# PAGE PROGRAM NEWS 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. Assignment editors make calls to which departments to get the latest information?**

A. Weather departments

B. Education departments

C. Public relations departments

D. Police departments and government officials

**2. What does "on background" mean in sourcing?**

A. Information can be used but not attributed to a name.

B. Information can be used and attributed to a name.

C. Information may be cited with generic descriptions of the source.

D. Information cannot be used in reporting.

**3. Which practice best supports credibility when reporting with anonymous sources?**

A. Include who, what, where, and when; context or notable detail; credit to the photographer; avoid speculation.

B. Acknowledge the source but reveal their identity publicly.

C. Rely only on anonymous statements without corroboration.

D. Publish the information without verification.

**4. What happened to the studios in 1955?**

A. Studios 3F and 3H were combined to make 3K, NBC's first color studio in Radio City; Went live with first color broadcast of Howdy Doody

B. The studios were renamed to 4K and used exclusively for radio

C. A new independent color studio was built beside 3K

D. 3K was demolished and rebuilt as a news center

**5. When did Tom Brokow join Nightly News?**

A. April 1982 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1983.

B. April 1980 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1982.

C. March 1983 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1984.

D. April 1985 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1986.

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**6. What steps should you take to prepare for an interview with a source?**

A. Research background, formulate questions, prepare open-ended prompts, verify facts, obtain permission to record, and plan for sensitive topics

B. Show up unprepared

C. Only read the subject's social media

D. Record without permission

**7. Which early TODAY show co-host was a chimpanzee?**

A. Lassie

B. J. Fred Muggs

C. Coco

D. King Kong

**8. How do you write a news story for broadcast vs. print?**

A. Broadcast requires concise sentences, clear attributions, active voice, and vivid visuals; print allows longer context and detail.

B. Broadcast relies on long paragraphs; print uses short sentences.

C. Broadcast and print are identical in style.

D. Print requires no attributions.

**9. What is a lede (lede) and what makes an effective lede?**

A. The lede is the opening paragraph; it should present the most important facts clearly and hook the reader.

B. The lede is a footnote with background details.

C. The lede should come after the body.

D. The lede is optional in news stories

**10. At approximately what time does the TODAY crew begin their day?**

A. Around 6 AM

B. Midnight

C. Around 2 AM

D. Around 9 AM

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# Answers

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

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# Explanations

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## 1. Assignment editors make calls to which departments to get the latest information?

A. Weather departments

B. Education departments

C. Public relations departments

D. Police departments and government officials

*The main idea here is that editors rely on primary, up-to-date sources who can verify facts and provide official statements about ongoing events. Police departments and government officials are the best sources for the latest information because they control and report on real-time developments, provide official numbers, locations, and safety advisories, and can offer quotes or press briefings. Weather departments, while essential for weather details, focus on forecasts and warnings rather than immediate event updates. Education departments deal with policy and statistics rather than on-scene or breaking-news information. Public relations departments are spokespeople and can share official statements, but they aren't typically the first hand sources for on-the-ground updates.*

## 2. What does "on background" mean in sourcing?

A. Information can be used but not attributed to a name.

B. Information can be used and attributed to a name.

C. Information may be cited with generic descriptions of the source.

D. Information cannot be used in reporting.

*In sourcing, on background means you can use the information, but you cannot attribute it to a named individual. You might refer to the source in a generic way, like "an official" or "a government spokesperson," but you don't reveal who exactly gave you the information. That core restriction—non-naming—is what this option captures. So the best answer is the one that says information can be used but not attributed to a name. It reflects the key practice of preserving anonymity of the source while still letting the information inform the report. The idea behind other phrasing is related (you may describe the source generically), but the essential point of on background is avoiding naming the source.*

## 3. Which practice best supports credibility when reporting with anonymous sources?

A. Include who, what, where, and when; context or notable detail; credit to the photographer; avoid speculation.

B. Acknowledge the source but reveal their identity publicly.

C. Rely only on anonymous statements without corroboration.

D. Publish the information without verification.

*When reporting with anonymous sources, credibility comes from providing verifiable details that anchor the story without exposing the source. The strongest approach is to include who said it, what they described, where and when the events occurred, and any relevant context or notable details. Adding non-identifying elements like a photographer credit or other professional details helps show thoroughness and due diligence. Most important, avoid speculation—stick to what can be supported by evidence and clearly indicate what remains unverified. Revealing the source's identity publically defeats the purpose of anonymity and can endanger them, which hurts trust in the reporting. Relying only on anonymous statements without corroboration or publishing information without verification also undermines credibility, since readers have no way to assess the claim's reliability.*

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## 4. What happened to the studios in 1955?

