

Texas A&M University (TAMU) HIST106 Practice Exam 1 (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. What was the primary focus of the Populist Movement?

- A. To advocate for civil rights.**
- B. To promote industrial growth.**
- C. To support the interests of farmers and working-class Americans.**
- D. To expand U.S. territories.**

2. What was one significant outcome of the War of 1812 for the United States?

- A. It led to the acquisition of new territories**
- B. It increased national pride and encouraged westward expansion**
- C. It resulted in the establishment of peace treaties with Britain**
- D. It fundamentally altered the Constitution**

3. What type of government was established by the Mayflower Compact?

- A. A monarchy**
- B. A direct democracy**
- C. A self-governing colony with majority rule**
- D. A federated state**

4. What organization was known as the Grange?

- A. A political party focused on urban issues**
- B. A professional association for railroad workers**
- C. An organization aimed at improving life for small farmers**
- D. A national union for factory workers**

5. What effect did urbanization have during the Industrial Revolution?

- A. Decreased the population of cities**
- B. Grew the number of rural communities**
- C. Increased the population in urban areas**
- D. Led to the decline of the factory system**

6. What was a major result of the Emancipation Proclamation?

- A. Increased morale for the Confederacy**
- B. It transformed the Civil War into a fight for freedom**
- C. It ended all forms of slavery immediately**
- D. It rallied foreign nations to support the Confederacy**

7. What significant achievement occurred in 1965 related to voting rights?

- A. The Civil Rights Act was enacted**
- B. The Voting Rights Act was enacted**
- C. The Fair Labor Standards Act was amended**
- D. The Civil Rights Movement came to an end**

8. What was the significance of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803?

- A. It ended the War of 1812**
- B. It established the United States' first overseas territories**
- C. It doubled the size of the United States and opened up westward expansion**
- D. It created a border dispute with Canada**

9. What phrase is associated with Southern sentiments towards Northern soldiers post-Civil War?

- A. Reconstruction efforts**
- B. Bloody shirt waving**
- C. Neutrality speeches**
- D. Redemption narratives**

10. Which vegetables were common in the Columbian Exchange?

- A. Tomatoes, potatoes, and squash**
- B. Rice, corn, and wheat**
- C. Spinach, carrots, and beets**
- D. Peas, broccoli, and onions**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What was the primary focus of the Populist Movement?

- A. To advocate for civil rights.
- B. To promote industrial growth.
- C. To support the interests of farmers and working-class Americans.**
- D. To expand U.S. territories.

The primary focus of the Populist Movement was to support the interests of farmers and working-class Americans. Emerging in the late 19th century, particularly in the 1890s, the movement arose in response to the economic hardships faced by these groups due to the rapid industrialization and the dominance of big businesses, which often left farmers in dire financial situations. The movement sought to address these issues through various reforms, such as advocating for the regulation of railroads, the introduction of the graduated income tax, and the adoption of the free coinage of silver, which many believed would alleviate debt burdens and increase the money supply. By rallying the voices of farmers and laborers, the Populist Movement aimed to create a political platform that reflected the needs and concerns of those who felt marginalized by the prevailing economic system.

2. What was one significant outcome of the War of 1812 for the United States?

- A. It led to the acquisition of new territories
- B. It increased national pride and encouraged westward expansion**
- C. It resulted in the establishment of peace treaties with Britain
- D. It fundamentally altered the Constitution

The War of 1812 produced a significant boost in national pride for the United States, often referred to as the "Second War of Independence." This increased sense of nationalism arose as the nation successfully defended itself against British forces, prompting a wave of patriotic fervor among its citizens. Following the war, there was a marked enthusiasm for westward expansion, partly fueled by the belief that the United States had demonstrated its resilience and strength. This psychological shift encouraged settlers and the government alike to pursue growth into new territories beyond the Appalachian Mountains, believing in the nation's manifest destiny. While the other options touch upon notable aspects of history surrounding the war, they do not encapsulate the broader societal impact as effectively. For example, while the conflict did lead to certain territorial changes in subsequent years, the immediate aftermath of the war primarily fostered a sense of unity and a desire to extend American influence rather than significant land acquisitions at that moment. The treaties with Britain were primarily negotiations that sought to end hostilities rather than establishing any new agreements that could be deemed significant outcomes of the war. Additionally, the Constitution remained intact, with no fundamental alterations resulting directly from the war. Thus, the rise in national pride and the subsequent encouragement of westward expansion remain the prominent legacies.

