

New Mexico History Cumulative Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of questions,

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	6
Answers	9
Explanations	11
Next Steps	17

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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. Which branch is responsible for raising and distributing money to run the state government?**
 - A. The governor**
 - B. The Judicial Branch**
 - C. The Legislative Branch**
 - D. The Executive Branch**
- 2. Which circumstance did not contribute to the war with Spain?**
 - A. American expansionism**
 - B. Signing of the Roosevelt Corollary**
 - C. Rebellion in the Spanish Philippines**
 - D. The sinking of the USS Maine**
- 3. Which event involved the brutal relocation of Native Americans to reservations?**
 - A. The Trail of Tears**
 - B. The Long Walk**
 - C. The Red River War**
 - D. The Sand Creek Massacre**
- 4. What is required for the legislative branch to function effectively?**
 - A. Full control by the governor**
 - B. Strong political party alignment**
 - C. Informed participation by citizens**
 - D. A majority vote for every decision**
- 5. What are the life zones of the Sandia Mountains?**
 - A. The seven levels of vegetation that rotates existence seasonally in the Sandia Mountains.**
 - B. Cultural patterns, determined by a culture's age, that have existed in the area.**
 - C. Different phases of an animal's life, beginning with birth and ending with death.**
 - D. Seven altitude ranges in which plants, animals, temperature, and rainfall vary greatly.**

6. According to the lecture, New Mexico's early mission sites were used to characterize the geographic theme of _____.
A. Human-environment interaction
B. Location
C. Movement
D. Region
7. Which statement is not true about The Legend of the Sangre de Cristo?
A. Father de Mora used prisoners and slaves to dig for gold-laden quartz
B. For ten years, Father de Mora's workers mined in secrecy
C. The location of the mine was so hidden that it has never been found
D. Father de Mora discovered gold during a Catholic mission
8. Committees are comprised of _____.
A. Members of the legislature.
B. Senators that have served for more than one term.
C. Community members with expertise on the subject.
D. Both A and C.
9. As a result of Carleton's order to kill Navajo men, what occurred?
A. Many army volunteers quit
B. Carson cut off the Navajo food supply
C. the Navajo were forced to surrender for lack of food
D. all of the above
10. What was the primary purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Council of Defense of New Mexico?
A. to collect surplus food and preserve it.
B. to make bullets for the troops.
C. to collect food stamps for charity.
D. to work in factories in place of men.

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which branch is responsible for raising and distributing money to run the state government?

- A. The governor**
- B. The Judicial Branch**
- C. The Legislative Branch**
- D. The Executive Branch**

The Legislative Branch is responsible for raising and distributing money to run the state government. This branch, composed of elected officials, holds the power to create laws regarding the state's budget, taxation, and public spending. Through this process, the Legislature determines how funds are allocated for various services such as education, public safety, and infrastructure. In many states, including New Mexico, the budget must be approved by the Legislature, reflecting the will of the citizens through their elected representatives. This ensures a level of accountability and oversight regarding how public funds are managed and spent, making the role of the Legislative Branch vital in maintaining the functioning of state government. The other branches have distinct roles; for instance, the Executive Branch, led by the governor, is responsible for enforcing laws and administering government policy, while the Judicial Branch interprets laws and ensures justice is served, but it does not handle financial matters directly. The governor may propose budgets and influence financial decisions, but it is the Legislature that has the ultimate authority over state funding.

2. Which circumstance did not contribute to the war with Spain?

- A. American expansionism**
- B. Signing of the Roosevelt Corollary**
- C. Rebellion in the Spanish Philippines**
- D. The sinking of the USS Maine**

The signing of the Roosevelt Corollary is the correct choice as the circumstance that did not contribute to the war with Spain. The Roosevelt Corollary, established in 1904, was an extension of the Monroe Doctrine and mainly addressed U.S. intervention in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its focus was on maintaining order in these regions rather than involvement in conflicts such as the Spanish-American War, which began in 1898 due to other pressing issues. In contrast, American expansionism was a significant factor leading to the war, as the U.S. sought to expand its influence and territories. The rebellion in the Spanish Philippines was another critical issue, as it demonstrated the struggles against Spanish colonial rule that were emblematic of the broader conflict involving Spain's declining empire. The sinking of the USS Maine acted as the immediate catalyst for the war, with public outrage fueling support for military action against Spain. Collectively, these elements are directly tied to the motivations and events surrounding the outbreak of the conflict, while the Roosevelt Corollary is more related to U.S. policy in a different context and time frame.

