

# Praxis II US History / World History (0941/5941) Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. Who took office as president of the U.S. in 1929?**
  - A. Calvin Coolidge**
  - B. Herbert Hoover**
  - C. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
  - D. Harry S. Truman**
- 2. Which general led a revolution in Spain, overthrowing the newly formed republic?**
  - A. Franco**
  - B. Castro**
  - C. Guevara**
  - D. Salvador**
- 3. What was the name of the war that resulted when Arab nations attacked Israel in 1973?**
  - A. Six-Day War**
  - B. Yom Kippur War**
  - C. Gulf War**
  - D. Arab-Israeli War**
- 4. Who is known as the founder of the Black Panther Party?**
  - A. Malcolm X**
  - B. Huey Newton**
  - C. Stokely Carmichael**
  - D. Angela Davis**
- 5. What country do some believe President Barack Obama was born in?**
  - A. Hawaii**
  - B. Kenya**
  - C. Indonesia**
  - D. Canada**

- 6. What was the main purpose of the Navigation Act that was passed in 1660?**
- A. To regulate trade within the colonies**
  - B. To strengthen ties with Native Americans**
  - C. To allow trade with any nation**
  - D. To ban all foreign goods**
- 7. Which nation was the first to successfully land humans on the moon in 1969?**
- A. Soviet Union**
  - B. United Kingdom**
  - C. United States**
  - D. China**
- 8. What is the main subject of the book "How the Other Half Lives"?**
- A. The lives of urban elites**
  - B. The struggles of poor urban immigrants**
  - C. Rural American lifestyles**
  - D. Wealth and poverty in America**
- 9. Who was the first president to travel outside of the U.S. while in office?**
- A. Theodore Roosevelt**
  - B. Woodrow Wilson**
  - C. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
  - D. Lyndon B. Johnson**
- 10. What major event prompted 120,000 workers to go on strike in St. Petersburg in 1905?**
- A. A poverty outbreak**
  - B. Bloody Sunday**
  - C. A political election**
  - D. A workers' rights movement**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Who took office as president of the U.S. in 1929?**

- A. Calvin Coolidge
- B. Herbert Hoover**
- C. Franklin D. Roosevelt
- D. Harry S. Truman

Herbert Hoover took office as president of the United States in 1929, following his election victory the previous year. Hoover is known for his presidency during the onset of the Great Depression, which began shortly after he assumed office. His administration faced significant economic challenges, shaping his legacy and influencing subsequent economic policies in the United States. The context surrounding Hoover's presidency is crucial to understanding his role in American history. He advocated for limited government intervention in the economy, believing that the private sector would recover on its own, which has been criticized in retrospect as the Great Depression worsened. Hoover's presidency is a pivotal moment in U.S. history as it set the stage for the new approaches taken by Franklin D. Roosevelt, who succeeded him in 1933. The other figures listed are significant but belong to different time periods: Calvin Coolidge served as president from 1923 to 1929, Franklin D. Roosevelt was elected in 1932 and took office in 1933, and Harry S. Truman succeeded Roosevelt in 1945. Thus, Hoover is the correct choice for the year 1929.

**2. Which general led a revolution in Spain, overthrowing the newly formed republic?**

- A. Franco**
- B. Castro
- C. Guevara
- D. Salvador

The general who led a revolution in Spain to overthrow the newly formed republic was Francisco Franco. Franco's rise to power occurred during the Spanish Civil War, which lasted from 1936 to 1939. He was a nationalist leader who opposed the Second Spanish Republic, a democratic government established in 1931. Franco's forces, backed by fascist ideologies and supported by Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, waged a brutal conflict against the republican factions, which comprised various leftist groups, including communists, socialists, and anarchists. After years of intense fighting, Franco's nationalists emerged victorious in 1939, leading to his dictatorship that lasted until his death in 1975. Franco's regime was marked by repression of political dissent, censorship, and a return to conservative, traditional values in Spanish society. The other individuals mentioned, such as Castro and Guevara, were primarily involved in events in Cuba rather than Spain. Salvador, without additional context, does not correspond to a significant historical figure relevant to the Spanish Civil War. Thus, Franco's actions were pivotal in shaping 20th-century Spanish history and the trajectory of its political landscape, making him the correct answer to the question.

**3. What was the name of the war that resulted when Arab nations attacked Israel in 1973?**

- A. Six-Day War**
- B. Yom Kippur War**
- C. Gulf War**
- D. Arab-Israeli War**

The war that occurred in 1973 when Arab nations, primarily Egypt and Syria, launched a surprise attack on Israel during the Jewish holy day of Yom Kippur is known as the Yom Kippur War. This conflict was significant as it marked a major escalation in the Arab-Israeli conflict following the Six-Day War of 1967. The name "Yom Kippur War" reflects the timing of the attack, which coincided with this important religious observance, highlighting the element of surprise and the emotional impact on the Israeli population. Furthermore, this war played a crucial role in shifting the dynamics of peace negotiations in the region, ultimately leading to future treaties, particularly the Camp David Accords in 1978.

**4. Who is known as the founder of the Black Panther Party?**

- A. Malcolm X**
- B. Huey Newton**
- C. Stokely Carmichael**
- D. Angela Davis**

The founder of the Black Panther Party is Huey Newton. He, along with Bobby Seale, established the party in 1966 in Oakland, California, with the goal of addressing systemic racial injustices and advocating for African American rights. The Black Panther Party became known for its armed citizen patrols to monitor police activity and its community programs, which included free breakfast programs for children and health clinics. Newton's leadership and the ideologies he promoted were central to the party's mission of self-defense, social justice, and empowerment for the Black community during a time of significant civil rights struggles in the United States. The other figures mentioned, while influential in the civil rights and Black Power movements, did not co-found the Black Panther Party. Malcolm X was a prominent activist and spokesperson for the Nation of Islam who advocated for Black empowerment but did not establish the party. Stokely Carmichael is known for popularizing the term "Black Power" but was associated with the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), not the Black Panthers. Angela Davis was a key figure in activism and faced legal troubles related to her political beliefs, but she was not a founder of the Black Panther Party.

