

Texas A&M University (TAMU) HIST106 History of the United States Practice Exam 2 (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

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- 1. Who was the American General in charge of the Pacific Theatre during World War II, known for encouraging amphibious landings?**
 - A. Dwight D. Eisenhower**
 - B. George S. Patton**
 - C. Douglas MacArthur**
 - D. Omar Bradley**

- 2. Which amendment repealed Prohibition in the United States?**
 - A. 18th Amendment**
 - B. 19th Amendment**
 - C. 20th Amendment**
 - D. 21st Amendment**

- 3. Whose economic theories influenced FDR's approach during the Roosevelt Recession?**
 - A. Adam Smith**
 - B. John Maynard Keynes**
 - C. Milton Friedman**
 - D. David Ricardo**

- 4. Who is the author of "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" and an influential figure in the Harlem Renaissance?**
 - A. Claude McKay**
 - B. Langston Hughes**
 - C. Zora Neale Hurston**
 - D. W.E.B. Du Bois**

- 5. Which document described the threat that civilization itself was at stake due to Soviet values?**
 - A. Truman Doctrine**
 - B. NSC-68**
 - C. Long Telegram**
 - D. Korean Document**

6. Which economic issue includes falling farm prices and rising unemployment?

- A. Economic growth**
- B. Warning signs of depression**
- C. Economic stability**
- D. Market recovery**

7. Which social dynamic was highlighted by the policies of Levittown, particularly related to home ownership?

- A. Racial integration among communities**
- B. Support for minority-owned businesses**
- C. Segregation and exclusionary practices**
- D. Promotion of mixed-income housing**

8. What aspect of the Great Depression did FDR struggle with in terms of public perception?

- A. His opposition to capitalism**
- B. His focus on military spending**
- C. His optimistic statements about prosperity**
- D. His avoidance of social reforms**

9. What organization aimed to unify workers across various industries during the labor movement?

- A. American Federation of Labor**
- B. Congress of Industrial Organizations**
- C. National Labor Union**
- D. The Knights of Labor**

10. During World War II, which countries comprised the Allies?

- A. Germany, Italy, and Japan**
- B. Great Britain, US, and Soviet Union**
- C. France, China, and Canada**
- D. Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Who was the American General in charge of the Pacific Theatre during World War II, known for encouraging amphibious landings?

- A. Dwight D. Eisenhower**
- B. George S. Patton**
- C. Douglas MacArthur**
- D. Omar Bradley**

Douglas MacArthur was the American General in charge of the Pacific Theatre during World War II, and he played a crucial role in the strategy and execution of operations throughout that region. His leadership was marked by a series of significant amphibious landings, most notably the successful invasion of the Philippines in 1944, which was pivotal in the Allied campaign against Japan. MacArthur was known for his innovative and effective military strategies that utilized a combination of naval power and ground forces, which greatly contributed to the eventual success in the Pacific. Furthermore, MacArthur's famous promise to return to the Philippines after being forced to evacuate in 1942 became a rallying point for American forces and symbolized determination and resilience in the face of adversity. His understanding of the unique challenges of the Pacific Theatre, including island hopping and dealing with difficult terrain, reinforced his capability as a military leader during this critical time in history.

2. Which amendment repealed Prohibition in the United States?

- A. 18th Amendment**
- B. 19th Amendment**
- C. 20th Amendment**
- D. 21st Amendment**

The 21st Amendment is significant because it marked the end of Prohibition in the United States, which had been established by the 18th Amendment. Ratified in 1933, the 21st Amendment allowed for the legal manufacture, sale, and consumption of alcoholic beverages, effectively reversing the restrictions imposed by Prohibition. This change was largely a response to the negative consequences of Prohibition, such as the rise in organized crime and the economic challenges of the Great Depression, leading to widespread calls for its repeal. The significance of the 21st Amendment lies in its restoration of legal alcohol consumption and its role in reshaping American societal norms surrounding alcohol. The other amendments listed do not pertain to Prohibition. The 18th Amendment initiated Prohibition, the 19th Amendment granted women the right to vote, and the 20th Amendment changed the start dates for federal government elected offices. Thus, only the 21st Amendment directly addresses the repeal of Prohibition.

