

Texas Citizenship 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. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?**
 - A. The Speaker of the House**
 - B. The Secretary of State**
 - C. The Vice President**
 - D. The Chief Justice**
- 2. Who served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II?**
 - A. Theodore Roosevelt**
 - B. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
 - C. Harry S. Truman**
 - D. Dwight D. Eisenhower**
- 3. Which event is classified as a war fought by the United States in the 1800s?**
 - A. The War of 1812**
 - B. The Civil War**
 - C. World War I**
 - D. The Spanish-American War**
- 4. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?**
 - A. American Indians**
 - B. Native Americans**
 - C. Both A and B**
 - D. Colonists**
- 5. What significant action did the Emancipation Proclamation achieve?**
 - A. Ended World War I**
 - B. Freed the slaves in Confederate states**
 - C. Granted women's suffrage**
 - D. Established national parks**

6. Who makes federal laws?

- A. The President**
- B. The Senate**
- C. Congress**
- D. The Supreme Court**

7. What is one function of the legislative branch?

- A. Enforce laws**
- B. Make treaties**
- C. Declare war**
- D. Both Make treaties and Declare war**

8. What did the Declaration of Independence accomplish?

- A. Established a new government**
- B. Announced our independence from Great Britain**
- C. Created the Constitution**
- D. Ratified the Bill of Rights**

9. What defines a capitalist economy?

- A. An economy controlled by the government**
- B. An economy based on barter**
- C. An economy where trade is controlled by private owners for profit**
- D. An economy with no currency**

10. How many voting members are in the House of Representatives?

- A. 400**
- B. 435**
- C. 450**
- D. 475**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. If the President can no longer serve, who becomes President?

- A. The Speaker of the House
- B. The Secretary of State
- C. The Vice President**
- D. The Chief Justice

The Vice President becomes President if the President can no longer serve. This succession is established by the Presidential Succession Act and the 25th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The Vice President is the first in line to assume the presidency in the event of the President's death, resignation, removal from office, or incapacitation. This ensures a stable and predictable transition of power, maintaining the continuity of government and leadership. The other options represent positions that do not have direct succession rights to the presidency in this scenario. The Speaker of the House and the Secretary of State follow the Vice President in the line of succession, and the Chief Justice's role is primarily judicial, not executive.

2. Who served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II?

- A. Theodore Roosevelt
- B. Franklin D. Roosevelt**
- C. Harry S. Truman
- D. Dwight D. Eisenhower

Franklin D. Roosevelt served as President during both the Great Depression and World War II, making him a pivotal figure in American history. He took office in 1933 and implemented the New Deal, a series of programs and policies aimed at economic recovery during the Great Depression. His leadership helped to stabilize the economy and restore public confidence. During his presidency, which lasted until his death in 1945, Roosevelt also guided the nation through the complexities of World War II. His administration was instrumental in orchestrating U.S. efforts in the war, including material support for the Allies and military strategies, ultimately leading to victory in 1945. The other individuals listed did not serve during both of these significant historical periods. Theodore Roosevelt, for example, was President from 1901 to 1909, well before the Great Depression and World War II. Harry S. Truman succeeded FDR and was in office after World War II had begun, while Dwight D. Eisenhower became president in 1953, long after both events had concluded. Thus, Franklin D. Roosevelt is the only correct answer for this question, as he uniquely addressed the challenges of both the Great Depression and World War II during his presidency.

3. Which event is classified as a war fought by the United States in the 1800s?

- A. The War of 1812**
- B. The Civil War**
- C. World War I**
- D. The Spanish-American War**

The event classified as a war fought by the United States in the 1800s is the Civil War. This conflict spanned from 1861 to 1865 and was primarily fought over issues such as states' rights and slavery. It was a pivotal moment in American history, resulting in significant societal changes and the eventual abolition of slavery. The Civil War involved numerous battles and was primarily fought between the Northern states (the Union) and the Southern states (the Confederacy), marking a key period of internal conflict in the United States. While the War of 1812 also occurred in the 1800s, it started earlier, in 1812, and was ended before the Civil War began. World War I took place in the early 20th century, from 1914 to 1918, and the Spanish-American War occurred in 1898, which technically belongs to the late 1800s but is not as significant in the context of the 1800s as the Civil War. Therefore, the Civil War is the overarching conflict that defines the U.S. experience in the 1800s.

4. Who lived in America before the Europeans arrived?

- A. American Indians**
- B. Native Americans**
- C. Both A and B**
- D. Colonists**

The correct answer encompasses both "American Indians" and "Native Americans," recognizing that these terms refer to the original inhabitants of the land before European exploration and colonization. The indigenous peoples of America had diverse cultures, languages, and societies established long before Europeans made contact in the late 15th century. While "American Indians" is a term historically used to describe the indigenous peoples, "Native Americans" is a more contemporary term that acknowledges the diverse tribes and cultures that existed across the continent. Both terms aim to honor and recognize the first inhabitants of America, highlighting their significance in the country's history. The other options fail to capture the full picture. Whereas "Colonists" refers specifically to European settlers who arrived in America after the indigenous peoples, this group does not represent the original inhabitants. Thus, recognizing both "American Indians" and "Native Americans" accurately reflects the history and presence of the native peoples prior to European arrival, supporting the answer that includes both terms.