A. Studios 3F and 3H were combined to make 3K, NBC's first color studio in Radio City; Went live with first color broadcast of Howdy Doody

B. The studios were renamed to 4K and used exclusively for radio

C. A new independent color studio was built beside 3K

D. 3K was demolished and rebuilt as a news center

*In 1955, NBC expanded its color production by combining two smaller studios into a single, larger color-capable space named 3K, its first color studio in Radio City. This change made it possible to produce and broadcast in color, and they went live with the first color broadcast of Howdy Doody from that new studio. The idea here is that the move was about creating a dedicated, upgraded space for color television, not renaming existing rooms for radio, building a separate color facility, or demolishing a studio. This consolidation signals NBC's push into color television and marks a milestone with Howdy Doody airing in color from the new studio.*

## 5. When did Tom Brokow join Nightly News?

A. April 1982 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1983.

B. April 1980 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1982.

C. March 1983 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1984.

D. April 1985 as a co-anchor, then sole anchor in 1986.

*This question tests your recall of when Tom Brokaw joined NBC Nightly News and when he became the sole anchor. He came aboard in April 1982 as a co-anchor, sharing duties during a transitional period for the program. The following year, in 1983, he moved into the sole anchor role, becoming the main face of Nightly News. The other date options don't match the documented timeline, so the sequence of April 1982 as a co-anchor followed by sole anchorship in 1983 is the correct one.*

## 6. What steps should you take to prepare for an interview with a source?

A. Research background, formulate questions, prepare open-ended prompts, verify facts, obtain permission to record, and plan for sensitive topics

B. Show up unprepared

C. Only read the subject's social media

D. Record without permission

*Preparing for an interview with a source focuses on thorough planning that builds trust, accuracy, and fairness. Start by researching the source's background, current role, and relevant history to understand perspective and avoid misinterpretation. Then craft questions that align with the story's goals, including open-ended prompts that encourage detailed, nuanced responses rather than simple yes-or-no answers. Verifying key facts from reliable sources is essential to prevent errors and to be able to clarify or challenge statements when needed. Obtaining permission to record upfront is both ethical and practical, setting clear expectations and protecting you from later disputes. Planning for sensitive topics helps you address controversial or personal areas with care, including having alternatives if the source prefers not to discuss certain points. Those other approaches miss important elements: showing up without preparation leads to shallow or unfocused conversations; relying only on social media provides a narrow, potentially biased view and lacks corroboration; recording without permission violates ethics and may have legal consequences.*

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## 7. Which early TODAY show co-host was a chimpanzee?

A. Lassie

B. J. Fred Muggs

C. Coco

D. King Kong

*The question tests knowledge of the Today Show's early history and which animal actually served as a co-host. J. Fred Muggs was the chimpanzee who became a regular on-air presence with the show's hosts in its early years, helping give the program a playful, distinctive vibe and drawing a lot of audience attention. Lassie is a famous dog from another series, King Kong is a fictional film ape, and Coco isn't known as an early Today Show co-host. So the chimpanzee who truly co-hosted is J. Fred Muggs.*

## 8. How do you write a news story for broadcast vs. print?

A. Broadcast requires concise sentences, clear attributions, active voice, and vivid visuals; print allows longer context and detail.

B. Broadcast relies on long paragraphs; print uses short sentences.

C. Broadcast and print are identical in style.

D. Print requires no attributions.

*Broadcast writing focuses on quick, clear communication when heard. Sentences are concise and typically short so listeners can follow along without getting lost. Attributions should be clear and placed early so audiences know who is speaking right away. Using an active voice keeps the narration direct and energetic, matching the immediacy of spoken news. Writers also plan with visuals in mind, making it easier for producers to pair words with images, sounds, or graphics to create a vivid impact even with limited descriptive prose. Print writing, on the other hand, has room for longer context and detail. You can develop background, nuance, and multiple perspectives across longer sentences and paragraphs. There's space to provide thorough descriptions, explanations, and richer quotes with more context. The lead can be broader, and the story can unfold at a more measured pace, guiding the reader through context and significance. That combination explains why this approach fits best: broadcast requires concise sentences, clear attributions, active voice, and vivid visuals; print allows longer context and detail.*

## 9. What is a lede (lede) and what makes an effective lede?

A. The lede is the opening paragraph; it should present the most important facts clearly and hook the reader.

B. The lede is a footnote with background details.

C. The lede should come after the body.

D. The lede is optional in news stories

*A lede is the opening paragraph of a news story. It should present the most important facts clearly and hook the reader, so they want to read more. In practice, the lede answers the essential questions readers want to know: who did what, what happened, when and where it occurred, and, if possible, why it matters or how it affects people. It's usually concise—often one or two sentences—and written so a reader can grasp the gist even without reading the rest of the article. A strong lede sets the tone for the piece and signals its focus, avoiding needless details that belong in the body of the story. This is not a footnote with background details, and it doesn't appear after the main content. It's placed at the very start to give readers the core information upfront. It's also not optional in standard news writing; the lede is the entry point that invites readers to continue. A well-crafted lede uses precise language, active voice, and a compelling angle or an immediate takeaway to engage the audience.*

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**10. At approximately what time does the TODAY crew begin their day?**

A. Around 6 AM

B. Midnight

C. Around 2 AM

D. Around 9 AM

*Think about how a live morning news show is produced. The crew has to lock in stories, confirm guests, run through the script, set up the set and graphics, test equipment, and run rehearsals before the on-air time. For a show that airs in the morning, starting around 2 AM gives several hours of prep before air. That early start allows makeup, lighting checks, and any last-minute changes without rushing. Options like around 6 AM would leave too little time for thorough preparation, around 9 AM would be after the show has already begun, and midnight would push the prep into the previous day, which isn't needed for a morning program. So, around 2 AM is the most plausible start time for the TODAY crew.*

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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://pageprogramnews.examzify.com

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

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