3. Whose economic theories influenced FDR's approach during the Roosevelt Recession?

- A. Adam Smith
- B. John Maynard Keynes**
- C. Milton Friedman
- D. David Ricardo

The correct answer is John Maynard Keynes, whose economic theories significantly influenced Franklin D. Roosevelt's approach during the Roosevelt Recession. Keynes championed the idea that during times of economic downturn, the government should increase spending to stimulate demand and pull the economy out of recession. This represented a shift from previous economic doctrines that emphasized limited government intervention and fiscal restraint. During the Roosevelt Recession of 1937-1938, a period within the broader context of the Great Depression, the economy began to stagnate after initial recovery signs from New Deal programs. FDR's adoption of Keynesian principles encouraged increased government expenditures and deficit spending to boost economic activity and mitigate unemployment, reflecting Keynes' belief in active government intervention as essential for economic recovery. In contrast, the other economists mentioned did not have the same impact on FDR during this specific period. Adam Smith, often credited as the father of capitalism, advocated for free markets with minimal government intervention, which was contrary to the approach needed during the recession. Milton Friedman's focus on monetarism emerged later and was not widely recognized during FDR's presidency. David Ricardo's theories concentrated on comparative advantage in trade and were less applicable to the issues faced by the U.S. economy during the Great Depression.

4. Who is the author of "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" and an influential figure in the Harlem Renaissance?

- A. Claude McKay
- B. Langston Hughes**
- C. Zora Neale Hurston
- D. W.E.B. Du Bois

The author of "The Negro Speaks of Rivers" is Langston Hughes, a central figure in the Harlem Renaissance, a cultural movement during the 1920s that celebrated African American art, literature, and identity. Hughes's poetry often explores themes of black heritage, struggles, and the profound connections between the African diaspora and American culture. "The Negro Speaks of Rivers," written when he was just 17 years old, reflects on the historical and spiritual significance of rivers in relation to African American identity, making it a powerful representation of the depth and richness of black experience in America. During the Harlem Renaissance, Hughes became known for his ability to weave together personal and collective experiences, giving voice to his community through his unique style and perspective. This positioned him as a prominent figure alongside other influential writers and artists who were redefining African American literature and cultural expression during this era. His work garnered widespread recognition and laid the groundwork for future generations of African American writers.

5. Which document described the threat that civilization itself was at stake due to Soviet values?

- A. Truman Doctrine**
- B. NSC-68**
- C. Long Telegram**
- D. Korean Document**

The correct answer is NSC-68, which was a key document in the history of U.S. foreign policy during the Cold War. Released in 1950, NSC-68 articulated the perceived threat of communism and the Soviet Union to not just U.S. interests but to the broader concept of Western civilization. It emphasized that the Soviet challenge was not merely a military threat but also a fundamental ideological one, positing that the survival of freedom and democracy was at risk as long as totalitarian regimes existed. NSC-68 called for a significant increase in military spending and a more aggressive stance towards containment of communism, reflecting the belief that the United States needed to counter the Soviet influence globally. The document underscored the urgency of the situation, indicating that allowing the spread of Soviet values would jeopardize the future of liberty and democracy in the world. This context makes NSC-68 the pivotal document highlighting the existential threat of the Soviet ideology, which is why it is the correct answer.

6. Which economic issue includes falling farm prices and rising unemployment?

- A. Economic growth**
- B. Warning signs of depression**
- C. Economic stability**
- D. Market recovery**

The economic issue characterized by falling farm prices and rising unemployment is indicative of warning signs of depression. During an economic downturn, agricultural sectors often experience declining prices due to overproduction, decreased demand, or issues such as drought or pests affecting crop yields. The agricultural sector's struggles can lead to broader economic issues, including increased unemployment as farmers and those tied to agriculture, such as suppliers and laborers, face job losses. In times of economic distress, such as a depression, these factors combine to create a challenging environment where economic activity slows, and consumer confidence deteriorates. This situation amplifies the potential for widespread economic issues, setting off a cycle of reduced spending, further drops in farm prices due to lower demand, and an increase in unemployment rates. In contrast, economic growth suggests an improving economy with rising prices and employment, economic stability refers to a balanced economy with minimal fluctuations, and market recovery implies a rebound from a previous downturn. Hence, only the notion of warning signs of depression accurately captures the essence of falling farm prices and rising unemployment.

