

AMSCO AP UNITED STATES HISTORY EXAM (APUSH) – PERIOD 9 PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE**

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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. How did President Obama propose to use the remaining TARP funds?**
 - A. To reduce the national debt
 - B. To support General Motors and Chrysler
 - C. To build infrastructure projects
 - D. To provide tax relief for middle-class families
- 2. What prompted a resurgence of nationalism in Europe?**
 - A. The implementation of the Euro
 - B. The rise of socialist parties
 - C. The economic crisis following the 2008 recession
 - D. The influx of immigrants from the Middle East
- 3. What was the primary goal of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986?**
 - A. To fully eliminate illegal immigration
 - B. To offer educational opportunities for immigrants
 - C. To control illegal immigration while granting amnesty
 - D. To restrict employment opportunities for immigrants
- 4. How has the portrayal of news changed in recent times?**
 - A. News is presented as more balanced
 - B. News is exclusively opinion-based
 - C. News no longer appears fair and just
 - D. News focuses primarily on local events
- 5. What prompted the U.S. invasion of Grenada?**
 - A. U.S. nationals were threatened
 - B. Communist regime in power
 - C. To support democracy
 - D. Protect oil interests

- 6. What internal issue within the USSR contributed to its eventual economic collapse?**
- A. High levels of unemployment
 - B. Uncontrolled inflation
 - C. Political corruption
 - D. Strains from military spending
- 7. During Reagan's presidency, what initiative was introduced to enhance missile defense?**
- A. Strategic Defense Initiative
 - B. Global Security Initiative
 - C. Nuclear Arms Reduction Treaty
 - D. Military Assistance Program
- 8. What was the result of the "Dot-com Bubble" of the late 1990s?**
- A. Increased investment in technology
 - B. A significant stock market crash
 - C. The rise of e-commerce
 - D. The creation of several tech giants
- 9. According to the 2000 census, what was a notable demographic trend in the U.S.?**
- A. 40% of the population lived in cities.
 - B. 50% of the population lived in suburbs.
 - C. 10% of the population lived in rural areas.
 - D. 60% of the population lived in rural areas.
- 10. How did immigration patterns change during the late 20th century?**
- A. Immigration from Europe increased significantly.
 - B. Immigration from Canada and Europe decreased.
 - C. Immigration from Africa surged dramatically.
 - D. Immigration became primarily restricted to dependent relatives.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. How did President Obama propose to use the remaining TARP funds?

- A. To reduce the national debt
- B. To support General Motors and Chrysler**
- C. To build infrastructure projects
- D. To provide tax relief for middle-class families

President Obama proposed to use the remaining Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) funds primarily to support General Motors and Chrysler as part of efforts to stabilize the American automotive industry during the financial crisis. The allocation of TARP funds to these auto companies was essential for their survival and the preservation of jobs in a sector that was pivotal to the economy. The goal was to prevent a complete collapse, which would have had widespread impacts on the manufacturing sector and the overall economy. While other uses of TARP funds, such as investing in infrastructure or providing tax relief, were discussed in various contexts during Obama's presidency, the immediate focus after the financial crisis was on the automotive industry. The decision to support these companies reflected a commitment to reviving American manufacturing and preventing the extensive job losses that would have resulted from their bankruptcies.

2. What prompted a resurgence of nationalism in Europe?

- A. The implementation of the Euro
- B. The rise of socialist parties
- C. The economic crisis following the 2008 recession**
- D. The influx of immigrants from the Middle East

The resurgence of nationalism in Europe can be largely attributed to the economic crisis following the 2008 recession. This event created widespread economic instability, high unemployment rates, and increased public discontent with traditional political structures. As citizens faced economic hardships, there was a tendency to turn towards national identity and sovereignty as a way to restore stability and security. This emphasis on nationalism was often accompanied by skepticism towards international cooperation and immigration, as people sought to prioritize national interests over global or European commitments. The crisis fueled populist movements that promoted nationalist rhetoric, leading to a rise in support for parties and leaders who advocated for stricter immigration policies, withdrawal from international agreements, and a focus on domestic concerns. Consequently, the fallout from the economic situation catalyzed a renewed sense of nationalism among various European populations.

