

# University of Central Florida (UCF) AMH2010 U.S. History: 1492-1877 Practice Exam 3 (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 President supported the Compromise of 1850?**
  - A. Franklin Pierce**
  - B. Millard Fillmore**
  - C. James Buchanan**
  - D. Zachary Taylor**
  
- 2. What was the formation known as that united secessionist American states?**
  - A. United States**
  - B. The Confederacy**
  - C. Confederate Union**
  - D. Southern Alliance**
  
- 3. Which battle is considered the turning point of the Civil War?**
  - A. The Battle of Antietam**
  - B. The Battle of Gettysburg**
  - C. The Battle of Bull Run**
  - D. The Battle of Fort Sumter**
  
- 4. Who served as the Chief Justice during the Dred Scott decision?**
  - A. Roger Taney**
  - B. John Marshall**
  - C. William Howard Taft**
  - D. Felix Frankfurter**
  
- 5. Which significant social change was prompted by the Civil War?**
  - A. The abolition of the Federalist Party**
  - B. The rise of factory jobs for women**
  - C. A return to agrarian lifestyles**
  - D. The spread of telegraph communications**

**6. Which major document outlined the framework of the U.S. government adopted in 1787?**

- A. The Declaration of Independence**
- B. The Articles of Confederation**
- C. The Bill of Rights**
- D. The United States Constitution**

**7. What did the Union's victory in the Civil War ultimately lead to?**

- A. The preservation of slavery in the South**
- B. The abolition of slavery across the nation**
- C. The formation of a new political party**
- D. The expansion of the Confederate States**

**8. What event is referred to as "Bleeding Kansas"?**

- A. A series of violent confrontations over slavery**
- B. The first battle of the Civil War**
- C. An abolitionist uprising in the North**
- D. A political debate in Congress**

**9. Which senator was famously attacked with a cane by Preston Brooks?**

- A. Henry Clay**
- B. Stephen Douglas**
- C. Charles Sumner**
- D. John C. Fremont**

**10. Who became the first president to be impeached?**

- A. Richard Nixon**
- B. Andrew Johnson**
- C. Bill Clinton**
- D. Ulysses S. Grant**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Which President supported the Compromise of 1850?

- A. Franklin Pierce
- B. Millard Fillmore**
- C. James Buchanan
- D. Zachary Taylor

The Compromise of 1850 was a significant set of legislative measures aimed at addressing the contentious issues surrounding slavery and its expansion into the territories acquired after the Mexican-American War. Millard Fillmore, who became president after the death of Zachary Taylor, took a crucial role in supporting and facilitating the passage of this compromise. Fillmore believed that the preservation of the Union was paramount and thus backed the various provisions included in the Compromise, such as the admission of California as a free state and the stronger fugitive slave laws. His administration's efforts were pivotal in garnering support among lawmakers who were divided on these critical issues. By supporting this agreement, Fillmore aimed to quell regional tensions and prevent further division between the North and South. Understanding the historical context of Fillmore's presidency helps clarify why his support was vital; the tensions between pro-slavery and anti-slavery factions were becoming increasingly pronounced, and the Compromise was an attempt to find a temporary solution to maintain balance in Congress and appease both sides.

## 2. What was the formation known as that united secessionist American states?

- A. United States
- B. The Confederacy**
- C. Confederate Union
- D. Southern Alliance

The formation that united secessionist American states is known as The Confederacy. This term specifically refers to the group of eleven Southern states that seceded from the Union beginning in 1860, which included states like South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas, among others. These states formed their government with its capital in Richmond, Virginia, and sought to establish themselves as a separate nation primarily to preserve the institution of slavery and assert their states' rights against what they perceived as overreach by the federal government. The Confederacy was formally named the Confederate States of America. Its existence was marked by significant events, including the Civil War, which erupted as a result of these tensions between the North and South. The Confederacy aimed to maintain its sovereignty, economy, and societal structure, leading to a significant historical conflict that shaped the future of the United States.

