

Cities and Urban Land-Use Patterns and Processes 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. Which epoch is the first in Borchert's sequence?**
 - A. Sail-Wagon Epoch**
 - B. Iron Horse Epoch**
 - C. Steel Rail Epoch**
 - D. Auto-Air-Amenity Epoch**

- 2. What term means the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for operation?**
 - A. Urban Sprawl**
 - B. Gentrification**
 - C. Greenbelt**
 - D. Infrastructure**

- 3. Which city model includes mosques at the center and walls around the perimeter?**
 - A. Islamic City Model**
 - B. Greenbelt**
 - C. Latin American City Model**
 - D. Galactic City Model**

- 4. Program in which cities identify blighted inner-city neighborhoods, acquire the properties from private members, relocate the residents and businesses, clear the site, build new roads and utilities, and turn the land over to private developers.**
 - A. Urban renewal**
 - B. Suburbs**
 - C. Traditional zoning**
 - D. Zones of Abandonment**

- 5. Which term is used for a city that functions as a service center in the global economy?**
 - A. World city (global city)**
 - B. African City Model**
 - C. Annexation**
 - D. Primate city**

- 6. Which epoch lasted from 1790 to 1830?**
- A. Sail-Wagon Epoch**
 - B. Iron Horse Epoch**
 - C. Steel Rail Epoch**
 - D. Auto-Air-Amenity Epoch**
- 7. Which discriminatory practice involved denying loans or insurance to people in certain neighborhoods based on race, often evidenced by red-lined maps?**
- A. Redlining**
 - B. NIMBY**
 - C. Fast-growth cities**
 - D. New Urbanism**
- 8. The maximum distance people are willing to travel to use a service.**
- A. Range**
 - B. Market area (hinterland)**
 - C. Central Place Theory**
 - D. Threshold**
- 9. Which movement promotes mixed-use development and pedestrian-friendly, community-oriented cities as a reaction to car-centered suburbs?**
- A. Slow-growth cities**
 - B. Southeast Asia city model**
 - C. New Urbanism**
 - D. Redlining**
- 10. Which concept promotes the concentration of land uses in walkable areas and directs growth through smart growth policies?**
- A. Mixed Land Use**
 - B. New Urbanism**
 - C. Redlining**
 - D. Smart growth policies**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which epoch is the first in Borchert's sequence?

- A. Sail-Wagon Epoch**
- B. Iron Horse Epoch**
- C. Steel Rail Epoch**
- D. Auto-Air-Amenity Epoch**

Transport technology shapes how cities grow, link to markets, and spread their influence. In Borchert's sequence, the Sail-Wagon Epoch is the earliest phase, lasting when coastal ships and overland wagons were the main ways to move people and goods. Cities during this time formed around ports and navigable rivers, with limited hinterlands because movement inland was slow and difficult. As technology advances, the Iron Horse Epoch arrives with steam-powered rail expanding access and accelerating growth inland, followed by the Steel Rail Epoch with even more extensive rail networks and industrial reach, and finally the Auto-Air-Amenity Epoch, which is driven by cars and air travel and leads to rapid suburbanization and new urban patterns. Because it represents the initial stage of technological progression in Borchert's model, the Sail-Wagon Epoch is the first in the sequence.

2. What term means the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for operation?

- A. Urban Sprawl**
- B. Gentrification**
- C. Greenbelt**
- D. Infrastructure**

Infrastructure refers to the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities needed for operation. In urban planning, it covers the essential systems that keep a city running—roads, bridges, water supply, electricity, sewage, and communications networks—plus public facilities like schools, hospitals, and government services. Without these backbone systems, everyday activities and economic activity can't function. The other terms describe different urban phenomena: urban sprawl is outward growth of development, gentrification is a socioeconomic shift in a neighborhood, and a greenbelt is land reserved to prevent sprawl.

3. Which city model includes mosques at the center and walls around the perimeter?

- A. Islamic City Model**
- B. Greenbelt**
- C. Latin American City Model**
- D. Galactic City Model**

In the Islamic City Model, daily life revolves around the mosque, which sits at the center as the principal sacred and social anchor. The mosque is often accompanied by the surrounding bazaar and public courtyards, with residences and other functions arranged around it. A wall or fortified boundary typically encloses the city, defining its edge and providing a sense of protection and separation from the outside world. This combination—a central mosque as the focal point and a perimeter wall creating a bounded urban space—distinctly characterizes this model. Other models emphasize a central business district, a highway-spine layout, or greenbelt boundaries, rather than a central religious hub with a surrounding perimeter wall.

4. Program in which cities identify blighted inner-city neighborhoods, acquire the properties from private members, relocate the residents and businesses, clear the site, build new roads and utilities, and turn the land over to private developers.

A. Urban renewal

B. Suburbs

C. Traditional zoning

D. Zones of Abandonment

Urban renewal is the process described here. It's a policy approach where cities target blighted inner-city neighborhoods, use public authority to acquire private property, relocate residents and businesses, clear the sites, construct needed roads and utilities, and then hand the land over to private developers for redevelopment. This sequence—identify blight, assemble and relocate, clear, upgrade infrastructure, and transfer to developers—defines the concept and explains why it best fits the scenario. This isn't about suburbs, which refers to outward growth beyond the city center, nor about traditional zoning, which is about establishing land-use rules rather than executing large-scale clearance and redevelopment. "Zones of abandonment" isn't a formal program title and doesn't capture the active clearance and redevelopment process described.

