VIRGINIA READING SOL 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. Which statement best identifies explicit information in a text?

A. Ideas suggested by the text.

B. The author's opinions alone

C. Ideas directly stated in the text.

D. Facts that are never stated

2. Which statement about using text evidence and paraphrasing is accurate?

A. You should rely on paraphrase alone without quotes.

B. You should provide direct quotes or precise references to support claims.

C. You can claim ideas without citing the source.

D. Citations are never necessary.

3. Mood is best defined as the emotional atmosphere created by the author's language.

A. Mood

B. Tone

C. Plot

D. Theme

4. Which figure of speech is illustrated by the sentence 'Her smile is a ray of sunshine'?

A. Metaphor

B. Simile

C. Hyperbole

D. Analogy

5. In Craft and Structure, what does it emphasize when analyzing a literary text?

A. Word choice, tone, figurative language, and how structure affects meaning.

B. Plot summary.

C. Historical context.

D. Publisher's note.

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6. Which skill on the SOL involves determining an author's purpose?

A. Author's purpose.
B. Identifying theme.
C. Analyzing syntax.
D. Describing setting.

7. What is the primary purpose of headings in informational texts?

A. They help readers navigate to main sections and topics efficiently.
B. They provide the primary evidence for claims.
C. They are optional and rarely used.
D. They summarize every paragraph.

8. Which figure of speech describes toe: foot :: finger: hand (part/whole)?

A. Metaphor
B. Analogy
C. Simile
D. Hyperbole

9. What is the role of diagrams, graphs, and charts in informational texts?

A. They help present data and relationships.
B. They are decorative.
C. They replace the main idea.
D. They are rarely used.

10. Which point of view is told by an outside narrator who is not a character and does not see all?

A. First Person
B. Third Person Limited
C. Third Person Omniscient
D. Second Person

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement best identifies explicit information in a text?

A. Ideas suggested by the text.

B. The author's opinions alone

C. Ideas directly stated in the text.

D. Facts that are never stated

Explicit information means ideas the author states directly in the text, in plain words. It's the facts or opinions you can point to in a sentence without needing to guess or read between the lines. So, a line like "The ceremony started at 3 PM" is explicit because the author says it outright. The other choices point to ideas that require inference, or limit explicit information to only opinions, or describe things that aren't stated, which isn't what explicit information means.

2. Which statement about using text evidence and paraphrasing is accurate?

A. You should rely on paraphrase alone without quotes.

B. You should provide direct quotes or precise references to support claims.

C. You can claim ideas without citing the source.

D. Citations are never necessary.

Using text evidence and paraphrasing means backing up your claims with material from the text and clearly showing where that material comes from. The best choice is to provide direct quotes or precise references to support your claims. Direct quotes are valuable when exact wording matters or when a particular phrase carries meaning that would be lost in paraphrase. Paraphrasing demonstrates you understand the idea and can restate it in your own words, but you still need to cite the source so readers know where the idea originated. Citations also help readers verify evidence and maintain accuracy. The other options miss important practices: relying on paraphrase alone without quotes can overlook the author's precise language; claiming ideas without citing risks plagiarism; and saying citations are never necessary ignores the need to credit sources and guide readers to them.

3. Mood is best defined as the emotional atmosphere created by the author's language.

A. Mood

B. Tone

C. Plot

D. Theme

Mood describes the emotional atmosphere created by the author's language. It's the feeling you experience as you read, shaped by word choice, imagery, and sensory details. For example, when a passage uses dim lighting, chill winds, and hushed whispers, you often sense tension or unease—that's mood at work, pulling your emotions into the scene. Tone, by contrast, is the author's attitude toward the subject or audience—whether they sound hopeful, sarcastic, skeptical, or wistful—conveyed through voice and phrasing. Plot is the sequence of events that happen in the story. Theme is the underlying message or insight about life or humanity. Because mood centers on the reader's emotional experience produced by language, it best fits the given definition.

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4. Which figure of speech is illustrated by the sentence 'Her smile is a ray of sunshine'?

A. Metaphor

B. Simile

C. Hyperbole

D. Analogy

This sentence uses a metaphor. It makes a direct comparison by saying her smile is a ray of sunshine, which creates a vivid image of warmth and brightness without using the words like or as. In a metaphor, one thing is stated to be another to convey meaning powerfully, rather than explaining with a likeness. It's not a simile, because there's no like or as, and it's not an analogy, which would be a longer, explanatory comparison. This direct equivalence between a smile and sunshine is what makes it a metaphor.