**3. Which battle is considered the turning point of the Civil War?**

- A. The Battle of Antietam**
- B. The Battle of Gettysburg**
- C. The Battle of Bull Run**
- D. The Battle of Fort Sumter**

The Battle of Gettysburg is known as the turning point of the Civil War due to its significant impact on the course of the conflict. Fought from July 1 to July 3, 1863, it marked the largest battle ever fought in North America and resulted in a decisive victory for the Union Army under General George G. Meade against the Confederate Army commanded by General Robert E. Lee. The Union's victory at Gettysburg halted Lee's invasion of the North and inflicted heavy casualties on his forces, weakening their capacity to conduct offensive operations for the remainder of the war. Additionally, the morale boost for the Union following this victory and the subsequent strategic opportunities it presented contributed to changing the momentum of the war in favor of the Union. In contrast, other battles listed did not carry the same level of strategic significance. For instance, the Battle of Antietam was indeed a pivotal moment—it was the bloodiest single-day battle in American history and led to the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation—but it did not have the same long-term strategic turning point effect as Gettysburg did. The battles of Bull Run and Fort Sumter, while important in their own right, did not represent shifts in the overall trajectory of the war comparable

**4. Who served as the Chief Justice during the Dred Scott decision?**

- A. Roger Taney**
- B. John Marshall**
- C. William Howard Taft**
- D. Felix Frankfurter**

Roger Taney served as the Chief Justice during the Dred Scott decision, which was issued in 1857. This ruling is one of the most controversial Supreme Court decisions in American history, as it denied citizenship and constitutional rights to African American slaves and ruled that Congress had no authority to prohibit slavery in the territories. Taney's opinion expressed views reflective of the prevailing racial attitudes of the time and emphasized states' rights over federal authority regarding slavery. His leadership in this case had significant implications for the national debate over slavery and contributed to the tensions that ultimately led to the Civil War. The Dred Scott decision remains a pivotal point in discussions about equality and justice in the United States.

## 5. Which significant social change was prompted by the Civil War?

- A. The abolition of the Federalist Party**
- B. The rise of factory jobs for women**
- C. A return to agrarian lifestyles**
- D. The spread of telegraph communications**

The significant social change prompted by the Civil War that is correctly identified is the rise of factory jobs for women. During the Civil War, many men left their jobs to enlist in the military, which created labor shortages in various industries. This situation opened up opportunities for women to take on roles that were traditionally held by men, including in factories, munitions plants, and other businesses supporting the war effort. As a result, women entered the workforce in greater numbers than ever before. This shift not only helped to change societal perceptions about women's roles in the economy but also laid the groundwork for future movements advocating for women's rights, including the fight for suffrage. Women's contributions during this period began to challenge the traditional notions of gender roles, leading to lasting changes in society's view of women in the workforce. Other options do not directly pertain to significant social changes associated with the Civil War. The Federalist Party had already declined in influence well before the Civil War, and agrarian lifestyles were not a result of the war but rather reflected pre-war and post-war agricultural practices. Similarly, while telegraph communications did expand, this advancement was not a direct social change prompted by the war but rather reflected earlier developments in communication technology.

## 6. Which major document outlined the framework of the U.S. government adopted in 1787?

- A. The Declaration of Independence**
- B. The Articles of Confederation**
- C. The Bill of Rights**
- D. The United States Constitution**

The United States Constitution, adopted in 1787, serves as the foundational legal document establishing the framework of the U.S. government. It outlines the structure, functions, and powers of the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The Constitution was created to address the weaknesses of the Articles of Confederation, which had been the country's first governing document but proved ineffective in uniting the states and managing the nation's affairs. The Constitution not only delineates the powers bestowed upon the government but also includes mechanisms for checks and balances among the branches to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful. Additionally, it has been amended over time to reflect the evolving needs and values of the nation, including the Bill of Rights, which protects individual liberties. In contrast, the Declaration of Independence, while a crucial document asserting the colonies' intent to separate from British rule, does not outline a government framework. The Articles of Confederation preceded the Constitution and laid out a system that ultimately failed due to its limitations. The Bill of Rights is a series of amendments aimed at safeguarding citizen rights but was ratified after the Constitution and does not serve as the foundational framework itself.

