

PREPARING TO TAKE THE PRAXIS: TEST TAKING STRATEGIES

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SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY PRACTIS

Test Code: 5331

WHY DIDN'T I PASS?

Test Anxiety

- Freaking out
- Unable to focus/concentrate
- Intimidated by test

Poor Time Management

- Did not “pace” yourself
- Leave blank questions

Unfamiliar with the Test Format

- Did not read the entire question/scenario
- Failure to use critical thinking skills
- Did not identify the key terms

Taking Test too early in Graduate School Program

- Lack of content knowledge
- Lack of clinical preparation



PRAXIS PREPARATION

- Identify the topics the test covers
- Know the content related to the topic
- Plan and organize
- **STUDY!!**

IDENTIFY THE TOPICS

CATEGORIES	QUESTIONS	%
I. Foundations and Professional Practice	44	33 _{1/3}
A. Foundations		
B. Professional Practice		
II. Screening, Assessment, Evaluation, & Diagnosis	44	33 _{1/3}
A. Screening		
B. Approaches to Assessment and Evaluation		
C. Assessment Procedures and Assessment		
D. Etiology		
III. Planning, Implementation, & Evaluation of Treatment	44	33 _{1/3}
A. Treatment Planning		
B. Treatment Evaluation		
C. Treatment		
150 minutes (2.5 Hours)	132	100



TOPICS:
FOUNDATIONS

Typical development and performance across the lifespan

Factors that influence communication, feeding, and swallowing

Epidemiology and characteristics of common communication and swallowing disorders



TOPICS: PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Ethics

Legislation and client advocacy

Research methodology and evidence based practice

Wellness and prevention

Culturally and linguistically appropriate service delivery

Counseling, collaboration, and learning

Documentation

TOPICS: SCREENING

- Screening
 - Communication disorders
 - Swallowing

TOPICS: SCREENING – 2

- Approaches to Assessment and Evaluation
 - Developing case histories
 - Selecting appropriate assessment instruments, procedures, and materials
 - Assessing factors that influence communication and swallowing disorders
 - Assessment of anatomy and physiology
 - Referrals

TOPICS: SCREENING – 3

- Assessment Procedures and Assessment
 - Speech sound production
 - Fluency
 - Voice, Resonance, and Motor Speech
 - Receptive & Expressive Language
 - Social aspects of communication, including pragmatics
 - Augmentative and alternative communication
 - Hearing
 - Feeding and Swallowing

TOPICS: SCREENING – 4

- Etiology
 - Genetic
 - Developmental
 - Disease processes
 - Auditory
 - Neurological
 - Structural and functional
 - Psychogenic



TOPICS: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, & EVALUATION OF TREATMENT

- Treatment Planning
 - Evaluating factors that can affect treatment
 - Initiating and prioritizing treatment and developing goals
 - Determining appropriate treatment details
 - Generating a prognosis
 - Communication recommendations
 - General treatment principals and procedures



TOPICS:
PLANNING,
IMPLEMENTATION,
& EVALUATION OF
TREATMENT – 2

- Treatment Evaluation
- Establishing methods for monitoring treatment progress and outcomes to evaluate assessment and/or treatment plans
- Follow-up on post treatment referrals and recommendations



TOPICS: PLANNING, IMPLEMENTATION, & EVALUATION OF TREATMENT – 3

- Treatment
 - Speech sound production
 - Fluency
 - Voice, Resonance, and Motor Speech
 - Receptive & Expressive Language
 - Social aspects of communication, including pragmatics
 - Augmentative and alternative communication
 - Hearing and Aural (re)habilitation
 - Feeding and Swallowing

PERSONAL TEST STRATEGIES

You should be prepared in all of these areas BEFORE take the test!

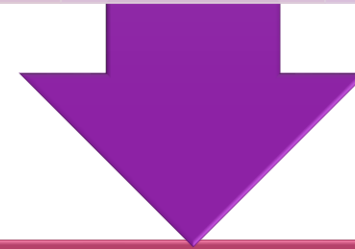
Mentally

Emotionally

Physically

Financially

Academically



Take the test only after you have adequately prepared for it!

