

MCC History 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. Which former president was not a natural Washington politician yet excelled as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and lost his bid for re-election to Wilson?**
 - A. Theodore Roosevelt**
 - B. Woodrow Wilson**
 - C. Ulysses S. Grant**
 - D. William Howard Taft**

- 2. The set of programs started by Franklin D. Roosevelt to help the nation out of the Great Depression is known as what?**
 - A. New Deal**
 - B. Relief Program**
 - C. Great Depression Plan**
 - D. Economic Recovery**

- 3. The right for women to vote in the United States was guaranteed by which amendment?**
 - A. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment**
 - B. The Fifteenth Amendment**
 - C. The Nineteenth Amendment**
 - D. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment**

- 4. Which innovation helped people settle the Great Plains and opened new markets in the West?**
 - A. Transcontinental railroad**
 - B. Telegraph**
 - C. Automobile**
 - D. Steamship**

- 5. Suffrage refers to**
 - A. The right to vote**
 - B. The right to own property**
 - C. The right to a fair trial**
 - D. The right to free speech**

- 6. Which era introduced reforms aimed at addressing urban poverty and social reform?**
- A. Progressive Era**
 - B. Gilded Age**
 - C. Cold War Era**
 - D. Civil War Era**
- 7. The creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was intended to**
- A. Provide liquidity to the stock market**
 - B. Regulate monopolies in other industries**
 - C. Promote agricultural subsidies**
 - D. Protect individual investors from stock fraud and bank failure**
- 8. Which factor most directly contributed to the onset of the Great Depression?**
- A. Bank failures wiping out people's savings**
 - B. Population growth**
 - C. Global trade surges**
 - D. Technology advances**
- 9. Which policy is most associated with Roosevelt's response to the Depression?**
- A. New Deal relief programs**
 - B. Laissez-faire capitalism**
 - C. Balanced budget**
 - D. Gold standard policies**
- 10. What term describes making a very risky investment in the stock market in hopes of earning a large profit?**
- A. Diversification**
 - B. Speculation**
 - C. Hedging**
 - D. Arbitrage**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which former president was not a natural Washington politician yet excelled as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and lost his bid for re-election to Wilson?

- A. Theodore Roosevelt**
- B. Woodrow Wilson**
- C. Ulysses S. Grant**
- D. William Howard Taft**

The idea being tested is the unusual path of someone who has led the nation and then led its highest court, and how that path played into the 1912 election result. William Howard Taft is the one who fits this description: he served as president from 1909 to 1913, and after leaving the White House he became Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, a role he held from 1921 to 1930. That makes him the only person to have both been president and later the Chief Justice, a standout career arc in U.S. history. His story also ties to the clue about losing re-election to Wilson. In the 1912 election, Taft sought another term but the Republican vote split with Theodore Roosevelt, allowing Woodrow Wilson to win the presidency. Taft's post-presidential achievement on the Court and the 1912 loss together point to him as the correct answer. He wasn't a career Washington insider by background; he rose through law and public service in a more statesmanlike, legal track rather than a long DC political machine. The other figures were known for different paths—Roosevelt as a dynamic political leader though not Chief Justice, Wilson as a reform-minded politician who won the presidency, and Grant as a Civil War general-turned-president who did not become Chief Justice.

2. The set of programs started by Franklin D. Roosevelt to help the nation out of the Great Depression is known as what?

- A. New Deal**
- B. Relief Program**
- C. Great Depression Plan**
- D. Economic Recovery**

The term used for Franklin D. Roosevelt's broad set of federal programs is the New Deal. This label captures the widespread effort starting in 1933 to relieve immediate hardship, revive the economy through jobs and spending, and reform the American system to prevent a repeat of the Great Depression. It wasn't a single law but a whole package—emergency relief programs, major public works projects, and long-term reforms like financial regulation and social safety nets. The name signals a new approach to government intervention and a shift away from the policies that preceded the Depression. The other options describe goals or generic ideas, but they don't reflect the established name historians use for this comprehensive policy era.

3. The right for women to vote in the United States was guaranteed by which amendment?

- A. The Twenty-Fifth Amendment**
- B. The Fifteenth Amendment**
- C. The Nineteenth Amendment**
- D. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment**

This question tests knowledge of which constitutional amendment guarantees voting rights for women. The Nineteenth Amendment, ratified in 1920, states that the right to vote cannot be denied or abridged on account of sex. This explicitly ended two centuries of gender-based voting restrictions and established nationwide women's suffrage. The Fifteenth Amendment prohibits denying the right to vote based on race, color, or previous condition of servitude, but it does not address gender. The Twenty-Sixth Amendment, ratified in 1971, lowered the voting age to 18, expanding suffrage by age. The Twenty-Fifth deals with presidential succession and disability, not voting rights.

