

# AICE International History Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,**

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# Table of Contents

<b>Copyright</b> .....	<b>1</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b> .....	<b>2</b>
<b>Introduction</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>How to Use This Guide</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>Questions</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>Answers</b> .....	<b>9</b>
<b>Explanations</b> .....	<b>11</b>
<b>Next Steps</b> .....	<b>17</b>

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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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## 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.**

## 7. Use Other Tools

**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. What was the primary purpose of the United Nations when it was founded?**
  - A. To promote economic trade between countries**
  - B. To establish a global military alliance**
  - C. To promote international cooperation and prevent conflicts**
  - D. To support colonial powers in maintaining control**
  
- 2. What is the significance of the term "White Man's Grave" in relation to European history?**
  - A. It indicates a safe haven for Europeans**
  - B. It refers to the high mortality rates Europeans faced due to diseases**
  - C. It highlights the richness of African resources**
  - D. It signifies Europe's ignorance of African cultures**
  
- 3. Which of the following was NOT a reason for the Scramble for Africa?**
  - A. Industrial Revolution**
  - B. Medical advancement**
  - C. Development of local industries**
  - D. Political factors**
  
- 4. What does decolonization refer to?**
  - A. The process of forming military alliances**
  - B. The advancement of imperialist policies**
  - C. The gaining of independence from colonial powers**
  - D. The unification of countries in Europe**
  
- 5. What were some factors that contributed to the Scramble for Africa?**
  - A. Natural disasters**
  - B. Political factors and the abolition of the slave trade**
  - C. Rise of local governments**
  - D. Economic stability**

**6. What is the definition of imperialism?**

- A. The spread of democracy through diplomatic means**
- B. A policy for reducing military influence abroad**
- C. The extension of power through colonization or military force**
- D. A strategy focused on economic cooperation**

**7. What year did the Monroe Doctrine get established?**

- A. 1800**
- B. 1814**
- C. 1823**
- D. 1885**

**8. Which event is widely considered the trigger for the Great Depression?**

- A. International trade collapse**
- B. The stock market crash of 1929**
- C. Bank failures**
- D. Increased consumer spending**

**9. Who emerged victorious in the Battle of Adowa?**

- A. Italy**
- B. Ethiopia**
- C. France**
- D. England**

**10. On what date did the USS Maine sink?**

- A. April 15, 1898**
- B. February 15, 1898**
- C. January 15, 1898**
- D. March 15, 1898**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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1. What was the primary purpose of the United Nations when it was founded?
  - A. To promote economic trade between countries
  - B. To establish a global military alliance
  - C. To promote international cooperation and prevent conflicts**
  - D. To support colonial powers in maintaining control

The primary purpose of the United Nations when it was founded was to promote international cooperation and prevent conflicts. Following the devastation of World War II, there was a strong desire among nations to establish a platform for dialogue and collaboration to ensure that such a conflict would not occur again. The UN was created in 1945 with the aim of fostering peace and security among nations by providing a forum where countries could come together to discuss and resolve their differences diplomatically. This purpose is evident in the UN's mission, which includes maintaining international peace and security, promoting human rights, fostering social and economic development, and coordinating international efforts to tackle global challenges, such as poverty and disease. The creation of the UN represented a significant shift from unilateralism and conflict-driven approaches to a multilateral system focused on negotiation and cooperation. While the other options touch on various aspects of international relations, they do not capture the foundational purpose of the United Nations as effectively as the aim to promote cooperation and prevent conflicts. For instance, economic trade and military alliances are indeed important facets of international relations but were not the core objectives of the UN's establishment. Similarly, the support of colonial powers does not align with the UN's foundational principles, which emphasize self-determination and the sovereignty of

2. What is the significance of the term "White Man's Grave" in relation to European history?
  - A. It indicates a safe haven for Europeans
  - B. It refers to the high mortality rates Europeans faced due to diseases**
  - C. It highlights the richness of African resources
  - D. It signifies Europe's ignorance of African cultures