3. What was the primary goal of the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986?

- A. To fully eliminate illegal immigration
- B. To offer educational opportunities for immigrants
- C. To control illegal immigration while granting amnesty**
- D. To restrict employment opportunities for immigrants

The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 aimed primarily to control illegal immigration while also granting amnesty to certain undocumented immigrants. The law was significant as it established a pathway to legal status for individuals who had been residing in the United States continuously since before 1982 and met specific criteria. This dual approach intended to address the growing concerns about illegal immigration—by implementing penalties for employers who hired undocumented workers—and to acknowledge the reality of the existing undocumented population by providing a means of legalization. The act sought to balance the need for immigration control with the humanitarian consideration of allowing long-standing residents to contribute legally to society. The act did not aim to eliminate illegal immigration completely, as completely eradicating it would require more stringent measures not outlined in this law. Additionally, while some educational opportunities for immigrants were a part of broader immigration discussions, this wasn't the core goal of the Act. Restricting employment opportunities was not the focus; in fact, the act sought to regulate and reform the employment practices related to immigrants. Therefore, the primary goal is best encapsulated by the desire to manage illegal immigration while facilitating a process for amnesty.

4. How has the portrayal of news changed in recent times?

- A. News is presented as more balanced
- B. News is exclusively opinion-based
- C. News no longer appears fair and just**
- D. News focuses primarily on local events

The portrayal of news has shifted significantly in recent times, especially with the rise of digital media and social platforms. The correct choice highlights that many audiences perceive news coverage as lacking fairness and objectivity. This impression is largely due to increasing polarization in media outlets, where the distinction between news reporting and commentary has become increasingly blurred. Many news organizations in pursuit of higher ratings and online engagement may lean towards sensationalism or biased reporting, catering to specific audience beliefs rather than adhering to traditional journalistic standards of impartiality. As a result, public trust in the media has declined, and many individuals feel that the news they consume does not represent a fair or balanced viewpoint. While some might argue that news provides balanced perspectives (which is represented in the first choice), the general trend has been toward perceived bias, which aligns with the modern media landscape influenced by social media algorithms and echo chambers.

5. What prompted the U.S. invasion of Grenada?

- A. U.S. nationals were threatened
- B. Communist regime in power**
- C. To support democracy
- D. Protect oil interests

The U.S. invasion of Grenada in 1983 was predominantly prompted by concerns about the presence of a communist regime on the island. Following a coup in 1979, a Marxist government led by Maurice Bishop came to power, which created anxiety within the United States and among U.S. allies in the Caribbean due to Cold War dynamics. The Reagan administration viewed this development as part of a broader struggle against communism in the Western Hemisphere, fearing that Grenada could become a base for Soviet influence and intervention in the region. While the safety of U.S. citizens and the desire to support democracy were also factors in the decision to intervene, the pivotal concern was the ideological implications of a communist government so close to U.S. territory. Therefore, the invasion was framed as a necessary action to prevent the further spread of communism in the Caribbean, solidifying the significance of the communist regime being in power as the key motivator behind the U.S. military action.

6. What internal issue within the USSR contributed to its eventual economic collapse?

- A. High levels of unemployment
- B. Uncontrolled inflation
- C. Political corruption
- D. Strains from military spending**

The internal issue that significantly contributed to the economic collapse of the USSR was the strains from military spending. Throughout the Cold War, the Soviet Union engaged in an arms race with the United States, allocating a substantial portion of its resources to military and defense expenditures. This focus on military capabilities came at the expense of consumer goods and services, leading to shortages and a declining quality of life for citizens. As the USSR sought to maintain its superpower status, particularly in the face of competition from the West, the overwhelming costs of maintaining a large military apparatus strained the Soviet economy. The diversion of funds and resources into military initiatives limited investment in essential sectors such as agriculture, infrastructure, and consumer industries. Over time, this inability to meet the basic needs of its citizens and sustain economic growth became a significant factor in the eventual collapse of the Soviet economic system. While unemployment, inflation, and political corruption did play roles in the overarching challenges faced by the USSR, they were largely symptomatic of the deeper issues related to an economy overly focused on military spending. Thus, this focus on military expansion and the subsequent economic imbalance it created was a pivotal factor in the decline of the Soviet economy.

