NURSING RESEARCH 1 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. **In conducting a literature review, which factor is crucial for qualitative research?**

   A. The number of sources cited

   B. Critical reading and importance of conceptual literature

   C. Market analysis of published works

   D. Trends in qualitative methodologies

2. **Which of the following is a scientific criterion appropriate for qualitative research?**

   A. Auditability

   B. Reliability

   C. Scale of measurement

   D. Magnitude

3. **What essential component does a critique of a research study always include?**

   A. Determining its strengths and weaknesses

   B. Researching similar studies

   C. Using critical reading skills

   D. Explaining your own personal opinions

4. **In which type of research is the context of the study particularly significant?**

   A. Qualitative research

   B. Quantitative research

   C. Descriptive research

   D. Operational research

5. **Which historical event significantly led to the establishment of ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects?**

   A. Nazi experiments

   B. Hawthorne Studies

   C. Belmont Report

   D. Milligram Experiment

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6. What is a critical requirement for participants in a study?

A. Enlist based on prior knowledge of the study

B. Informed consent is not necessary

C. Have access to research results at any time

D. Receive complete and truthful information about the study

7. Which category in qualitative findings refers to a synthesis of shared experiences?

A. Depiction of experimental variation

B. Dense explanatory description

C. Descriptive categories

D. Shared pathway or meaning

8. What is an inductive approach involving a systematic set of procedures to arrive at a theory about basic social processes?

A. Grounded theory method

B. Phenomenological method

C. Ethnographic method

D. Case study research

9. What characteristic is typical of a literature review in quantitative research?

A. The review is strictly opinion-based

B. It is exhaustive and must include all studies

C. Focus is only on qualitative sources

D. Doctoral dissertations are excluded

10. Which measurement would a researcher use to test for reliability when the data are in dichotomous format?

A. KR-20 coefficient

B. Cronbach's alpha

C. Test-retest reliability

D. Interrater reliability

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. In conducting a literature review, which factor is crucial for qualitative research?

A. The number of sources cited

B. Critical reading and importance of conceptual literature

C. Market analysis of published works

D. Trends in qualitative methodologies

In qualitative research, the importance of critical reading and the emphasis on conceptual literature are vital components of a literature review. This approach allows researchers to deeply engage with the theoretical frameworks and existing discussions surrounding their research topic. Critical reading involves evaluating the methodologies, findings, and implications of prior studies, which aids in situating new research within the established body of knowledge. Understanding conceptual literature is important as it helps to clarify the theoretical underpinnings that inform qualitative research. It provides foundational knowledge that guides the research questions, the design of the study, and the interpretation of findings. This emphasis on context and meaning is central to qualitative approaches, as the goal is often to explore and understand the nuances of human experiences rather than to quantify data or measure frequency. While the number of sources cited is often a consideration in research, in qualitative studies, the depth and relevance of the literature are more critical than sheer quantity. Market analysis and trends in methodologies may provide insights into the broader research landscape but are not as pivotal as the critical engagement with and understanding of conceptual literature in enhancing qualitative research.

2. Which of the following is a scientific criterion appropriate for qualitative research?

A. Auditability

B. Reliability

C. Scale of measurement

D. Magnitude

Auditability is a key scientific criterion in qualitative research that emphasizes the transparency and traceability of the research process. This involves maintaining a clear and documented account of how data was collected, analyzed, and interpreted, which allows others to follow the researcher's steps and verify the findings. In qualitative research, where subjective experiences and interpretations are often examined, auditability ensures that the research is conducted rigorously and that the conclusions drawn are credible and trustworthy. In comparison, reliability typically pertains to quantitative research and focuses on the consistency of a measure. The scale of measurement relates to how variables are quantified and is more relevant in quantitative studies. Magnitude usually refers to the strength or size of an effect or difference, which is also not a primary concern in qualitative research where the focus is on understanding meanings and experiences rather than quantifying them. Therefore, auditability is the most appropriate criterion for ensuring the quality and credibility of qualitative investigations.

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3. What essential component does a critique of a research study always include?