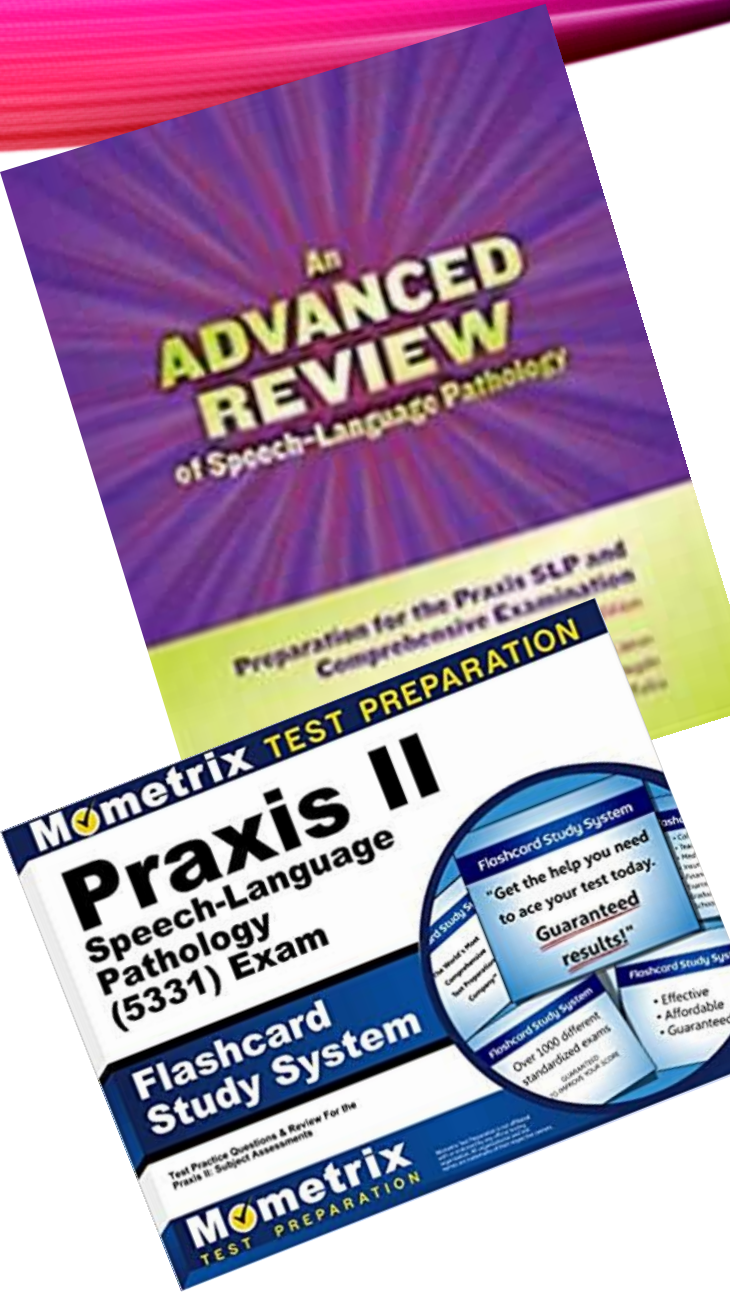
PITFALLS – CAREFUL!!

- Inserting your clients into the question
 - They want textbook answers, not your own scenarios
- Studying without a plan
- Selling your textbooks (they contain the terminology)
- Inserting your opinions into the regulations
- Not practicing
- Not timing yourself
- Changing your answers
 - Stop second guessing yourself!
 - Your gut reaction is usually the correct one!

