and cheaply by truck, rail, or even short-sea routes. Shorter distances lower shipping costs, cut delivery times, and make it easier for businesses to run just-in-time inventories and integrated supply chains. Because of this closeness, Canada and the United States develop very large, ongoing trade relationships, with many industries exchanging products across the border—everything from vehicles and machinery to energy and agricultural goods. The border exists and is managed, but trade remains efficient and high-volume thanks to geography, so distance acts as a cost advantage rather than a barrier.

2. Which energy resource and location pairing is correct?

A. Oil sands in Alberta; conventional oil and gas in Alberta and Saskatchewan; hydro in Quebec and British Columbia.

B. Coal in Atlantic Canada; wind in Ontario; hydro in Manitoba

C. Oil sands in Saskatchewan; conventional oil and gas in Alberta; hydro in Ontario.

D. Nuclear in Ontario; oil sands in Newfoundland

In Canada, where energy resources are found is tied to geography and development history. The oil sands are a defining Alberta resource, with large deposits near the Athabasca region. Conventional oil and gas production is strongest in Alberta and Saskatchewan, where substantial reserves and established infrastructure support exploration and extraction. Hydroelectric power comes mainly from provinces with abundant water resources and favorable geography for large dams, especially Quebec and British Columbia. This makes the pairing of oil sands with Alberta, conventional oil and gas with Alberta and Saskatchewan, and hydro with Quebec and British Columbia the best fit, reflecting how these energy resources are actually distributed across the country. The other options place these resources in locations that don't align with where they are most prominently produced.

3. Which region is a major source of hydroelectric power in Canada?

A. Manitoba and Saskatchewan

B. Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

C. Quebec and British Columbia

D. Alberta and Ontario

Hydroelectric power grows strongest where there are long, rapid rivers and heavy precipitation that can be captured by large dam-and-reservoir systems. In Canada, two provinces stand out for this reason: Quebec and British Columbia. Quebec has built massive hydro facilities along its northern river basins, including the James Bay area, creating a vast, continuous supply of electricity that powers the province and is exported to others. The province's geography provides long, steady-flowing rivers and large reservoirs that are ideal for generating electricity on a large scale. British Columbia also has extensive hydro resources because of its rugged, mountainous terrain and many rivers. The province has developed a wide network of dams and power stations that produce most of its electricity, with relatively low reliance on fossil fuels. While other regions do generate hydroelectric power, the combination of enormous capacity and reliable output in these two provinces makes them the primary sources of hydroelectric power in Canada.

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4. Describe the climate and agricultural characteristics of the Canadian Prairies.

A. Warm, wet winters; rice

B. Tropical climate; sugarcane

C. Permafrost prevents farming

D. Cold, dry winters and warm summers; wheat, canola, barley; fertile black soils (chernozem)

The key idea is how climate and soil shape farming choices. The Canadian Prairies have a continental climate with cold, dry winters and warm summers. That combination gives a relatively short growing season and conditions that favor drought-tolerant cereal crops. The soils are deep and very fertile—black soils called chernozem, rich in organic matter and capable of holding moisture well—which supports high yields of grains. Put together, these climate and soil characteristics explain why wheat, canola, and barley are dominant crops in the region. Other descriptions—warm, wet winters; tropical conditions; or permafrost—don't match what you see on the Prairies.

5. The International Date Line is located at which longitude?

A. 0 degrees of longitude

B. 180 degrees of longitude

C. 90 degrees of longitude

D. -180 degrees of longitude

The International Date Line sits along the 180th meridian, opposite the Prime Meridian (0° longitude). This is the line where the calendar date changes as you cross it, and it's why maps commonly show it at 180° longitude. In reality the line curves around some islands and territories to keep time zones and political boundaries intact, but its general location is the 180° line. That's why 180 degrees of longitude is the best answer, with -180° representing the same line in the opposite direction.

6. Which statement about Ground Water is true?

A. Seawater found underground

B. Polluted water underground

C. Water in rivers

D. Fresh water found underground

Groundwater is the freshwater that fills the pores and cracks in soil and rock beneath the surface. It collects in aquifers and slowly moves, often feeding springs and supplying wells. Because it is part of the freshwater portion of the hydrological cycle, it is described as fresh water found underground. Water in rivers is surface water, and seawater underground isn't the typical form we refer to as groundwater. While groundwater can be polluted or, in some coastal areas, affected by saltwater intrusion, the key idea is that groundwater represents fresh water stored underground.

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7. How does nearness to water affect climate?

A. Nearness to water causes the moderating effect; water heats and cools more slowly than land.

B. Near water increases climate variability.

C. Water bodies have no effect on land climate.

D. Nearness to water only affects humidity, not temperature.

Being near a large body of water moderates climate because water has a high heat capacity and changes temperature slowly. It absorbs heat as it warms and releases that heat gradually as it cools, so coastal areas experience milder winters and cooler summers compared with inland regions. This moderating effect also influences humidity and precipitation patterns, but the core idea is that temperatures near water don't swing as dramatically. Saying water has no effect on land climate ignores this heat-storage behavior, and claiming it only increases humidity misses the important temperature moderation. It's not that proximity to water makes climate more variable; it tends to smooth out temperature extremes, which is the key point.

8. Which feature is formed by melting water off of a glacier?

A. Crevasse

B. Coniferous Tree

C. Braided streams

D. Birth Rate

When glaciers melt, the water carries a lot of sediment. If the flow is variable and the sediment load is high, the stream breaks into multiple, shallow channels that weave around sand and gravel bars. This creates a network of intertwined channels known as braided streams, a common feature where glacial meltwater dominates the landscape. Crevasses are cracks that form in the ice itself from stress, not from melting water creating surface streams. A coniferous tree is vegetation, not a landform created by meltwater. Birth rate is a demographic concept, unrelated to physical features shaped by glacial melt.

9. Which factor is a push factor?

A. Job opportunity

B. Family connections

C. Mild climate

D. Persecution or war

Push factors are conditions that drive people to leave their home because they are negative or threatening. Persecution or war fits this well because it creates danger, fear, and a lack of safety, making staying impossible or extremely risky, so people flee in search of protection and security. The other ideas describe things that attract people to a place. A job opportunity pulls people toward a region with better work prospects. A mild climate is appealing and draws people seeking pleasant weather. Family connections can also encourage relocation to be with relatives, acting as a pull factor.

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10. What are Ordinal Points?

A. Primary compass directions

B. Intermediates such as NW, SW, NNE, ENE

C. The meridians

D. The equator

Ordinal points are directions that sit between the main compass directions. The big directions are north, east, south, and west, and the directions halfway between them are the intercardinal or ordinal points—like northeast, southeast, southwest, and northwest. Some systems go even further, adding smaller steps such as north-northeast or east-northeast. So, examples like NW, SW, NNE, and ENE show the idea: they're all intermediate directions between the primary ones. The other options refer to the main directions themselves, lines around the globe, or the equator, and aren't what ordinal points describe.

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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://gr9canadiangeography.examzify.com

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

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