

Canadian and World Studies (CGC1W) Practice Exam (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. Which statement about population aging and its impact on labor markets is most accurate?**
 - A. Aging populations have a larger share of younger age groups.**
 - B. Aging populations have no impact on labor markets.**
 - C. Aging populations can increase demand for healthcare but not affect labor.**
 - D. Aging populations have a larger share of older age groups and can create labor and care challenges.**

- 2. Which of the following is a typical set of characteristics that could define a region?**
 - A. Climate only**
 - B. Language or culture**
 - C. Climate, language or culture, and economic activity or political boundaries**
 - D. Population density alone**

- 3. Water is needed for drinking, farming, factories, and generating power. This describes which resource category?**
 - A. Water as a Natural Resource**
 - B. Carbon Footprint**
 - C. Ecological Footprint**
 - D. Goods & Services Footprint**

- 4. How do rights and responsibilities of citizenship relate to governance in Canada?**
 - A. Citizens have rights (freedom, safety) and responsibilities (obey laws, vote); government protects rights and provides services.**
 - B. Citizens have no rights.**
 - C. Governments do not protect rights.**
 - D. Citizens do not participate in government.**

- 5. How do renewable resources contribute to sustainable development, and what challenges exist in their adoption?**
- A. They reduce environmental impact; challenges include intermittency, costs, storage, and infrastructure.**
 - B. They increase environmental impact; challenges are none.**
 - C. They have unlimited reliability and no storage needs.**
 - D. They are cheaper than all other sources with no integration issues.**
- 6. What is urban sprawl, and what are two environmental impacts associated with it?**
- A. The uncontrolled expansion of urban areas into rural land; habitat loss and increased car dependence and air pollution.**
 - B. The deliberate preservation of farmland and reduce traffic.**
 - C. The growth of cities within dense cores only; improved air quality.**
 - D. A planned suburban density increase; reduced energy use.**
- 7. Which of the following best describes a developed democracy?**
- A. A country with regular elections, rights protections, and accountable government**
 - B. A country with irregular elections and weak rule of law**
 - C. A country with no elections**
 - D. A country with restricted civil liberties**
- 8. What does a population pyramid illustrate?**
- A. Population growth rate**
 - B. Migration patterns**
 - C. Economic indicators**
 - D. Age and sex distribution**
- 9. How do climate change and natural hazards impact political stability, migration, and economic development?**
- A. They can trigger displacement, strain resources, disrupt agriculture, and prompt policy adaptation and investment.**
 - B. They have no impact on migration.**
 - C. They only affect weather, not politics.**
 - D. They strictly improve economic development.**

10. Which statement about a trade deficit is correct?

- A. A trade deficit occurs when exports exceed imports.**
- B. A trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports.**
- C. A trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports; it can affect currency value, debt, and economic policy.**
- D. A trade deficit refers to the country's budget shortfall.**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which statement about population aging and its impact on labor markets is most accurate?
- A. Aging populations have a larger share of younger age groups.
 - B. Aging populations have no impact on labor markets.
 - C. Aging populations can increase demand for healthcare but not affect labor.
 - D. Aging populations have a larger share of older age groups and can create labor and care challenges.**

Shifting age structure changes both how many people are available to work and what kinds of services the economy needs. When the population ages, the share of older people grows, increasing the old-age dependency ratio—more retirees for each worker. That can reduce the available labor supply and put pressure on retirement ages, wages, and productivity, unless offset by higher participation, longer working lives, or more immigration. At the same time, more older people mean greater demand for healthcare and long-term care. This creates new labor needs in those sectors, influencing job creation, training, and wages in care-oriented fields. So aging affects both the number of workers and the kinds of jobs in demand. The other statements miss these combined effects: they either describe the population as having more younger people, claim no labor-market impact, or suggest healthcare demand rises without affecting labor needs. The most accurate view recognizes both the shift in age structure and the resulting labor and care challenges.