3. Which event involved the brutal relocation of Native Americans to reservations?

- A. The Trail of Tears**
- B. The Long Walk**
- C. The Red River War**
- D. The Sand Creek Massacre**

The Long Walk is the correct answer because it specifically refers to the forced relocation of the Navajo people in the mid-1860s. During this event, thousands of Navajos were marched from their ancestral lands in present-day Arizona and New Mexico to a desolate area known as Bosque Redondo, located in eastern New Mexico. This journey was marked by harsh conditions, leading to significant suffering and a high death toll among those who were forced to march. The Long Walk illustrates not only the brutality of the government policies aimed at Native American populations but also the impact on their traditional way of life. Following this relocation, conditions at Bosque Redondo were poor, leading to widespread discontent among the Navajo people, which ultimately resulted in their return to a part of their homeland in 1868. The other events listed, while significant moments in Native American history, pertain to different contexts. The Trail of Tears refers to the forced relocation of the Cherokee and other tribes from their homelands in the southeastern United States to designated Indian Territory in present-day Oklahoma. The Red River War was a military campaign aimed at suppressing the Comanche and other tribes in the southern plains. The Sand Creek Massacre involved a brutal attack by Colorado U.S

4. What is required for the legislative branch to function effectively?

- A. Full control by the governor**
- B. Strong political party alignment**
- C. Informed participation by citizens**
- D. A majority vote for every decision**

The necessity of informed participation by citizens for the effective functioning of the legislative branch is rooted in the principles of democracy and representative governance. An informed citizenry actively engages in the political process, which includes understanding legislation, participating in public discussions, and voting on issues that directly affect their lives and communities. This engagement ensures that the legislative body is responsive to the needs and desires of the population it represents. Citizens who are knowledgeable about governmental processes and current issues are better equipped to hold their representatives accountable, advocate for their interests, and influence policy decisions. Moreover, informed participation helps to foster transparency and trust in government operations, enabling the legislative branch to work more effectively. While other options suggest factors that can influence legislative effectiveness, such as political dynamics or voting systems, none carry the same foundational importance as active and informed citizen participation, which is essential for a healthy democracy and empowered legislative function.

5. What are the life zones of the Sandia Mountains?

- A. The seven levels of vegetation that rotates existence seasonally in the Sandia Mountains.**
- B. Cultural patterns, determined by a culture's age, that have existed in the area.**
- C. Different phases of an animal's life, beginning with birth and ending with death.**
- D. Seven altitude ranges in which plants, animals, temperature, and rainfall vary greatly.**

The correct answer describes the life zones of the Sandia Mountains as seven distinct altitude ranges characterized by variations in plants, animals, temperature, and rainfall. This concept is integral to understanding the ecological diversity found within the Sandia Mountains, which rise dramatically in elevation, leading to distinct climatic and biological zones. Each life zone corresponds to a specific range of altitude, causing variations in environmental conditions that affect both flora and fauna. For instance, as one ascends from lower elevations to higher ones, the types of vegetation shift from desert scrub to ponderosa pine forests and eventually to alpine tundra. This zonation is crucial for ecological studies, conservation efforts, and understanding the adaptations of various species to their environments. In contrast to the chosen answer, the other options do not accurately reflect the ecological framework. The first choice suggests a seasonal rotation of vegetation rather than lifelong ecological zones. The second option focuses on cultural rather than biological patterns, which is not relevant to the topic of life zones. The third choice pertains to animal life cycles instead of the broader environmental factors that define the life zones in mountainous regions.

6. According to the lecture, New Mexico's early mission sites were used to characterize the geographic theme of _____.

- A. Human-environment interaction**
- B. Location**
- C. Movement**
- D. Region**

The early mission sites in New Mexico exemplify the theme of human-environment interaction because they illustrate how the Spanish colonizers adapted to and modified their surroundings in order to establish a presence in the New World. These missions were strategically located in areas that allowed for access to resources such as water and fertile land, which were crucial for agriculture and sustaining the settlers and indigenous populations. The missions also played a significant role in reshaping the cultural and social dynamics of the region. They were not only religious centers but also focal points for the introduction of European practices and changes to the local environment, including land use and agriculture. The interaction between humans (both colonizers and Native Americans) and their environment is a central aspect of how these missions contributed to the development of New Mexico's historical landscape. While location, movement, and region are important geographic themes, they do not encapsulate the idea of how the missions were integral to the interactions between humans and their environments. Location refers more to the specific geographical coordinates of the missions, movement involves the changes in people and goods across regions, and region focuses on the distinctive characteristics that define a particular area. The correct choice emphasizes the dynamic relationship between humans and their physical surroundings that was evident in the establishment and evolution of New Mexico.

