AMERICAN HISTORY CHECKPOINT 1877-1945 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE

Prepare with structure. Pass with confidence

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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

1. What significant weapon marked the end of World War II?

A. Machine gun

B. Atomic bomb

C. Long-range artillery

D. Aircraft carrier

2. What was the Harlem Renaissance?

A. A political movement advocating for civil rights

B. A cultural movement celebrating African American arts and jazz music in the 1920s

C. A social reform movement aimed at improving education

D. A literary movement focused on European influences

3. Which amendment abolished poll taxes in federal elections?

A. 19th Amendment

B. 24th Amendment

C. 26th Amendment

D. 15th Amendment

4. What was the goal of the Progressive Movement in the early 20th century?

A. To promote isolationism in foreign policy.

B. To expand U.S. borders through war.

C. To address social issues and curb corporate power.

D. To establish a monarchy in America.

5. Which program was introduced by President Roosevelt to help recover the economy during the Great Depression?

A. New Deal

B. Great Society

C. Square Deal

D. Fair Deal

6. What does the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) do?

A. Insures bank deposits
B. Regulates stock trading
C. Funds public schools
D. Supports agricultural subsidies

7. Which of the following was NOT a factor that contributed to the Great Depression?

A. Buying on credit
B. Stock Market Crash
C. High tariffs on imports
D. Excessive lending by banks

8. What was the significance of the Compromise of 1877 in American history?

A. It marked the start of the Civil Rights Movement.
B. It led to the withdrawal of federal troops from the South.
C. It granted voting rights to African Americans.
D. It resulted in the creation of the Federal Reserve.

9. What was the primary goal of the New Deal programs?

A. To reduce military spending
B. To reform the banking system and provide jobs
C. To promote isolationism
D. To expand civil rights legislation

10. What was the purpose of the New Deal programs?

A. To raise taxes on the wealthy
B. To provide relief, recovery, and reform to the economy
C. To establish permanent federal jobs for all citizens
D. To promote international trade

Answers

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

Explanations

1. What significant weapon marked the end of World War II?

A. Machine gun

B. Atomic bomb

C. Long-range artillery

D. Aircraft carrier

The atomic bomb is recognized as the significant weapon that marked the end of World War II due to its unprecedented destructive capability and its role in bringing about a swift conclusion to the conflict. The United States dropped atomic bombs on the Japanese cities of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, and Nagasaki on August 9, 1945. The devastation caused by these bombs resulted in massive loss of life and infrastructure, culminating in Japan's unconditional surrender on August 15, 1945, which officially ended the war. The use of atomic bombs represented a pivotal moment in military history, not only because of their effectiveness in hastening the end of World War II but also due to their profound implications for warfare and international relations in the years that followed. Other weapons mentioned, such as machine guns or aircraft carriers, were significant in various battles throughout the war but did not play the central role in concluding the conflict in the way that atomic bombs did. Long-range artillery also played a crucial tactical role but lacked the transformative impact that the atomic bomb had on the war's outcome.

2. What was the Harlem Renaissance?

A. A political movement advocating for civil rights

B. A cultural movement celebrating African American arts and jazz music in the 1920s

C. A social reform movement aimed at improving education

D. A literary movement focused on European influences

The Harlem Renaissance was a pivotal cultural movement that celebrated African American arts and music during the 1920s, particularly in Harlem, New York. This period marked a flourishing of literature, music, and visual arts that sought to redefine and elevate African American identity and culture. It was characterized by the work of influential figures such as Langston Hughes, Zora Neale Hurston, and Duke Ellington, who expressed the complexities and richness of African American experiences through their art. The movement challenged the prevailing racial stereotypes and promoted a sense of racial pride and cultural heritage. The rise of jazz music during this time became synonymous with the Harlem Renaissance, reflecting the improvisational spirit and innovative energy of African Americans. This period was significant for its emphasis on creative expression and the pursuit of equality through cultural affirmation, thereby laying the groundwork for future civil rights activism.

