

Texas A&M University (TAMU) HIST105 History of the United States Exam 2 Practice (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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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. What was a contributing factor in the economic crisis during Monroe's presidency?**
 - A. Excessive national debt**
 - B. Severe weather impacting crops**
 - C. Slump in agriculture business**
 - D. Increased foreign tariffs**
- 2. What was a key consequence of the War of 1812?**
 - A. Increased federal debt**
 - B. A second war for independence**
 - C. The establishment of a national currency**
 - D. Immediate economic recovery**
- 3. How did the Erie Canal transform the economy?**
 - A. Increased the cost of transporting goods**
 - B. Promoted agricultural growth in the south**
 - C. Reduced transport costs significantly**
 - D. Limited access to markets for farmers**
- 4. What principle did the Supreme Court assert in Marbury vs. Madison?**
 - A. Federal laws can be overturned by state laws**
 - B. Judicial Review over acts of Congress**
 - C. Presidential appointments cannot be challenged**
 - D. Citizens have the right to challenge federal laws in court**
- 5. In the Election of 1824, which candidate was known for avoiding commitment on issues?**
 - A. William Crawford**
 - B. John Quincy Adams**
 - C. Andrew Jackson**
 - D. Henry Clay**

- 6. What characterized the structural changes during the Transportation Revolution?**
- A. Focus on horse-drawn carriages and walking paths**
 - B. Development of new technologies like railroads and steamboats**
 - C. Improvements in agricultural methods predominated**
 - D. Stagnation of urban transport systems**
- 7. What was a notable feature of the factory system compared to previous production methods?**
- A. It required less capital investment**
 - B. It focused on slower production methods**
 - C. It employed many people and increased production capacities**
 - D. It emphasized individual craftsmanship over mass production**
- 8. What was a primary feature of the Lowell System?**
- A. Primarily employed men over 30**
 - B. Incorporated long work hours in poor conditions**
 - C. Operated textile mills primarily in urban areas**
 - D. Employed primarily young women in textile mills**
- 9. Who were the primary leaders of the Republican party during this era?**
- A. Hamilton and Adams**
 - B. Jefferson and Madison**
 - C. Webster and Calhoun**
 - D. Franklin and Washington**
- 10. What was Thomas Jefferson's perspective on Hamilton's plan regarding state debt and speculators?**
- A. Supportive of the plan**
 - B. Concerned it rewarded speculators**
 - C. Indifferent to the plan**
 - D. Aimed to modify the plan**

Answers

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

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Explanations

1. What was a contributing factor in the economic crisis during Monroe's presidency?

- A. Excessive national debt**
- B. Severe weather impacting crops**
- C. Slump in agriculture business**
- D. Increased foreign tariffs**

The economic crisis during Monroe's presidency can be attributed significantly to the slump in the agriculture business. Following the War of 1812, the United States experienced a period of economic expansion, but this was unsustainable. One of the primary sectors affected was agriculture, which faced declining prices due to overproduction and competition from both domestic and foreign markets. The downturn in agricultural production diminished the purchasing power of farmers and led to widespread bankruptcies and financial distress. As agriculture was a backbone of the American economy at that time, the slump created a ripple effect that impacted various industries, leading to a broader economic crisis during Monroe's presidency. Meanwhile, other factors, while they may have contributed to economic issues in different contexts, do not relate as directly to the overarching cause of the crisis as the agricultural slump does.

2. What was a key consequence of the War of 1812?

- A. Increased federal debt**
- B. A second war for independence**
- C. The establishment of a national currency**
- D. Immediate economic recovery**

The War of 1812 is often viewed as a second war for independence for the United States. This perspective arises from the war's central issues, which included the ongoing British interference with American shipping and the impressment of American sailors into the British navy. Through this conflict, the United States sought to assert its sovereignty and confirm its status as an independent nation, much as it had done during the American Revolutionary War. A significant consequence of the War of 1812 was the heightened sense of nationalism that emerged among Americans. The successful defense against British invasions, particularly at places like Fort McHenry, saw the creation of the "Star-Spangled Banner," which became a symbol of American pride. Furthermore, the war solidified the idea of the U.S. as a distinct and independent entity on the global stage, contributing to a growing national identity and promoting the notion of Manifest Destiny in subsequent years. The other choices do not capture this key consequence accurately. Increased federal debt occurred during the war but is not a distinguishing feature that reflects the broader implications of national identity and independence. While a national currency did develop but would not be established until later, it was not a direct consequence of the war itself. Immediate economic recovery was not a result either;