5. What significant action did the Emancipation Proclamation achieve?

- A. Ended World War I**
- B. Freed the slaves in Confederate states**
- C. Granted women's suffrage**
- D. Established national parks**

The Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, was a pivotal moment in American history that declared the freedom of all slaves in the Confederate states. By focusing specifically on those states that were in rebellion against the Union during the Civil War, the Proclamation aimed to weaken the Confederate war effort and bolster Union morale. This executive order did not immediately free all slaves but set a legal foundation for their liberation and encouraged many enslaved individuals to escape or pursue freedom. It signified a turning point in the war, transforming the conflict from solely a struggle for the Union into a fight against slavery. The impact of this proclamation was profound, as it laid the groundwork for the eventual abolition of slavery across the entire nation, ultimately leading to the passage of the Thirteenth Amendment. The other options, while significant historical events, do not relate to the Emancipation Proclamation. Ending World War I, granting women's suffrage, and establishing national parks occurred in different contexts and timelines that do not intersect with the action taken by the Emancipation Proclamation.

6. Who makes federal laws?

- A. The President**
- B. The Senate**
- C. Congress**
- D. The Supreme Court**

Federal laws in the United States are created by Congress, which is the legislative branch of the federal government. Congress consists of two houses: the House of Representatives and the Senate. When a bill is proposed, it must be passed by both houses of Congress before it can become law. This process is essential to ensure that different perspectives are considered, reflecting the democratic nature of the legislative process. The President does have a role in lawmaking, as they can sign bills into law or veto them, but they do not create laws themselves. The Supreme Court's role is to interpret laws and ensure they are consistent with the Constitution, but it does not have the authority to make laws. Therefore, the correct understanding is that Congress is the entity responsible for creating federal laws in the United States.

7. What is one function of the legislative branch?

- A. Enforce laws
- B. Make treaties
- C. Declare war
- D. Both Make treaties and Declare war**

The legislative branch is primarily responsible for making laws. While the options regarding making treaties and declaring war are typically associated with the powers of Congress, they are not functions of the legislative branch in their own right. Instead, these powers relate to the roles played by different branches of government through a system of checks and balances. Making treaties is a power that involves negotiation and agreement with foreign nations, typically requiring approval from the Senate as part of the legislative process. Similarly, declaring war is a power granted to Congress, where they have the responsibility to make decisions regarding national military actions. Therefore, the correct answer reflects the combination of these two powers that are significant responsibilities of the legislative branch, showing how legislative capabilities extend beyond just creating laws to influencing both domestic and foreign affairs significantly through treaties and war declarations. In this way, option D effectively recognizes the legislative branch's role in shaping the nation's policies and actions both at home and abroad.

8. What did the Declaration of Independence accomplish?

- A. Established a new government
- B. Announced our independence from Great Britain**
- C. Created the Constitution
- D. Ratified the Bill of Rights

The Declaration of Independence, adopted on July 4, 1776, primarily accomplished the formal announcement of the American colonies' separation from British rule. It articulated the colonies' desire to be free and independent states, outlining the philosophical justification for this decision, particularly the concepts of individual rights and government by consent. Through this document, the Founding Fathers declared to the world that they were no longer subject to British authority, setting the stage for the Revolutionary War and establishing the foundational ideals of the new nation. The establishment of a new government and the creation of the Constitution occurred later, after the Revolutionary War had successfully achieved independence. Additionally, the Bill of Rights was ratified much later as an amendment to the Constitution, further emphasizing the distinction between the Declaration's primary function and these other historical milestones. Therefore, the accurate understanding of the Declaration of Independence centers on its role in announcing the colonies' intent to break away from Great Britain.

9. What defines a capitalist economy?

- A. An economy controlled by the government**
- B. An economy based on barter**
- C. An economy where trade is controlled by private owners for profit**
- D. An economy with no currency**

A capitalist economy is characterized by the means of production and distribution being privately owned and operated for profit. In this system, individuals or companies own businesses and are free to make decisions about how to produce goods and services, set prices, and engage in trade. The fundamental principle is that market forces—supply and demand—drive the economy, rather than government controls or regulations. In a capitalist system, the motive for trade is profit, and consumers have the freedom to choose goods and services, encouraging competition among businesses. This environment fosters innovation and efficiency as companies strive to meet consumer needs and outdo their rivals. The other options describe different economic systems that do not align with the principles of capitalism. For instance, an economy controlled by the government aligns more closely with socialism or communism, where the state plays a significant role in managing economic activity. An economy based on barter focuses on the direct exchange of goods and services without the use of money, which is not characteristic of capitalism. Finally, an economy with no currency could reflect a non-monetary system, which is also not a feature of capitalist economies where currency facilitates trade.

10. How many voting members are in the House of Representatives?

- A. 400**
- B. 435**
- C. 450**
- D. 475**

The House of Representatives is composed of 435 voting members. This number was established by the Apportionment Act of 1911 and has remained unchanged since the 1930 Census. Each state's representation in the House is based on its population, and every state is guaranteed at least one representative. The total of 435 members is designed to ensure that representations are equitable while maintaining a manageable size for legislative efficiency. Understanding this number is essential for comprehending how Congress operates, as the House plays a crucial role in the legislative process, including proposing legislation, initiating revenue bills, and impeaching federal officials. The structure aims to balance representation across the diverse states while adhering to democratic principles.

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://texascitizenship.examzify.com>

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

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