REDKEN COLOR GELS 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. The portion of the color base that helps produce balanced, natural looking results and gives the shade its foundation is called:

A. Foundation color

B. Background color

C. Base tone

D. Primary hue

2. Which combination indicates a red-violet tone?

A. 5, 4 RV

B. 7, 4 RV

C. 5, 3 RV

D. 6, 4 RV

3. Which post-service safety steps should be followed regarding sanitation after Color Gels service?

A. Wash hands and leave station as is.

B. Clean and sanitize your station, use new gloves, avoid cross-contamination, and store products properly.

C. Sanitize the station weekly and reuse gloves.

D. Clean only, reuse gloves, avoid sanitation completely.

4. What is the difference between a gloss and a color glaze in professional color services?

A. A gloss provides shine and may subtly alter tone; a color glaze deposits more color to adjust tone

B. A gloss deposits more color; a glaze only adds shine

C. A gloss adds shine but does not affect tone; a glaze changes tone dramatically

D. A gloss dries the hair; a glaze moisturizes

5. The Natural Ash family is unique because:

A. The corrective tone varies depending on what level you use

B. It is the boldest of all families

C. It provides the warmest tones

D. It has a fixed corrective tone

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6. What should you include in the client aftercare instructions for Color Gels?

A. Guidance on washing frequency, using color-safe products, heat protection, and UV exposure minimization.

B. Only advise to wash every day.

C. Suggest skipping heat protection.

D. Recommend spraying perfume.

7. When covering gray hair, which statement is true about the lightness of the formula relative to natural hair?

A. Always lighter by more than 3 levels

B. No more than 2 levels lighter than natural hair

C. Darker than natural hair

D. The same shade as natural hair

8. What is the role of pH in color development, and how do Color Gels formulations manage it?

A. pH influences pigment deposition and cuticle openness; Color Gels are formulated to balance pH for safe, predictable deposition.

B. pH is irrelevant.

C. pH only affects scent.

D. pH controls viscosity.

9. How does porosity affect color formulation and processing time?

A. Higher porosity absorbs color more quickly and may require shorter processing or diluted formulas.

B. Higher porosity requires longer processing and stronger developer, regardless of formulas.

C. Porosity only affects rinse time, not processing.

D. Lower porosity absorbs color more quickly than higher.

10. What does base indicate in Color Gels descriptor?

A. The neutral vs warm vs cool underlying pigment

B. The level of shine

C. The shade's saturation

D. The color's duration

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. The portion of the color base that helps produce balanced, natural looking results and gives the shade its foundation is called:

A. Foundation color

B. Background color

C. Base tone

D. Primary hue

The idea here is that a color base isn't just the vivid tone you see on the strand; it includes an underlying backdrop that determines how warm or cool the result will feel. This backdrop is the background color, and it provides the shade's foundation by balancing the tones so the final look sits naturally in the hair and with the client's skin undertones. The other terms refer to different aspects: foundation color would imply a base shade itself rather than the underlying backdrop, base tone points to the main tonal character, and primary hue is simply the dominant pigment. So the background color is the part that gives the shade its foundation and keeps the result natural.

2. Which combination indicates a red-violet tone?

A. 5, 4 RV

B. 7, 4 RV

C. 5, 3 RV

D. 6, 4 RV

In Redken Color Gels, the red-violet family is indicated by RV. The numbers before RV tell you the depth (level) and how strong the red-violet tone will be (the second number before RV shows the tone's intensity). Choosing a mid-range depth with a strong red-violet component gives a clear, noticeable red-violet tone. That's why a level 5 with 4 RV best represents the red-violet tone among the options: it balances a visible red-violet deposit (strong enough to read as RV) with a moderate depth. A milder red-violet (such as 5, 3 RV) would read as less intense, while options with different depths (like 7 or 6) shift the shade's darkness or lightness more than the tone alone.

3. Which post-service safety steps should be followed regarding sanitation after Color Gels service?

A. Wash hands and leave station as is.

B. Clean and sanitize your station, use new gloves, avoid cross-contamination, and store products properly.

C. Sanitize the station weekly and reuse gloves.

D. Clean only, reuse gloves, avoid sanitation completely.

Post-service sanitation focuses on resetting the work area to be safe for the next client by removing contaminants, preventing cross-contact, and protecting product quality. Cleaning and sanitizing the station eliminates color residues, oils, and microbes that could transfer during the next service. Wearing new gloves after the service stops any chance of carrying residues from one client to another. Preventing cross-contamination means keeping tools and surfaces clean and handling products with care so nothing is inadvertently transferred. Storing products properly—with caps closed, upright, labeled if needed, and kept away from tainted surfaces—helps maintain product integrity and prevents contamination. Skipping sanitation or reusing gloves increases the risk of spreading color, chemicals, or germs, and leaving the station dirty can affect subsequent clients and overall safety. This combination of cleaning, sanitizing, changing gloves, and proper storage covers the essential steps for post-service hygiene.

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4. What is the difference between a gloss and a color glaze in professional color services?

