

KSU Georgia Constitution Practice Exam (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 is the jurisdiction of the Georgia State Court?**
 - A. Misdemeanor violations - traffic cases and civil actions, regardless of the amount claimed, unless the superior court has exclusion jurisdiction**
 - B. Felonies only**
 - C. Juvenile matters**
 - D. Appeals from city ordinances**

- 2. Which case involved the issue of publishing the name of a rape victim obtained from public records and is frequently cited in First Amendment press freedom cases?**
 - A. Cox Broadcasting Corp v. Colin (1975)**
 - B. Stanley v. Georgia (1969)**
 - C. Gregg v. Georgia (1976)**
 - D. Chandler v. Miller (1997)**

- 3. Which of the following is among the functions counties may perform?**
 - A. Public Transportation**
 - B. Tax collection**
 - C. International trade regulation**
 - D. Issuing passports**

- 4. Which case upheld Georgia's revised law on capital punishment, which limited the crimes for which the death penalty could be imposed and specified the factors to be considered and procedures to be used in deciding when to impose capital punishment?**
 - A. Gregg v. Georgia (1976)**
 - B. Furman v. Georgia (1972)**
 - C. Coker v. Georgia (1977)**
 - D. Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton (1973)**

- 5. In Georgia, which condition would give the Superior Court exclusive jurisdiction over a case that might otherwise fall under the State Court?**
- A. When the Superior Court has exclusion jurisdiction**
 - B. When the case involves a traffic violation**
 - C. When the case involves a small civil claim**
 - D. When the case involves a federal question**
- 6. Does the Georgia governor have the authority to exercise a line-item veto?**
- A. No line-item veto**
 - B. Yes, can veto line items but only as part of a total veto; overrides require a 2/3 vote in both chambers**
 - C. Yes, they can strike line items for budget measures; overrides require a simple majority in both chambers**
 - D. Yes, they can strike specific line items; overrides require a 2/3 vote of both chambers**
- 7. Fortson v. Toombs held that seats in the General Assembly must be apportioned by what principle?**
- A. County boundaries**
 - B. Fixed numbers per county**
 - C. Roughly equal population**
 - D. Random assignment**
- 8. What does SPLOST stand for?**
- A. Single Purpose Local Option Sales Tax**
 - B. Special Public Local Option Sales Tax**
 - C. Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax**
 - D. Special Purpose Local Ownership Sales Tax**
- 9. Which office is a Local Constitutional Officer in Georgia elected to a four-year term?**
- A. Clerk of the Superior Court**
 - B. Mayor**
 - C. County Treasurer**
 - D. Sheriff**

10. Which method was used to revise the 1976 Georgia Constitution?

- A. Convention**
- B. Office of Legislative Counsel**
- C. Commission**
- D. Select Committee**

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What is the jurisdiction of the Georgia State Court?

- A. Misdemeanor violations - traffic cases and civil actions, regardless of the amount claimed, unless the superior court has exclusion jurisdiction**
- B. Felonies only**
- C. Juvenile matters**
- D. Appeals from city ordinances**

Georgia State Court is a court of limited jurisdiction, primarily handling misdemeanor offenses, traffic violations, and civil actions within its reach. The key idea is that for civil cases, the State Court can hear matters regardless of the amount claimed unless a statute places the case under the Superior Court's exclusive jurisdiction. Felonies belong to the Superior Court, juvenile matters go to Juvenile Court, and appeals from city ordinances are not decided in State Court. So the best description is that it handles misdemeanor and traffic matters and civil actions within its jurisdiction, with exceptions where the Superior Court has exclusive authority.

2. Which case involved the issue of publishing the name of a rape victim obtained from public records and is frequently cited in First Amendment press freedom cases?

- A. Cox Broadcasting Corp v. Colin (1975)**
- B. Stanley v. Georgia (1969)**
- C. Gregg v. Georgia (1976)**
- D. Chandler v. Miller (1997)**

The key idea is how the First Amendment protects a press's ability to publish information that is lawfully obtained from public records. In this area, the court recognizes that when information is already a matter of public record, punishing newspapers or broadcasters for publishing it can chill the press and undermine the public's right to know about matters of public concern, even if the information is embarrassing or sensitive. Cox Broadcasting Corp. v. Cohn (1975) is the landmark ruling here. The Court struck down a Georgia law that made it a crime to publish the name of a rape victim if the name came from official court records. The reasoning is that the state cannot suppress truthful information that it has provided through public records simply to shield the victim's privacy, because doing so would infringe on the press's First Amendment rights and the public's interest in information that is already accessible to the public. This decision is frequently cited in First Amendment cases about publishing information obtained from public sources. The other choices don't fit this scenario. Stanley v. Georgia deals with the private possession of obscene material in the home, not publishing information from public records. Gregg v. Georgia concerns the constitutionality of the death penalty, not media publication of public-record information. Chandler v. Miller relates to ballot-access requirements for political candidates, which again doesn't address press publication from public records.

3. Which of the following is among the functions counties may perform?

- A. Public Transportation**
- B. Tax collection**
- C. International trade regulation**
- D. Issuing passports**

Local governments like counties are empowered to provide services that directly affect residents' daily lives. Public transportation is a classic county-level function because it involves planning, funding, and operating services that serve the local community, support mobility, and stimulate local economy. This kind of service falls squarely within what counties typically handle to meet local needs. International trade regulation and issuing passports are clearly federal responsibilities, not something a county would manage. Tax collection is indeed a governmental function, but the question focuses on the type of direct public service counties commonly provide, and public transportation best exemplifies that county-level service.

