PRAXIS ELEMENTARY EDUCATION: THREE-SUBJECT BUNDLE – SCIENCE (5905) 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. A mineral is defined as which of the following?

A. A gas produced by weathering

B. A mixture of different minerals

C. A solid substance that has a specific chemical composition and a crystal structure

D. A liquid produced in magma

2. What term describes the structure of DNA consisting of two complementary strands wound around each other?

A. Double helix

B. Single strand

C. Triple helix

D. Helix

3. The attractive force between all masses is called?

A. Gravitation

B. Electromagnetic force

C. Nuclear force

D. Frictional force

4. What term describes two complementary strands of nucleotides that coil around each other?

A. Helix

B. Triple helix

C. Single strand

D. Double helix

5. Which form of precipitation is layered and clumped together, formed by strong upward air movement in a storm?

A. Snow

B. Rain

C. Ice Pellets

D. Hail

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6. Which pigment is used to absorb light for photosynthesis?

A. Carotene

B. Chlorophyll

C. Hemoglobin

D. Melanin

7. Which era is the earliest among Precambrian, Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic?

A. Precambrian Era

B. Paleozoic Era

C. Mesozoic Era

D. Cenozoic Era

8. Contain organelles, including a nucleus; almost all larger organisms, including plants and animals, contain this cell

A. Plant cells

B. Animal cells

C. Prokaryotic cells

D. Eukaryotic cells

9. What are small, planetlike bodies in orbit around the Sun and found between Mars and Jupiter?

A. Comets

B. Asteroids

C. Meteoroids

D. Galaxy

10. Energy of motion?

A. Kinetic energy

B. Energy

C. Activation energy

D. Normal force

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. A mineral is defined as which of the following?

A. A gas produced by weathering

B. A mixture of different minerals

C. A solid substance that has a specific chemical composition and a crystal structure

D. A liquid produced in magma

Minerals are natural, solid substances that have a definite chemical composition and an orderly crystalline arrangement of atoms. The statement that describes a solid with a specific chemical composition and a crystal structure matches these essential properties, making it the correct choice. A gas produced by weathering isn't a solid and isn't a mineral. A mixture of different minerals lacks a single, definite chemical formula and uniform crystal arrangement. A liquid produced in magma isn't solid, so it doesn't meet the mineral criteria.

2. What term describes the structure of DNA consisting of two complementary strands wound around each other?

A. Double helix

B. Single strand

C. Triple helix

D. Helix

DNA's structure is a double helix—the two complementary strands twist around each other like a spiral staircase. The backbone forms the outside, while the bases pair in the middle, giving the characteristic two-strand, intertwined shape. A single strand describes only one chain; a triple helix would involve three strands; and helix alone doesn't specify how many strands are present. So the term double helix precisely captures the two intertwined DNA strands.

3. The attractive force between all masses is called?

A. Gravitation

B. Electromagnetic force

C. Nuclear force

D. Frictional force

Gravity is the force that attracts every object with mass toward every other object. It grows stronger with larger masses and weakens with distance, following the inverse-square relationship, and it always pulls, never pushes. This universal attraction explains why things fall to the ground, why the Moon orbits Earth, and why planets stay in orbit around the Sun. The other options aren't the universal attraction between masses: the electromagnetic force can attract or repel and depends on electric charge, which not all masses have; the nuclear force acts only within atomic nuclei at extremely short ranges; frictional force is a contact resistance between surfaces and does not describe the mutual attraction between masses.

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4. What term describes two complementary strands of nucleotides that coil around each other?

A. Helix

B. Triple helix

C. Single strand

D. Double helix

DNA is made up of two complementary strands of nucleotides that coil around each other, forming a double helix. The two strands wind together with the sugar-phosphate backbone on the outside and the bases pairing inward (A with T, C with G) through hydrogen bonds, which helps keep the molecule stable yet able to separate for replication. The strands run in opposite directions, an arrangement called anti-parallel, which is essential for copying genetic information accurately. The term that describes this structure of two strands twisted together is double helix. A single helix could refer to a single strand, and a triple helix would require a third strand, while a single strand is not paired with another.