5. Which term is used for a city that functions as a service center in the global economy?

A. World city (global city)

B. African City Model

C. Annexation

D. Primate city

A world city, or global city, is a city that functions as a service center in the global economy. These cities concentrate advanced producer services—finance, law, management, advertising, research—and host major financial markets and international institutions. They act as key hubs that connect economic activities, information, and people across continents, shaping global flows rather than just serving local or national needs. That global reach and concentration of influential services is what sets them apart from other urban concepts. For example, primate cities describe a country's largest city dominating the map, not necessarily tied to global economic connectivity; the African City Model outlines a regional urban structure rather than a global service hub; annexation is about incorporating territory into a city, a political process rather than an economic role.

6. Which epoch lasted from 1790 to 1830?

- A. Sail-Wagon Epoch**
- B. Iron Horse Epoch**
- C. Steel Rail Epoch**
- D. Auto-Air-Amenity Epoch**

The period from 1790 to 1830 is defined by the Sail-Wagon Epoch, when long-distance transport relied on sailing ships for water routes and horse-drawn wagons for land routes. This era reflects slow, weather-dependent movement and limited capacity, prior to the rise of railroads. It ends around 1830, as steam-powered locomotives and railroad networks begin to dominate, ushering in the Iron Horse Epoch. The later epochs—steel rail and auto-air-amenity—occur after that shift, marking the continued evolution of transport technology and networks.

7. Which discriminatory practice involved denying loans or insurance to people in certain neighborhoods based on race, often evidenced by red-lined maps?

- A. Redlining**
- B. NIMBY**
- C. Fast-growth cities**
- D. New Urbanism**

Redlining is the discriminatory practice described here. It involves lenders and insurers denying mortgages or insurance to people in specific neighborhoods based on race, a practice often illustrated by maps with red lines around those areas. This designation made it harder for residents in redlined neighborhoods to access financial services, leading to disinvestment, slower home growth, and the perpetuation of racial segregation and wealth gaps. The other terms refer to different urban phenomena: NIMBY describes local opposition to nearby development, fast-growth cities refer to rapid expansion, and New Urbanism is a planning movement focused on walkable, mixed-use communities, not discriminatory lending.

8. The maximum distance people are willing to travel to use a service.

- A. Range**
- B. Market area (hinterland)**
- C. Central Place Theory**
- D. Threshold**

The distance people are willing to travel to use a service is called the range of that service. Range captures how far customers will go to access a particular good or service, which helps explain the size of the area from which the service draws its customers. Factors like price, quality, convenience, and the availability of substitutes influence how far people will travel. This concept sits alongside related ideas: the market area or hinterland is the overall geographic zone from which a service attracts customers; Central Place Theory uses range (and other ideas) to explain the arrangement and spacing of settlements that provide services; and threshold is the minimum number of people needed to sustain the service. For example, a neighborhood coffee shop may have a small range, serving nearby residents, while a regional hospital has a much larger range, drawing patients from a wide area.

9. Which movement promotes mixed-use development and pedestrian-friendly, community-oriented cities as a reaction to car-centered suburbs?

- A. Slow-growth cities**
- B. Southeast Asia city model**
- C. New Urbanism**
- D. Redlining**

The key idea here is a planning approach that envisions towns where living, working, shopping, and leisure are all within close reach, organized in human-scale, walkable blocks. This movement promotes mixed-use development and pedestrian-friendly, community-centered cities as a response to car-centered suburbs that rely on long car trips, single-use zoning, and separated functions. In practice, it pushes for streets designed for people, a variety of housing options near shops and workplaces, accessible public spaces, and easier access to transit and biking. The goal is to create neighborhoods where daily needs are within a short walk and where residents can interact more readily, which also tends to reduce reliance on cars and support more sustainable, vibrant communities. Other options don't capture that specific shift toward integrating living and amenities in walkable, mixed-use patterns. Slow-growth concepts focus more on limiting expansion than altering how neighborhoods are designed. The Southeast Asia city model describes regional urban forms in a different context, not a reaction to car suburbs. Redlining refers to discriminatory lending practices, not a development approach aimed at shaping neighborhood design.

10. Which concept promotes the concentration of land uses in walkable areas and directs growth through smart growth policies?

- A. Mixed Land Use**
- B. New Urbanism**
- C. Redlining**
- D. Smart growth policies**

The idea being tested is how planning aims to curb sprawl by concentrating land uses in walkable centers and steering growth through policy tools. Smart growth policies are designed to do exactly that: promote compact, transit-oriented development with mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly places, and use instruments like growth boundaries, zoning reform, and incentives to redevelop underused areas. This makes smart growth policies the best fit because they link the density and mix of land uses with a policy framework that directs how and where growth occurs. Mixed land use describes how land uses are arranged, not the governance approach; New Urbanism focuses on design of walkable neighborhoods, which overlaps in spirit but isn't the policy mechanism itself; redlining is an exclusionary practice unrelated to directing growth through planning policies.

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://citiesurbanlandusepatternsprocesses.examzify.com>

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

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