

# History Bee 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. What were the years of the American Revolution?**
  - A. 1619-1681**
  - B. 1492-1493**
  - C. 1861-1865**
  - D. 1775-1783**
  
- 2. What is suffrage?**
  - A. The right to vote**
  - B. The freedom of religion**
  - C. The right to bear arms**
  - D. The right to a fair trial**
  
- 3. Name the Supreme Court Chief Justice who handed down the decision in the Dred Scott Case?**
  - A. Roger Taney**
  - B. John Marshall**
  - C. Earl Warren**
  - D. Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.**
  
- 4. Who appoints Cabinet members?**
  - A. The Chief Justice**
  - B. The president with Senate's approval**
  - C. The Vice President**
  - D. The Speaker of the House**
  
- 5. What was the most sensational part of the Dred Scott v. Sandford decision?**
  - A. SC decision divided the country even more**
  - B. It declared African Americans were citizens**
  - C. It voided the Missouri Compromise**
  - D. It upheld slavery in all territories**
  
- 6. Connecticut was founded by which Puritan minister?**
  - A. Thomas Hooker**
  - B. Roger Williams**
  - C. John Winthrop**
  - D. Samuel Hopkins**

- 7. Which colony was established as a haven for debtors?**
- A. North Carolina**
  - B. Delaware**
  - C. New Jersey**
  - D. Georgia**
- 8. The Kansas-Nebraska Act proposed that slavery in new territories be decided by what principle?**
- A. Federal mandate**
  - B. State-by-state vote**
  - C. Compromise measure**
  - D. Popular sovereignty**
- 9. Which group formed to inform the colonies about British actions in Massachusetts?**
- A. Stamp Act Congress**
  - B. Continental Congress**
  - C. Committee of Correspondence**
  - D. Sons of Liberty**
- 10. Name the three branches of government.**
- A. Legislative, Executive, Judicial**
  - B. Executive, Legislative, Judicial**
  - C. Legislative, Judicial, Executive**
  - D. Judicial, Legislative, Executive**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. What were the years of the American Revolution?

- A. 1619-1681
- B. 1492-1493
- C. 1861-1865
- D. 1775-1783**

The timeline of the American Revolution runs from 1775 to 1783. The fighting began in 1775 with battles like Lexington and Concord, and the war continued until the Treaty of Paris in 1783, which formally recognized American independence and set its borders. Although the colonies declared independence in 1776, hostilities did not end until 1783. The other dates correspond to entirely different events: the early colonial era, Columbus's voyages, and the Civil War. So 1775-1783 best captures the years of the American Revolution.

## 2. What is suffrage?

- A. The right to vote**
- B. The freedom of religion
- C. The right to bear arms
- D. The right to a fair trial

Suffrage means the right to vote in elections, a fundamental way citizens participate in choosing their government and influencing public policy. In democracies, this political right can expand over time, starting from limited groups and growing to universal voting rights as societies recognize greater equality. For example, many nations extended suffrage from property-holding or certain groups to include all adult citizens, and in the United States this progression is reflected in amendments and civil rights advances that broaden who can cast a ballot. This concept is distinct from other rights: freedom of religion protects belief and worship, the right to bear arms concerns weapon ownership, and the right to a fair trial relates to due process and legal proceedings. So suffrage specifically refers to the ability to vote.

## 3. Name the Supreme Court Chief Justice who handed down the decision in the Dred Scott Case?

- A. Roger Taney**
- B. John Marshall
- C. Earl Warren
- D. Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.

Roger B. Taney is the Chief Justice who handed down the Dred Scott decision. Taney led the Court from 1836 to 1864, and in 1857 he authored the majority opinion in *Dred Scott v. Sandford*, which stated that African Americans could not be citizens and that Congress had no authority to prohibit slavery in the territories. This ruling intensified national tensions over slavery and helped push the country toward the Civil War. For contrast, John Marshall served as Chief Justice earlier and shaped early constitutional authority, while Earl Warren and Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. were from later eras and did not author this case.

#### 4. Who appoints Cabinet members?

- A. The Chief Justice
- B. The president with Senate's approval**
- C. The Vice President
- D. The Speaker of the House

Cabinet members are chosen by the President, but their appointment is subject to the Senate's advice and consent. This means the President selects nominees to head the executive departments, and those nominees must be vetted and approved by a majority vote in the Senate before they can serve. This arrangement provides a checks-and-balances safeguard, ensuring that those who will run major parts of the federal government meet the Senate's standards and qualifications. The Chief Justice, the Vice President, and the Speaker of the House do not have the role of appointing Cabinet members. The Chief Justice leads the judiciary, the Vice President is part of the executive branch but does not appoint Cabinet members, and the Speaker presides over the House of Representatives.