3. Which amendment abolished poll taxes in federal elections?

A. 19th Amendment

B. 24th Amendment

C. 26th Amendment

D. 15th Amendment

The 24th Amendment abolished poll taxes in federal elections, making it a significant milestone in the fight for voting rights in the United States. Ratified in 1964, this amendment was aimed at removing economic barriers that disproportionately affected low-income individuals, particularly African Americans and other minority groups, from participating in the electoral process. Poll taxes were fees that individuals had to pay in order to vote, and they effectively disenfranchised many citizens. By eliminating these taxes, the 24th Amendment contributed to a more equitable voting landscape, ensuring that financial status would not prevent citizens from exercising their right to vote. This amendment reflects the ongoing struggle for civil rights and the efforts to make the democratic process accessible to all Americans.

4. What was the goal of the Progressive Movement in the early 20th century?

A. To promote isolationism in foreign policy.

B. To expand U.S. borders through war.

C. To address social issues and curb corporate power.

D. To establish a monarchy in America.

The goal of the Progressive Movement in the early 20th century was primarily to address social issues and curb corporate power. This movement emerged as a response to the rapid industrialization, urbanization, and immigration that transformed American society during this period. Progressives sought to tackle various societal problems such as inequality, corruption in government, labor rights, women's suffrage, and consumer protection. By advocating for reforms such as regulation of monopolies and trusts, they aimed to ensure a fairer economic system and to promote social justice. The movement was marked by efforts to improve working conditions, promote public health, and enhance education, reflecting a broader desire to create a more equitable society. The incorrect options reflect goals not aligned with the central focus of the Progressive Movement, which was rooted in seeking social reform and limiting the excesses of capitalism rather than pursuing foreign policy strategies, territorial expansion, or establishing autocratic governance structures.

5. Which program was introduced by President Roosevelt to help recover the economy during the Great Depression?

A. New Deal

B. Great Society

C. Square Deal

D. Fair Deal

The New Deal was a series of programs and policies introduced by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in response to the economic challenges posed by the Great Depression. Initiated in the 1930s, the New Deal aimed to provide immediate relief for the unemployed, economic recovery, and reform the financial system to prevent a future depression. It included significant initiatives such as Social Security, the Civilian Conservation Corps, and public works programs which aimed to stimulate job creation and infrastructure improvement. The other options represent different historical contexts and initiatives; the Great Society was a set of domestic programs launched by President Lyndon B. Johnson in the 1960s; the Square Deal was Theodore Roosevelt's domestic program focusing on consumer protection and labor rights in the early 20th century; and the Fair Deal was Harry Truman's series of proposals in the late 1940s aimed at expanding social welfare programs. None of these were specifically created in response to the economic crisis of the Great Depression like the New Deal was.

6. What does the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) do?

A. Insures bank deposits

B. Regulates stock trading

C. Funds public schools

D. Supports agricultural subsidies

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) plays a crucial role in maintaining public confidence in the U.S. financial system by providing insurance for bank deposits. This means that if a bank fails, the FDIC protects depositors by ensuring they receive their insured funds, up to a certain limit, even if the bank becomes insolvent. This insurance helps to prevent bank runs, where large numbers of customers withdraw their deposits simultaneously due to fears about a bank's solvency. By safeguarding individual savings, the FDIC contributes to the overall stability of the financial system and promotes trust in banking institutions. The other options pertain to different government functions; for instance, regulating stock trading is tasked to the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), funding public schools is primarily a local and state responsibility, and agricultural subsidies fall under the purview of the Department of Agriculture.