**5. What country do some believe President Barack Obama was born in?**

- A. Hawaii**
- B. Kenya**
- C. Indonesia**
- D. Canada**

The belief that President Barack Obama was born in Kenya stems from conspiracy theories that emerged during his 2008 presidential campaign and continued throughout his presidency. Some individuals claimed that he was not a natural-born citizen of the United States due to this alleged birthplace. These theories were fueled by doubts about his early life and by digital misinterpretations of his birth certificate. In reality, Obama was born in Honolulu, Hawaii, which is part of the United States, and he has provided documentation confirming this. The claims regarding Kenya were not substantiated by credible evidence but rather were part of a broader narrative questioning his American identity. Understanding this context is essential in recognizing how misinformation can spread in political discourse.

**6. What was the main purpose of the Navigation Act that was passed in 1660?**

- A. To regulate trade within the colonies**
- B. To strengthen ties with Native Americans**
- C. To allow trade with any nation**
- D. To ban all foreign goods**

The Navigation Act of 1660 was primarily designed to regulate trade within the English colonies, ensuring that goods produced in the colonies were traded in a manner that benefited England economically. By mandating that certain products, known as 'enumerated goods,' could only be exported to England or English territories, the act aimed to maximize British profit and maintain a favorable balance of trade. This was a part of a broader mercantilist policy aimed at controlling colonial commerce to enhance the economic power of England. While options suggesting strengthening ties with Native Americans, allowing trade with any nation, or banning all foreign goods address various aspects of colonial commerce and trade policy, they do not capture the focused intention of the Navigation Act, which was to ensure that colonial trade was primarily conducted in a way that benefited England directly, aligning trade practices with the overall mercantile goals of the time.

**7. Which nation was the first to successfully land humans on the moon in 1969?**

- A. Soviet Union**
- B. United Kingdom**
- C. United States**
- D. China**

The United States was the first nation to successfully land humans on the moon in 1969 with the Apollo 11 mission. This historic event occurred on July 20, 1969, when astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first and second humans, respectively, to set foot on the lunar surface. Armstrong's famous words, "That's one small step for [a] man, one giant leap for mankind," signified not only a remarkable achievement in space exploration but also showcased American technological prowess during the Space Race, a period of intense competition between the United States and the Soviet Union. The success of Apollo 11 effectively solidified the U.S. position as a leader in space exploration and marked a pivotal moment in both science and history.

**8. What is the main subject of the book "How the Other Half Lives"?**

- A. The lives of urban elites**
- B. The struggles of poor urban immigrants**
- C. Rural American lifestyles**
- D. Wealth and poverty in America**

The main subject of "How the Other Half Lives," written by Jacob Riis, focuses on the struggles of poor urban immigrants during the late 19th century, particularly in New York City. Riis, a journalist and social reformer, used vivid photography and compelling narratives to document the harsh living conditions and challenges faced by the impoverished populations in tenement housing. His work aimed to raise awareness about the plight of these immigrants, advocating for social reform and better living conditions. While the other options touch on aspects of societal issues, they do not accurately capture the core focus of Riis's work. Urban elites and their lifestyles are not the subject of the book, nor does it primarily examine rural lifestyles or wealth in a more general context. Instead, it zeroes in on the specific experiences and hardships of those living in poverty in urban environments, making option B the correct answer.

**9. Who was the first president to travel outside of the U.S. while in office?**

**A. Theodore Roosevelt**

**B. Woodrow Wilson**

**C. Franklin D. Roosevelt**

**D. Lyndon B. Johnson**

The first president to travel outside of the U.S. while in office was Theodore Roosevelt. His notable journey took place in 1906 when he visited Panama to inspect the construction of the Panama Canal. This trip marked a significant moment in presidential history, as it was uncommon for a sitting president to leave the country at that time, highlighting Roosevelt's progressive leadership and willingness to engage with international affairs. His visit underscored the importance of the Panama Canal as a strategic asset for U.S. maritime interests and showcased Roosevelt's commitment to expanding American influence both domestically and abroad. This decision set a precedent for future presidents, illustrating a shift in how the role of the presidency could involve active participation on the global stage.

**10. What major event prompted 120,000 workers to go on strike in St. Petersburg in 1905?**

**A. A poverty outbreak**

**B. Bloody Sunday**

**C. A political election**

**D. A workers' rights movement**

The correct response identifies the significance of Bloody Sunday, which occurred on January 22, 1905, when peaceful demonstrators marching to present a petition to Tsar Nicholas II were shot at by soldiers, resulting in a massive outcry and unrest across Russia. This horrific event not only killed and injured many but also galvanized the labor movement and widespread dissatisfaction with the Tsar's regime. The shock of this brutal suppression of peaceful protest prompted a wave of strikes, including the significant strike involving 120,000 workers in St. Petersburg. Bloody Sunday served as a catalyst for the 1905 Revolution, highlighting the deep social and political discontent among various classes, particularly workers and peasants, leading them to demand reforms and better working conditions. This moment marked a critical turning point in Russian history, as it signaled the beginning of organized protests against the autocracy and increased demands for political change.