5. Which form of precipitation is layered and clumped together, formed by strong upward air movement in a storm?

A. Snow

B. Rain

C. Ice Pellets

D. Hail

Hail forms in thunderstorms when very strong updrafts lift droplets high into the cloud, where subfreezing air allows water to freeze on contact. The updrafts keep the growing hailstone suspended, so it can circulate and accumulate ice layers as supercooled droplets keep freezing onto it. Each pass through the cold zone adds another icy layer, creating a layered, clumped ball that can grow large before gravity finally drags it down. Snow isn't a layered ball of ice around a core; it's individual ice crystals that form in cold clouds and fall separately. Rain stays liquid as it falls. Ice pellets form when raindrops freeze in a cold layer, but they don't develop the concentric layering you see in hail.

6. Which pigment is used to absorb light for photosynthesis?

A. Carotene

B. Chlorophyll

C. Hemoglobin

D. Melanin

Chlorophyll is the pigment plants use to absorb light for photosynthesis. It sits in chloroplasts and captures light, especially blue and red wavelengths, while reflecting green so plants look green. The energy absorbed by chlorophyll powers the light-dependent reactions, driving the formation of ATP and NADPH that fuel sugar production from carbon dioxide and water. Other pigments like carotene also absorb light and help broaden the usable spectrum and protect chlorophyll, but chlorophyll is the primary pigment that enables photosynthesis. Hemoglobin and melanin are not involved in absorbing light for photosynthesis; hemoglobin carries oxygen in blood, and melanin mainly affects skin pigment and protection from UV light.

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7. Which era is the earliest among Precambrian, Paleozoic, Mesozoic, and Cenozoic?

A. Precambrian Era

B. Paleozoic Era

C. Mesozoic Era

D. Cenozoic Era

Time on Earth is arranged from oldest to newest, and the earliest interval among these options is the Precambrian. It spans from Earth's formation about 4.6 billion years ago up to roughly 541 million years ago, long before the appearance of abundant complex life. After Precambrian come the Paleozoic, then the Mesozoic, and finally the Cenozoic, each representing later chapters in Earth's history with evolving life and environments. So, Precambrian is the earliest period, which is why it's the best choice. The other eras come later in time.

8. Contain organelles, including a nucleus; almost all larger organisms, including plants and animals, contain this cell

A. Plant cells

B. Animal cells

C. Prokaryotic cells

D. Eukaryotic cells

This question tests the idea that some cells have a nucleus and other membrane-bound organelles, while others do not. Eukaryotic cells have a true nucleus that houses DNA and many organelles such as mitochondria and the endoplasmic reticulum. They are the type found in almost all larger organisms, including plants and animals. Prokaryotic cells, in contrast, lack a nucleus and most membrane-bound organelles. So, the broader category that fits organisms like plants and animals is eukaryotic cells.

9. What are small, planetlike bodies in orbit around the Sun and found between Mars and Jupiter?

A. Comets

B. Asteroids

C. Meteoroids

D. Galaxy

Small, planetlike bodies that orbit the Sun between Mars and Jupiter are asteroids. They form the asteroid belt, a region filled with rocky and sometimes metallic objects that never grew into a full planet, largely because Jupiter's strong gravity stirred up their orbits in the early solar system. Unlike comets, which are icy and often have tails when they approach the Sun, asteroids are mostly rocky and don't develop tails. Meteoroids are much smaller fragments that float through space and become meteors when they enter Earth's atmosphere, not a grouped belt of bodies. A galaxy is a vast collection of stars and other material, not objects orbiting the Sun. So, the correct idea here is the asteroid belt—asteroids.

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10. Energy of motion?

A. Kinetic energy

B. Energy

C. Activation energy

D. Normal force

Kinetic energy is the energy of motion. An object that is moving carries this energy, and it depends on how heavy the object is and how fast it's going—the faster and heavier it is, the more energy it has. A simple way to express this is the formula KE = 1/2 m v^2, showing how mass and speed shape the energy. This differs from other ideas: activation energy is the energy needed to start a chemical reaction, not the energy due to motion, and normal force is a push or support from a surface, not an energy type. Generic "energy" is too broad to identify the specific idea of motion-related energy. In everyday terms, a moving ball or car demonstrates kinetic energy directly—their motion is the energy in play.

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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://praxis5905.examzify.com

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

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