TEXES AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE (ASL) (184) PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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Table of Contents

Copyright 1

Table of Contents 2

Introduction 3

How to Use This Guide 4

Questions 5

Answers 8

Explanations 10

Next Steps 15

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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. Content signs include which parts of speech?

A. Noun, Verb, Adjective, and Adverb

B. Pro, Prep, and Conj

C. Interjections

D. Particles

2. How are multiples of 11 formed in ASL?

A. The number handshape is repeated and bounced twice

B. The sign is formed by doubling the first digit

C. You hold the sign for 11 in a circle

D. You sign 'one-one' with two hands

3. Which term refers to a task for students to perform, with a rubric by which their performance will be evaluated?

A. Authentic Assessment

B. Performance Based Assessment

C. Language Competence

D. Language performance

4. Perimeter-Shape Morphemes convey which type of information?

A. External shapes.

B. Internal textures.

C. Sign language grammar rules.

D. Signs' speed.

5. Which of the following is NOT listed as a pragmatic contextual factor in language?

A. Phonology

B. Time

C. Place

D. Social relationship

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6. What is the name of the scientific study of language?

A. Linguistics

B. Semantics

C. Phonetics

D. Pragmatics

7. What does indexing/underlining in ASL refer to?

A. Pointing to and/or underlining English print

B. Signing at eye level

C. Rotating eye contact between print and fingerspelling

D. Moving the head with signs

8. What is the primary function of emotive markers in ASL?

A. Adding a layer of facial expression on top of ASL/English linking to facilitate conceptual transfer.

B. eye leveling

C. Eye linking

D. Head conducting

9. Which basic word order is represented by SVO (Subject, Verb, Object)?

A. SVO (Subject, Verb, Object)

B. SOV (Subject, Object, Verb)

C. VSO (Verb, Subject, Object)

D. OVS (Object, Verb, Subject)

10. In the Stokoe notation, what does Designator (DEZ) specify?

A. Handshape

B. Movement

C. Location

D. Sign

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Content signs include which parts of speech?

A. Noun, Verb, Adjective, and Adverb

B. Pro, Prep, and Conj

C. Interjections

D. Particles

In ASL, signs that carry the main lexical meaning are called content signs. Among these, nouns name things, verbs express actions or states, adjectives describe qualities of nouns, and adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, or entire sentences. These four parts of speech are the signs you're using to convey the core information of a message. The other signs—pronouns, prepositions, and conjunctions—serve to connect ideas and show relationships but don't carry that core content on their own; interjections express emotion or reaction rather than content, and particles function as grammatical markers rather than content words. So the set that includes nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs best identifies content signs.

2. How are multiples of 11 formed in ASL?

A. The number handshape is repeated and bounced twice

B. The sign is formed by doubling the first digit

C. You hold the sign for 11 in a circle

D. You sign 'one-one' with two hands

In ASL, two-digit numbers are usually shown by signing the tens digit and then the ones digit. When those two digits are the same, the common way to sign the number is to repeat the same number handshape twice, with a small bounce on the second occurrence. The bounce indicates the second instance of the same digit, signaling that you're dealing with a two-digit number where both digits match (like 11, 22, 33, and so on). This approach clearly conveys the idea of repetition and two identical digits, which is why it's the best way to form multiples of 11. Other methods would suggest different digits or a single sign, which wouldn't accurately represent these numbers.

3. Which term refers to a task for students to perform, with a rubric by which their performance will be evaluated?

A. Authentic Assessment

B. Performance Based Assessment

C. Language Competence

D. Language performance

Authentic assessment focuses on having students perform tasks that resemble real-world challenges, with a rubric that specifies criteria and levels of performance to guide evaluation. When a task is designed for students to perform and a rubric is used to judge their work, the assessment shows how well they can apply knowledge in a practical context, not just how well they recall facts. This description fits that approach exactly: a task to perform paired with a rubric for evaluating the performance. The other terms don't fit as well because they describe either general language ability or use, rather than a task-based evaluation method with criterion-based scoring.

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4. Perimeter-Shape Morphemes convey which type of information?

