

# Praxis II US History / World History (0941/5941) 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. Which two Japanese islands were notably captured during World War II?**
  - A. Okinawa and Iwo Jima**
  - B. Honshu and Hokkaido**
  - C. Kyushu and Shikoku**
  - D. Kiribati and Guam**
  
- 2. How many Children's Crusades were launched in 1212?**
  - A. One**
  - B. Two**
  - C. Three**
  - D. Four**
  
- 3. 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**
  
- 4. What was the tax imposed on non-Muslims in the Mughal Empire?**
  - A. Zakat**
  - B. Jizya**
  - C. Alms**
  - D. Khums**
  
- 5. Which landmark project did Theodore Roosevelt promote during his presidency?**
  - A. Transcontinental Railroad**
  - B. Panama Canal**
  - C. Appalachian Trail**
  - D. Grand Coulee Dam**

- 6. What was the amount paid by the United States to acquire the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803?**
- A. \$10 million**
  - B. \$15 million**
  - C. \$20 million**
  - D. \$25 million**
- 7. Which civilization was the first to emerge in the Andes Mountains?**
- A. Inca**
  - B. Chavin**
  - C. Aztec**
  - D. Moche**
- 8. Which historical figure was accused of heresy for their findings regarding the solar system?**
- A. Galileo Galilei**
  - B. Isaac Newton**
  - C. Nicolas Copernicus**
  - D. Aristotle**
- 9. What concept did Zoroaster introduce regarding the afterlife?**
- A. Heaven as a serene place**
  - B. Heaven as a hot place**
  - C. Reincarnation**
  - D. Moderation**
- 10. What was a significant reason for America's declaration of war in 1812?**
- A. Territorial expansion**
  - B. Trade restrictions**
  - C. Slavery issues**
  - D. Military alliances**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Which two Japanese islands were notably captured during World War II?**

- A. Okinawa and Iwo Jima**
- B. Honshu and Hokkaido**
- C. Kyushu and Shikoku**
- D. Kiribati and Guam**

The capture of Okinawa and Iwo Jima during World War II was significant due to their strategic location and the intense fighting that characterized those battles. Iwo Jima, located south of the Japanese main islands, was crucial for the United States as it served as an important base for launching air operations against the Japanese mainland. The Battle of Iwo Jima, fought in early 1945, was marked by fierce combat, and the iconic image of U.S. Marines raising the flag on Mount Suribachi became a symbol of American resolve in the Pacific. Okinawa, captured later in 1945, was the largest and bloodiest amphibious assault in the Pacific theater. The island's capture was vital for the Allies, providing a staging area for the planned invasion of Japan. The battles that took place on these islands not only reflected the high stakes of the conflict but also showcased the tenacity of both Japanese defenders and American forces. In contrast, the other options mention islands that were either not the site of major battles in the same context or were not captured by American forces during World War II. Honshu and Hokkaido are the main islands of Japan and were not captured; instead, they remained under Japanese control throughout the war.

**2. How many Children's Crusades were launched in 1212?**

- A. One**
- B. Two**
- C. Three**
- D. Four**

The correct answer is that two Children's Crusades were launched in 1212. This particular year is notable in historical accounts for two distinct movements that included children and adolescents attempting to reach the Holy Land. The two crusades were driven by fervent religious belief and the desire to reclaim Jerusalem from Muslim control but were marked by naivety and ultimately tragic outcomes. The first movement began in France and was led by a shepherd boy named Stephen of Cloyes, who claimed to have received a vision from Christ. The second movement originated in Germany and was led by a boy named Nicholas. Both groups faced immense challenges, as many participants were deceived or forced into slavery, leading to significant loss of life and hope. The Children's Crusades remain a poignant example of how the zeal of youth can be manipulated and the significant societal impacts of the broader Crusading movements of the Middle Ages.

**3. 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.

**4. What was the tax imposed on non-Muslims in the Mughal Empire?**

- A. Zakat**
- B. Jizya**
- C. Alms**
- D. Khums**

The tax imposed on non-Muslims in the Mughal Empire was known as the Jizya. This tax served as a form of tribute that non-Muslims, especially Hindus, were required to pay in exchange for protection and the right to practice their religion freely. The imposition of Jizya was historically rooted in Islamic law, where it was considered a means for the state to fund defense and other administrative expenses without imposing direct military service obligations on non-Muslims. In the context of the Mughal Empire, particularly under rulers like Akbar, there were periods when the Jizya was abolished to promote religious tolerance and integration, especially as Akbar sought to foster unity among the diverse populations of his empire. However, it was later reinstated during the reign of Aurangzeb, reflecting a shift towards more orthodox Islamic policies. Other concepts such as Zakat refer to a form of almsgiving and one of the Five Pillars of Islam, intended primarily for Muslims, while Alms signifies charitable giving, which also doesn't specifically pertain to the taxation of non-Muslims. Khums is another form of tax that traditionally applies to Muslims, focusing on surplus income or savings. In this context, Jizya is distinctly recognized

**5. Which landmark project did Theodore Roosevelt promote during his presidency?**

- A. Transcontinental Railroad**
- B. Panama Canal**
- C. Appalachian Trail**
- D. Grand Coulee Dam**

The Panama Canal is the landmark project that Theodore Roosevelt promoted during his presidency, significantly impacting global trade and naval strategy. Roosevelt believed that constructing the canal was essential for facilitating maritime travel between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, allowing ships to avoid the lengthy and perilous journey around the southern tip of South America. To achieve this, Roosevelt supported negotiations for the United States to control the construction of the canal after a failed French attempt. His administration successfully backed a revolution in Panama, leading to the establishment of Panama as an independent nation and allowing the U.S. to lease the land for the canal's construction. The Panama Canal was completed in 1914 and has since been regarded as one of the greatest engineering feats of the early 20th century, enhancing the United States' economic and military presence in the region. In contrast, the Transcontinental Railroad was completed in the late 1860s, well before Roosevelt's presidency, while the Appalachian Trail and the Grand Coulee Dam were projects initiated after his time in office. The canal's strategic importance during Roosevelt's presidency and the way he navigated international politics to complete it underscores the impact of his leadership on American infrastructure and global positioning.

