

GEOGRAPHY OLYMPIAD LEVEL 1 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 geographic feature exists in less than 20 places worldwide as of 2017?**
 - A. Mountains over 20,000 feet
 - B. Persistent lava lakes
 - C. Places where 3 countries' borders meet
 - D. River delta
- 2. What is the longest river in Asia?**
 - A. Yangtze River
 - B. Ganges River
 - C. Lancang River
 - D. Indus River
- 3. All of the following were factors in the Green Revolution EXCEPT:**
 - A. A widespread decrease in the use of pesticides
 - B. The expansion of irrigation infrastructure
 - C. The spread of synthetic fertilizer use
 - D. The widespread distribution of hybridized seeds
 - E. The introduction of dwarf varieties of certain crops
- 4. The Rhine and the Rhone rivers are separated by one vowel orthographically and geographically by which area?**
 - A. The portion of Switzerland between Lake Geneva and Basel
 - B. The Carpathian Mountains
 - C. Roughly 800 kilometers of tundra in Lapland
 - D. Jutland
- 5. Which European country is notable for not having any McDonald's restaurants?**
 - A. Greece
 - B. Portugal
 - C. Albania
 - D. Hungary

- 6. Which country has a law to ban the importation of horses to maintain pure bloodlines?**
- A. Iceland
 - B. Finland
 - C. Norway
 - D. Sweden
- 7. Where can the Sailing Stones be found, a phenomenon of moving rocks?**
- A. Sonoran Desert
 - B. Great Basin
 - C. Death Valley
 - D. Patagonian Desert
- 8. Which city in China is known for its historical international concessions and various cultural influences?**
- A. Beijing
 - B. Shanghai
 - C. Tianjin
 - D. Hong Kong
- 9. Which of the following is NOT a likely cause of internal migration?**
- A. Warfare or revolution
 - B. Civil unrest or disturbance
 - C. Economic opportunity
 - D. Educational opportunity
 - E. Natural disaster
- 10. Which African country adopted a new national flag in 1994?**
- A. South Africa
 - B. Ghana
 - C. Tunisia
 - D. Nigeria

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which geographic feature exists in less than 20 places worldwide as of 2017?

- A. Mountains over 20,000 feet**
- B. Persistent lava lakes
- C. Places where 3 countries' borders meet
- D. River delta

Mountains over 20,000 feet in elevation are indeed a rare geographic feature, with only a limited number of them found worldwide. As of 2017, there are fewer than 20 peaks that reach or exceed this height, primarily located within the Himalayas and the Andes. This elevation represents a specific climatic and geological condition that is not common globally, making these towering mountains stand out in the context of physical geography. Persistent lava lakes, while fascinating, are more widespread. They can be found in several volcanic regions around the world, thus exceeding the threshold of 20 locations. Similarly, places where three countries' borders meet occur in various locations worldwide, as there are multiple instances of such tripoint formations due to the complex nature of international borders. River deltas are common geographical features formed at river mouths and can be found in many regions, indicating that they also do not fit the criterion of being limited to fewer than 20 examples globally. In summary, the rarity of mountains that rise above 20,000 feet uniquely qualifies them as a geographic feature that exists in less than 20 places worldwide.

2. What is the longest river in Asia?

- A. Yangtze River**
- B. Ganges River
- C. Lancang River
- D. Indus River

The Yangtze River is recognized as the longest river in Asia, stretching approximately 6,300 kilometers (about 3,917 miles) from its source in the Tibetan Plateau to its mouth at the East China Sea. It flows entirely within China, traversing diverse landscapes and playing a crucial role in the country's culture, economy, and ecology. The river supports a vast population and is vital for agriculture, transport, and hydroelectric power generation. The Yangtze River's length surpasses that of its competitors, with the Ganges and Indus Rivers being shorter, both flowing around 2,525 kilometers (1,569 miles) and 3,180 kilometers (1,976 miles) respectively. While the Lancang River (known as the Mekong River in its lower parts) also has significant length, it does not match the Yangtze's total. Thus, the Yangtze River's unique characteristics and measurements clearly establish it as the longest river on the Asian continent.