A. External shapes.

B. Internal textures.

C. Sign language grammar rules.

D. Signs' speed.

Perimeter-shape morphemes communicate the external outline of an object—the shape you would see as its outer boundary or silhouette. They use the hands and their movements to map that outer contour in space, showing things like the overall form, edges, and dimensions, rather than textures inside the object or other features. That's why external shapes is the best fit. It describes what the object looks like from the outside. Internal textures would require describing surface feel or pattern, which isn't what these morphemes encode. Grammar rules refer to how signs are formed and arranged, not to the shape of objects. Speed concerns how fast a sign is produced, not the information about an object's shape.

5. Which of the following is NOT listed as a pragmatic contextual factor in language?

A. Phonology

B. Time

C. Place

D. Social relationship

Pragmatic contextual factors are aspects of the communication situation that shape how we use language, such as when and where we speak and our relationship to the listener. Time, place, and social relationships influence formality, politeness, and how we tailor language to the situation. Phonology, however, is the system of sounds in a language and how words are pronounced—it's a linguistic feature, not a contextual factor. Because of that, phonology is the element that does not belong among pragmatic contextual factors.

6. What is the name of the scientific study of language?

A. Linguistics

B. Semantics

C. Phonetics

D. Pragmatics

The main idea here is naming the field that studies language in a scientific way. Linguistics is that field, and it looks at how languages are structured, how sounds are produced and organized, how words form and combine, how sentences are put together, what words and sentences mean, and how language is used in real situations. Semantics focuses specifically on meaning, phonetics on the physical production of speech sounds, and pragmatics on how language is used in context. So linguistics is the best answer because it encompasses the entire study of language, while the other terms refer to particular aspects within that broad field.

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7. What does indexing/underlining in ASL refer to?

A. Pointing to and/or underlining English print

B. Signing at eye level

C. Rotating eye contact between print and fingerspelling

D. Moving the head with signs

Indexing in ASL is about using the index finger to establish reference—pointing to a person, object, or location in space to show what you're talking about. Underlining English print is a teaching cue that marks which English word is being signed, helping map the sign to that word. Together, indexing/underlining describes how a signer links a sign to a specific referent or to a particular English word, using pointing and a way of highlighting corresponding text. This isn't about where you sign (eye level), nor about alternating gaze between print and fingerspelling, nor about head movement with signs. It's the referential pointing to objects or people and, in instructional contexts, the practice of marking the corresponding English word.

8. What is the primary function of emotive markers in ASL?

A. Adding a layer of facial expression on top of ASL/English linking to facilitate conceptual transfer.

B. eye leveling

C. Eye linking

D. Head conducting

Emotive markers are the facial expressions and other nonmanual cues that accompany ASL signs to express emotion, attitude, and emphasis. They color the message so the listener can infer tone, intention, and nuance that the hand signs alone might not fully convey. This is why adding facial expression on top of the signs—often described as linking ASL with the intended emotional or rhetorical meaning—best captures the function of emotive markers: they communicate affect and attitude and help bridge understanding to how the content should be interpreted, which can aid conceptual transfer across languages. The other options point to specific physical actions like eye positioning or head movements, which are parts of nonmanuals but do not describe the primary role of emotive markers in signaling how the speaker feels or how strongly they intend the message.

9. Which basic word order is represented by SVO (Subject, Verb, Object)?

A. SVO (Subject, Verb, Object)

B. SOV (Subject, Object, Verb)

C. VSO (Verb, Subject, Object)

D. OVS (Object, Verb, Subject)

In this word order, the main elements of a clause appear in a specific sequence: the subject comes first, the action (the verb) comes next, and the object—the thing affected by the action—comes last. For example, The student reads a book. The student is who the sentence is about (subject), reads is the action (verb), and a book is what's being acted upon (object). This arrangement—subject, then verb, then object—is what the acronym SVO describes and is the typical structure in English. Other patterns place the verb before the object or move the object before the verb, which means they do not follow the SVO order. In English, the clean SVO sequence is the standard baseline for describing simple sentences.

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10. In the Stokoe notation, what does Designator (DEZ) specify?

A. Handshape

B. Movement

C. Location

D. Sign

In Stokoe notation, a sign is described by three elements: handshape (designator), location, and movement. The Designator (DEZ) is the part that specifies the handshape—the configuration of the hand used to produce the sign. This is the aspect that defines the basic shape of the hand, such as whether the hand is open flat, a fist, or a specific finger configuration. The other two elements (location and movement) describe where the hand is placed and how it moves, but the DEZ is the designation for the handshape itself. Therefore, the DEZ specifies the handshape.

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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://texesasl184.examzify.com

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

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