4. Which innovation helped people settle the Great Plains and opened new markets in the West?

- A. Transcontinental railroad**
- B. Telegraph**
- C. Automobile**
- D. Steamship**

The ability to move people and goods across the continent transformed frontier settlement into a real economic expansion. The Transcontinental Railroad cut travel and shipping times dramatically, making it feasible for families to relocate to the Great Plains and for settlers to bring supplies, equipment, and seeds with them. Rail connections created new towns at each stop, built local economies, and provided a reliable route for farmers to ship wheat, corn, and other crops to distant markets. At the same time, ranchers could move cattle to eastern markets and western ports, broadening the scale of production and trade in the region. This combination of easier settlement and access to national markets is why the railroad stands out as the innovation that opened the West and spurred growth there. The telegraph improved communication, but it didn't move people or goods; automobiles and steamships later played roles, but the railroad was the decisive driver for settling the plains and linking western production to broader markets.

5. Suffrage refers to

- A. The right to vote**
- B. The right to own property**
- C. The right to a fair trial**
- D. The right to free speech**

Suffrage is the political right to participate in elections, meaning the ability to vote in choosing leaders and shaping public policy. It specifically refers to the act of casting a ballot as part of democratic participation, and historically it has expanded from limited, restricted groups to broader universal adult voting in many places. The other options describe different civil rights: owning property relates to property rights, a fair trial to due process in the judiciary, and free speech to expressing opinions. So suffrage is best understood as the right to vote.

6. Which era introduced reforms aimed at addressing urban poverty and social reform?

- A. Progressive Era**
- B. Gilded Age**
- C. Cold War Era**
- D. Civil War Era**

Urban poverty and social reform were central to a reform movement at the turn of the 20th century aimed at fixing social ills through government action and social programs. This era mobilized reformers to improve living conditions in cities, regulate corporations, and expand protections for workers and families. It brought innovations like settlement houses, investigative journalism to expose corruption, and new laws addressing child labor, public health, and workplace safety. All of this points to a period defined by broad social and political reform—the Progressive Era. The Gilded Age focused more on rapid industrial growth and political corruption, the Civil War era centers on conflict and emancipation, and the Cold War era—though important in its own right—comes later and involves different global-and domestic-policy concerns.

7. The creation of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) was intended to

- A. Provide liquidity to the stock market**
- B. Regulate monopolies in other industries**
- C. Promote agricultural subsidies**
- D. Protect individual investors from stock fraud and bank failure**

These agencies were created to restore confidence in the financial system by guarding ordinary people from fraud and losses. The Securities and Exchange Commission oversees the securities markets, enforces securities laws, and requires clear, honest disclosures. This curbs deceptive practices and helps investors make informed decisions, reducing the risk of stock fraud. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insures bank deposits, which prevents devastating bank runs and bank failures from wiping out savers' money. By providing this safety net, it promotes stability in the banking system. Together, they aim to protect individual investors from stock fraud and bank failure, which is why that option is the best fit. The other choices don't align with these agencies' purposes—they address liquidity, monopolies, or subsidies, not the protections these reforms were designed to establish.

8. Which factor most directly contributed to the onset of the Great Depression?

- A. Bank failures wiping out people's savings**
- B. Population growth**
- C. Global trade surges**
- D. Technology advances**

The central idea is how a financial crisis can wipe out ordinary people's resources and trigger a chain reaction through the economy. When banks failed, many depositors lost the money they had saved. Without access to those funds, households pulled back on spending, businesses cut back or closed, and unemployment rose. The loss of money and confidence also shrank the money supply, which made prices fall and demand stay weak, deepening the downturn into a full-scale Depression. So bank failures wiping out savings directly disrupted people's ability to buy goods and keep the economy moving, making it the most immediate contributor to the onset. Population growth alone doesn't cause such a collapse; it affects demand but isn't the trigger. A surge in global trade would more likely help an economy, not precipitate a Depression. Technological advances can change industries, but they don't by themselves explain the nationwide plunge in employment and prices.

9. Which policy is most associated with Roosevelt's response to the Depression?

- A. New Deal relief programs**
- B. Laissez-faire capitalism**
- C. Balanced budget**
- D. Gold standard policies**

The main idea here is government action to help people during a severe economic crisis. Roosevelt's response to the Depression is best captured by the New Deal, a broad array of programs and policies aimed at providing relief to the unemployed, jump-starting the economy through public works, and reforming the economy for the long run. This included job-creating programs like the Civilian Conservation Corps and the Works Progress Administration, direct relief and social safety nets, and financial reforms to stabilize banks and markets. Such active federal intervention stands in contrast to laissez-faire approaches that favor limited government, and to a balanced-budget stance that would curb spending during a downturn; while the gold standard relates to monetary policy, the defining response to the Depression in this era is the New Deal relief and relief-focused reforms.

10. What term describes making a very risky investment in the stock market in hopes of earning a large profit?

A. Diversification

B. Speculation

C. Hedging

D. Arbitrage

Speculation describes taking on a high-risk position in the stock market with the aim of earning a large profit. It involves betting on rapid price movements, often with volatile stocks or instruments like options or margin trading, where the potential upside is significant but so is the potential for heavy losses. This aligns with the idea of pursuing a very risky investment to achieve a large payoff. Diversification, by contrast, spreads investments to reduce overall risk, not to chase big gains from a single risky bet. Hedging focuses on limiting potential losses rather than seeking large profits. Arbitrage looks for small, risk-minimized price differences across markets, not speculative bets for big gains.

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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://mcchistory.examzify.com>

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

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