3. All of the following were factors in the Green Revolution EXCEPT:

- A. A widespread decrease in the use of pesticides**
- B. The expansion of irrigation infrastructure
- C. The spread of synthetic fertilizer use
- D. The widespread distribution of hybridized seeds
- E. The introduction of dwarf varieties of certain crops

The Green Revolution was a period marked by significant advancements in agricultural productivity, primarily in developing countries during the mid-20th century. The goal was to increase food production to feed growing populations using various technological and scientific innovations. A significant factor in the success of the Green Revolution was the expansion of irrigation infrastructure, which allowed for more efficient water use and improved yields, especially in areas prone to drought. The widespread distribution of hybridized seeds and the introduction of dwarf varieties of certain crops also played crucial roles. These seeds were designed to be more resilient and higher yielding compared to traditional varieties, significantly boosting crop outputs. Additionally, the use of synthetic fertilizers contributed enormously to enhancing soil fertility and, consequently, crop productivity. In contrast, a widespread decrease in the use of pesticides does not align with the practices of the Green Revolution. In fact, the Green Revolution was characterized by an increase in the use of chemical inputs, including pesticides, to protect crops from pests and diseases, thereby ensuring higher yields. Thus, the absence of a decrease in pesticide usage indicates that it was not a contributing factor to the Green Revolution's agricultural advancements.

4. The Rhine and the Rhone rivers are separated by one vowel orthographically and geographically by which area?

- A. The portion of Switzerland between Lake Geneva and Basel**
- B. The Carpathian Mountains
- C. Roughly 800 kilometers of tundra in Lapland
- D. Jutland

The Rhine and the Rhone rivers are indeed separated orthographically by one vowel and geographically by a specific area in Switzerland. The correct choice identifies the region that lies between Lake Geneva and Basel, which serves as the dividing line between the watersheds of these two significant rivers. The Rhine flows from the Swiss Alps through Germany and the Netherlands to the North Sea, while the Rhone rises in the same region but flows towards the Mediterranean Sea. In Switzerland, the watershed between them is quite distinct, with the mountains and hills creating a natural divide. This A choice is significant because it points to a specific geographic location (the region between Lake Geneva and Basel) where the two river systems diverge. Other areas mentioned, such as the Carpathian Mountains, tundra in Lapland, or Jutland, do not accurately reflect the geographical separation of these rivers and are unrelated to the context of this particular question regarding their watershed regions.

5. Which European country is notable for not having any McDonald's restaurants?

- A. Greece
- B. Portugal
- C. Albania**
- D. Hungary

Albania is notable for not having any McDonald's restaurants due to several factors that influence the presence of international franchises. The country underwent significant changes after the fall of communism in the early 1990s, transitioning toward a market economy. As of now, Albania has not yet seen the establishment of a McDonald's within its borders, primarily because of market-size considerations, socioeconomic factors, and the competitive landscape of fast food and local dining options. In contrast, Greece, Portugal, and Hungary have embraced the brand and have multiple McDonald's locations throughout their respective cities, reflecting a demand for fast food and international dining experiences. Each of these countries has a larger population and more economic stability, which makes it feasible for a franchise like McDonald's to thrive. Thus, Albania stands out in this context as a country that does not host this global fast food chain.

6. Which country has a law to ban the importation of horses to maintain pure bloodlines?

- A. Iceland**
- B. Finland
- C. Norway
- D. Sweden

Iceland is unique in its approach to horse breeding and importation. The country has enacted laws that specifically prohibit the importation of horses from other countries in order to protect and maintain the purity of its horse breed, the Icelandic horse. This breed is celebrated for its unique characteristics and has been isolated for centuries. As a result, any horse introduced from outside could potentially bring new diseases or dilute the genetic pool, which is why Iceland has strict regulations in place. The Icelandic horse cannot be exported from the country once it has left, ensuring that any animals raised in Iceland keep to the established bloodlines. This practice reflects Iceland's commitment to preserving its cultural heritage and the qualities that make the Icelandic horse distinctive, such as its specialized gaits and robust health. In contrast, the other countries mentioned do not have such stringent laws regarding the importation of horses for the similar purpose of protecting bloodlines. While they may have regulations concerning animal health and welfare, they do not restrict the importation of horses to the same extent as Iceland.