The term "White Man's Grave" is significant because it specifically refers to the high mortality rates that Europeans encountered when they ventured into certain areas of Africa, primarily due to tropical diseases such as malaria and yellow fever. During the colonial era, many Europeans who moved to Africa for trade, exploration, or colonization experienced substantial health risks, leading to many deaths. The phrase captures the harsh realities faced by European colonizers and highlights the challenges of maintaining colonial enterprises in regions where local disease resisted their presence. The other options do not align with the historical context of the term. While European colonizers did see potential wealth in Africa, the term does not emphasize the richness of resources. Instead, it conveys more about the dangers of colonization rather than the benefits that could be obtained. Additionally, while awareness of African cultures was limited, the term does not directly signify this ignorance; rather, it is focused on the immediate deadly impact of the environment on Europeans. The term fundamentally underscores the treacherous conditions and the human cost associated with European imperial ambitions in Africa.

**3. Which of the following was NOT a reason for the Scramble for Africa?**

- A. Industrial Revolution**
- B. Medical advancement**
- C. Development of local industries**
- D. Political factors**

The choice identifying the development of local industries as not a reason for the Scramble for Africa is accurate because, during the period known as the Scramble for Africa (roughly between the 1880s and 1914), European powers were primarily focused on extracting resources from Africa rather than promoting local industry. The aim was to exploit Africa's vast natural resources, such as minerals and rubber, to fuel industrial economies back home in Europe. The Industrial Revolution had generated immense demand for raw materials, making Africa an attractive target for colonization. Furthermore, medical advancements such as quinine enabled European powers to combat malaria, facilitating deeper penetration into the continent. Political factors, including the competition among European nations for empire and influence, also spurred the rush for control over African territories. However, the development of local industries was not a priority for colonial powers, who sought to suppress local manufacturing in favor of importing European goods, establishing monopolies, and maximizing profit from the extraction of resources.

**4. What does decolonization refer to?**

- A. The process of forming military alliances**
- B. The advancement of imperialist policies**
- C. The gaining of independence from colonial powers**
- D. The unification of countries in Europe**

Decolonization refers to the process through which colonies gain independence and become self-governing states, free from the control of their colonial powers. This significant historical phenomenon primarily took place during the mid-20th century when numerous countries in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, and the Pacific sought and achieved independence. It was often fueled by a combination of nationalist movements, the weakening of European powers after World War II, and changing international attitudes towards colonialism. The correct answer highlights the essence of decolonization as a movement towards sovereignty and self-determination. It encompasses various struggles, including armed resistance, peaceful negotiations, and diplomatic efforts aimed at dismantling colonial rule and establishing political autonomy. Understanding this process provides insight into the broader implications of political, social, and economic structures shaped by colonial contexts and their subsequent transformation post-independence.

## 5. What were some factors that contributed to the Scramble for Africa?

A. Natural disasters

**B. Political factors and the abolition of the slave trade**

C. Rise of local governments

D. Economic stability

The chosen answer highlights the significant political factors and the context of the abolition of the slave trade that contributed to the Scramble for Africa in the late 19th century. The abolition of the slave trade created both a moral and practical shift in European attitudes toward Africa. It opened the door for European powers to reconsider their relationship with the continent, moving from exploitation through slavery to colonization and resource extraction. Political factors played a crucial role as well. European nations were competing for territory and influence, with the Berlin Conference of 1884-1885 formalizing the rules for the colonization of Africa. The desire for national prestige and the belief in the civilizing mission inspired many countries to claim territories in Africa. These dynamics led to increased exploration and eventual colonization, fundamentally reshaping the continent's geopolitical landscape. While natural disasters, the rise of local governments, and economic stability might have influenced local situations, they were not the primary drivers of the intense and aggressive competition among European powers for African territory during this period. The political context and the transition prompted by the abolition of the slave trade were directly linked to the motivations and justifications for the Scramble for Africa.