3. What type of government was established by the Mayflower Compact?

- A. A monarchy**
- B. A direct democracy**
- C. A self-governing colony with majority rule**
- D. A federated state**

The Mayflower Compact established a self-governing colony with majority rule, laying an important foundation for democratic governance in America. Signed in 1620 by the Pilgrims aboard the Mayflower, this document was created to ensure order and cooperation among the settlers in their new colony, as they were outside the jurisdiction of any established government. The Compact articulated the settlers' desire to create a "civil body politic" for their mutual benefit and protection, and it emphasized the principle of majority rule, wherein decisions would be made collectively and based on the agreement of the majority. This agreement constituted a form of social contract, reflecting the settlers' commitment to work together for common goals, which is a core aspect of self-governance. This form of government was a significant departure from monarchies, where authority is centralized and inherited, and from a direct democracy, which implies immediate participation from all citizens in every decision, regardless of the size of the population or community. The Mayflower Compact helped to lay the groundwork for future American democratic practices.

4. What organization was known as the Grange?

- A. A political party focused on urban issues**
- B. A professional association for railroad workers**
- C. An organization aimed at improving life for small farmers**
- D. A national union for factory workers**

The Grange, formally known as the Patrons of Husbandry, was established in the 1860s as a fraternal organization with the primary aim of addressing the social and economic needs of small farmers in the United States. Its emergence was driven by the desire to counteract the challenges faced by farmers, particularly in the face of industrialization and corporate influence over agricultural markets. The organization provided a platform for farmers to connect, share resources, and advocate for their interests. It took on various roles, including promoting cooperative buying and selling, establishing educational programs, and lobbying for legislation that benefitted agrarian communities. The Grange played a significant role in the agrarian movement and was influential in pushing for reforms that addressed issues like unfair railroad practices and the need for better access to agricultural education. In contrast, the other choices refer to organizations that do not align with the mission and activities of the Grange. While some may focus on urban issues, labor unions, or specific professional interests, the core purpose of the Grange was to uplift and support small farmers specifically, making this the correct answer.

5. What effect did urbanization have during the Industrial Revolution?

- A. Decreased the population of cities**
- B. Grew the number of rural communities**
- C. Increased the population in urban areas**
- D. Led to the decline of the factory system**

Urbanization during the Industrial Revolution significantly increased the population in urban areas, reshaping societal structures and economic landscapes. As industries developed, factories sprang up in cities, attracting workers seeking employment. This migration from rural areas to urban centers was driven by the promise of jobs and better living standards associated with industrial work. Consequently, cities expanded rapidly, leading to both positive and negative consequences. While urbanization provided economic opportunities, it also resulted in challenges such as overcrowding, inadequate infrastructure, and public health issues. The influx of people into cities was a defining characteristic of the Industrial Revolution, fundamentally altering demographic trends and the nature of labor in society. The other choices do not accurately reflect the reality of urbanization during this period, as rural populations generally decreased in favor of city living, the number of rural communities did not grow due to the movement towards urbanization, and the factory system, rather than declining, became a crucial component of the economy.

6. What was a major result of the Emancipation Proclamation?

- A. Increased morale for the Confederacy**
- B. It transformed the Civil War into a fight for freedom**
- C. It ended all forms of slavery immediately**
- D. It rallied foreign nations to support the Confederacy**

The Emancipation Proclamation had a profound impact on the nature and purpose of the Civil War by transforming it into a struggle specifically for freedom. Issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, the proclamation declared that all enslaved people in the rebellious states were to be freed. This pivotal action shifted the focus of the war from merely preserving the Union to also include the goal of liberating enslaved individuals. As a result, it redefined the conflict not just as a political or territorial dispute, but as a moral battle against slavery, galvanizing many in the North who were committed to abolishing the institution. In this context, the proclamation also aimed to undermine the economic foundation of the Confederacy, as the southern economy heavily relied on enslaved labor. By declaring emancipation, Lincoln sought to weaken the Confederacy's resolve and resources. This transformation also encouraged many formerly enslaved people to escape to Union lines or to join the Union Army, further contributing to the Northern war effort. Understanding this context highlights how the proclamation not only had immediate effects on those enslaved but also on the broader narrative and objectives of the Civil War itself. It mobilized support and positioned the Union as a champion of freedom, aiding in the

7. What significant achievement occurred in 1965 related to voting rights?

- A. The Civil Rights Act was enacted**
- B. The Voting Rights Act was enacted**
- C. The Fair Labor Standards Act was amended**
- D. The Civil Rights Movement came to an end**

