

20th Century Global Political Movements and Leaders Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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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.

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!

Questions

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- 1. Which religious movement emphasizes social justice and the poor within Catholic tradition?**
 - A. Marxism**
 - B. Buddhism**
 - C. Liberation Theology**
 - D. Evangelicalism**

- 2. Mengistu Haile Mariam led which country's communist regime?**
 - A. Somalia**
 - B. Ethiopia**
 - C. Eritrea**
 - D. Kenya**

- 3. Which Egyptian leader is best associated with Arab nationalism?**
 - A. Muhammad Ali Pasha**
 - B. Anwar Sadat**
 - C. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi**
 - D. Gamal Abdel Nasser**

- 4. Which Soviet leader delivered the 'Secret Speech' denouncing Stalin's cult of personality and initiated political liberalization?**
 - A. Leonid Brezhnev**
 - B. Nikita Khrushchev**
 - C. Mikhail Gorbachev**
 - D. Joseph Stalin**

- 5. Which organization represents Palestinian nationalism?**
 - A. Haganah**
 - B. Pass Laws**
 - C. PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization)**
 - D. Afrikaner National Party**

- 6. Which organization is commonly identified as the terrorist network responsible for the 9/11 attacks?**
- A. Al-Qaeda**
 - B. Taliban**
 - C. MSF**
 - D. WHO**
- 7. What term describes the system of legally sanctioned racial segregation in South Africa from 1948 to 1994?**
- A. Pass Laws**
 - B. Homelands (Bantustans)**
 - C. Balfour Declaration**
 - D. Apartheid**
- 8. Sukarno was the first president of which country?**
- A. Malaysia**
 - B. Philippines**
 - C. Indonesia**
 - D. Thailand**
- 9. Pol Pot led the Khmer Rouge in which country?**
- A. Vietnam**
 - B. Laos**
 - C. Cambodia**
 - D. Thailand**
- 10. What was the Soviet policy of openness and free speech called?**
- A. Censorship**
 - B. Perestroika**
 - C. Glasnost**
 - D. Demokratizatsiya**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which religious movement emphasizes social justice and the poor within Catholic tradition?

- A. Marxism
- B. Buddhism
- C. Liberation Theology**
- D. Evangelicalism

This question tests understanding of a Catholic movement that links faith with concern for the poor and social justice. Liberation Theology arose in Latin America in the mid-20th century and centers on the Gospel's preferential option for the poor, inviting readers to interpret Scripture from the perspective of the oppressed. It treats faith as something that must be lived in action, pairing critical reflection with concrete efforts to change unjust social and economic structures. Poverty and oppression are seen as forms of structural sin that the Church is called to oppose, not just through charity but through sustained efforts toward systemic transformation. It stays within Catholic tradition by rooting its critique and its solutions in Catholic teaching about human dignity, solidarity, and the common good, drawing on the Bible and Catholic social teaching. Key figures in its development and its famous call to liberate people from poverty helped shape its identity, while remaining a theological movement rather than a secular ideology. This is distinct from choices rooted in other traditions or frameworks: it isn't Buddhism, which comes from a non-theistic or non-Catholic religious background; it isn't Evangelicalism, a Protestant movement with different theological emphases; and it isn't Marxism, which is a political-economic theory rather than a Catholic-theological approach grounded in faith and ecclesial teaching. Liberation Theology uniquely ties the struggle for justice to the Catholic faith and its practice in the modern world.

2. Mengistu Haile Mariam led which country's communist regime?

- A. Somalia
- B. Ethiopia**
- C. Eritrea
- D. Kenya

Mengistu Haile Mariam led Ethiopia's communist regime. He rose to power with the Derg, the military rulers who toppled Haile Selassie in 1974, and they established a socialist state, the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, aligned with the Soviet bloc. This makes Ethiopia the country associated with Mengistu's regime. The other options don't fit because Mengistu did not lead those nations' regimes— Somalia had its own Siad Barre regime, Eritrea was not an independent state at that time and was part of Ethiopia under Mengistu, and Kenya did not have a Mengistu-led communist government.

3. Which Egyptian leader is best associated with Arab nationalism?

- A. Muhammad Ali Pasha
- B. Anwar Sadat
- C. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi
- D. Gamal Abdel Nasser**

Arab nationalism centers on the idea of uniting Arab peoples across national borders and resisting colonial influence, using shared identity to shape politics in the region. The leader who most embodies this is Gamal Abdel Nasser. After the 1952 Egyptian revolution, he positioned Egypt as a leading voice for Arab unity and anti-imperialism, rallying support across the Arab world with rhetoric and actions that promoted Pan-Arab ideals. He nationalized the Suez Canal in 1956, which became a powerful symbol of Arab sovereignty, and he pursued a concrete, though short-lived, step toward unity with Syria through the United Arab Republic. His leadership and vision made him the iconic figure associated with Arab nationalism. Other Egyptian leaders operated in different contexts. Muhammad Ali Pasha set about modernizing Egypt within a broader Ottoman framework rather than pushing a regional Arab unity agenda. Anwar Sadat shifted toward peace with Israel and closer Western ties, signaling a turn away from Pan-Arabism. Abdel Fattah el-Sisi emphasizes domestic stability and economic reform rather than promoting a pan-Arab nationalist project.

