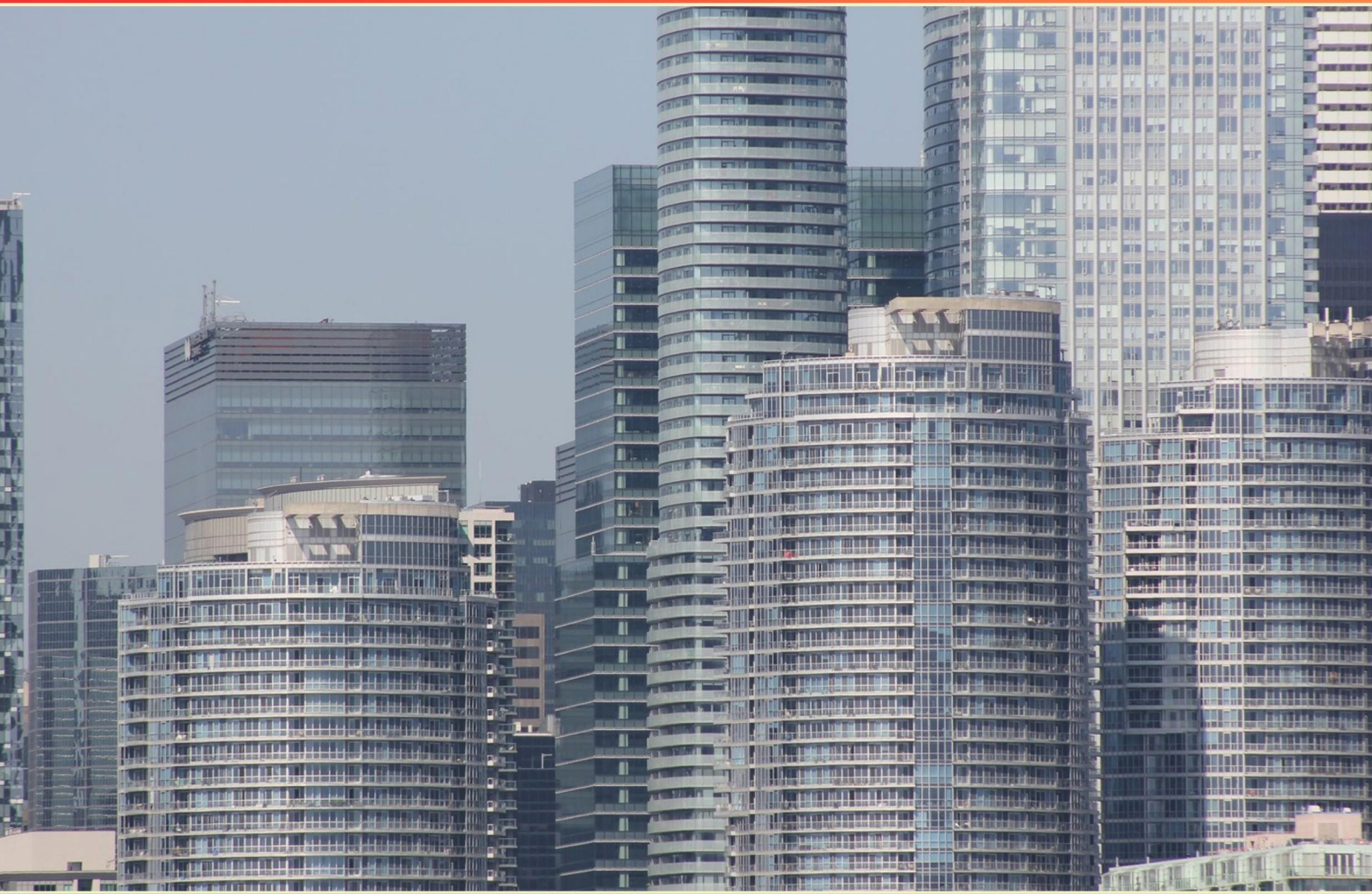


AP HUMAN GEOGRAPHY (APHG) MODELS & THEORIES PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

**VISIT US ONLINE FOR
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. Which feature characterizes the African City Model in terms of informal settlements and road networks?

