

# IAC Blue Set History 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. Who was the supreme allied commander of Europe in World War II?**
  - A. Dwight Eisenhower**
  - B. George S. Patton**
  - C. Omar Bradley**
  - D. Douglas MacArthur**
  
- 2. Which leader is commonly cited as the founder of the Soviet Union?**
  - A. Vladimir Lenin**
  - B. Karl Marx**
  - C. Joseph Stalin**
  - D. Leon Trotsky**
  
- 3. Who was the first president of a fully democratic South Africa after apartheid?**
  - A. Thabo Mbeki**
  - B. F.W. de Klerk**
  - C. Jacob Zuma**
  - D. Nelson Mandela**
  
- 4. Who was the first Chancellor of Germany?**
  - A. Konrad Adenauer**
  - B. Otto von Bismarck**
  - C. Willy Brandt**
  - D. Helmut Kohl**
  
- 5. Which piece of legislation invalidated public accommodation segregation?**
  - A. Voting Rights Act of 1965**
  - B. Civil Rights Act of 1957**
  - C. Fair Housing Act of 1968**
  - D. Civil Rights Act of 1964**

- 6. Jean-Bedel Bokassa was the military dictator of which country?**
- A. Congo**
  - B. Chad**
  - C. Sudan**
  - D. Central African Republic**
- 7. Elizabeth I's reign saw the rise of English drama by authors such as which playwright?**
- A. Geoffrey Chaucer**
  - B. John Milton**
  - C. William Shakespeare**
  - D. Jane Austen**
- 8. Which settlement was the first permanent English colony in North America?**
- A. Plymouth**
  - B. Roanoke**
  - C. Jamestown**
  - D. Williamsburg**
- 9. The last Tudor monarch of England was which queen?**
- A. Henry VIII**
  - B. Elizabeth I**
  - C. Mary I**
  - D. Edward VI**
- 10. Which French king reigned longer than any other European monarch?**
- A. Louis XIV**
  - B. Louis XV**
  - C. Henry VIII**
  - D. Charles V**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Who was the supreme allied commander of Europe in World War II?**

- A. Dwight Eisenhower**
- B. George S. Patton**
- C. Omar Bradley**
- D. Douglas MacArthur**

The key idea is identifying who held the top Allied command in Europe during World War II. Dwight Eisenhower served as the supreme allied commander of Europe, directing all Allied military operations in the European theater through the combined command structure known as SHAEF. This role meant unifying American, British, Canadian, and other Allied forces under a single strategic leadership, planning major campaigns, and coordinating the invasion of Normandy and the push into Western Europe. His ability to balance different nations' interests and coordinate complex operations is what made him the fit for this overarching command. The other generals played crucial roles in various theaters or as subordinate leaders—Patton as a prominent armored commander in Western Europe, Bradley as a U.S. ground forces commander under Eisenhower, and MacArthur leading Allied forces in the Pacific.

**2. Which leader is commonly cited as the founder of the Soviet Union?**

- A. Vladimir Lenin**
- B. Karl Marx**
- C. Joseph Stalin**
- D. Leon Trotsky**

Recognizing who founded the Soviet Union hinges on understanding who led the early state-building after the 1917 revolution. Lenin guided the Bolshevik seizure of power, set up the first Soviet government, and shepherded the process that unified several republics into a single federation in 1922. He anchored the new political and economic order with decrees and policies that transformed Russia into a socialist state. Karl Marx provided the ideas that inspired socialist theory, but he did not lead or establish a state in Russia. Leon Trotsky was a key organizer and a prominent figure in the revolution and early revolutionary governance, yet he did not found the state. Joseph Stalin rose to power after Lenin's death and played a major role in shaping and administering the country, but the founding moment and leadership of the USSR trace back to Lenin.

**3. Who was the first president of a fully democratic South Africa after apartheid?**

- A. Thabo Mbeki**
- B. F.W. de Klerk**
- C. Jacob Zuma**
- D. Nelson Mandela**

The moment that defines a fully democratic South Africa is the 1994 election, the first multiracial vote with universal suffrage. Nelson Mandela led the African National Congress to victory in those elections and became the first president chosen by all citizens under a democratic system after apartheid. This distinguishes him from the others: F.W. de Klerk was the last president under the old, non-democratic regime and did not assume office in a fully democratic election; the others later took office within the democratic era. Mandela's presidency symbolized the transition to equal voting rights and national reconciliation, making him the correct answer.