A. Determining its strengths and weaknesses

B. Researching similar studies

C. Using critical reading skills

D. Explaining your own personal opinions

A critique of a research study fundamentally involves evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of the study. This process is essential as it allows the reviewer to assess the validity, reliability, and overall contribution of the research to the existing body of knowledge. Identifying strengths helps to highlight the effective methodologies, robust findings, or valuable insights the study offers, while recognizing weaknesses points to potential biases, limitations, or methodological flaws that could impact the study's conclusions. This thorough evaluation is critical for understanding the study's influence on practice and for guiding future research efforts. Other components, such as researching similar studies and using critical reading skills, are supportive frameworks that may enhance the critique but do not encompass its primary purpose. Additionally, expressing personal opinions does not constitute a formal critique and can introduce bias rather than objective evaluation. Thus, while all the other aspects may play a role in the review process, focusing on the strengths and weaknesses is the hallmark of an effective critique.

4. In which type of research is the context of the study particularly significant?

A. Qualitative research

B. Quantitative research

C. Descriptive research

D. Operational research

Qualitative research is characterized by its focus on understanding the complexity of human experiences, behaviors, and social contexts. In this type of research, context plays a crucial role as it helps to provide a deeper insight into the meanings and interpretations of participants' experiences. Qualitative researchers often immerse themselves in the setting where the study takes place to gather rich, detailed data, which is inherently influenced by the social, cultural, and environmental factors surrounding the subjects. The significance of context in qualitative research allows researchers to explore how various elements interact and contribute to the phenomena under study, revealing insights that may be overlooked in more controlled or variable-driven research designs. This approach places emphasis on subjective perspectives and often employs methods like interviews or focus groups that leverage participants' narratives, highlighting the importance of context in understanding the whole picture. In contrast, quantitative research prioritizes numerical data and statistical analysis, focusing less on context and more on generalizable findings across larger populations. Descriptive research seeks to systematically describe characteristics of a population or phenomenon but does not delve deeply into the underlying contextual factors. Operational research applies analytical methods to optimize processes and systems, typically without the qualitative depth that context provides.

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5. Which historical event significantly led to the establishment of ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects?

A. Nazi experiments

B. Hawthorne Studies

C. Belmont Report

D. Milligram Experiment

The establishment of ethical guidelines for research involving human subjects was significantly influenced by the horrific experiments conducted by Nazi scientists during World War II. These experiments, which often involved extreme physical and psychological harm to participants without their consent, highlighted the urgent need for clear ethical standards in research practices. The atrocity of these actions prompted the international community to recognize the necessity of protecting human subjects in research. In response to these events, a series of ethical guidelines and codes were developed, starting with the Nuremberg Code in 1947, which specifically aimed to protect individuals from inhumane treatment and ensured that consent must be obtained from participants. This code laid the groundwork for modern ethical standards and regulations, such as the Belmont Report, which later further defined principles of respect for persons, beneficence, and justice in research. While the other choices mention significant research studies or reports, they do not specifically address the historical impetus for the formalization of ethical guidelines in research on human subjects as powerfully as the Nazi experiments did. Thus, the tragic lessons learned from these inhumane practices continue to influence research ethics today.

6. What is a critical requirement for participants in a study?

A. Enlist based on prior knowledge of the study

B. Informed consent is not necessary

C. Have access to research results at any time

D. Receive complete and truthful information about the study

Receiving complete and truthful information about the study is a critical requirement for participants because it ensures they can make an informed decision about their involvement. This concept is at the heart of ethical research practices, particularly in line with the principles of autonomy and informed consent. Participants must understand the purpose of the study, what their involvement entails, any potential risks and benefits, and their right to withdraw at any time without penalty. This transparency fosters trust between researchers and participants and is essential for protecting the rights and welfare of individuals involved in research. Informed consent establishes a framework within which participants can willingly engage with the research, making it a fundamental ethical obligation for researchers to provide complete and truthful information prior to participation.

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7. Which category in qualitative findings refers to a synthesis of shared experiences?