4. Which case upheld Georgia's revised law on capital punishment, which limited the crimes for which the death penalty could be imposed and specified the factors to be considered and procedures to be used in deciding when to impose capital punishment?

- A. Gregg v. Georgia (1976)**
- B. Furman v. Georgia (1972)**
- C. Coker v. Georgia (1977)**
- D. Paris Adult Theatre I v. Slaton (1973)**

The question tests how the Supreme Court allowed a state's revised capital-punishment scheme to stand after earlier problems. After *Furman v. Georgia* struck down existing Georgia statutes for producing arbitrary death sentences, Georgia rewrote its law to limit which crimes could carry the death penalty and to guide how decisions would be made. In *Gregg v. Georgia* (1976), the Court upheld these changes, ruling that the two-stage process—a guilt phase followed by a separate sentencing phase—turned juries with specific aggravating and mitigating factors to weigh. It also allowed for appellate review. This structure addresses the arbitrariness concerns identified in *Furman* and shows that the death penalty can be constitutional when the statute narrows eligibility, defines factors to consider, and provides procedural safeguards for its imposition.

5. In Georgia, which condition would give the Superior Court exclusive jurisdiction over a case that might otherwise fall under the State Court?

A. When the Superior Court has exclusion jurisdiction

B. When the case involves a traffic violation

C. When the case involves a small civil claim

D. When the case involves a federal question

In Georgia, some cases are reserved for the Superior Court and cannot be heard in the State Court—the idea is exclusive jurisdiction. When the Superior Court has exclusive (sometimes described as exclusion) jurisdiction over a matter, that court is the only one that can hear it, even if the case could otherwise fit in State Court. So the condition that creates that exclusivity is that the Superior Court holds exclusive jurisdiction. The other options don't fit because traffic violations are typically handled by Municipal or State Court, small civil claims are generally within the jurisdiction of the State Court or Magistrate, and federal questions go to federal courts rather than the state system.

6. Does the Georgia governor have the authority to exercise a line-item veto?

A. No line-item veto

B. Yes, can veto line items but only as part of a total veto; overrides require a 2/3 vote in both chambers

C. Yes, they can strike line items for budget measures; overrides require a simple majority in both chambers

D. Yes, they can strike specific line items; overrides require a 2/3 vote of both chambers

The key idea is that the Georgia governor has a line-item veto: the ability to strike specific spending items in an appropriation (budget) bill while leaving the rest of the bill in place. This lets the governor shape the budget by removing particular expenditures without killing the entire bill. If the governor uses this power, the Legislature can override the veto, but only with a two-thirds vote in both chambers, not a simple majority. That two-thirds requirement acts as a strong check on executive power over spending. The other descriptions don't fit because Georgia does authorize line-item vetoes (so saying there's no line-item veto is inaccurate), and the override threshold isn't a simple majority for budget items nor is the veto limited to being part of a total veto.

7. Fortson v. Toombs held that seats in the General Assembly must be apportioned by what principle?

- A. County boundaries**
- B. Fixed numbers per county**
- C. Roughly equal population**
- D. Random assignment**

The key idea is that legislative representation should be proportional to the number of people in each district, so each vote carries roughly the same weight. Fortson v. Toombs established that the Georgia General Assembly must be apportioned by population rather than by county lines or fixed quotas, ensuring districts have roughly equal numbers of residents. This aligns with the principle often described as “one person, one vote,” preventing overrepresentation of rural areas and underrepresentation of urban areas.

8. What does SPLOST stand for?

- A. Single Purpose Local Option Sales Tax**
- B. Special Public Local Option Sales Tax**
- C. Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax**
- D. Special Purpose Local Ownership Sales Tax**

SPLOST stands for Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax. This is a Georgia mechanism where local governments ask voters to approve a sales tax that is dedicated to a defined list of projects. The word “Special” signals that the tax is for a specific use; “Purpose” emphasizes the defined objective; “Local” indicates it is at the county or city level; “Option” shows it’s a local option that requires voter approval; and “Sales Tax” identifies the tax base. The other phrasings aren’t correct because they replace key terms (Public, Ownership, Single) with words that don’t reflect the official name. In practice, SPLOST funds typically support capital projects like roads, bridges, parks, and public facilities.

9. Which office is a Local Constitutional Officer in Georgia elected to a four-year term?

- A. Clerk of the Superior Court**
- B. Mayor**
- C. County Treasurer**
- D. Sheriff**

In Georgia, local constitutional officers are the county-level offices created by the state constitution that are elected by voters to four-year terms. These offices include roles like the sheriff, the clerk of the superior court, the probate judge, the tax commissioner, and the county treasurer. The sheriff is the county’s chief law enforcement officer, so he clearly fits as a local constitutional officer elected to a four-year term. A mayor, on the other hand, is a municipal position within a city government, not a county-level constitutional officer, so it’s not part of this set. The key idea is that the sheriff exemplifies the type of office defined by the Georgia Constitution for counties and filled by a four-year election.

10. Which method was used to revise the 1976 Georgia Constitution?

A. Convention

B. Office of Legislative Counsel

C. Commission

D. Select Committee

The key idea is how Georgia actually produces the text of a revised constitution. In 1976, the revision was crafted by the Office of Legislative Counsel—the nonpartisan drafting staff for the General Assembly. This office specializes in turning policy changes into precise, legally coherent language and preparing official texts for consideration. A constitutional convention or a broad commission might study and recommend changes, but the formal drafting of the revised document was done by the legislative drafting office, ensuring the language was consistent with existing law and ready for ratification. The other methods describe bodies that study or propose changes, not the entity that produced the final, usable text.

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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://ksugeorgiaconstitution.examzify.com>

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

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