**6. What was the amount paid by the United States to acquire the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803?**

- A. \$10 million**
- B. \$15 million**
- C. \$20 million**
- D. \$25 million**

The United States paid \$15 million to acquire the Louisiana Territory from France in 1803. This transaction, known as the Louisiana Purchase, was significant as it doubled the size of the United States at the time, significantly expanding its territory and resources. The deal was negotiated by President Thomas Jefferson and was considered a remarkable opportunity to acquire vast lands that offered immense agricultural potential, natural resources, and facilitated westward expansion. The purchase occurred during a tumultuous period for France under Napoleon Bonaparte, who decided to sell the territory primarily due to financial constraints and the challenges of maintaining control over distant colonies. This acquisition not only shaped the future of the United States but also played a critical role in its development and its identity as a continental power.

**7. Which civilization was the first to emerge in the Andes Mountains?**

- A. Inca
- B. Chavin**
- C. Aztec
- D. Moche

The Chavín civilization is recognized as the first significant culture to emerge in the Andes Mountains around 900 BCE. This civilization is notable for its early developments in architecture, religious practices, and agricultural techniques, which laid the groundwork for later Andean societies. The Chavín are particularly remembered for their ceremonial centers, most notably Chavín de Huantar, which served as a religious hub and influenced various subsequent cultures in the region. The Chavín civilization played a critical role in the cultural and social development of the Andes, making substantial contributions to agriculture, trade, and artistic expression. Their iconography and religious practices influenced later civilizations, establishing a rich cultural legacy. The Inca, Moche, and Aztec civilizations emerged much later. The Inca civilization rose to prominence in the early 15th century, the Moche flourished from approximately 100 CE to 800 CE, and the Aztecs developed in central Mexico around the 14th century. Each of these civilizations had distinct features and accomplishments but none predated the Chavín in the Andes region.

**8. Which historical figure was accused of heresy for their findings regarding the solar system?**

- A. Galileo Galilei
- B. Isaac Newton
- C. Nicolas Copernicus**
- D. Aristotle

The figure who was most notably accused of heresy for their findings regarding the solar system is Galileo Galilei. Galileo supported the heliocentric model proposed by Copernicus, which posited that the Earth and other planets revolve around the Sun. His advocacy for this model, particularly after making telescopic observations that reinforced it, led to conflict with the Catholic Church. In 1616, he was admonished for promoting this view, and ultimately, in 1633, he was tried by the Roman Inquisition and found "vehemently suspect of heresy." Although Copernicus also proposed the heliocentric theory, his ideas were published in "De revolutionibus orbium coelestium" in 1543, before Galileo's time, and he did not face heresy charges during his lifetime. Newton and Aristotle are not directly linked to accusations of heresy regarding the solar system; Newton's work in the 17th century focused more on gravity and motion, while Aristotle's views were rooted in a geocentric cosmos, which was later challenged but not in the same context as the early modern scientific revolution. Therefore, Galileo's prominent trial and condemnation by the Church highlight him as the correct answer in relation to her

**9. What concept did Zoroaster introduce regarding the afterlife?**

- A. Heaven as a serene place**
- B. Heaven as a hot place**
- C. Reincarnation**
- D. Moderation**

Zoroaster, the founder of Zoroastrianism, introduced a number of significant concepts that influenced beliefs about the afterlife. One of the key ideas he proposed was the existence of a judgment after death, which determined an individual's fate in the afterlife. According to Zoroastrian teachings, the souls of the departed would face a judgment where they would be assessed based on their deeds in life. Those who led a righteous life would ascend to a heavenly realm, while those who were wicked would be consigned to a place of suffering. In Zoroastrianism, the notion of a "hot" place can be interpreted as a form of punishment for the souls of the wicked, contrasting with the serene and peaceful depiction of a heavenly afterlife for the virtuous. This duality of good and evil, and the consequences that follow, reflects Zoroaster's innovative theological framework. He emphasized the importance of individual moral choices and their implications for the afterlife, which is a defining feature of his teachings. The other concepts listed, such as heaven characterized strictly as a "serene place," appear to lack the specific focus on the contrasting judgments present in Zoroastrian belief. Reincarnation is not a component of Z

**10. What was a significant reason for America's declaration of war in 1812?**

- A. Territorial expansion**
- B. Trade restrictions**
- C. Slavery issues**
- D. Military alliances**

The declaration of war in 1812 was significantly influenced by trade restrictions imposed by Great Britain. During this period, Britain was engaged in a conflict with France and sought to weaken its enemy by interfering with American trade. The Royal Navy enforced a series of trade blockades and impressed American sailors into British service, which severely disrupted American commerce and infringed upon national sovereignty. These trade restrictions fostered resentment among American merchants and the public, as they perceived these actions as violations of their rights and economic interests. The growing frustration over Britain's disregard for American neutrality and its impact on the economy was a major catalyst for the push towards war. While other factors, such as desires for territorial expansion and the influence of certain political factions, played a role in the context of the war, it was specifically the trade restrictions and the rights of maritime commerce that were central to the grievance leading to the conflict.

## 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://praxis20941and5941.examzify.com>**

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

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