The significant achievement that occurred in 1965 related to voting rights was the enactment of the Voting Rights Act. This landmark legislation was designed to eliminate various forms of discriminatory practices that had been used to disenfranchise racial minorities, particularly African Americans in the southern United States. The act aimed to ensure that all individuals, regardless of race, had the opportunity to participate fully in the electoral process. The Voting Rights Act prohibited states from imposing literacy tests and other discriminatory practices that were historically used to prevent minorities from voting. It also provided for federal oversight and monitoring of voter registration and election processes in areas known for racial discrimination. This legislation was a crucial step toward achieving greater equality and civil rights for all citizens and was a direct response to the civil rights movement's activism, including events like the Selma to Montgomery marches. In contrast, the Civil Rights Act, while also significant, was enacted in 1964 and primarily focused on ending segregation and discrimination in public places and employment, but did not address voting rights specifically. The Fair Labor Standards Act relates to labor laws and wages, and the statement about the end of the Civil Rights Movement is inaccurate, as the movement continued to address various issues beyond 1965.

8. What was the significance of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803?

- A. It ended the War of 1812**
- B. It established the United States' first overseas territories**
- C. It doubled the size of the United States and opened up westward expansion**
- D. It created a border dispute with Canada**

The Louisiana Purchase in 1803 is significant primarily because it doubled the size of the United States and facilitated westward expansion. This acquisition allowed the country to expand its territory significantly westward, encompassing vast areas that included parts of what are now 15 states. The purchase from France added approximately 828,000 square miles to the U.S., which not only increased land for settlement and agriculture but also provided access to important resources and trade routes. This expansion was crucial at a time when the idea of Manifest Destiny was beginning to take root, encouraging Americans to explore and settle the western territories. In terms of its broader implications, the Louisiana Purchase laid the groundwork for future exploration, including the Lewis and Clark expedition, and it also raised questions about the governance of new territories and the expansion of slavery, which would later become major issues in American politics. This monumental event helped to shape the trajectory of the nation, embedding the notion of expansion into the American identity.

9. What phrase is associated with Southern sentiments towards Northern soldiers post-Civil War?

- A. Reconstruction efforts**
- B. Bloody shirt waving**
- C. Neutrality speeches**
- D. Redemption narratives**

The phrase "bloody shirt waving" is historically significant as it pertains to the emotional and political climate in the post-Civil War United States, particularly from the Southern perspective towards Northern soldiers and their actions during the war. This term refers to the practice of using the memory of the Civil War, particularly the violence and loss experienced by the South, to evoke emotional responses and rally public opinion against Northern politicians, especially in the context of Reconstruction. In the aftermath of the Civil War, Southern leaders and advocates sought to promote narratives that highlighted the suffering endured by Southern families and soldiers. "Bloody shirt waving" became a rhetorical device used by some politicians to remind voters of the sacrifices made by Southern soldiers and to stoke resentment against the perceived imposition of Northern interests and policies on the South. This strategy was particularly aimed at countering the Reconstruction efforts, which many in the South viewed as punitive and vindictive. Understanding "bloody shirt waving" is essential for grasping the broader complexities of post-war sentiments and political strategies employed by Southern leaders as they navigated the challenges of rebuilding their society while grappling with the legacies of war and defeat. This phrase encapsulates a critical aspect of the historical discourse surrounding the Civil War's aftermath and the contentious

10. Which vegetables were common in the Columbian Exchange?

- A. Tomatoes, potatoes, and squash**
- B. Rice, corn, and wheat**
- C. Spinach, carrots, and beets**
- D. Peas, broccoli, and onions**

The correct answer highlights the vegetables that were prominently introduced to Europe from the Americas during the Columbian Exchange, which had a significant impact on global cuisine and agricultural practices. Tomatoes, potatoes, and squash are quintessential examples of New World crops that transformed diets across the globe after the exchange began in the late 15th century. Tomatoes, for example, became integral to various European cuisines, especially in Italy, leading to the development of iconic dishes like pasta sauces. Potatoes, cultivated originally in the Andean region, revolutionized food security in Europe by providing a calorie-dense staple that could be cultivated in diverse climates. Squash, along with other vegetables, contributed to the diversity of crops available and was already an important food source for many Indigenous cultures in the Americas before the Exchange. The other options, while some mention crops that are important, do not focus on the quintessential vegetables that were exchanged and gained prominence as a result of the Columbian Exchange. For instance, rice and wheat were already established staples in the Old World, and crops like spinach and carrots originated elsewhere. This emphasizes that the correct answer effectively illustrates the profound changes in the global agricultural landscape stemming from the introduction of New World crops.

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-exam1.examzify.com>

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

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