7. Which social dynamic was highlighted by the policies of Levittown, particularly related to home ownership?

- A. Racial integration among communities**
- B. Support for minority-owned businesses**
- C. Segregation and exclusionary practices**
- D. Promotion of mixed-income housing**

The correct choice highlights the significant social dynamic of segregation and exclusionary practices that were prevalent in Levittown's policies. Established in the post-World War II era, Levittown became synonymous with suburban development and affordable housing for returning veterans and their families. However, these developments were engineered with policies that explicitly excluded minority groups, particularly Black families, from purchasing homes. The policies in Levittown included racially restrictive covenants, which legally prohibited the sale of homes to non-white individuals. This segregationist policy not only reinforced existing racial divisions but also institutionalized discrimination in home ownership and helped to perpetuate socio-economic disparities. The environment in Levittown thus became a physical representation of the wider practices of exclusion and segregation that were widespread in mid-20th-century America. In contrast, the concepts of racial integration among communities, support for minority-owned businesses, and promotion of mixed-income housing do not capture the reality of Levittown's policies. The community's design and associated regulations overwhelmingly favored white middle-class families while systematically marginalizing people of color, making it a critical example of how housing policy can reflect and reinforce social inequities.

8. What aspect of the Great Depression did FDR struggle with in terms of public perception?

- A. His opposition to capitalism**
- B. His focus on military spending**
- C. His optimistic statements about prosperity**
- D. His avoidance of social reforms**

Franklin D. Roosevelt's optimistic statements about prosperity during the Great Depression often contrasted sharply with the grim economic realities faced by many Americans. While Roosevelt aimed to inspire confidence and hope through his New Deal policies, there were moments when the public perception of his optimism seemed disconnected from the ongoing struggles, such as high unemployment rates and widespread poverty. This disconnect sometimes led to skepticism about his administration's ability to effectively remedy the economic crisis. Roosevelt's optimism was a strategic choice, meant to rally the nation and help restore faith in the government and financial systems. However, the reality of the economic situation caused many to question whether his upbeat rhetoric was warranted or merely political posturing. This blend of optimism and reality created a tension that FDR needed to navigate throughout his presidency, as he sought to maintain public confidence while tackling an unprecedented economic downturn.

9. What organization aimed to unify workers across various industries during the labor movement?

- A. American Federation of Labor**
- B. Congress of Industrial Organizations**
- C. National Labor Union**
- D. The Knights of Labor**

The Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) was established in the 1930s with the specific goal of organizing workers across diverse industries, particularly in mass production sectors like steel and automotive. Unlike other labor organizations of the time that tended to focus on specific trades or skilled labor, the CIO sought to include all workers, irrespective of their specific job roles. This broad-based approach was crucial in advocating for workers' rights and better conditions during a transformative period in American labor history. The CIO was instrumental in significant labor actions and helped push for key legislation that benefitted numerous workers, which helped to solidify the labor movement's influence in the United States. Their emphasis on industrial unionism played a pivotal role in shaping the labor landscape during the Great Depression and beyond. This contrasts with initiatives from organizations like the American Federation of Labor, which primarily focused on skilled labor within specific trades, or the Knights of Labor, which also aimed for broader worker unification but lacked the same industrial focus that the CIO later emphasized.

10. During World War II, which countries comprised the Allies?

- A. Germany, Italy, and Japan**
- B. Great Britain, US, and Soviet Union**
- C. France, China, and Canada**
- D. Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland**

The countries that comprised the Allies during World War II were primarily Great Britain, the United States, and the Soviet Union. These nations formed a coalition in response to the Axis Powers, which included Germany, Italy, and Japan. Great Britain played a crucial role in the early years of the war, particularly in Europe, while the United States provided significant military, economic, and logistical support, especially following its entry into the war after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941. The Soviet Union was pivotal on the Eastern Front, enduring massive initial losses before turning the tide against the Nazis. Together, these three nations coordinated their efforts in various military campaigns across Europe, Asia, and the Pacific, ultimately leading to the defeat of the Axis Powers. This coalition was characterized by a spirit of collaboration despite significant ideological differences, which played a vital role in their shared victory. The other options provided do not reflect the major Allied powers that fought against the Axis in World War II: Germany, Italy, and Japan were the main Axis nations, while France, China, and Canada were also parts of the Allied struggle but not the core leaders of the movement. Similarly, Spain, Portugal, and Switzerland remained neutral during 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.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://tamu-hist106-exam2.examzify.com>

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

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