

UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA (UCF) AMH2020 U.S. HISTORY: 1877-PRESENT PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED 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. 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 group predominantly opposed President Johnson's approach to Reconstruction?**
 - A. Moderate Republicans
 - B. Democrats
 - C. Radical Republicans
 - D. Southern plantation owners

- 2. Which native territories were involved in the conflicts mentioned during the Colorado War?**
 - A. New Mexico and Arizona
 - B. Great Plains and Dakota Territories
 - C. California and Oregon
 - D. Texas and Louisiana

- 3. Which social movement aimed to advocate for women's rights and gender equality?**
 - A. The Civil Rights Movement
 - B. The Women's Liberation Movement
 - C. The Labor Movement
 - D. The Suffragette Movement

- 4. Who is known for the famous "I Have a Dream" speech?**
 - A. Malcolm X
 - B. Martin Luther King Jr.
 - C. Rosa Parks
 - D. Frederick Douglass

- 5. What does the 15th Amendment protect?**
 - A. Right to free speech
 - B. Right to bear arms
 - C. Voting rights without discrimination
 - D. Right to a fair trial

- 6. What legislation aimed to return the United States to the gold standard?**
- A. Specie Resumption Act of 1875
 - B. Gold Standard Act of 1900
 - C. Currency Act of 1860
 - D. Silver Purchase Act of 1890
- 7. What term describes the U.S. strategy of containing Soviet Influence during the Cold War?**
- A. Isolationism
 - B. Containment
 - C. Engagement
 - D. Interventionism
- 8. What was the main focus of the 1968 protests in the United States?**
- A. Environmental issues
 - B. Opposition to the Vietnam War and civil rights issues
 - C. Economic reform
 - D. Women's rights
- 9. What essential right was guaranteed to freedmen by the Military Reconstruction Act?**
- A. The right to own property
 - B. The right to vote in state conventions
 - C. The right to free education
 - D. The right to assemble peacefully
- 10. What term describes Southern whites who relocated to the North during the Reconstruction era?**
- A. Scalawags
 - B. Carpetbaggers
 - C. Freedmen
 - D. Redeemers

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which group predominantly opposed President Johnson's approach to Reconstruction?

- A. Moderate Republicans
- B. Democrats
- C. Radical Republicans**
- D. Southern plantation owners

The group that predominantly opposed President Johnson's approach to Reconstruction was the Radical Republicans. This faction believed that Johnson's policies were too lenient toward the South and did not adequately protect the rights of newly freed African Americans. The Radical Republicans advocated for a more robust and transformative approach to Reconstruction, including civil rights legislation and the enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments, which aimed to ensure equal protection under the law and voting rights for African American men. Radical Republicans were frustrated by Johnson's leniency, particularly his opposition to the Freedmen's Bureau and Civil Rights Act, which they viewed as necessary measures to secure the future of African Americans in the post-war South. This conflict between Johnson and the Radical Republicans ultimately led to a significant political struggle and the impeachment of Johnson. In contrast, Moderate Republicans generally supported a more conciliatory approach to Reconstruction and sought a balance between transformation and restoration. Democrats, who were predominantly from the South at the time, opposed Reconstruction policies altogether, believing they infringed on states' rights and were punitive toward Southern states. Southern plantation owners had their own interests that aligned with maintaining their social and economic status; however, they did not form a cohesive political faction in opposition to Johnson's policies in the same way.

2. Which native territories were involved in the conflicts mentioned during the Colorado War?

- A. New Mexico and Arizona
- B. Great Plains and Dakota Territories**
- C. California and Oregon
- D. Texas and Louisiana

The conflicts during the Colorado War primarily involved the Great Plains and the Dakota Territories. This war, which took place in the 1860s, was primarily centered around disputes over land and resources between settlers and Native American tribes such as the Cheyenne and Arapaho. The tensions escalated due to the influx of settlers driven by the discovery of gold and the expansion of railroads, resulting in violent confrontations. The focus of the conflict in this region reflects the broader patterns of territorial expansion in the United States during this period, where Native American lands were increasingly encroached upon. The Great Plains were the backdrop for many of these violent encounters, making this answer particularly relevant. The other regions mentioned—New Mexico and Arizona, California and Oregon, and Texas and Louisiana—were either not directly involved in the Colorado War or highlighted different conflicts and territorial issues unrelated to this specific conflict in Colorado.

