

GMAS 8th Grade Social Studies Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

- 1. What term describes life and work among country people or in the countryside?**
 - A. Segregation**
 - B. Literacy**
 - C. Rural**
 - D. Riot**

- 2. Which term denotes someone who remains loyal to the ruler during a rebellion?**
 - A. Patriot**
 - B. Loyalist**
 - C. Continental**
 - D. Grievance**

- 3. What term describes garden cultivation that was important to the Mississippian culture?**
 - A. Agriculture**
 - B. Horticulture**
 - C. Irrigation**
 - D. Domestication**

- 4. Which term denotes hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic, or racial group?**
 - A. Anti Semitism**
 - B. Riot**
 - C. Segregation**
 - D. Rural**

- 5. Which word means 'unable to be endured'?**
 - A. Endurable**
 - B. Intolerable**
 - C. Tolerable**
 - D. Manageable**

- 6. What term refers to money the government collects from people and businesses through taxes, such as income or sales tax?**
- A. Non Tax Revenue**
 - B. Tax Revenue**
 - C. Budget**
 - D. Expenses**
- 7. Which term denotes the rights or privileges of citizens?**
- A. Liberty**
 - B. Grievance**
 - C. Loyalist**
 - D. Continental**
- 8. What term describes money a business earns after all expenses are paid?**
- A. Revenue**
 - B. Profit**
 - C. Budget**
 - D. Loss**
- 9. Which civil rights organization was described as planned rallies, marches, and boycotts, and supported by southern religious leaders?**
- A. CORE**
 - B. SNCC**
 - C. SCLC**
 - D. NAACP**
- 10. What term refers to a party primary in a southern state open to white voters only?**
- A. White Primary**
 - B. Grandfather Clause**
 - C. Literacy**
 - D. Riot**

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What term describes life and work among country people or in the countryside?

- A. Segregation**
- B. Literacy**
- C. Rural**
- D. Riot**

Describing life and work in the countryside uses the term rural. Rural refers to areas outside cities and to activities common there, like farming and countryside communities. The other terms don't fit because segregation means separation of people, literacy is about reading and writing ability, and riot means a violent disturbance. So rural is the best word to describe life and work among country people or in the countryside.

2. Which term denotes someone who remains loyal to the ruler during a rebellion?

- A. Patriot**
- B. Loyalist**
- C. Continental**
- D. Grievance**

The main idea is identifying the label for someone who stays faithful to the ruler during a rebellion. A person who remains loyal to the ruler is called a Loyalist. Loyalists supported the established authority and opposed the rebels, often backing the Crown or ruling power. In contrast, a Patriot would push for independence, the Continental refers to the rebel side connected to the Continental Army or Congress, and a Grievance is a complaint or reason for protest, not a type of person. So, the term that best fits someone who remains loyal to the ruler is Loyalist.

3. What term describes garden cultivation that was important to the Mississippian culture?

- A. Agriculture**
- B. Horticulture**
- C. Irrigation**
- D. Domestication**

Horticulture means growing crops in gardens or small plots near the home, usually by hand. For the Mississippian culture, people lived in villages with mound centers and kept garden plots to supplement their staple foods, focusing on crops tended close to where they lived. This garden-based cultivation fits the idea of horticulture, as opposed to farming on large fields. Agriculture, by contrast, refers to large-scale farming of fields, often with more extensive labor and longer-term planning. Irrigation is about supplying water to crops, which isn't the defining feature of Mississippian garden practice. Domestication is the process of altering wild plants or animals to be more useful, not the specific act of tending garden plots. So the term that best describes their garden cultivation is horticulture.

4. Which term denotes hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic, or racial group?

- A. Anti Semitism**
- B. Riot**
- C. Segregation**
- D. Rural**

Hostility toward Jews as a religious, ethnic, or racial group is called anti-Semitism. It describes prejudice, discrimination, or hatred directed at Jews and can show up as stereotypes, biased laws or practices, social exclusion, or violent acts. The other terms don't fit because a riot is crowd violence, segregation is about separating groups, and rural just means countryside—none of these name the targeted prejudice against Jews.