**4. Who was the first Chancellor of Germany?**

- A. Konrad Adenauer**
- B. Otto von Bismarck**
- C. Willy Brandt**
- D. Helmut Kohl**

Identifying who first held the Chancellor role in a unified Germany helps distinguish the early imperial government from later postwar governments. Otto von Bismarck led the newly unified Germany as Chancellor starting in 1871 under Emperor Wilhelm I, and he served in that role until 1890. This established the pattern of the chancellor as the head of government within the German Empire. In contrast, Konrad Adenauer became the first chancellor of West Germany after World War II, Willy Brandt led Germany in the 1960s and 1970s, and Helmut Kohl in the 1980s through reunification; none of them preceded Bismarck. So the first Chancellor of Germany in the sense of the unified empire is Otto von Bismarck.

**5. Which piece of legislation invalidated public accommodation segregation?**

- A. Voting Rights Act of 1965**
- B. Civil Rights Act of 1957**
- C. Fair Housing Act of 1968**
- D. Civil Rights Act of 1964**

The main idea is recognizing which law ended racial segregation in public places. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, especially its public accommodations provision, makes it illegal to deny service or access to hotels, restaurants, theaters, and other places that serve the public on the basis of race. It established that discrimination in these spaces violates federal law and gave the federal government tools to enforce it, including the power to sue and to condition funding for noncompliant programs. That combination—outlawing segregation in public venues and providing strong enforcement—is what invalidated public accommodation segregation. The other acts play different roles. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 focused on protecting the right to vote and removing barriers to participation. The Civil Rights Act of 1957 laid groundwork for civil rights protections but was weaker and mainly concerned with voting rights and created a civil rights commission. The Fair Housing Act of 1968 targeted discrimination in housing, not public places of accommodation. So they don't directly address desegregating public venues in the way the 1964 Act does.

**6. Jean-Bedel Bokassa was the military dictator of which country?**

- A. Congo**
- B. Chad**
- C. Sudan**
- D. Central African Republic**

Jean-Bedel Bokassa's influence was centered in a country in central Africa. He seized power there in 1966 and ruled as a military dictator, later declaring himself emperor for a period. This ties him to the Central African Republic, not to Congo, Chad, or Sudan. The Central African Republic is a landlocked nation in the heart of Africa, and Bokassa's rule is a defining part of its modern history.

**7. Elizabeth I's reign saw the rise of English drama by authors such as which playwright?**

- A. Geoffrey Chaucer**
- B. John Milton**
- C. William Shakespeare**
- D. Jane Austen**

Elizabethan drama flourished when London theaters and acting troupes brought lively plays to the public under royal support, and William Shakespeare stands out as the defining dramatist of that era. His wide range of works—from comedies to tragedies and histories—became the model for English drama and were performed at major venues such as The Globe. Geoffrey Chaucer wrote in the 1300s, far earlier than this peak of drama. John Milton wrote in the 17th century, known for epic poetry rather than Elizabethan stage plays. Jane Austen lived in the 19th century and wrote novels, not drama of Elizabethan times. So, Shakespeare is the best choice.

**8. Which settlement was the first permanent English colony in North America?**

- A. Plymouth
- B. Roanoke
- C. Jamestown**
- D. Williamsburg

The main idea is explaining what makes a settlement permanent—establishing a lasting, growing community rather than a brief outpost. Jamestown, founded in 1607 by the Virginia Company, established a durable English settlement along the James River. It survived and gradually grew into a stable colony, especially after finding an economic foundation with tobacco and developing governance that kept the community going through tough early years. Roanoke had been attempted earlier but did not endure, becoming the Lost Colony. Plymouth followed later, in 1620, as another permanent settlement, and Williamsburg came even later as a colonial capital. So Jamestown is the earliest enduring English settlement in North America.

**9. The last Tudor monarch of England was which queen?**

- A. Henry VIII
- B. Elizabeth I**
- C. Mary I
- D. Edward VI

Elizabeth I is the last ruler from the Tudor dynasty. The Tudors began with Henry VII and ended with Elizabeth I, who reigned from 1558 to 1603 and died without an heir, bringing the Tudor line to a close. After her, the throne passed to James VI of Scotland (James I of England), starting the Stuart dynasty. The other options are Tudor monarchs who ruled earlier or were male, so they don't fit the idea of the last Tudor monarch who was a queen.

**10. Which French king reigned longer than any other European monarch?**

- A. Louis XIV**
- B. Louis XV
- C. Henry VIII
- D. Charles V

The idea here is how long a monarch held the throne. Louis XIV became king in 1643 and remained on the throne until his death in 1715, a span of about 72 years. That makes his reign longer than any other European monarch. Even though his early years involved a regency, the crown stayed with him from accession to death, and that full period counts toward the length of his reign. For perspective, other long European reigns were shorter—Henry VIII ruled about 38 years, Charles V about 37, and Louis XIII about 33.

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

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

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