2. Which of the following is a typical set of characteristics that could define a region?
- A. Climate only
 - B. Language or culture
 - C. Climate, language or culture, and economic activity or political boundaries**
 - D. Population density alone

Regions aren't defined by a single trait. A typical and useful way to define a region is to look at a mix of natural features and human factors—climate, language or culture, and economic activity or political boundaries. Climate shapes the land and what people can do there; language or culture reflects the people who live there and explains shared practices; economic activity or political boundaries show how people organize, trade, and govern the space. Combining these aspects gives a fuller, more practical sense of where a region starts and ends, why it feels distinct, and how it compares to other areas. If you focus only on climate, you miss cultural and economic differences; if you focus only on language or culture, you miss the physical landscape and how people use the land; population density alone doesn't establish boundaries or identity.

3. Water is needed for drinking, farming, factories, and generating power. This describes which resource category?

- A. Water as a Natural Resource**
- B. Carbon Footprint**
- C. Ecological Footprint**
- D. Goods & Services Footprint**

This item is about how we classify water in terms of resource categories. The description lists water being needed for drinking, farming, factories, and generating power, which shows water as a basic substance that naturally exists and is used by people across different sectors. That points to water as a Natural Resource—the substance itself that people rely on and manage. The other terms refer to ways of measuring or describing environmental impact rather than naming the resource itself. A carbon footprint tracks greenhouse gas emissions; an ecological footprint estimates the total demand on Earth's ecosystems, including land and water; a Goods & Services Footprint isn't a standard category for classifying resources. While water use can appear in ecological footprints, the statement is identifying water as the resource, not a footprint measurement.

4. How do rights and responsibilities of citizenship relate to governance in Canada?

- A. Citizens have rights (freedom, safety) and responsibilities (obey laws, vote); government protects rights and provides services.**
- B. Citizens have no rights.**
- C. Governments do not protect rights.**
- D. Citizens do not participate in government.**

The main idea is that rights and responsibilities connect Canadians to how governance works: people have important freedoms and protections, and they also have duties that help society function, while the government protects those rights and provides the services and institutions that make governance possible. In Canada, the Charter and laws guarantee fundamental freedoms and safety, and government bodies — Parliament, legislatures, and courts — are responsible for protecting those rights and delivering services like healthcare, education, safety, and infrastructure. Citizens participate in governance by voting, staying informed, obeying laws, paying taxes, and potentially serving on juries or in public consultations. This participation gives legitimacy to decisions and keeps government accountable. The other ideas suggesting there are no rights, that rights aren't protected, or that citizens don't participate don't fit how Canada's system is designed.

5. How do renewable resources contribute to sustainable development, and what challenges exist in their adoption?

- A. They reduce environmental impact; challenges include intermittency, costs, storage, and infrastructure.**
- B. They increase environmental impact; challenges are none.**
- C. They have unlimited reliability and no storage needs.**
- D. They are cheaper than all other sources with no integration issues.**

Renewable resources contribute to sustainable development by delivering electricity with far lower emissions than fossil fuels, helping reduce pollution, protect public health, and support long-term energy security and local economic growth. They provide a path to cleaner energy that can be produced closer to where people live, which also supports social goals like access to reliable power. However, adoption faces several real challenges. Intermittency means solar and wind aren't constant—sunlight varies by time of day and weather, and wind isn't always blowing—so keeping the grid steady requires storage, complementary generation, or backup capacity. This leads to higher upfront costs and the need for new infrastructure, such as transmission lines to connect remote wind farms or solar fields to demand centers and smarter grids to manage variable supply. Storage technologies, like batteries or pumped hydro, help smooth demand but add cost and technical complexity. There are also policy, financing, and permitting hurdles that can slow installation and integration. When these pieces are in place, renewables can drive sustainable development, but their adoption hinges on solving intermittency, storage, and infrastructure challenges.

6. What is urban sprawl, and what are two environmental impacts associated with it?

- A. The uncontrolled expansion of urban areas into rural land; habitat loss and increased car dependence and air pollution.**
- B. The deliberate preservation of farmland and reduce traffic.**
- C. The growth of cities within dense cores only; improved air quality.**
- D. A planned suburban density increase; reduced energy use.**

Urban sprawl is the uncontrolled expansion of urban areas into surrounding rural land. This pattern typically involves low-density housing, spread-out development, and greater reliance on automobiles, which together increase total vehicle use and air pollution. As land that once provided habitat is developed, wildlife loses space and ecosystems become fragmented, leading to habitat loss. The description that best matches this is the one that emphasizes uncontrolled expansion into rural land and links it to habitat loss and more car dependence and air pollution. The other descriptions describe preservation, growth limited to dense cores, or planned density with energy reductions—situations that are not characteristic of sprawl.

