

# Australian Year 10 Civics 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. People who live in an electorate are called what?**
  - A. Citizens**
  - B. Voters**
  - C. Electorate members**
  - D. Constituents**
  
- 2. How long are State parliaments' terms?**
  - A. Two years**
  - B. Six years**
  - C. Four years**
  - D. Three years**
  
- 3. Voters rank candidates by preference. What voting system is this?**
  - A. First Past the Post**
  - B. Mixed Member Proportional**
  - C. Preferential Voting**
  - D. Proportional Representation**
  
- 4. Voting areas with one representative each are called what?**
  - A. Regions**
  - B. Provinces**
  - C. Electorates**
  - D. Districts**
  
- 5. Which right protects the freedom to express opinions about government without persecution?**
  - A. Right to assemble**
  - B. Press freedom**
  - C. Right to petition**
  - D. Freedom of speech**
  
- 6. Who is Australia's current monarch?**
  - A. Anthony Albanese**
  - B. Roger Cook**
  - C. David Hurley**
  - D. King Charles**

- 7. How many members are in the Australian House of Representatives?**
- A. One hundred**
  - B. Two hundred**
  - C. One hundred eighty**
  - D. One hundred fifty**
- 8. A body of government tasked with creating laws, typically comprised of elected representatives?**
- A. Courts**
  - B. Government**
  - C. Referendum**
  - D. Parliament**
- 9. What process involves citizens voting to select representatives who make decisions?**
- A. Petition**
  - B. Election**
  - C. Referendum**
  - D. Legislation**
- 10. Which of the following individuals is the monarch of Australia?**
- A. King Charles**
  - B. Anthony Albanese**
  - C. Roger Cook**
  - D. David Hurley**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. People who live in an electorate are called what?

- A. Citizens
- B. Voters
- C. Electorate members
- D. Constituents**

An electorate is a geographic area that a member of parliament represents. The people who live in that area are called constituents because they are the ones who are represented by the MP and who can influence who gets elected to represent them. The term emphasizes the relationship to representation, not just who votes. While many constituents are voters, not all residents are eligible to vote (for example, under 18 or non-citizens). The other terms don't fit as well: citizens describe nationality, not location or representation; voters refer to those who cast ballots (not everyone living there may be eligible); and electorate members would refer to the representatives themselves, not the residents.

## 2. How long are State parliaments' terms?

- A. Two years
- B. Six years
- C. Four years**
- D. Three years

State parliaments sit for a period between elections, called a term. In Australian states, the usual term length is four years. After an election, the parliament generally serves about four years before the next election is held, giving governments time to pass laws and manage budgets. While a parliament can be dissolved earlier and an early election called, four years is the standard length for state parliaments.

## 3. Voters rank candidates by preference. What voting system is this?

- A. First Past the Post
- B. Mixed Member Proportional
- C. Preferential Voting**
- D. Proportional Representation

Voters ranking candidates by preference describes preferential voting, where ballots record an order of choice and, if no candidate has a majority on first preferences, the lowest-ranked candidates are eliminated and their votes are redistributed to remaining candidates according to the next preferences. This process continues until a candidate surpasses 50%, producing a majority winner. That's the hallmark of this system and is how it's used in Australia's elections, which is why it fits perfectly. The other systems don't fit as well because First Past the Post relies on a single vote for one candidate with no redistribution; Mixed Member Proportional mixes district results with party lists and doesn't require ranking candidates in a single-winner race; Proportional Representation seeks seats in proportion to votes, usually via party lists, rather than a ranked single contest.

#### 4. Voting areas with one representative each are called what?

- A. Regions
- B. Provinces
- C. Electorates**
- D. Districts

The idea being tested is how Australia organizes its representation in parliament: each geographic area that elects one member is called an electorate. In federal elections, voters in an electorate choose their representative, and the candidate with the most support (under the voting system used) becomes the member for that area. Collectively, all electorates make up the House of Representatives and determine its overall composition. Regions and districts describe general geographic areas, not the official single-member electoral units used for federal representation. Provinces isn't the term used in Australia for these voting areas. The precise term for a voting area that returns one representative is electorate.