7. During Reagan's presidency, what initiative was introduced to enhance missile defense?

- A. Strategic Defense Initiative**
- B. Global Security Initiative
- C. Nuclear Arms Reduction Treaty
- D. Military Assistance Program

The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) was introduced during Reagan's presidency as a program aimed at enhancing missile defense. Announced in 1983, SDI proposed the development of a system that would use ground-based and space-based systems to defend against strategic nuclear missile attacks, primarily from the Soviet Union. The initiative reflected Reagan's emphasis on technological superiority and the belief that advanced defense systems could protect the United States and its allies from a nuclear threat. This program was characterized by its ambition to create a defensive shield rather than relying solely on deterrence through mutually assured destruction, which had dominated Cold War nuclear strategy. The SDI was significant in the context of U.S.-Soviet relations during the 1980s, as it escalated tensions by suggesting an ability to defend against nuclear attacks, which some perceived as undermining the traditional nuclear balance of power. The strategic vision of the SDI had lasting implications for military policy and international relations, influencing subsequent arms control discussions and defense technology development.

8. What was the result of the "Dot-com Bubble" of the late 1990s?

- A. Increased investment in technology
- B. A significant stock market crash**
- C. The rise of e-commerce
- D. The creation of several tech giants

The "Dot-com Bubble," which occurred during the late 1990s, was characterized by a rapid rise in stock prices of internet-based companies, driven by speculation and investor enthusiasm for new technology. As the bubble inflated, many companies, often without viable business models, saw their stock prices soar. However, this all came to a sudden halt in March 2000 when confidence collapsed, leading to a dramatic decline in stock prices. This resulted in a significant stock market crash, where many internet companies failed and billions of dollars of investment were lost. The collapse not only affected the companies involved but also had broader implications for the stock market and the economy, leading to a recession in the early 2000s. This is why the answer indicating a significant stock market crash as a result of the "Dot-com Bubble" is accurately representative of the period's economic realities.

9. According to the 2000 census, what was a notable demographic trend in the U.S.?

- A. 40% of the population lived in cities.
- B. 50% of the population lived in suburbs.**
- C. 10% of the population lived in rural areas.
- D. 60% of the population lived in rural areas.

The correct answer highlights a significant demographic trend in the United States reported by the 2000 census, which was indeed that a substantial portion, around 50% of the population, lived in suburbs. This trend reflects the post-World War II movement of American families from urban centers to suburban areas, a cultural and social shift that accelerated in the latter half of the 20th century. Factors contributing to this suburbanization included the availability of affordable housing, the rise of the automobile, and the desire for more space and a perceived higher quality of life outside crowded cities. The suburban growth indicates a shift in lifestyle preferences and demographic patterns, illustrating how American society was evolving during this period. The contrast with other options further emphasizes this point, as they suggest lower percentages of urban or rural populations, which do not align with the realities captured in the census data. Thus, option B is consistent with the observed changes in American living arrangements at the turn of the millennium.

10. How did immigration patterns change during the late 20th century?

- A. Immigration from Europe increased significantly.
- B. Immigration from Canada and Europe decreased.**
- C. Immigration from Africa surged dramatically.
- D. Immigration became primarily restricted to dependent relatives.

Immigration patterns during the late 20th century saw significant shifts, particularly as immigration from Canada and Europe decreased. Following changes in U.S. immigration policy, such as the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, there was a marked increase in immigration from Asia and Latin America. This legislative change favored immigrants from non-European countries, altering the demographic makeup of incoming populations. Consequently, the number of immigrants coming from traditional sources in Europe began to decline, leading to a less Eurocentric immigration profile. The context of this shift is essential in understanding the broader demographic changes in the United States. The decrease in European immigration was also influenced by various factors, including changes in labor needs, economic conditions abroad, and the rise of immigrant communities from Asia and Latin America that drew future immigrants to the U.S. While other statements may reference trends related to specific regions or policy restrictions, the correct portrayal of decreasing immigration from Canada and Europe encapsulates the broader narrative of changing immigration dynamics during this period.

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://amscoapushperiod9.examzify.com>

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

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