

# Georgia Milestones Assessment System (GMAS) Government 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 term best describes government authority that comes from the people?**
  - A. Divine right.**
  - B. Rule by a dictator.**
  - C. Consent of the governed.**
  - D. Mercantilism.**
  
- 2. The local government category includes which entities?**
  - A. Local Governments**
  - B. State Agencies**
  - C. Federal Offices**
  - D. Nonprofit Organizations**
  
- 3. Which term describes powers that belong to the states?**
  - A. Enumerated powers**
  - B. Concurrent powers**
  - C. Reserved powers**
  - D. Implied powers**
  
- 4. What are the voting requirements in Georgia?**
  - A. Must be a US citizen at least 18 and a legal resident of Georgia**
  - B. Must be a natural-born citizen of Georgia**
  - C. Must be at least 21 and a resident of Georgia**
  - D. Must be a resident of Georgia with no citizenship requirement**
  
- 5. What is the Georgia Constitution?**
  - A. Georgia's federal law.**
  - B. Georgia's fundamental law outlining the structure of state government and citizens' rights.**
  - C. A city charter.**
  - D. The constitution of the United States.**

- 6. What is a local government unit such as a city or town called?**
- A. Preamble**
  - B. Governor**
  - C. Municipality**
  - D. Bicameral**
- 7. Freedoms protected by the Constitution such as speech and religion are known as what?**
- A. Responsibilities**
  - B. Privileges**
  - C. Rights**
  - D. Duties**
- 8. Which concept describes a system where each branch can limit the powers of the others?**
- A. Federalism**
  - B. Separation of powers**
  - C. Checks and balances**
  - D. Popular sovereignty**
- 9. Which department is known for regulating insurance companies and investigating fraudulent activity?**
- A. Department of Health**
  - B. Department of Commerce**
  - C. Department of Transportation**
  - D. Department of Insurance/Insurance Commissioner**
- 10. A juvenile who commits an act that would be a crime for an adult is called what?**
- A. Delinquent**
  - B. Unruly**
  - C. Municipality**
  - D. Governor**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which term best describes government authority that comes from the people?**

- A. Divine right.**
- B. Rule by a dictator.**
- C. Consent of the governed.**
- D. Mercantilism.**

Authority that comes from the people means the right to rule is granted by the citizens themselves, usually through elections, participation, and adherence to laws. This idea is captured by the term **consent of the governed**, which describes how government legitimacy rests on the will of the people rather than on force or hereditary claim. When people consent, they accept and support government rules and leaders, often by voting and engaging in civic processes; if consent wanes, the government's legitimacy can be questioned. Divine right, on the other hand, bases authority on a God-given mandate rather than the people's consent. Rule by a dictator centers on power obtained and maintained through coercion. Mercantilism is an economic theory about wealth and trade, not a description of how political authority is derived.

**2. The local government category includes which entities?**

- A. Local Governments**
- B. State Agencies**
- C. Federal Offices**
- D. Nonprofit Organizations**

Local government operates at the city, town, or county level. The category "local government" includes the governing bodies that run those areas themselves—cities, counties, towns, and local districts. The other options sit at higher levels or are non-government groups: state agencies operate statewide, federal offices operate at the national level, and nonprofit organizations are not government entities. So the best fit is the local governments themselves, the units that carry out local services, laws, and governance.

**3. Which term describes powers that belong to the states?**

- A. Enumerated powers**
- B. Concurrent powers**
- C. Reserved powers**
- D. Implied powers**

Powers that belong to the states are reserved powers. This idea comes from federalism in the U.S. Constitution, with the Tenth Amendment making it clear that any powers not given to the national government, and not denied to the states, are reserved for the states or the people. That means state governments can handle matters like licensing, elections, local police powers, education policy, and regulating intrastate commerce. In contrast, the federal government has enumerated powers—the specific powers listed in the Constitution—while some powers are shared (concurrent) between state and national governments. Implied powers exist when Congress can do more than what's explicitly listed if it's needed to fulfill those enumerated powers.

#### 4. What are the voting requirements in Georgia?

- A. Must be a US citizen at least 18 and a legal resident of Georgia**
- B. Must be a natural-born citizen of Georgia**
- C. Must be at least 21 and a resident of Georgia**
- D. Must be a resident of Georgia with no citizenship requirement**

To vote in Georgia, you must be a United States citizen, at least 18 years old, and a legal resident of Georgia. This combination covers who is eligible: citizenship ensures you have the right to participate in federal, state, and local elections; age 18 ensures you're an adult voter; and state residency shows you live in Georgia and can vote in its elections. Natural-born status isn't required—naturalized citizens can vote as well—so needing to be born in Georgia isn't correct. The age requirement is 18, not 21, so that part isn't accurate. And there is a citizenship requirement, so a statement with no citizenship requirement isn't correct. (Also, note that you typically must be registered to vote by a deadline before the election.)