3. How did the Erie Canal transform the economy?

- A. Increased the cost of transporting goods
- B. Promoted agricultural growth in the south
- C. Reduced transport costs significantly**
- D. Limited access to markets for farmers

The Erie Canal significantly transformed the economy by substantially reducing transportation costs. Completed in 1825, the canal connected the Hudson River to Lake Erie, thereby facilitating trade and movement of goods between the interior of the country and the Atlantic Ocean. This enhanced connectivity allowed for more efficient transport of agricultural products and raw materials, which in turn stimulated commerce and encouraged economic expansion in the region. By lowering the costs associated with transporting goods, the canal made it possible for farmers and manufacturers to sell their products at more competitive prices. Consequently, this improved access to markets helped to integrate regional economies and led to overall growth in trade, industry, and population movement towards the Midwest. Therefore, the reduction in transport costs played a critical role in reshaping the economic landscape of the United States during this period.

4. What principle did the Supreme Court assert in Marbury vs. Madison?

- A. Federal laws can be overturned by state laws
- B. Judicial Review over acts of Congress**
- C. Presidential appointments cannot be challenged
- D. Citizens have the right to challenge federal laws in court

The principle asserted by the Supreme Court in Marbury vs. Madison is judicial review over acts of Congress. This landmark case, decided in 1803, established the critical function of the judiciary in reviewing and potentially invalidating laws passed by Congress that are found to be in conflict with the Constitution. The Court, led by Chief Justice John Marshall, determined that it is the duty of the judiciary to ensure that the law remains consistent with the foundational document of the United States, thus solidifying the judiciary's role as a co-equal branch of government and providing a mechanism for enforcing the rule of law. This case set a precedent that allows courts to invalidate any legislation or executive action that they determine to be unconstitutional, thereby reinforcing the concept of checks and balances among the branches of government. The importance of this ruling continues to resonate in contemporary legal discussions regarding the limits of congressional power and the interpretation of constitutional principles.

5. In the Election of 1824, which candidate was known for avoiding commitment on issues?

- A. William Crawford**
- B. John Quincy Adams**
- C. Andrew Jackson**
- D. Henry Clay**

In the Election of 1824, Andrew Jackson was indeed known for his somewhat ambiguous stance on various issues, which contributed to his appeal among a broad range of voters. While he had a strong military background as a war hero and was popular among the common people, his positions on specific political issues were not always clearly defined. This lack of commitment allowed him to attract support from various factions, as voters could interpret his views in a way that aligned with their own beliefs. Jackson's electoral strategy contrasted with candidates like John Quincy Adams and Henry Clay, who took more definitive stances on issues. Adams was associated with more established political principles, and Clay was known for his active involvement in shaping key policies, such as the American System. William Crawford had a clearer political philosophy rooted in states' rights and strict interpretations of the Constitution, which did not carry the same level of vagueness as Jackson's approach. Thus, the ambiguity in Jackson's political commitments is what distinguished him during the election, allowing him to maintain a broad appeal in a time of shifting political landscapes.

6. What characterized the structural changes during the Transportation Revolution?

- A. Focus on horse-drawn carriages and walking paths**
- B. Development of new technologies like railroads and steamboats**
- C. Improvements in agricultural methods predominated**
- D. Stagnation of urban transport systems**

The correct answer highlights the significant advancements in transportation technologies that occurred during the Transportation Revolution, particularly the development of railroads and steamboats. This period, which began in the early 19th century, marked a profound transformation in the way goods and people moved across the country. The introduction of railroads increased the speed and efficiency of transportation over long distances, making it possible to connect markets and facilitate trade in ways that were previously unimaginable. Similarly, steamboats revolutionized travel and commerce along rivers and coastal waterways, allowing for faster and more reliable movement of goods. These technological advancements not only enhanced the economy but also had social implications, as they contributed to the growth of cities, expanded settlement westward, and improved accessibility to various regions. The emergence of these technologies was pivotal in shaping the economic landscape of the nation, fostering industrial growth and creating a more interconnected society. In contrast, options that focus on horse-drawn carriages and walking paths do not reflect the transformative advancements characteristic of the Transportation Revolution, as those methods were traditional and did not drive structural changes in the same significant way. Similarly, while improvements in agricultural methods were important during this period, they are not the defining characteristic of the Transportation Revolution itself, which was primarily centered around