PLAN AND ORGANIZE



SLP PRAXIS STUDY GUIDES



TherapyEd
www.TherapyEd.com

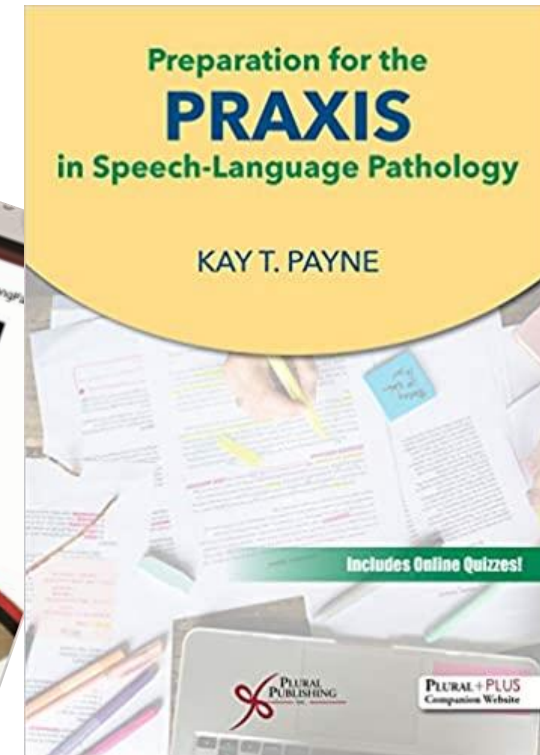
National
Speech-Language Pathology Examination
Review & Study Guide

Gregory L. Laf, PhD, CCC-SLP, FASHA
Alex F. Johnson, PhD, CCC-SLP, FASHA
MGH Institute of Health Professions, Boston, Massachusetts

NEW

- Comprehensive Content Review in 19 Chapters by Noted Experts
- 3 Complete Practice Exams Included
- Personalized Exam Feedback to Guide Your Studying
- Study and Test-Taking Tips
- The Guide to prepare for the PRAXIS® and Comprehensive Examinations

The cover features a photograph of three people (two women and one man) looking at a laptop screen. A red starburst graphic with the word "NEW" is positioned to the right of the text.



FREE ETS RESOURCES

Study
Companions

Computer-
Delivered Testing
Demos

Strategies for
Success Video

Test Day
Experience Video

Praxis Candidate
Webinars

There is an option
to take a practice
test, but you must
pay for it!

RESOURCES

- <https://www.ets.org/praxis/asha/requirements>
- <https://www.ets.org/praxis/asha/>
- <https://store.ets.org/store/ets/DisplayProductDetailsPage/productID.5089675400/CategoryID.3552300>

STUDY!
STUDY!
STUDY!

Develop	Develop a study guide
Rewrite	Rewrite notes
Refine	Refine the information
Learn	Learn strategic test-taking skills
Use	Use every resource provided for you by ETS
Take	Take a practice test in “real” test conditions (Time yourself)

STUDY SCHEDULE

Preparation for the praxis

Study one(1) area a week

Set a consistent schedule

Dedicate 1-2 hours a day

Take breaks for snack and stretching

No cell phones or distractions

SKILLS NEEDED FOR SUCCESS

- Reading Skills
- Cognitive Abilities
- Reasoning Skills
- Test Taking Strategies

YOU HAVE ALL OF THESE!!





READING SKILLS

Speed

Comprehension

Emphasis



COGNITIVE ABILITIES

Knowledge

Comprehension

Application

Analysis

Synthesis

Multiple cognitive abilities (one or more of the above)

REASONING SKILLS

- Classification
- Fusion
- Comparison
- Clueing
- Predicting
- Focusing
- Abstract (theories)
- Recognizing key words (avoid extremes like always or never & careful with superlatives)
- Critiquing (relevance)
- Creativity (know terms)
- Elimination
- Grouping (putting together)
- Values (ethics)
- Negative stem (use of “except”)

TEST TAKING STRATEGIES

Breathing

Reading,
Reasoning,
Selecting

Use the
1,2,3
Method

BOX BREATHING

- <https://youtu.be/tEmt1Znux58>



READING, REASONING, SELECTING

READING

- Read the ENTIRE question/scenario before looking at the answer choices
- Identify key words such as EXCEPT, LEAST, SOMETIMES, ALWAYS
- Talk your way through the questions
- Explain the question to yourself

