PRELIMINARY SAT (PSAT) 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. What is the sum of interior angles in a quadrilateral?

A. 360 degrees

B. 180 degrees

C. 90 degrees

D. 270 degrees

2. Which word is a verb: affect or effect?

A. Affect

B. Effect

C. Neither

D. Both

3. To solve the equation 2x = y and y - 3x = -5 using substitution, what is the first step?

A. Substitute y with 2x in the second equation

B. Multiply both equations by 2

C. Add the equations together

D. Isolate x in the first equation

4. What does the expression (a+b)(a+b) equal?

A. $a^2 + 2ab + b^2$

B. $a^2 + b^2$

C. 2ab

D. $a^2 + b^2 + 2$

5. Which statistical concept describes the distinct values that divide data into equal parts?

A. Median

B. Mode

C. Quartiles

D. Range

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6. Which preposition best describes an action done for someone else's benefit?

A. In moderation

B. On behalf

C. By process

D. For the good of

7. What does the distance formula distance = rate x time compute?

A. Distance traveled at a steady speed

B. Time taken to cover a distance

C. Rate of distance traveled

D. Speed multipled by duration

8. What is the formula for calculating the circumference of a circle?

A. $C=\pi r$

B. $C=2\pi r$

C. $C=r^2$

D. $C=\pi d$

9. In slope-intercept form, what does 'b' represent?

A. Slope of the line

B. y-intercept of the line

C. X-intercept of the line

D. Constant term of the equation

10. What is the relationship between degrees and radians in a full circle?

A. 180 degrees equals π radians

B. 360 degrees equals π radians

C. 90 degrees equals 2π radians

D. 180 degrees equals 2π radians

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the sum of interior angles in a quadrilateral?

A. 360 degrees

B. 180 degrees

C. 90 degrees

D. 270 degrees

The sum of the interior angles in a quadrilateral is 360 degrees. This can be understood by recalling that a quadrilateral can be divided into two triangles. Each triangle has a sum of interior angles equal to 180 degrees. Therefore, when you add the angles from both triangles, you have: 180 degrees (first triangle) + 180 degrees (second triangle) = 360 degrees. This is a fundamental property of polygons, where the formula for calculating the sum of interior angles is given by the formula (n - 2) × 180 degrees, with n being the number of sides. For a quadrilateral, n equals 4, leading to (4 - 2) × 180 = 2 × 180 = 360 degrees. Hence, the answer is indeed 360 degrees. This property is essential for understanding the geometry of quadrilaterals and helps in solving various geometric problems involving these shapes.

2. Which word is a verb: affect or effect?

A. Affect

B. Effect

C. Neither

D. Both

The word "affect" is the correct answer because it functions as a verb that means to influence or make a change in something. For example, you might say that the weather can affect your mood, indicating that the weather has an influence on how you feel. On the other hand, "effect" is primarily used as a noun that refers to the result or outcome of a change or influence. For instance, you might talk about the effect of a new policy on the economy. Therefore, understanding the difference between these two words is essential, especially in distinguishing their grammatical roles in sentences.

3. To solve the equation 2x = y and y - 3x = -5 using substitution, what is the first step?

A. Substitute y with 2x in the second equation

B. Multiply both equations by 2

C. Add the equations together

D. Isolate x in the first equation

To solve the equations $2x = y$ and $y - 3x = -5$ using substitution, starting by substituting y in the second equation is the best initial step. This approach takes advantage of the first equation where y is expressed in terms of x. By substituting y with $2x$ in the equation $y - 3x = -5$, you will replace y with the value from the first equation. This leads to a single equation in one variable (specifically, x), which is easier to solve. Once this substitution is made, you can solve for x and then use that value to find y. Other strategies, like multiplying both equations or adding them together, do not directly facilitate solving the system through substitution as effectively as replacing y in the second equation does. Making x the subject in the first equation as a first step would also not take full advantage of the clear substitution already defined.

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4. What does the expression (a+b)(a+b) equal?

A. $a^2 + 2ab + b^2$

B. $a^2 + b^2$

C. 2ab

D. $a^2 + b^2 + 2$

*The expression \((a+b)(a+b)\) represents the square of the binomial \(a + b\). To understand why the correct answer is \(a^2 + 2ab + b^2\), consider the process of multiplying the binomial by itself, which is often referred to as "FOIL" (First, Outside, Inside, Last). 1. **First**: Multiply the first terms in each binomial, which gives you \(a \cdot a = a^2\). 2. **Outside**: Multiply the outer terms, leading to \(a \cdot b = ab\). 3. **Inside**: Multiply the inner terms, resulting in \(b \cdot a = ab\). 4. **Last**: Finally, multiply the last terms in each binomial, yielding \(b \cdot b = b^2\). Now, combine all these products: - From the First we have \(a^2\). - From the Outside and Inside we combine \(ab + ab\) to give \(2ab\). - From the Last we have \(b^2\). Putting this all together results in the expression \(a^2 + 2ab +*