#### 5. What is the Georgia Constitution?

- A. Georgia's federal law.**
- B. Georgia's fundamental law outlining the structure of state government and citizens' rights.**
- C. A city charter.**
- D. The constitution of the United States.**

Georgia's constitution is the state's highest governing document. It sets up the structure of the state government—the legislative, executive, and judicial branches—and explains their powers, duties, and how leaders are chosen. It also spells out the rights and protections residents have under Georgia law. In practical terms, laws and policies in Georgia must align with what's in this document, and the constitution can be changed only through formal amendments, usually proposed by the General Assembly and approved by voters. This makes it different from federal law, which governs the entire country; a city charter, which governs a specific city; and the United States Constitution, which is the nationwide framework.

#### 6. What is a local government unit such as a city or town called?

- A. Preamble**
- B. Governor**
- C. Municipality**
- D. Bicameral**

A municipality is a local government unit created by the state to handle city- or town-level needs. It has its own elected officials, typically a mayor and a council, and is responsible for services such as policing, fire protection, zoning, public works, and local ordinances. This distinguishes it from other terms: a preamble is the introduction to a constitution, a governor leads a state's executive branch, and bicameral describes a legislature with two chambers rather than a local government unit.

**7. Freedoms protected by the Constitution such as speech and religion are known as what?**

- A. Responsibilities**
- B. Privileges**
- C. Rights**
- D. Duties**

This question focuses on what term describes freedoms like speech and religion that the Constitution protects. These are rights—the guaranteed liberties that individuals have. They come from the idea of civil liberties and are protected by law, with examples such as freedom of speech and freedom of religion in the First Amendment. Privileges are benefits that the government can grant or revoke and aren't guaranteed; duties are obligations people must perform; responsibilities are civic tasks one should undertake but aren't guaranteed protections. So the best term for these constitutional protections is rights.

**8. Which concept describes a system where each branch can limit the powers of the others?**

- A. Federalism**
- B. Separation of powers**
- C. Checks and balances**
- D. Popular sovereignty**

Checks and balances is a system in which each branch of government can limit the powers of the others. This arrangement prevents any one branch from becoming too powerful by creating requirements, responsibilities, and oversight that involve the others. For example, the legislative branch can create laws, but the executive can veto those laws, and the legislative branch can override a veto with enough votes. The judiciary can review laws and executive actions to determine if they're constitutional. The executive appoints judges and other officials, but the Senate must confirm many of those appointments, and high officials can be impeached and removed. These interactions keep power in balance by requiring cooperation and accountability among the branches. Separation of powers refers to dividing government responsibilities among the three branches, while federalism concerns the division of power between national and state governments. Popular sovereignty is the idea that the people are the source of governmental authority.

**9. Which department is known for regulating insurance companies and investigating fraudulent activity?**

- A. Department of Health**
- B. Department of Commerce**
- C. Department of Transportation**
- D. Department of Insurance/Insurance Commissioner**

Regulating insurance companies and investigating fraudulent activity is handled by the Department of Insurance, overseen by the Insurance Commissioner. This department licenses insurers, reviews and approves policy forms and rates, enforces insurance laws, and investigates complaints and suspected fraud to protect consumers. The other departments focus on different areas: Health oversees health services and public health, Commerce handles general business regulation, and Transportation manages roads, vehicles, and transit. So the department that specifically governs insurance and fights insurance fraud is the Department of Insurance/Insurance Commissioner.

**10. A juvenile who commits an act that would be a crime for an adult is called what?**

- A. Delinquent**
- B. Unruly**
- C. Municipality**
- D. Governor**

In this context, the main idea is the language used for youth crime. A juvenile who commits an act that would be a crime if an adult did it is called a delinquent. This term signals that the conduct is addressed within the juvenile justice system, often with a focus on rehabilitation and supervision rather than adult-style punishment. The other term describes behavior that is considered a status offense (like truancy or running away) and isn't necessarily a crime for adults, so it doesn't fit the given scenario. The remaining two options—municipality and governor—are government terms and don't describe a person's conduct.

## 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://gmasgovernment.examzify.com>**

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