4. Which Soviet leader delivered the 'Secret Speech' denouncing Stalin's cult of personality and initiated political liberalization?

- A. Leonid Brezhnev
- B. Nikita Khrushchev**
- C. Mikhail Gorbachev
- D. Joseph Stalin

Nikita Khrushchev delivered the Secret Speech at the 1956 Soviet Party Congress, denouncing Stalin's cult of personality and the purges that accompanied it. This launch of de-Stalinization marked the start of political liberalization within the Soviet system—allowing more open discussion, rehabilitating many victims, and easing some cultural restrictions while keeping one-party rule intact. Stalin is the leader targeted in the speech, not the other options. Later reforms under Gorbachev introduced glasnost and perestroika, but those came decades after and were not the source of the Secret Speech's changes. Brezhnev's era after Khrushchev tended toward conservatism rather than liberalization.

5. Which organization represents Palestinian nationalism?

- A. Haganah
- B. Pass Laws
- C. PLO (Palestinian Liberation Organization)**
- D. Afrikaner National Party

Palestinian nationalism aims to establish self-determination and a distinct national identity for the Palestinian people across historic Palestine. The organization created to unite Palestinian groups and push those aims on the world stage is the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Established in 1964 by Arab states, it brought together various Palestinian factions and became the main, internationally recognized voice representing Palestinians, coordinating political work and, at times, armed struggle, across the West Bank, Gaza, and the diaspora. This central role as the umbrella body for Palestinian national aspirations explains why it best represents Palestinian nationalism. In contrast, Haganah was a Jewish military organization in the pre-state period that evolved into part of Israel's defense forces, not a movement for Palestinian nationalism. Pass Laws were apartheid-era South African policies, and the Afrikaner National Party was the white-led party that governed South Africa, neither of which center Palestinian national identity.

6. Which organization is commonly identified as the terrorist network responsible for the 9/11 attacks?

- A. Al-Qaeda**
- B. Taliban
- C. MSF
- D. WHO

Al-Qaeda is the organization identified as responsible for planning and carrying out the 9/11 attacks. It operated as an international terrorist network led by Osama bin Laden, with operatives from multiple countries coordinating hijackings that targeted the World Trade Center and other sites on September 11, 2001. The attacks prompted a global crackdown on al-Qaeda and its operatives and led to major actions to dismantle the network. The Taliban were the governing group in Afghanistan at the time and provided sanctuary to al-Qaeda, but they were not the network that organized the attacks themselves. MSF and WHO are humanitarian organizations with no involvement in these attacks.

7. What term describes the system of legally sanctioned racial segregation in South Africa from 1948 to 1994?

- A. Pass Laws
- B. Homelands (Bantustans)
- C. Balfour Declaration
- D. Apartheid**

This question tests your understanding of apartheid—the system of legally sanctioned racial segregation that governed South Africa from 1948 to 1994. Apartheid was a comprehensive legal framework that assigned people to racial groups and restricted rights, movement, housing, education, and employment based on race, privileging white citizens while disenfranchising others. It was enacted through laws like the Population Registration Act and Group Areas Act and enforced across all aspects of public life, shaping the country for decades. The other terms are parts or landmarks of the broader system but do not name the overarching policy: Pass laws were one tool used under apartheid to control movement; Homelands (Bantustans) were territories created to segregate Black South Africans; the Balfour Declaration is unrelated to South Africa. The term that best describes the entire system is apartheid.

8. Sukarno was the first president of which country?

- A. Malaysia
- B. Philippines
- C. Indonesia**
- D. Thailand

Sukarno is a central figure in Indonesia's history as the nationalist leader who helped win independence and then became the country's first president. After Indonesia proclaimed independence in 1945, Sukarno served as the head of state and government, guiding the new republic for many years. That makes Indonesia the correct country for this question. The other options refer to different nations: the Philippines' first president was Emilio Aguinaldo, Malaysia's early leadership was a prime minister (not a president), and Thailand has not had a president as its top leader.

9. Pol Pot led the Khmer Rouge in which country?

- A. Vietnam
- B. Laos
- C. Cambodia**
- D. Thailand

Pol Pot led the Khmer Rouge in Cambodia. The movement, which he headed, seized power in 1975 and established Democratic Kampuchea, pursuing an extreme agrarian socialist program that drastically reshaped society and caused massive famine and executions. The Khmer Rouge's influence and control were centered in Cambodia, making Cambodia the correct country. While neighboring countries like Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand are nearby, the Khmer Rouge originated in and operated within Cambodia.

10. What was the Soviet policy of openness and free speech called?

- A. Censorship**
- B. Perestroika**
- C. Glasnost**
- D. Demokratizatsiya**

Glasnost, meaning openness, was the Soviet policy that expanded freedom of information, reduced censorship, and encouraged frank public discussion of social and political issues under Mikhail Gorbachev in the mid-1980s. It allowed greater transparency in government, more investigative journalism, and criticism of past injustices, helping to open up the public sphere. This openness went hand in hand with Perestroika, which aimed at economic restructuring, and Demokratizatsiya, which sought broader political participation; together they formed a reform package, but glasnost is the term specifically tied to free speech and open discourse. Censorship, by contrast, is the suppression glasnost sought to move away from.

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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://20thcenturyglobalpolmovements.examzify.com>

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

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