- A. It emphasizes rapid peripheral growth along major roads with informal settlements near peripheral zones
- B. Central business district remains the sole locator of activity
- C. Informal settlements are concentrated near the core along major avenues
- D. Road networks and peripheral expansion with informal settlements characterize the periphery

2. How do diffusion barriers (language, religion, physical barriers) affect diffusion processes?

- A. Barriers slow, redirect, or prevent diffusion between regions.
- B. Barriers accelerate diffusion across regions.
- C. Barriers have no effect on diffusion processes.
- D. Barriers only affect currency exchange, not diffusion.

3. What is the Galactic City concept?

- A. A linear city along a river with a single core.
- B. A plain grid city with no edge centers.
- C. A metropolis with a single high-density CBD and no outlying centers.
- D. An edge-city model where suburban centers connect to a central urban core via highways.

4. How do contagious diffusion, hierarchical diffusion, and relocation diffusion differ?

- A. Contagious diffusion spreads through proximity; hierarchical diffusion from major cities to smaller places; relocation diffusion involves people moving with the idea.
- B. Contagious diffusion only involves diseases; hierarchical diffusion excludes cities; relocation diffusion is global only.
- C. All three are the same mechanism; no difference.
- D. Contagious diffusion requires digital media; hierarchical diffusion relies on print; relocation diffusion relies on migration.

- 5. Which geographer proposed the Migration Transition Model and identified perceptual regions in the US and Canada?**
- A. Zelinsky, Wilbur
 - B. Christaller, Walter
 - C. Hoyt, Homer
 - D. Mackinder, Halford
- 6. What does distance decay mean in geographic diffusion and interaction?**
- A. The principle that interaction diminishes with increasing distance from the origin.
 - B. The principle that interaction increases with distance.
 - C. The phenomenon of population decrease with distance.
 - D. The idea that distance has no effect on diffusion.
- 7. In Rostow's model, which stage is characterized by sustained growth and diversification of the economy?**
- A. Drive to Maturity
 - B. Traditional Society
 - C. Take-off
 - D. Age of High Mass Consumption
- 8. The epidemiologic transition theory is associated with which demographer?**
- A. Omran, Abdel
 - B. Hotelling, Harold
 - C. Zipf, George
 - D. Sauer, Carl
- 9. Diffusion of a cuisine by migrants is an example of which diffusion type?**
- A. Relocation diffusion
 - B. Expansion diffusion
 - C. Contagious diffusion
 - D. Stimulus diffusion

10. Which statement correctly describes basic and nonbasic sectors in urban economics?

- A. Basic sectors export goods/services outside the city.
- B. Nonbasic sectors serve local residents.
- C. Sectors are unrelated to urban growth.
- D. Nonbasic sectors export goods.

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which feature characterizes the African City Model in terms of informal settlements and road networks?

- A. It emphasizes rapid peripheral growth along major roads with informal settlements near peripheral zones**
- B. Central business district remains the sole locator of activity
- C. Informal settlements are concentrated near the core along major avenues
- D. Road networks and peripheral expansion with informal settlements characterize the periphery

In this model, cities grow outward along major transportation routes, creating a pattern where development, including informal housing, clusters along those road corridors as you move away from the center. The central business district remains, but the most rapid expansion appears along arterial roads that radiate out to the periphery, with informal settlements forming near those edges and along the transport corridors. So the defining feature is rapid outward growth along major roads with informal settlements near the periphery, reflecting how accessibility and informal economies shape urban form in many African cities. The other descriptions miss this emphasis on outward road-driven growth and the placement of informal housing along the peripheral corridors.

2. How do diffusion barriers (language, religion, physical barriers) affect diffusion processes?

- A. Barriers slow, redirect, or prevent diffusion between regions.**
- B. Barriers accelerate diffusion across regions.
- C. Barriers have no effect on diffusion processes.
- D. Barriers only affect currency exchange, not diffusion.