A. Depiction of experimental variation

B. Dense explanatory description

C. Descriptive categories

D. Shared pathway or meaning

The correct response is based on the concept of shared experiences in qualitative research. When qualitative findings are analyzed, researchers often seek to identify themes or patterns that emerge from the data. The category termed "shared pathway or meaning" encapsulates how individuals with similar experiences interpret and understand those experiences collectively. This synthesis highlights the commonalities and shared contexts that contribute to a deeper understanding of the phenomena under study. In qualitative research, findings are less about numerical data and more about capturing the essence of human experiences. The term "shared pathway or meaning" specifically indicates a focus on how participants relate their experiences to one another, demonstrating the interconnectedness of individual stories and the broader implications for the community or population studied. This synthesis can provide insight into how personal experiences shape perceptions, attitudes, or behaviors. In contrast, other categories might focus on variations in experience or technical descriptions that do not emphasize shared understanding in the same way. Thus, the focus on a "shared pathway or meaning" distinguishes it as the most accurate representation of a synthesis of collective experiences in qualitative findings.

8. What is an inductive approach involving a systematic set of procedures to arrive at a theory about basic social processes?

A. Grounded theory method

B. Phenomenological method

C. Ethnographic method

D. Case study research

The grounded theory method is centered around an inductive approach whereby researchers systematically collect and analyze data to develop theories grounded in the actual data itself. This process typically involves iterative cycles of data collection and analysis, where researchers continually refine codes and categories that help build a detailed understanding of social processes. Ultimately, the objective is to produce a theory that explains how particular social processes function, allowing for deeper insights into the phenomena under study. In contrast, other methodologies focus on different aspects of research. The phenomenological method seeks to understand the lived experiences of individuals and focuses on the meanings they ascribe to those experiences, rather than developing a broader theory about processes. The ethnographic method emphasizes the cultural aspects of social phenomena through immersive observation, providing insights into the norms, values, and behaviors within specific populations rather than constructing theoretical frameworks. Case study research typically investigates a particular instance or example in depth but does not inherently follow the systematic procedures focused on theory development seen in grounded theory.

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9. What characteristic is typical of a literature review in quantitative research?

A. The review is strictly opinion-based

B. It is exhaustive and must include all studies

C. Focus is only on qualitative sources

D. Doctoral dissertations are excluded

A literature review in quantitative research is characterized by its comprehensive nature, where the goal is to synthesize existing studies to provide a thorough overview of a specific topic or research question. An exhaustive review does not necessarily mean including every single study ever published, but it emphasizes the importance of incorporating a wide range of studies to ensure that the review presents a balanced and representative summary of the current state of research. This allows researchers to identify gaps in knowledge, support their hypotheses, and justify the need for their study. In the context of quantitative research, the emphasis is on empirical evidence, including statistical analyses and quantifiable data. Therefore, literature reviews in this field often focus on well-conducted studies that contribute reliable evidence to the topic and help establish the foundation for future research. Contrastingly, a literature review that is strictly opinion-based lacks the scientific rigor necessary for quantitative research. Excluding doctoral dissertations would limit the scope of available evidence, as these can contain valuable, original research. Additionally, focusing only on qualitative sources would not align with the objectives of a quantitative review, which seeks to integrate numerical data and measurable outcomes.

10. Which measurement would a researcher use to test for reliability when the data are in dichotomous format?

A. KR-20 coefficient

B. Cronbach's alpha

C. Test-retest reliability

D. Interrater reliability

The KR-20 coefficient is specifically designed for assessing the reliability of tests that involve dichotomous data, meaning data that can have only two possible outcomes (such as "yes/no" or "true/false"). This coefficient is a type of reliability measure that evaluates internal consistency, which is essential when determining how well different items in a test measure the same underlying construct. In cases where the data consists solely of dichotomous responses, the KR-20 coefficient provides a more appropriate and valid measure of reliability compared to other coefficients. While Cronbach's alpha is commonly used for continuous and ordinal data, it is not tailored specifically for dichotomous outcomes, even though it can be applied in those scenarios. Test-retest reliability focuses on the stability of scores over time and is not specific to dichotomous data. Interrater reliability measures the level of agreement between different raters or observers, which can be utilized in various data formats but does not specifically address the reliability of a dichotomous measurement in the same way the KR-20 does. Thus, for dichotomous data, the KR-20 coefficient is the most relevant choice for testing reliability.

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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://nursingresearch1.examzify.com

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

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