REASONING

- There are always 2 possible correct choices
- There is always a choice unrelated to the question
- Eliminate obvious wrong answers

SELECTING

- Don't leave any questions blank
- Review your answers if you have time at the end and ONLY change an answer if you KNOW the new selection is correct
- Read all possible answers before selecting one

1,2,3 METHOD – FIRST TIME

- **First Time:** read the question and make a decision:
 - I know this information well and think/feel confident (80-90%) that I know the answer
 - I can make a good “guestimate”
 - I know this information, but I’m stuck between 2 choices
 - I have knowledge about the topic, but I am not sure if I can answer the questions
 - I have no idea what this question is asking
 - I do not recall this subject matter at all

1,2,3 METHOD – FIRST TIME – 2

- **First Time:** read the question and make a decision:
 - I know this information well and think/feel confident (80-90%) that I know the answer
 - I can make a good “guestimate”

Answer these and **MOVE ON!**

Don't delay!

Use the time later when is needed

1,2,3 METHOD – FIRST TIME – 3

- **First Time:** read the question and make a decision:
 - I know this information, but I'm stuck between 2 choices
 - I have knowledge about the topic, but I am not sure if I can answer the questions

Circle the number or write it down and **MOVE ON!**

Don't try to rationalize or figure it out now

1,2,3 METHOD – FIRST TIME – 4

- **First Time:** read the question and make a decision:
 - I have no idea what this question is asking
 - I do not recall this subject matter at all

Put an X over the number and **MOVE ON!**

1,2,3 METHOD – SECOND TIME

- Only go to the ones that you have marked:
 - I know this information, but I'm stuck between 2 choices
 - I have knowledge about the topic, but I am not sure if I can answer the questions

Reason your way through the answer

OR

Skip it/Cross it out and **MOVE ON!**

1,2,3 METHOD – THIRD TIME

- Only go to the ones that you have left or marked:
 - I have no idea what this question is asking
 - I do not recall this subject matter at all

PICK A LETTER!!

Use only one letter – stick with “C”

READINESS CHECKLIST

- Do you know the testing requirements for your field (speech-language pathology)?
- Have you followed all of the test registration procedures?
- Do you know the topics that will be covered?
- Have you reviewed any textbooks, notes, etc.?
- Do you know how long the test will take and the number of questions it contains?
- Have you considered how you will pace yourself?
- Are you familiar with the types of questions?
- Are you familiar with the recommended test taking strategies?
- Have you taking precautions to reduce test anxiety?
- Have you practiced by working through the practice questions in the Test-At-A-Glance booklet?

DAY BEFORE TESTING

Eliminate	Eliminate all sources of stress
Studying	STOP studying
STOP	STOP freaking out/mediate/pray
Gather	Gather everything you need: clothes, ID, keys, registration, etc.
Get	Get an adequate amount of sleep (don't take anything)

TESTING DAY

- Be well rested!!
- Don't freak out – it's going to be okay! (I promise – it will be over soon)
- Eat before taking the test and bring a break time snack
- Dress in layers – in case you get hot or cold
- Take a valid photo ID
- Take pencils to use on scratch paper
- Don't forget to put ASHA and your university down as one of the institutions to report your score

Good luck!!

You have all of the tools to take and pass the PRAXIS –
you got this!!

Email us to let us know you passed:
examreview@nbash.org

Let us know how we did:

- https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdJv2zVLJ4hrFJpKuvvcZ0PH8GXuYidminXTT4gErbL8LZAQ/viewform?usp=pp_url



SLP EXAM REVIEW COMMITTEE

- Dr. Andi Toliver-Smith, Co-Chair
- Dr. Kimmerly Harrell, Co-Chair
- Dr. Chenell Loudermill
- Soon to be Doctor Dani Scott

- Also:
- NBASLH Headquarters: Karen Miles & Staff
- Our Zoom Sponsor: SPG

*Thank
You*