Barriers shape how diffusion happens by making interaction between places harder, slower, or more selective. Diffusion relies on contact—people moving, ideas being communicated, goods and practices being exchanged. When language differs, information isn't easily understood, so an innovation or cultural trait spreads more slowly or unevenly. Religious differences can influence social networks, trust, and acceptance, which can channel diffusion along certain pathways and limit it across communities with unfamiliar or opposed beliefs. Physical features—mountains, deserts, seas—physically impede movement and force diffusion to travel along specific routes where contact is easier, often slowing the overall pace and altering the path taken. Taken together, barriers tend to slow, redirect, or prevent diffusion between regions rather than accelerate it. They don't simply stop diffusion everywhere, but they shape where, how fast, and through which routes ideas, technologies, and practices spread. When barriers are overcome or weakened—through trade, travel, or communication technology—diffusion can proceed more readily, though it still often follows favored corridors shaped by geography and networks.

3. What is the Galactic City concept?

- A. A linear city along a river with a single core.
- B. A plain grid city with no edge centers.
- C. A metropolis with a single high-density CBD and no outlying centers.
- D. An edge-city model where suburban centers connect to a central urban core via highways.**

This concept centers on a metropolis built around multiple edge cities connected by highways to a central urban core. In the Galactic City, suburban centers—offices, shopping, and housing—develop at the outskirts and function as distinct hubs, linked by a network of interstates and beltways. The traditional downtown remains important but is no longer the sole center of activity; people and goods move between edge cities and the core, producing a galaxy-like pattern with satellites connected by roads. That's why describing an edge-city model where suburban centers connect to a central urban core via highways best captures the Galactic City idea. The other patterns describe a single downtown, a plain grid with no edge centers, or a strictly linear/single-core layout and don't reflect the dispersed, highway-connected network characteristic of this concept.

4. How do contagious diffusion, hierarchical diffusion, and relocation diffusion differ?

- A. Contagious diffusion spreads through proximity; hierarchical diffusion from major cities to smaller places; relocation diffusion involves people moving with the idea.**
- B. Contagious diffusion only involves diseases; hierarchical diffusion excludes cities; relocation diffusion is global only.
- C. All three are the same mechanism; no difference.
- D. Contagious diffusion requires digital media; hierarchical diffusion relies on print; relocation diffusion relies on migration.

The main idea here is how ideas, innovations, or cultural traits spread through different patterns of diffusion. Contagious diffusion spreads through proximity—people near the source come into contact and adopt the trait, so it moves outward from the origin like a wave. Hierarchical diffusion starts in larger, more influential places (often urban centers) and moves down the urban hierarchy to smaller towns or less connected areas, rather than spreading evenly everywhere at once. Relocation diffusion occurs when people physically move from one place to another, taking the idea with them so it appears in a new location because the carriers have relocated. That makes the best answer: contagious diffusion spreads through proximity, hierarchical diffusion from major cities to smaller places, and relocation diffusion involves people moving with the idea. The other statements misstate or oversimplify these patterns—for example, contagious diffusion isn't limited to diseases, hierarchical diffusion does involve cities in the spread, relocation isn't defined solely by global movement, and diffusion isn't tied to a single medium like digital or print.

5. Which geographer proposed the Migration Transition Model and identified perceptual regions in the US and Canada?

- A. Zelinsky, Wilbur**
- B. Christaller, Walter
- C. Hoyt, Homer
- D. Mackinder, Halford

The idea being tested is identifying who linked migration patterns to social development and who studied how people mentally map regions in North America. Wilbur Zelinsky is the geographer who did both. Zelinsky's Migration Transition Model explains how migration flows change as countries move through the stages of demographic transition. In earlier stages, international migration from rural areas to more developed regions is common, while as countries industrialize and urbanize, internal migration—especially rural-to-urban movement—becomes the dominant pattern. This shift reflects broader social and economic changes that accompany development. He also explored perceptual (vernacular) regions in the United States and Canada, showing that people's mental maps define regional boundaries based on culture, identity, and everyday experience rather than just official lines. These perceptual regions help explain how residents think about where one region ends and another begins, which can influence travel, communication, and regional cohesion. Other choices point to different theories: one is associated with the spatial organization of cities, another with urban land-use patterns, and another with geopolitical strategy, but none of those figures is known for both the Migration Transition Model and perceptual regions in the US and Canada.