7. Which statement is not true about The Legend of the Sangre de Cristo?

- A. Father de Mora used prisoners and slaves to dig for gold-laden quartz**
- B. For ten years, Father de Mora's workers mined in secrecy**
- C. The location of the mine was so hidden that it has never been found**
- D. Father de Mora discovered gold during a Catholic mission**

The assertion regarding Father de Mora discovering gold during a Catholic mission is not true because the legend primarily associates the discovery of secret gold mines with Father de Mora exploiting prisoners and slaves for mining efforts. The narrative highlights his ulterior motives and the clandestine activities surrounding the mines rather than framing them as part of a religious mission. The story emphasizes the lengths to which Father de Mora went to conceal the mine's location, as well as his use of forced labor, making it clear that the quest for wealth overshadowed any missionary aspirations he might have had. Additionally, the other statements align more closely with the legend itself, which implies that the quest for gold was a hidden enterprise rather than a part of the Catholic mission's outreach. The lore surrounding these gold mines characteristically centers on themes of greed and secrecy, adding to the mystique of the Sangre de Cristo, hence making the claim of a discovery during a mission unsubstantiated within the context of the legend.

8. Committees are comprised of _____.

- A. Members of the legislature.**
- B. Senators that have served for more than one term.**
- C. Community members with expertise on the subject.**
- D. Both A and C.**

Committees in the legislative context are typically composed of members of the legislature, including both representatives and senators, who have been appointed to address specific issues, propose legislation, and conduct evaluations related to those issues. Additionally, in some cases, committees may also include community members with expertise on the subject matter relevant to the committee's work. This blend of legislators and knowledgeable community members allows for a more comprehensive analysis and discussion of legislative matters, thereby enhancing the effectiveness of the committee in decision-making and policy formulation. This dual composition reflects the importance of integrating both legislative authority and public input into the legislative process.

9. As a result of Carleton's order to kill Navajo men, what occurred?

- A. Many army volunteers quit**
- B. Carson cut off the Navajo food supply**
- C. the Navajo were forced to surrender for lack of food**
- D. all of the above**

The correct answer encompasses all the listed outcomes, highlighting the widespread impacts of Carleton's order to kill Navajo men. The order had far-reaching consequences that contributed to the breakdown of military engagement with the Navajo people. Initially, Carson's actions to cut off the food supply were pivotal in the campaign against the Navajo. By depriving them of essential resources, the strategy aimed to weaken the Navajo forces, making them more vulnerable, ultimately leading to their surrender. As the military faced logistical issues and moral dilemmas regarding the order, many army volunteers chose to quit, demonstrating the internal dissent and opposition to such harsh measures. This reflected a wider conflict within the army about the ethics and implications of executing such orders against Indigenous peoples. The cumulative effect of these actions led to the Navajo lacking the essential sustenance needed for survival, effectively forcing their surrender as they were unable to withstand the prolonged deprivation of food and resources. This multifaceted approach to warfare underscored the severe implications of the policies enacted by Carleton and his command. Each of these elements contributed to the eventual outcome, making the comprehensive inclusion of all factors significant in understanding the historical context.

10. What was the primary purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Council of Defense of New Mexico?

- A. to collect surplus food and preserve it.**
- B. to make bullets for the troops.**
- C. to collect food stamps for charity.**
- D. to work in factories in place of men.**

The primary purpose of the Woman's Auxiliary of the Council of Defense of New Mexico was to collect surplus food and preserve it. This initiative was part of a broader effort during World War I to support the war effort at home. Women played a crucial role in ensuring that food supplies were adequate while many men were serving in the military. By collecting and preserving surplus food, the organization helped to mitigate shortages and contributed to the overall sustainability of resources during a time of crisis. This initiative was significant in promoting community involvement and women's contributions to society, particularly in facilitating food security for both troops and civilians. Other options, while they may reflect activities related to wartime efforts, do not accurately capture the specific mission of the Woman's Auxiliary. For example, making bullets and working in factories were more typical of women's roles in industries directly related to wartime production, but those were not the focus of this particular organization. Similarly, collecting food stamps for charity does not align with the primary objective of preserving surplus food, which was critical for nutrition and resource management during the war.

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://nmhistorycumulative.examzify.com>

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