7. Where can the Sailing Stones be found, a phenomenon of moving rocks?

- A. Sonoran Desert
- B. Great Basin
- C. Death Valley**
- D. Patagonian Desert

The Sailing Stones, or moving rocks, are most famously found in Death Valley, specifically in the Racetrack Playa. This unique geological phenomenon occurs when large stones slide across the dry lake bed, leaving long tracks behind them. The phenomenon is the result of a combination of environmental conditions, including the presence of ice during cooler temperatures and a specific type of wind that can push the stones along the surface. Death Valley provides the ideal conditions for this occurrence due to its extreme arid environment and the unique shape of the stones and the playa itself. The interaction of ice, water, and wind enables these seemingly sentient stones to glide across the lake bed, creating a captivating natural mystery. In contrast, locations such as the Sonoran Desert, Great Basin, and Patagonian Desert do not feature this particular phenomenon, as their geographic and climatic conditions differ significantly from those in Death Valley.

8. Which city in China is known for its historical international concessions and various cultural influences?

- A. Beijing
- B. Shanghai
- C. Tianjin**
- D. Hong Kong

Shanghai is the city in China recognized for its historical international concessions and diverse cultural influences. During the 19th and early 20th centuries, Shanghai served as a major international port and financial center, attracting foreign merchants and diplomats. This led to the establishment of various foreign concessions, where different countries exerted control and influence, resulting in a unique blend of architectural styles, cultural practices, and social structures. The city embodies a mix of Eastern and Western cultures, visible in its cosmopolitan atmosphere, cuisine, and arts. Beijing, as the capital of China, holds significant historical and political importance, primarily connected to imperial history rather than international concessions. Tianjin, while also featuring some foreign concessions, does not match Shanghai's extensive history and cosmopolitan character. Hong Kong, although known for its colonial past and diverse influences, was not officially a part of mainland China until 1997 and has a distinctly different status and narrative compared to cities on the mainland. Thus, Shanghai stands out as the prime example in this context.

9. Which of the following is NOT a likely cause of internal migration?

- A. Warfare or revolution**
- B. Civil unrest or disturbance
- C. Economic opportunity
- D. Educational opportunity
- E. Natural disaster

In examining the factors that drive internal migration, it is essential to consider the nature of the causes. Warfare or revolution typically results in forced migration, where individuals or groups flee their homes due to conflict, rather than choosing to move voluntarily for reasons such as better economic conditions or education. In contrast, civil unrest, economic opportunities, educational pursuits, and natural disasters generally motivate individuals to relocate within their country. Economic opportunities attract people seeking jobs or improved living standards, while educational opportunities encourage migration toward regions with better schools or universities. Natural disasters can displace populations, prompting relocation to safer areas or places with better infrastructure for recovery. Thus, warfare or revolution is distinct in that it often leads to involuntary movement, setting it apart from the other options that typically indicate voluntary choices for better living conditions or safety.

10. Which African country adopted a new national flag in 1994?

- A. South Africa**
- B. Ghana
- C. Tunisia
- D. Nigeria

In 1994, South Africa adopted a new national flag, marking a significant political transformation in the country. The change occurred following the end of apartheid and the election of Nelson Mandela as the first Black president. The new flag features a unique design with a combination of colors and shapes that symbolize the country's diverse culture and the unity of its people. The use of green, yellow, black, white, red, and blue in the flag is meant to reflect the various elements of South African society. This flag represents not just a new governmental era but also a hopeful progression towards reconciliation and inclusivity after decades of division. The other countries mentioned had established their flags prior to the events that led to South Africa's flag change in 1994. Ghana, for example, has had its flag since 1957, while Tunisia and Nigeria adopted their flags in the 20th century, long before South Africa's significant transition.

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:

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

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