3. Which social movement aimed to advocate for women's rights and gender equality?

- A. The Civil Rights Movement
- B. The Women's Liberation Movement**
- C. The Labor Movement
- D. The Suffragette Movement

The Women's Liberation Movement is the correct answer as it specifically focused on advocating for women's rights and promoting gender equality, particularly during the 1960s and 1970s. This movement emerged as a forceful response to the limitations imposed on women by societal norms, seeking to address issues such as workplace discrimination, reproductive rights, and gender roles. In contrast, while the Civil Rights Movement was crucial in addressing racial inequalities, it primarily focused on the rights of African Americans and did not center on gender issues. The Labor Movement, on the other hand, was primarily concerned with workers' rights and improving labor conditions without a specific focus on gender equality. The Suffragette Movement, while significant in advocating for women's right to vote, was more narrowly focused on electoral rights rather than the broader array of social and economic inequalities addressed by the Women's Liberation Movement. Thus, the Women's Liberation Movement is distinguished by its comprehensive approach to achieving full equality for women across various aspects of society.

4. Who is known for the famous "I Have a Dream" speech?

- A. Malcolm X
- B. Martin Luther King Jr.**
- C. Rosa Parks
- D. Frederick Douglass

The "I Have a Dream" speech is a key moment in American civil rights history and was delivered by Martin Luther King Jr. during the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom on August 28, 1963. In this powerful address, King articulated his vision for a racially integrated and harmonious America, emphasizing the importance of equality and justice for all individuals, regardless of race. The speech encapsulated the struggles and aspirations of the Civil Rights Movement and resonated deeply with the audience, becoming a defining moment in the fight against racial discrimination. King's oratory skills and his ability to inspire change through peaceful protest were instrumental in the success of the civil rights movement during the 1960s. The speech has since become one of the most celebrated and quoted speeches in American history, symbolizing hope and the ongoing struggle for civil rights. Figures like Malcolm X advocated for a more militant approach to achieving civil rights, while Rosa Parks is known for her pivotal role in the Montgomery Bus Boycott. Frederick Douglass, though an important abolitionist and advocate for African American rights in the 19th century, lived long before the Civil Rights Movement took shape. Each of these individuals made significant contributions to the struggle for equality, but it was Martin Luther King

5. What does the 15th Amendment protect?

- A. Right to free speech
- B. Right to bear arms
- C. Voting rights without discrimination**
- D. Right to a fair trial

The 15th Amendment specifically protects voting rights by prohibiting the federal and state governments from denying a citizen the right to vote based on "race, color, or previous condition of servitude." Ratified in 1870, this amendment was a significant step toward ensuring that African American men, in particular, could exercise their right to participate in elections following the Civil War. The focus of the amendment is explicitly on the rights of citizens regarding voting, making the third choice the correct answer. This amendment was part of the Reconstruction Amendments aimed at securing rights for formerly enslaved individuals and addressing the injustices they faced. While the other choices—free speech, the right to bear arms, and the right to a fair trial—are vital civil liberties in the United States, they are addressed by other amendments in the Constitution, such as the First and Second Amendments, rather than by the 15th Amendment.

6. What legislation aimed to return the United States to the gold standard?

- A. Specie Resumption Act of 1875**
- B. Gold Standard Act of 1900
- C. Currency Act of 1860
- D. Silver Purchase Act of 1890

The legislation that aimed to return the United States to the gold standard is the Gold Standard Act of 1900. This act officially established gold as the only standard for redeeming paper currency, effectively reaffirming the gold standard after a period of bimetallism that included both gold and silver. The act marked a significant transition in U.S. monetary policy, solidifying the country's commitment to gold as the basis for its currency. The Specie Resumption Act of 1875, while related to currency, primarily aimed to return to the use of gold-backed notes after the suspension that occurred during the Civil War. It set the stage for a return to the gold standard but was not the legislation that officially established it as the sole monetary standard. The Currency Act of 1860 referred to an earlier attempt to stabilize the economy during the pre-Civil War era, focused more on how currency could be issued rather than directly addressing the gold standard. The Silver Purchase Act of 1890 specifically dealt with the purchase of silver by the government in an attempt to increase the currency supply linked to silver rather than gold. Thus, it supports bimetallism, contrasting with the move towards a gold standard. In summary, the Gold Standard Act of 1900