7. Which of the following best describes a developed democracy?

- A. A country with regular elections, rights protections, and accountable government**
- B. A country with irregular elections and weak rule of law**
- C. A country with no elections**
- D. A country with restricted civil liberties**

A key feature of a developed democracy is that ordinary people have real influence over their government through regular, free, and fair elections, and the state protects fundamental rights while leaders are accountable to the people. When elections are regular and competitive, citizens can choose their representatives and change the government if it fails to meet expectations, which gives legitimacy to those in power. Protected civil liberties—such as freedom of expression, assembly, and association—allow people to participate, debate, and criticize without fear. Accountability means there are clear rules and institutions that constrain power: an independent judiciary, transparent government, and mechanisms like audits and a free press that keep leaders answerable for their actions. In contrast, irregular elections undermine legitimacy and voter trust; weak rule of law erodes equal protection and the ability to hold leaders to account; no elections eliminates citizen control of government; and restricted civil liberties prevent people from participating fully in political life.

8. What does a population pyramid illustrate?

- A. Population growth rate**
- B. Migration patterns**
- C. Economic indicators**
- D. Age and sex distribution**

A population pyramid shows how a population is distributed by age and by sex. It's a two-sided bar graph where each horizontal bar represents an age group, with one side for males and the other for females. This layout lets you see the shape of the population: a wide base means many young people and usually high birth rates, while a wider top indicates an aging population. The differences between the two sides reveal the sex ratio at each age. In short, it illustrates age structure and gender composition, not just growth rate, migration, or economic indicators.

9. How do climate change and natural hazards impact political stability, migration, and economic development?

- A. They can trigger displacement, strain resources, disrupt agriculture, and prompt policy adaptation and investment.**
- B. They have no impact on migration.**
- C. They only affect weather, not politics.**
- D. They strictly improve economic development.**

Climate change and natural hazards reshape political stability, migration, and economic development through three intertwined effects: displacement, strain on resources and services, and disruptions to agriculture and livelihoods. When people are forced to move, whether within a country or across borders, local economies face labor shortages, housing pressures, and potential social tensions that test governance and stability. Scarcity and price swings from droughts, floods, or other shocks can fuel protests, alter political dynamics, and push governments to respond with policy action. Agricultural disruption undermines food security and incomes, affecting development trajectories and prompting investments in resilience. These pressures also drive policy decisions and new investments in disaster risk management, climate adaptation, and infrastructure, which can redirect economic development in significant ways. Saying climate effects are irrelevant to migration or politics or that they only improve development misses how these realities actively shape stability, movement, and growth.

10. Which statement about a trade deficit is correct?

- A. A trade deficit occurs when exports exceed imports.**
- B. A trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports.**
- C. A trade deficit occurs when imports exceed exports; it can affect currency value, debt, and economic policy.**
- D. A trade deficit refers to the country's budget shortfall.**

A trade deficit means a country buys more from other countries than it sells abroad, so imports exceed exports and net exports are negative. When imports are larger than exports, domestic spending on foreign goods and services pushes money outward, which can influence the value of the domestic currency and the country's balance of payments. This situation can affect the currency value because ongoing demand to pay for imports often requires exchanging domestic currency for foreign currencies, which can put downward pressure on the domestic currency. It can influence debt if the deficit is financed by borrowing from abroad or by selling domestic assets, increasing external liabilities. It also shapes economic policy, as governments may try to boost exports or reduce imports through measures like exchange-rate actions, trade policies, or incentives to improve competitiveness. The other idea would be that exports exceed imports, which describes a trade surplus, not a deficit, and a budget shortfall relates to government finances, not international trade.

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://cgc1w.examzify.com>

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

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