#### 5. What was the most sensational part of the Dred Scott v. Sandford decision?

- A. SC decision divided the country even more**
- B. It declared African Americans were citizens
- C. It voided the Missouri Compromise
- D. It upheld slavery in all territories

The moment this question is highlighting is why the Dred Scott decision felt so shocking: it challenged federal control over slavery in new territories and extended protections for slavery in those lands. The most sensational part was the ruling that Congress could not prohibit slavery in the territories, effectively voiding the Missouri Compromise. That move directly attacked a federal policy and altered the balance between free and slave regions, causing enormous national turmoil. The idea that African Americans were citizens is the opposite of what the decision held, so that option doesn't fit. While the decision did uphold slavery in the territories as a practical outcome, the dramatic spark came from striking down the Missouri Compromise and allowing slavery to spread beyond previous limits. The notion that the court's action merely divided the country or that African Americans were citizens doesn't line up with what made the ruling so explosive.

#### 6. Connecticut was founded by which Puritan minister?

- A. Thomas Hooker**
- B. Roger Williams
- C. John Winthrop
- D. Samuel Hopkins

Thomas Hooker, a Puritan minister, led settlers from Massachusetts Bay to the Connecticut River Valley in the 1630s, founding Hartford as a new community built on governance by consent and a representative body. His ideas about civil liberty and how a church-side community should be governed helped shape the colony's political framework, culminating in the Fundamental Orders of Connecticut, often called an early written constitution. Roger Williams founded Rhode Island after banishment from Massachusetts Bay; John Winthrop was a key figure in establishing Massachusetts Bay Colony; Samuel Hopkins is not known as a founder of Connecticut.

**7. Which colony was established as a haven for debtors?**

- A. North Carolina**
- B. Delaware**
- C. New Jersey**
- D. Georgia**

Georgia was established as a haven for debtors. In the 1730s, James Oglethorpe and a group of trustees created a colony intended for people imprisoned for debt in Britain to start fresh through honest labor and a responsible use of land. The plan emphasized disciplined living and modest land, with rules designed to prevent old cycles of debt, and the project was pitched as both a humanitarian reform and a strategic buffer against Spanish Florida. This purpose sets Georgia apart from the other colonies, which were mainly founded for economic gain, trade, or settlement rather than as a debtors' refuge. North Carolina, Delaware, and New Jersey grew out of different motives tied to economic opportunity and governance, not debt relief.

**8. The Kansas-Nebraska Act proposed that slavery in new territories be decided by what principle?**

- A. Federal mandate**
- B. State-by-state vote**
- C. Compromise measure**
- D. Popular sovereignty**

Popular sovereignty is the idea that the people living in a territory should decide for themselves whether slavery will be legal there, usually through a local vote. The Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854 put this into practice for the territories of Kansas and Nebraska, letting settlers determine the issue by popular vote and thereby repealing the Missouri Compromise line that banned slavery north of a certain latitude. This approach embodies self-government in new territories, but it also sparked fierce conflict as both pro-slavery and anti-slavery factions rushed to influence the vote, leading to what became known as Bleeding Kansas. It isn't about a federal mandate or a simple state-by-state vote, and it isn't just a compromise measure; it centers on letting local residents decide the slavery status.

**9. Which group formed to inform the colonies about British actions in Massachusetts?**

- A. Stamp Act Congress**
- B. Continental Congress**
- C. Committee of Correspondence**
- D. Sons of Liberty**

The key idea is how colonies shared news and coordinated responses to British actions. The Committee of Correspondence was created specifically to spread information about what Britain was doing in Massachusetts and to link towns and colonies through letters and printed notices. This network made it possible for news to circulate quickly, helping colonists stay informed and organize a coordinated response across a broader area. The other groups had different primary roles: The Stamp Act Congress gathered to oppose a specific tax through a petition to Parliament; the Continental Congress formed later to provide a united political and military leadership for the colonies; the Sons of Liberty were a protest group that organized demonstrations and direct actions. None of these existed primarily to inform all the colonies in a organized, cross-colony communications network the way the Committee of Correspondence did.

**10. Name the three branches of government.**

- A. Legislative, Executive, Judicial**
- B. Executive, Legislative, Judicial**
- C. Legislative, Judicial, Executive**
- D. Judicial, Legislative, Executive**

The main idea here is how government power is divided among three branches so no single part holds all authority. The three branches are Legislative, which makes laws; Executive, which enforces laws; and Judicial, which interprets laws. This separation of powers keeps checks and balances in play—for example, the Legislative branch writes laws, the Executive can sign or veto them, and the Judicial branch can review whether they fit the Constitution. The standard way this is listed places Legislative first, followed by Executive and then Judicial, which is why this option matches best. The other orders just shuffle the names of the same three branches, but the conventional sequence emphasizes the same division of responsibilities. In the U.S., Congress (Legislative) makes laws, the President and administration (Executive) enforce them, and the Courts (Judicial) interpret them and resolve disputes.

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

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

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