A. A gloss provides shine and may subtly alter tone; a color glaze deposits more color to adjust tone

B. A gloss deposits more color; a glaze only adds shine

C. A gloss adds shine but does not affect tone; a glaze changes tone dramatically

D. A gloss dries the hair; a glaze moisturizes

In professional color services, the key difference is pigment deployment versus surface shine. A gloss is used primarily to boost shine and smooth the cuticle, helping the hair look brighter and more reflective; if it's tinted, it can shift tone slightly, but its main role remains enhancing luster and finish. A color glaze, by contrast, deposits pigment to adjust or refine the color, giving more noticeable tonal change while also smoothing the cuticle. So a gloss provides shine and may subtly alter tone, while a color glaze deposits more color to adjust the tone.

5. The Natural Ash family is unique because:

A. The corrective tone varies depending on what level you use

B. It is the boldest of all families

C. It provides the warmest tones

D. It has a fixed corrective tone

The key idea is how neutralization works across different levels. The Natural Ash family uses ash-based tones to counteract unwanted warmth, but the amount of warmth you're correcting changes with the level you're aiming for. When you lift hair to lighter levels, underlying warm pigments (orange/yellow) become more pronounced, so you typically need a stronger ash to neutralize them. At darker levels, the underlying tones are different, and the right amount of ash changes accordingly. Because of this shifting balance, the corrective tone isn't fixed; it adapts to the level you're using. That adaptability—varying tonal correction with level—is what makes the Natural Ash family unique.

6. What should you include in the client aftercare instructions for Color Gels?

A. Guidance on washing frequency, using color-safe products, heat protection, and UV exposure minimization.

B. Only advise to wash every day.

C. Suggest skipping heat protection.

D. Recommend spraying perfume.

Color Gels will stay vibrant longer when aftercare focuses on protecting the color from everyday stress to the hair. The best guidance covers how often to wash, what kind of products to use, and how to shield the hair from heat and sun. Washing too often can strip color, so recommend a balanced washing routine and using color-safe or sulfate-free shampoos and conditioners to preserve pigment. Rinsing with cool or lukewarm water helps keep the cuticle closed, which locks in color. Any heat styling should be paired with a heat protectant every time to prevent color fade and damage from high temperatures. Sun and UV exposure also degrade color over time, so suggest protective measures like hats or products with UV filters. Other tips that aren't connected to preserving color longevity, such as perfume application or skipping heat protection, don't support maintaining the Color Gels look.

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7. When covering gray hair, which statement is true about the lightness of the formula relative to natural hair?

A. Always lighter by more than 3 levels

B. No more than 2 levels lighter than natural hair

C. Darker than natural hair

D. The same shade as natural hair

When covering gray hair, the goal is to achieve even, natural-looking color by depositing pigment on the existing hair rather than lifting it excessively. Gray hairs are resistant and can look uneven if you lift too much, so the most reliable approach is to use a formula that is only slightly lighter than the natural hair—no more than about two levels lighter. This keeps the color cohesive across both pigmented and gray hair, helps prevent obvious regrowth lines, and reduces the risk of brassiness or a color mismatch at the roots as the hair grows out. In practice, staying within a two-level lightness difference provides enough pigment to blend the gray without creating a noticeable contrast between treated and untreated areas.

8. What is the role of pH in color development, and how do Color Gels formulations manage it?

A. pH influences pigment deposition and cuticle openness; Color Gels are formulated to balance pH for safe, predictable deposition.

B. pH is irrelevant.

C. pH only affects scent.

D. pH controls viscosity.

pH controls how open the hair's cuticle is and how easily pigment can deposit. In a slightly alkaline environment the cuticle lifts and swells, creating pathways for dye molecules to penetrate into the cortex for even deposition. If the environment is too acidic, the cuticle stays tight, reducing pigment uptake and leading to weaker or uneven color. Color Gels are formulated to balance pH so there's enough lift for safe, predictable pigment deposition while protecting the hair. The product's pH, together with the developer, is tuned to maintain that control during processing, yielding consistent results. Scent or viscosity aren't the primary drivers of color development, and pH is the key lever for how much pigment enters the hair and how the color develops.

9. How does porosity affect color formulation and processing time?

A. Higher porosity absorbs color more quickly and may require shorter processing or diluted formulas.

B. Higher porosity requires longer processing and stronger developer, regardless of formulas.

C. Porosity only affects rinse time, not processing.

D. Lower porosity absorbs color more quickly than higher.

Porosity describes how easily hair takes in pigment, which directly affects how fast color develops and how you should formulate and process it. Hair with high porosity has a raised or damaged cuticle, so pigment can enter and saturate the strand quickly. Because of that quick uptake, processing time can be shorter and the color formula can be diluted or lighter to avoid over-depositing or uneven results. In contrast, hair with low porosity resists color and may need longer processing or adjustments to the formula to achieve the same level of lift or deposit. That's why the best answer is: higher porosity absorbs color more quickly and may require shorter processing or diluted formulas. The other statements don't fit because porosity isn't limited to rinse time, and higher porosity doesn't always mean longer processing or stronger developer; and lower porosity does not absorb color more quickly.

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10. What does base indicate in Color Gels descriptor?

A. The neutral vs warm vs cool underlying pigment

B. The level of shine

C. The shade's saturation

D. The color's duration

Base describes the underlying pigment tone of the shade—whether it reads as neutral, warm, or cool. This tells you how the color will interact with the hair's existing undertones and influence the final result. It isn't about shine, saturation, or duration. For example, a warm base adds warmth to the shade, a cool base leans toward ash/cool tones, and a neutral base is balanced.

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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:

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

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