5. Which word means 'unable to be endured'?

- A. Endurable**
- B. Intolerable**
- C. Tolerable**
- D. Manageable**

Intolerable describes something that cannot be endured at all. It conveys extreme discomfort or pain that goes beyond what you can bear. For example, a heat wave or a loud, constant noise can be so severe that it becomes intolerable. The other words describe things you can bear to some degree: endurable means you can endure it; tolerable also means bearable or acceptable; manageable implies you can handle or control it. So, when asked for the word meaning "unable to be endured," the strongest and most precise choice is intolerable.

6. What term refers to money the government collects from people and businesses through taxes, such as income or sales tax?

- A. Non Tax Revenue**
- B. Tax Revenue**
- C. Budget**
- D. Expenses**

Tax revenue is the money the government collects from people and businesses through taxes, such as income tax and sales tax. This revenue funds public services like schools, roads, and safety programs. It's different from non-tax revenue, which comes from sources other than taxes (fees, fines, or government-owned profits). A budget is the plan for expected income and spending, while expenses are the actual amounts the government pays out.

7. Which term denotes the rights or privileges of citizens?

- A. Liberty**
- B. Grievance**
- C. Loyalist**
- D. Continental**

Liberty is the term that denotes the rights or privileges of citizens. It captures the idea that people have freedoms protected by law, such as the ability to speak freely, participate in government, and live without undue interference. This is why liberty best fits the description of rights or privileges of citizens. A grievance is simply a complaint about a perceived wrong, not the rights themselves. A loyalist is someone who remains loyal to a ruling authority, which is about loyalty during conflict rather than the concept of rights. A continental refers to something relating to a continent or, in historical contexts, to the American colonies as a political group, but it doesn't describe the rights or privileges of citizens.

8. What term describes money a business earns after all expenses are paid?

- A. Revenue**
- B. Profit**
- C. Budget**
- D. Loss**

Profit is the money a business earns after all expenses are paid. This is what remains once costs like materials, wages, and overhead have been subtracted from the revenue generated by sales. Revenue is the total income from sales before costs are taken out. A budget is just a plan for expected income and spending, not the actual earnings, and a loss occurs when expenses are greater than revenue, resulting in negative money. For example, if a shop brings in \$1,000 from sales and spends \$800 on costs, the profit is \$200. Profit best describes the amount left after paying all expenses.

9. Which civil rights organization was described as planned rallies, marches, and boycotts, and supported by southern religious leaders?

- A. CORE**
- B. SNCC**
- C. SCLC**
- D. NAACP**

This item tests recognizing which civil rights group organized nonviolent, mass actions through church-based leadership in the South. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference fits best because it was founded by southern ministers and built around religious communities. Its leaders, including MLK Jr., coordinated planned rallies, marches, and boycotts, with the church providing both moral authority and organizational support. This church-led approach helped mobilize large-scale protests while keeping them peaceful. Other groups had different bases or methods: CORE focused on direct action and demonstrations but without the same clergy-driven structure; SNCC was youth-led; the NAACP emphasized legal challenges and political lobbying rather than mass church-led campaigns.

10. What term refers to a party primary in a southern state open to white voters only?

A. White Primary

B. Grandfather Clause

C. Literacy

D. Riot

In the Jim Crow era, voting rights were often narrowed through specific tactics, and in the South, a party primary could effectively decide elections. A white primary is a term for a party primary that only white voters could participate in, so Black citizens were excluded from influencing who would win the primary and, by extension, the election. That makes it the best choice because it directly describes a primary restricted to white voters. The other options refer to different voting-denial strategies or events: a grandfather clause allowed whites to bypass certain requirements by tracing ancestry to voters before a cutoff date; literacy tests tested reading or writing to vote; and a riot is a violent disturbance, not a method of restricting participation in a primary.

SAMPLE

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://gmas8thgradesocialstudies.examzify.com>

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

SAMPLE