6. What does distance decay mean in geographic diffusion and interaction?

- A. The principle that interaction diminishes with increasing distance from the origin.**
- B. The principle that interaction increases with distance.
- C. The phenomenon of population decrease with distance.
- D. The idea that distance has no effect on diffusion.

Distance decay is the idea that interaction between places tends to diminish as the distance between them increases. In geographic diffusion and interaction, nearby areas influence and exchange ideas, goods, or people more than distant ones because it costs more time, money, and effort to reach farther places—the friction of distance. This is why innovations spread outward from a source more quickly to neighboring areas and gradually slower as they reach farther regions. Even with modern technology that speeds communication, distance still dampens interaction to some extent. The other options don't fit: interaction doesn't generally increase with distance, distance doesn't imply a population decline, and distance often does have an effect on diffusion.

7. In Rostow's model, which stage is characterized by sustained growth and diversification of the economy?

- A. Drive to Maturity**
- B. Traditional Society
- C. Take-off
- D. Age of High Mass Consumption

The main idea is the phase in Rostow's model where growth becomes self-sustaining and the economy broadens beyond a few sectors. In the Drive to Maturity, investment flows into a wide range of industries, technological diffusion accelerates, and the labor force becomes more skilled. This leads to sustained expansion across multiple parts of the economy, not just a single sector, producing longer, more stable growth and increasing economic complexity. Earlier stages show limited growth or growth focused on a few activities, while later stages emphasize mass consumption and service-driven economies. So, sustained growth and diversification characterize the Drive to Maturity.

8. The epidemiologic transition theory is associated with which demographer?

- A. Omran, Abdel**
- B. Hotelling, Harold
- C. Zipf, George
- D. Sauer, Carl

The main concept tested is how health and disease patterns shift as societies develop, moving from infectious diseases to chronic, degenerative conditions as life expectancy rises and development proceeds. This idea was introduced by Abdel Omran, who described stages of change in mortality and causes of death tied to modernization, such as pestilence and famine, receding pandemics, and degenerative diseases. The other names listed are known for different areas within geography and economics, not this epidemiologic framework (Hotelling for location theory, Zipf for linguistic/urban patterns, Sauer for cultural geography). So Abdel Omran is the demographer associated with the epidemiologic transition theory.

9. Diffusion of a cuisine by migrants is an example of which diffusion type?

- A. Relocation diffusion**
- B. Expansion diffusion
- C. Contagious diffusion
- D. Stimulus diffusion

Relocation diffusion is at work when the movement of people carries their cultural traits to new places. Migrants bring their cuisine with them—recipes, techniques, and flavors—so the cuisine appears in the destination because the people themselves have relocated. This differs from expansion diffusion, where an idea spreads outward while remaining rooted in its original place; from contagious diffusion, which spreads through direct contact within a population without necessarily involving moving people; and from stimulus diffusion, where an underlying idea influences another culture but isn't adopted wholesale.

10. Which statement correctly describes basic and nonbasic sectors in urban economics?

- A. Basic sectors export goods/services outside the city.**
- B. Nonbasic sectors serve local residents.
- C. Sectors are unrelated to urban growth.
- D. Nonbasic sectors export goods.

In urban economics, basic sectors are the parts of the economy that export goods and services outside the city, bringing income in from outside. This external demand is what fuels urban growth, as money earned from outside circulates through the local economy and supports more jobs and investment (the multiplier effect). Nonbasic sectors, by contrast, mainly serve local residents and businesses rather than attracting outside income. The statement that basic sectors export goods and services outside the city best captures this defining role. It directly describes why they drive growth: they bring new money into the city from beyond its borders. The other options either describe nonbasic sectors in isolation, suggest sectors are unrelated to growth, or misstate where nonbasic sectors operate (local vs export), so they don't capture the core distinction as cleanly. For example, while nonbasic sectors do serve local consumers, that alone doesn't define the basic/nonbasic relationship or the growth impact.

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://aphgmodelstheories.examzify.com>

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

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