7. Which of the following was NOT a factor that contributed to the Great Depression?

A. Buying on credit

B. Stock Market Crash

C. High tariffs on imports

D. Excessive lending by banks

High tariffs on imports, while contributing to economic strain during the era, were not a direct factor that initiated the Great Depression itself. The Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930 raised tariffs on many imports, which led to retaliation from other countries and ultimately decreased international trade. However, this event occurred after the onset of the Great Depression and exacerbated the economic downturn rather than being a direct catalyst. In contrast, buying on credit contributed to personal debt levels that many Americans carried into the financial collapse. The stock market crash of 1929 was a significant trigger that led to the immediate onset of the Great Depression, causing mass panic and a sudden loss of wealth. Additionally, excessive lending by banks created an unsustainable environment that allowed for speculative investments and ultimately contributed to the financial instability that characterized the period. Thus, the presence of high tariffs on imports, while reflective of the protectionist policies of the time, is distinct as not being a root cause of the Great Depression.

8. What was the significance of the Compromise of 1877 in American history?

A. It marked the start of the Civil Rights Movement.

B. It led to the withdrawal of federal troops from the South.

C. It granted voting rights to African Americans.

D. It resulted in the creation of the Federal Reserve.

The Compromise of 1877 is significant in American history primarily because it effectively marked the end of Reconstruction by leading to the withdrawal of federal troops from the South. This withdrawal had profound implications for the Southern states, as it allowed white Democratic governments to regain control, which subsequently led to the implementation of discriminatory laws and practices, such as Jim Crow laws, that disenfranchised African Americans and enforced segregation. This shift drastically altered the political landscape in the South and set the stage for nearly a century of systemic racial inequality and violence. The decision to withdraw troops was part of a broader agreement that resolved the highly contested presidential election of 1876, wherein Republican Rutherford B. Hayes was allowed to take office in exchange for the end of Reconstruction policies. This compromise not only changed the dynamics of Southern governance but also had long-term implications for race relations and civil rights in the United States. The other options address outcomes that either came much later in history or were unrelated to the specific actions and implications of the Compromise of 1877.

9. What was the primary goal of the New Deal programs?

A. To reduce military spending

B. To reform the banking system and provide jobs

C. To promote isolationism

D. To expand civil rights legislation

The primary goal of the New Deal programs was to reform the banking system and provide jobs, making the selected answer accurate. The New Deal was launched by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in response to the Great Depression, a period marked by high unemployment, widespread bank failures, and severe economic distress. The initiative focused on economic recovery through a series of programs aimed at providing immediate relief to those suffering from the economic crisis. Reforming the banking system was critical to restoring public confidence and stabilizing the financial sector. This included measures such as the creation of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to insure bank deposits and prevent bank runs. At the same time, the New Deal implemented various programs designed to create jobs and stimulate economic growth, such as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) and the Works Progress Administration (WPA), which provided employment through public works projects. In contrast, other choices like reducing military spending and promoting isolationism were not central to the New Deal's objectives, as the programs focused on economic recovery rather than foreign policy or military budget alterations. Expanding civil rights legislation, while important, was more of a later development in American politics and social movements than an immediate goal of the New Deal. The emphasis was squarely on addressing economic

10. What was the purpose of the New Deal programs?

A. To raise taxes on the wealthy

B. To provide relief, recovery, and reform to the economy

C. To establish permanent federal jobs for all citizens

D. To promote international trade

The purpose of the New Deal programs was to provide relief, recovery, and reform to the economy during the Great Depression. Initiated by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930s, these programs aimed to address the severe economic downturn and widespread unemployment that gripped the nation. Relief measures were designed to help the millions of Americans struggling to survive, providing immediate assistance through jobs, food distribution, and financial aid. Recovery efforts focused on revitalizing the economy to return it to pre-depression levels by stimulating industrial and agricultural production. Reform initiatives sought to prevent future economic disasters by implementing regulations and safeguards within the financial system and the labor market. The New Deal encompassed a variety of programs, such as the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that provided jobs and environmental conservation, and the Social Security Act that introduced financial security for the elderly and unemployed. Collectively, these goals aimed to reshape the American economic landscape and ensure stability in the future.

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://ahcheckpoint1877to1945.examzify.com

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