7. What term describes the U.S. strategy of containing Soviet Influence during the Cold War?

- A. Isolationism
- B. Containment**
- C. Engagement
- D. Interventionism

The term that defines the U.S. strategy of containing Soviet influence during the Cold War is "Containment." This strategy was primarily articulated by diplomat George F. Kennan in the late 1940s and aimed to prevent the expansion of communism beyond its existing borders. The policy was a response to the perceived threat of Soviet expansion into Eastern Europe and other parts of the world, focusing on diplomatic, military, and economic measures to limit Soviet power and influence. Containment shaped numerous U.S. foreign policies and actions, leading to the establishment of NATO, involvement in conflicts such as the Korean War and the Vietnam War, and various efforts to support anti-communist regimes and movements around the world. By committing to this policy, the U.S. aimed to ensure that communism did not spread further and to protect democratic nations from falling under Soviet control. In contrast, isolationism refers to a foreign policy approach that advocates for minimal involvement in international affairs, which is not aligned with the active strategies employed during the Cold War. Engagement suggests a partnership or working relationship with other nations, while interventionism denotes direct involvement in the affairs of other countries often involving military forces, which could be seen as a part of containment but does not encapsulate the overall

8. What was the main focus of the 1968 protests in the United States?

- A. Environmental issues
- B. Opposition to the Vietnam War and civil rights issues**
- C. Economic reform
- D. Women's rights

The 1968 protests in the United States primarily centered around opposition to the Vietnam War and civil rights issues, making this the most accurate answer. This period was marked by widespread unrest and activism, triggered in large part by the escalating U.S. military involvement in Vietnam, which many Americans increasingly viewed as unjust and unwinnable. The protests were characterized by their calls for peace and an end to the war, reflecting a broader anti-establishment sentiment permeating American society. Additionally, 1968 was a significant year for civil rights, with events such as the assassination of Martin Luther King Jr., which fueled even more protests and heightened calls for racial equality. Activists sought to address systemic racism and social injustices, linking these issues to the broader anti-war movement. This intertwining of civil rights and anti-war sentiments became emblematic of the protest movements of the time, uniting various groups under common goals of peace and social justice. While environmental issues, economic reform, and women's rights were certainly important topics during this era and later spurred movements, they were not the primary focus of the protests in 1968. The prominence of anti-Vietnam War sentiments and demands for civil rights clearly distinguished this particular period of protest from other movements that would

9. What essential right was guaranteed to freedmen by the Military Reconstruction Act?

- A. The right to own property
- B. The right to vote in state conventions**
- C. The right to free education
- D. The right to assemble peacefully

The Military Reconstruction Act, enacted in 1867, aimed to rebuild the South and secure rights for freedmen following the Civil War. One of its significant provisions was to enfranchise African American men, allowing them the right to vote in state conventions. This was crucial for empowering freedmen to participate in the political process, as they could influence new state governments and civil rights legislation. This act established military districts in the South and required new state constitutions to ensure that African American men could vote. By setting these conditions, the act aimed to dismantle the systemic racism and disenfranchisement that had characterized the pre-war South. While the other options mention important rights that individuals can possess, they were not explicitly guaranteed by the Military Reconstruction Act. The focus of the act was specifically on political participation, which is why the right to vote in state conventions is the correct choice.

10. What term describes Southern whites who relocated to the North during the Reconstruction era?

- A. Scalawags**
- B. Carpetbaggers
- C. Freedmen
- D. Redeemers

The term that describes Southern whites who relocated to the North during the Reconstruction era is typically "scalawags." This term was used primarily to refer to white Southerners who supported Reconstruction and the Republican Party, often seen as traitors to their region. When discussing Southern migration to the North after the Civil War, though, they are more commonly associated with the challenges and changes of that era rather than specifically relocating to the North. The other terms have distinct meanings: "carpetbaggers" generally refers to Northerners who moved to the South during Reconstruction, often for political or economic gains, suggesting exploitation; "freedmen" denotes formerly enslaved individuals who gained freedom as a result of the war; and "redeemers" refers to Southern Democrats who sought to reclaim control from Reconstruction efforts, often restoring pre-war racial and political norms. Understanding these terms within the context of the Reconstruction period provides insight into the social and political dynamics at play during this transformative time in American history.

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:

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

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