5. In Craft and Structure, what does it emphasize when analyzing a literary text?

A. Word choice, tone, figurative language, and how structure affects meaning.

B. Plot summary.

C. Historical context.

D. Publisher's note.

Craft and Structure is about how a text is built and how that construction shapes meaning. This means looking closely at the author's word choice, which can set mood, reveal character, or create imagery; the tone, which shows the narrator's attitude or stance; and the use of figurative language, like metaphors or similes, which add deeper layers of meaning. It also covers how the text's structure—such as how sentences and paragraphs are arranged, the pacing, line breaks, or the organization of chapters or stanzas—affects how readers interpret the message and experience the piece. Together, these craft elements show why the text feels a certain way and what the author is conveying beyond the surface plot. Plot summary would focus on what happens in the story, not on how the text is built. Historical context looks at real-world factors outside the text that influence it. A publisher's note isn't part of analyzing how the text's craft and structure create meaning.

6. Which skill on the SOL involves determining an author's purpose?

A. Author's purpose.

B. Identifying theme.

C. Analyzing syntax.

D. Describing setting.

Determining why an author writes a text—whether to inform, persuade, entertain, or explain—is the skill being tested. You look for clues in the writing that reveal the author's goal: tone, word choice, what details are included or omitted, and how the information is organized. Recognizing this purpose helps you understand how the author shapes the content to achieve that goal, which is different from other tasks like identifying a theme (the message or lesson), analyzing syntax (sentence structure and how it affects meaning), or describing setting (where and when the events occur). So, figuring out the author's purpose is the focus of this skill.

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7. What is the primary purpose of headings in informational texts?

A. They help readers navigate to main sections and topics efficiently.

B. They provide the primary evidence for claims.

C. They are optional and rarely used.

D. They summarize every paragraph.

Headings act as signposts for the reader, showing where different topics or sections begin and what each part will discuss. The main purpose is to help readers move through informational texts efficiently, allowing quick navigation to main sections and topics. With headings, you can skim the page, jump to the part you need, and set expectations about what information will follow. The headings themselves don't contain the primary evidence or conclusions—that content lives in the paragraphs and data inside each section. They are not optional in informational texts and are rarely used to summarize every paragraph; instead, they label the topic of a section and cue the reader to the organization of ideas.

8. Which figure of speech describes toe: foot :: finger: hand (part/whole)?

A. Metaphor

B. Analogy

C. Simile

D. Hyperbole

The main idea here is identifying a relationship and showing it in pairs. The toe is a part of the foot, and the finger is a part of the hand. An analogy expresses that kind of parallel relationship between two pairs, matching the part-to-whole connection in both cases. The other figures of speech describe different kinds of comparisons—metaphor asserts identity between unlike things, simile uses like or as to compare, and hyperbole is an exaggeration. Because this question is about matching a factual part-to-whole relationship, analogy best fits.

9. What is the role of diagrams, graphs, and charts in informational texts?

A. They help present data and relationships.

B. They are decorative.

C. They replace the main idea.

D. They are rarely used.

Diagrams, graphs, and charts help present data and relationships. They turn numbers and ideas into visual forms that let you quickly compare information, spot patterns, and understand how different parts connect. For example, a graph of sales over time makes trends easy to see, a chart groups categories clearly, and a diagram shows how elements of a system interact. These visuals support the writer's point by providing clear evidence and making complex information more accessible. They aren't decorative and they don't replace the main idea; they're common tools used to aid understanding in informational texts. When you encounter one, check the title, labels, and caption to interpret what it shows and how it ties to the surrounding text.

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10. Which point of view is told by an outside narrator who is not a character and does not see all?

A. First Person

B. Third Person Limited

C. Third Person Omniscient

D. Second Person

Point of view in narration: An outside narrator who isn't a character and doesn't know everything fits third person limited. This perspective stays outside the story but follows one character closely, revealing that character's thoughts and feelings while keeping the inner lives of other characters hidden. It's not first person, because that would mean the narrator is a character telling the story with "I." It's not third person omniscient, because that narrator knows all minds and can describe events and thoughts everywhere. It's not second person, which would address the reader as "you." So this description matches third person limited.

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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://vareadingsol.examzify.com

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

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