## 6. What is the definition of imperialism?

A. The spread of democracy through diplomatic means

B. A policy for reducing military influence abroad

**C. The extension of power through colonization or military force**

D. A strategy focused on economic cooperation

The definition of imperialism is best captured by the idea of the extension of power through colonization or military force. This concept refers to the political and economic domination of one country over another, often involving the establishment of colonies or territories under control of a more powerful nation. Throughout history, imperialism has been characterized by the desire of stronger nations to expand their influence, invest resources, and exploit the economic potential of weaker territories, frequently leading to significant social and cultural changes within the subjugated areas. In practice, imperialism has often manifested itself in military conquests and the establishment of empires, exemplified by European powers during the 19th century. This approach highlights not only territorial acquisition but also the imposition of control over the local population, economies, and governance. Therefore, understanding imperialism through this lens illustrates its fundamental driving forces and implications in global history.

## 7. What year did the Monroe Doctrine get established?

- A. 1800
- B. 1814
- C. 1823**
- D. 1885

The Monroe Doctrine was established in 1823 during President James Monroe's annual message to Congress. This doctrine was a significant policy statement asserting that the Western Hemisphere was no longer open to European colonization and that any attempt by European powers to interfere in the Americas would be viewed as an act of aggression requiring U.S. intervention. The context of the early 19th century, particularly with the aftermath of the Napoleonic Wars and the interest of European powers in Latin America, made this doctrine crucial to American foreign policy. By stating this, Monroe aimed to protect newly independent Latin American nations from European imperialism and to assert the United States' own influence in the region. This strategic move highlighted the U.S.'s growing role on the world stage and reflected a shift towards a more assertive foreign policy in the Americas.

## 8. Which event is widely considered the trigger for the Great Depression?

- A. International trade collapse
- B. The stock market crash of 1929**
- C. Bank failures
- D. Increased consumer spending

The stock market crash of 1929 is widely regarded as the trigger for the Great Depression due to its immediate and profound impact on the economy. The crash, which occurred in late October 1929, resulted in a dramatic loss of wealth for many individuals and businesses. As stock prices plummeted, confidence in the financial system eroded, leading to widespread panic among investors and consumers alike. Additionally, this event initiated a chain reaction of economic problems, including reduced consumer spending and investment. Many businesses faced severe financial strain, leading to layoffs and bankruptcies, which further deepened the economic downturn. The consequences of the stock market crash were global, affecting economies around the world and leading to reduced international trade and bank failures, fueling the prolonged economic crisis known as the Great Depression. While the collapse of international trade, bank failures, and shifts in consumer spending were significant factors in the continuation and worsening of the economic situation, the initial trigger that set everything into motion was indeed the stock market crash of 1929.

## 9. Who emerged victorious in the Battle of Adowa?

- A. Italy
- B. Ethiopia**
- C. France
- D. England

The Battle of Adowa, fought between Ethiopia and Italy on March 1, 1896, is notable for Ethiopia's remarkable victory over the Italian forces. This battle was a significant moment in African history as it represented a strong resistance against European colonialism during the Scramble for Africa. Ethiopian Emperor Menelik II led a well-coordinated army that effectively utilized tactics, strategic positioning, and the element of surprise to defeat the Italians decisively. The victory had broad implications, reinforcing Ethiopian sovereignty and contributing to the country's status as one of the few African nations to maintain independence during the colonial period. It also inspired other African nations and movements resisting imperial rule, highlighting the capacity for successful resistance against colonial powers. This victory at Adowa is remembered as a symbol of national pride and resilience, making Ethiopia's triumph in this battle a landmark event in its history.

## 10. On what date did the USS Maine sink?

- A. April 15, 1898
- B. February 15, 1898**
- C. January 15, 1898
- D. March 15, 1898

The USS Maine sank on February 15, 1898. This event is particularly significant because it acted as a catalyst for the Spanish-American War. The explosion of the USS Maine, which was docked in Havana harbor, led to heightened tensions between the United States and Spain. The phrase "Remember the Maine!" became a rallying cry for those advocating for American intervention in Cuba, where there was a growing movement for independence from Spanish rule. This incident marked a turning point in U.S. foreign policy, shifting toward a more interventionist stance, and highlighted the influence of media and public opinion in shaping historical events. Understanding this date and its implications is essential for grasping the broader context of American imperialism in the late 19th century.

# 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://aiceinternationalhistory.examzify.com>**

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

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