7. What was a notable feature of the factory system compared to previous production methods?

- A. It required less capital investment**
- B. It focused on slower production methods**
- C. It employed many people and increased production capacities**
- D. It emphasized individual craftsmanship over mass production**

The factory system marked a significant transformation in production methods due to its ability to employ many people and greatly increase production capacities. Unlike earlier methods, which often involved small-scale, individual craftsmanship in homes or small workshops, the factory system centralized production in larger facilities. This approach allowed for the employment of a larger workforce, which was necessary to operate the machines and manage the increased scale of production. In addition, the factory system utilized machinery that could produce goods more quickly and efficiently than manual labor. This shift to mass production meant that goods could be made in larger quantities and sold at lower prices, facilitating wider distribution and consumption. Additionally, workers could specialize in specific tasks within the production process, further enhancing productivity. This system reflected the Industrial Revolution's focus on efficiency and volume, fundamentally changing how goods were produced and consumed in society, making option C the correct choice.

8. What was a primary feature of the Lowell System?

- A. Primarily employed men over 30**
- B. Incorporated long work hours in poor conditions**
- C. Operated textile mills primarily in urban areas**
- D. Employed primarily young women in textile mills**

The primary feature of the Lowell System was that it employed primarily young women in textile mills. This system was developed in the early 19th century in Lowell, Massachusetts, where a factory model was established that relied heavily on young women, often referred to as "mill girls." These women typically came from rural areas or farming families and sought employment opportunities in the growing industrial economy. The Lowell System was notable for providing housing, education, and some social opportunities for these young women, standing out from many other labor practices of the time, which often relied more heavily on child labor or men in their late twenties or older. While conditions were not always ideal, and long work hours were common, the system aimed to create a more structured and appealing working environment for these women compared to other contemporary options. This unique aspect of the system reflected broader societal changes, as it was part of early industrialization in the United States, marking a significant shift in gender roles and labor dynamics during that era.

9. Who were the primary leaders of the Republican party during this era?

- A. Hamilton and Adams**
- B. Jefferson and Madison**
- C. Webster and Calhoun**
- D. Franklin and Washington**

The primary leaders of the Republican party during this era were Jefferson and Madison. This is significant as they were founding figures in the formation of the Democratic-Republican Party, which emerged in the early 1790s in opposition to the Federalist Party. Thomas Jefferson, as a key proponent of agrarian democracy, advocated for a government that was closer to the people and emphasized states' rights, while James Madison, often called the "Father of the Constitution," played a crucial role in establishing the party's platform and principles. Their leadership marked a reaction against Federalist policies, particularly those perceived to favor a strong centralized government, leading to increased political polarization during the early years of the United States. This dynamic was central to the development of the early American political landscape, as it framed debates over the role of government, individual liberties, and economic structures. In contrast, the other pairs mentioned—Hamilton and Adams were leaders of the Federalist Party, Webster and Calhoun were prominent figures in the 19th century but not of the early Republican movement, and Franklin and Washington had significant roles but were not directly associated with the Republican Party during its formative years.

10. What was Thomas Jefferson's perspective on Hamilton's plan regarding state debt and speculators?

- A. Supportive of the plan**
- B. Concerned it rewarded speculators**
- C. Indifferent to the plan**
- D. Aimed to modify the plan**

Thomas Jefferson was fundamentally concerned that Alexander Hamilton's plan to address national and state debt would disproportionately benefit speculators—those who had purchased government bonds at decreased values during the economic turmoil following the Revolutionary War. Jefferson believed that this approach would unfairly enrich a small group of wealthy investors at the expense of the general populace, particularly those who had originally held the debt. He viewed Hamilton's strategy as one that could undermine the financial integrity of the government by creating a system where the interests of speculators took precedence over equitable treatment of common citizens and states that had already paid off their debts. Jefferson's worry stemmed from a deeper philosophy regarding the role of government and economic fairness, which aimed to protect the interests of agrarian society rather than those of a burgeoning financial elite. This concern drove his opposition and discussions about the necessity of a more balanced and equitable financial system.

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://tamu-hist105exam2.examzify.com>

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