#### 5. Which right protects the freedom to express opinions about government without persecution?

- A. Right to assemble
- B. Press freedom
- C. Right to petition
- D. Freedom of speech**

Freedom of speech protects the right to express opinions about government openly without fear of punishment. It covers talking, writing, or sharing ideas in public, on social media, in debates, or in letters to representatives, and it helps keep those in power answerable to the people. The other rights focus on different things: the right to assemble is about gathering groups of people, often to protest or discuss issues; press freedom protects the media's ability to publish information; and the right to petition is about formally asking the government to take action. While there are limits to speech (such as prohibitions on incitement or defamation), the essential idea here is the protection of expressing views about the government without persecution.

#### 6. Who is Australia's current monarch?

- A. Anthony Albanese
- B. Roger Cook
- C. David Hurley
- D. King Charles**

In Australia, the head of state is the monarch in a constitutional monarchy, which means the monarch's role is mainly ceremonial while the Prime Minister runs the government. The monarch's duties are carried out in Australia by the Governor-General, who acts as the monarch's representative. The current monarch is King Charles III. The other names listed are not monarchs: Anthony Albanese is the Prime Minister, the head of government; Roger Cook is the Premier of Western Australia, a state leader; and David Hurley is the Governor-General, the monarch's representative in Australia.

**7. How many members are in the Australian House of Representatives?**

- A. One hundred**
- B. Two hundred**
- C. One hundred eighty**
- D. One hundred fifty**

In this system, the lower house is made up of representatives elected from geographic divisions, with one member per division. The Australian House of Representatives has 150 members, each representing a single electoral division. The total number of seats is maintained so that representation stays roughly balanced by population, which is why redistributions occur after census results. When people vote, they are choosing their local representative, and the party or coalition with the most seats in the House forms the government.

**8. A body of government tasked with creating laws, typically comprised of elected representatives?**

- A. Courts**
- B. Government**
- C. Referendum**
- D. Parliament**

Law-making is the job of the legislative branch, the body of government that makes and changes laws. Parliament fits this role because it is made up of elected representatives who debate, amend, and vote on proposed laws. Once a bill passes Parliament and receives formal assent, it becomes law. Courts, by contrast, interpret and apply laws rather than create them. A referendum is a vote to change the Constitution, not a standing law-making body. The government refers to the administration that runs services and enforces laws, but it is Parliament that actually drafts and passes the laws. So Parliament is the best answer.

**9. What process involves citizens voting to select representatives who make decisions?**

- A. Petition**
- B. Election**
- C. Referendum**
- D. Legislation**

This question tests how representative democracy works. People vote to choose members of parliament who will make laws and policy decisions on behalf of the community. That voting process is an election. A petition is just a formal request to government, not about who governs. A referendum is a direct vote on a specific issue or constitutional change, not about selecting representatives. Legislation refers to the laws themselves, not the act of choosing who makes them.

**10. Which of the following individuals is the monarch of Australia?**

**A. King Charles**

**B. Anthony Albanese**

**C. Roger Cook**

**D. David Hurley**

The main idea here is identifying who acts as Australia's head of state in its constitutional framework. In Australia, the monarch is the ceremonial head of state, while the daily government runs through elected leaders and their representatives. The monarch's duties are largely symbolic, with the Governor-General representing the monarch in Australia. King Charles (Charles III) holds that role, following the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. The other people named are not the monarch: Anthony Albanese is the Prime Minister, Roger Cook is the Premier of Western Australia, and David Hurley is the Governor-General, who acts as the monarch's representative rather than the monarch himself. So, the monarch among these individuals is King Charles.

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

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

**<https://australianyr10civics.examzify.com>**

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