5. Which statistical concept describes the distinct values that divide data into equal parts?

A. Median

B. Mode

C. Quartiles

D. Range

The correct choice is quartiles, which are specific statistical values that divide a set of data into four equal parts. Each quartile represents a different section of the data distribution. For instance, the first quartile (Q1) includes the lowest 25% of data points, the second quartile (Q2), which is also the median, separates the data into two halves, and the third quartile (Q3) includes the lowest 75% of data points. This division helps in understanding the spread and central tendency of the data. By using quartiles, statisticians can examine the distribution and variability within a dataset in a more granular way. Other concepts such as the median represent the middle value of a data set, mode refers to the most frequently occurring value, and range measures the difference between the highest and lowest values. While these terms are important in statistics, they do not specifically refer to the division of data into equal parts like quartiles do, making quartiles the most accurate description for the question asked.

6. Which preposition best describes an action done for someone else's benefit?

A. In moderation

B. On behalf

C. By process

D. For the good of

The preposition that best describes an action done for someone else's benefit is "on behalf." This phrase is often used to indicate that someone is acting or speaking in the interest of another person, group, or cause. For example, if someone says they are making a decision on behalf of their team, it means they are representing the team's interests and making choices that will benefit them. The other choices do not convey the same meaning. "In moderation" refers to doing something within reasonable limits, which does not imply any benefit to others. "By process" suggests a method or means of doing something rather than focusing on the intentions behind actions. "For the good of" implies a broader purpose that could be more self-serving or collective rather than specifically for another person. Therefore, "on behalf" is the most direct and appropriate choice when describing an action taken for another's benefit.

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7. What does the distance formula distance = rate x time compute?

A. Distance traveled at a steady speed

B. Time taken to cover a distance

C. Rate of distance traveled

D. Speed multipled by duration

The distance formula, expressed as distance equals rate multiplied by time, is fundamentally used to calculate the total distance covered when traveling at a consistent speed for a specific duration. This means that if you know how fast an object is moving (the rate) and for how long it has been moving (the time), you can determine the entire distance it has traveled. For example, if a car is traveling at a speed of 60 miles per hour for 2 hours, the distance it covers can be calculated by multiplying the speed (rate) by the time, resulting in 120 miles. This clear relationship between distance, rate, and time confirms why the correct choice is about the distance traveled at a steady speed.

8. What is the formula for calculating the circumference of a circle?

A. $C=\pi r$

B. $C=2\pi r$

C. $C=r^2$

D. $C=\pi d$

The formula for calculating the circumference of a circle is $C = 2\pi r$, where C represents circumference, r represents the radius of the circle, and π (pi) is a mathematical constant approximately equal to 3.14. This formula arises from the definition of circumference as the distance around the circle. The factor of 2 comes from the fact that the circumference can be thought of as two times the radius multiplied by pi. Furthermore, because the diameter of the circle is twice the radius ($d = 2r$), the formula can also be expressed as $C = \pi d$, linking circumference directly to diameter as well. Thus, the given answer captures the relationship between radius and circumference accurately, establishing clearly how to find the distance around a circle based on its radius.

9. In slope-intercept form, what does 'b' represent?

A. Slope of the line

B. y-intercept of the line

C. X-intercept of the line

D. Constant term of the equation

In slope-intercept form, which is expressed as $y = mx + b$, 'b' represents the y-intercept of the line. The y-intercept is the point at which the line crosses the y-axis. This occurs when the value of x is zero. Thus, the value of 'b' directly indicates the vertical position of this intersection on the graph. Understanding this concept is crucial for graphing linear equations or interpreting their characteristics, as it provides a clear reference point for the line's placement in relation to the axes. In contrast, the slope of the line is denoted by 'm', not 'b', while the x-intercept refers to the point where the line crosses the x-axis, which is not directly represented in the slope-intercept form. The term 'constant term' can refer to 'b', but in the context of linear equations, it is more precise to refer to it as the y-intercept to avoid confusion with slope and x-intercepts.

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10. What is the relationship between degrees and radians in a full circle?

A. 180 degrees equals π radians

B. 360 degrees equals π radians

C. 90 degrees equals 2π radians

D. 180 degrees equals 2π radians

In a full circle, the relationship between degrees and radians is established through the conversion factor between these two units of angular measurement. A full circle is defined as 360 degrees. To express this in radians, we note that 180 degrees corresponds to π radians. This means that if you have a semicircle (180 degrees), it can be represented as π radians. Thus, the statement that 180 degrees equals π radians is a fundamental conversion, making it correct. This relationship is crucial in trigonometry and geometry, as it allows for the conversion between the two units of measure when performing calculations involving angles. Understanding this conversion helps in solving problems that require angle measurements in different contexts, such as in circles, oscillatory motion, or wave functions.

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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://prelimenarysat.examzify.com

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

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