**7. What did the Union's victory in the Civil War ultimately lead to?**

- A. The preservation of slavery in the South**
- B. The abolition of slavery across the nation**
- C. The formation of a new political party**
- D. The expansion of the Confederate States**

The Union's victory in the Civil War ultimately led to the abolition of slavery across the nation, marking a pivotal change in American society. This outcome was formalized with the passage of the 13th Amendment in 1865, which abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime. This amendment was a significant step toward civil rights and transformed the legal status of millions of African Americans. The victory also affirmed the preservation of the United States as a unified nation, but the key social change was the end of slavery. The abolition was not merely a shift in legal status; it also laid the groundwork for subsequent civil rights advancements and highlighted the moral and ethical failures of slavery. Thus, the Union's win established a new trajectory for American democracy and social justice that would continue to evolve in the years to come.

**8. What event is referred to as "Bleeding Kansas"?**

- A. A series of violent confrontations over slavery**
- B. The first battle of the Civil War**
- C. An abolitionist uprising in the North**
- D. A political debate in Congress**

"Bleeding Kansas" refers to a series of violent confrontations that occurred in the Kansas Territory between 1854 and 1859, primarily over the issue of slavery. This period of conflict was ignited by the passage of the Kansas-Nebraska Act, which allowed the settlers in those territories to determine through popular sovereignty whether they would allow slavery. This led to an influx of both pro-slavery and anti-slavery settlers into Kansas, resulting in intense and often brutal violence as each side attempted to assert control. The significance of "Bleeding Kansas" lies in its role as a precursor to the Civil War, showcasing the deep divisions in the United States over the issue of slavery. The violence in Kansas highlighted the failure of political solutions to address the tensions surrounding slavery, demonstrating how deeply entrenched these divisions had become. This turmoil ultimately foreshadowed the larger national conflict that would erupt into the Civil War just a few years later.

**9. Which senator was famously attacked with a cane by Preston Brooks?**

- A. Henry Clay**
- B. Stephen Douglas**
- C. Charles Sumner**
- D. John C. Fremont**

The senator famously attacked with a cane by Preston Brooks was Charles Sumner. This incident occurred in May 1856 in the Senate chamber and was a significant moment in the growing tensions surrounding the issue of slavery in the United States. Sumner, an outspoken abolitionist, had delivered a speech titled "The Crime Against Kansas," in which he criticized pro-slavery advocates and specifically targeted Brooks' relative, Senator Andrew Butler. Motivated by a perceived affront to his family's honor, Brooks confronted Sumner in the Senate and violently attacked him with a heavy cane. This event was emblematic of the rising violence and partisanship over the issue of slavery, illustrating how political discourse had escalated into physical confrontations. It galvanized public opinion on both sides of the slavery debate and contributed to the polarization that characterized the period leading up to the Civil War. Understanding this incident is crucial for grasping the complexities of American political and social dynamics in the mid-19th century.

**10. Who became the first president to be impeached?**

- A. Richard Nixon**
- B. Andrew Johnson**
- C. Bill Clinton**
- D. Ulysses S. Grant**

Andrew Johnson became the first president to be impeached in 1868. His impeachment arose primarily from political conflicts following the Civil War, particularly regarding his violation of the Tenure of Office Act, which was an attempt by Congress to restrict the president's power to remove certain officeholders without Senate approval. Johnson's presidency was marked by profound disagreements over Reconstruction policies and his lenient approach towards the Southern states after the war. While other presidents, such as Bill Clinton and Richard Nixon, also faced impeachment processes, Johnson's was significant as it set the precedent for the impeachment of future presidents. Nixon famously resigned before an impeachment vote could take place, and Clinton was impeached but acquitted by the Senate, making Johnson's impeachment distinct in being the first instance of the formal impeachment process being initiated against a sitting president. Ulysses S. Grant, although a prominent president during that era, was not impeached and faced no similar proceedings.

# 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://ucf-amh2010-exam3.examzify.com>**

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

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