

US History STAAR End-of-Course (EOC) 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. Which organization led the fight for equal rights for women within the national stage?**
 - A. United Farm Workers (UFW)**
 - B. League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)**
 - C. Chicano Mural Movement**
 - D. National Organization for Women (NOW)**

- 2. Which policy requires banks to loan money in communities where they take deposits to reduce discrimination?**
 - A. Glass-Steagall Act**
 - B. Dodd-Frank Act**
 - C. Community Reinvestment Act of 1977**
 - D. Fair Housing Act**

- 3. Which 2009 act implemented a large-scale economic stimulus including tax benefits, contracts, grants, and loans?**
 - A. The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008**
 - B. The Recovery Act of 2010**
 - C. The New Deal Program**
 - D. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

- 4. What was a stated outcome of the Afghanistan campaign in 2001?**
 - A. It failed to remove the Taliban**
 - B. It established a Taliban-Al Qaeda alliance**
 - C. It created a Soviet-backed government**
 - D. It eliminated the Taliban government and began efforts against al Qaeda**

- 5. Which protest tactic involved occupying public spaces to protest segregation, often in restaurants or stores?**
 - A. Freedom Riders**
 - B. NAACP**
 - C. March on Washington**
 - D. Sit-Ins**

- 6. Which rights are protected by the First Amendment?**
- A. Right to keep and bear arms**
 - B. Freedom of religion, assembly, press, petition, and speech**
 - C. No quartering of soldiers**
 - D. Protection against unreasonable searches**
- 7. The mass population doing the same thing is called what?**
- A. Conformity**
 - B. Uniformity**
 - C. Popularization**
 - D. Mainstreaming**
- 8. Before entering World War I, the United States generally pursued which stance?**
- A. The United States joined the Allies in 1917**
 - B. The United States supported the Central Powers**
 - C. The United States pursued neutrality at first**
 - D. The United States declared war in 1915**
- 9. Which event marked the fall of the capital of South Vietnam to communist forces?**
- A. Massacre at My Lai**
 - B. Fall of Saigon**
 - C. Kent State Killings**
 - D. Ho Chi Minh**
- 10. The Soviet policy of restructuring is known as what?**
- A. Glasnost**
 - B. Perestroika**
 - C. Containment**
 - D. Shock Therapy**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which organization led the fight for equal rights for women within the national stage?

- A. United Farm Workers (UFW)**
- B. League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)**
- C. Chicano Mural Movement**
- D. National Organization for Women (NOW)**

National Organization for Women (NOW) led the national effort for women's equality, becoming the main voice of the second-wave feminist movement in the United States during the 1960s and 1970s. NOW worked across the country to push for legal and social reforms—advocating for equal pay, anti-discrimination protections, access to education, and reproductive rights—and used lobbying, public campaigns, and litigation to effect national change. This broad, nationwide focus on achieving gender equality at all levels of society distinguishes it as the leading organization for securing equal rights on the national stage. Other groups listed were focused on different issues or communities—United Farm Workers on farm labor rights, LULAC on Latino civil rights, and the Chicano Mural Movement on cultural expression—rather than on nationwide women's rights advocacy.

2. Which policy requires banks to loan money in communities where they take deposits to reduce discrimination?

- A. Glass-Steagall Act**
- B. Dodd-Frank Act**
- C. Community Reinvestment Act of 1977**
- D. Fair Housing Act**

This policy ties banks to the communities where they take deposits and aims to curb discriminatory lending. The Community Reinvestment Act of 1977 requires banks to meet the credit needs of the communities they serve, including low- and moderate-income neighborhoods, so lending isn't withheld from areas based on demographics. Regulators assess how well banks meet these needs and use that information when supervising or approving bank activities, encouraging more equitable lending. The other policies don't fit this specific mechanism. The Glass-Steagall Act separated commercial and investment banking and wasn't about lending in particular communities. The Dodd-Frank Act broadens financial regulation after the 2008 crisis but isn't a targeted community-lending mandate. The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination, but it doesn't require banks to lend in the communities where they take deposits.

- 3. Which 2009 act implemented a large-scale economic stimulus including tax benefits, contracts, grants, and loans?**
- A. The Economic Stimulus Act of 2008**
 - B. The Recovery Act of 2010**
 - C. The New Deal Program**
 - D. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009**

When a government faces a severe economic downturn, a broad stimulus that uses tax relief, plus funding through contracts, grants, and loans, is a deliberate attempt to jump-start demand and investment quickly. In 2009, Congress passed a large package designed to do just that, blending tax benefits for individuals and businesses with substantial public spending and loan programs to spur infrastructure, energy, education, and health initiatives, while also aiding state and local governments. This combination of tax relief and direct spending aimed to create or preserve jobs and accelerate economic recovery, which is the hallmark of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, signed into law in February 2009. Other options don't fit this description as precisely. The 2008 Economic Stimulus Act was a smaller, earlier tax rebate package, not the broad 2009 package described. The New Deal programs belonged to the 1930s and addressed a different era of economic crisis. The Recovery Act of 2010 isn't the widely recognized major stimulus associated with these features in 2009.

- 4. What was a stated outcome of the Afghanistan campaign in 2001?**
- A. It failed to remove the Taliban**
 - B. It established a Taliban-Al Qaeda alliance**
 - C. It created a Soviet-backed government**
 - D. It eliminated the Taliban government and began efforts against al Qaeda**

The main idea here is understanding what the 2001 Afghanistan campaign set out to do and what happened as a result. After the 9/11 attacks, the United States and its allies invaded Afghanistan to remove the Taliban from power because they had harbored al-Qaeda. The goal was not only to topple the Taliban regime but also to disrupt and dismantle al-Qaeda's bases and leadership there, launching a broader counterterrorism effort. This led to the Taliban government in Kabul being toppled, which opened the way for new Afghan authorities to form and for ongoing efforts against al-Qaeda and its networks. The other statements don't fit the outcome: the campaign did not fail to remove the Taliban, nor did it establish a Taliban-Al-Qaeda alliance, and it certainly did not create a Soviet-backed government—the Soviet-backed regime existed decades earlier.

5. Which protest tactic involved occupying public spaces to protest segregation, often in restaurants or stores?

- A. Freedom Riders**
- B. NAACP**
- C. March on Washington**
- D. Sit-Ins**

Sit-ins involve occupying public spaces, like a restaurant or store, and staying until service is desegregated. This nonviolent direct action exposed the injustice of segregation by making it uncomfortable for businesses to uphold discriminatory policies and by drawing wide attention from the public and media. A pivotal moment came when student activists sat at a segregated lunch counter in Greensboro, North Carolina, in 1960, sparking similar actions across the South and helping push desegregation of public facilities. Other options describe different tactics or movements: Freedom Riders challenged segregation in interstate travel by riding buses into the South; the March on Washington was a large peaceful demonstration for civil and economic rights; the NAACP is a civil rights organization that employed legal challenges and organized campaigns, rather than a single tactic of occupying spaces.

6. Which rights are protected by the First Amendment?

- A. Right to keep and bear arms**
- B. Freedom of religion, assembly, press, petition, and speech**
- C. No quartering of soldiers**
- D. Protection against unreasonable searches**

The main idea tested is which protections the First Amendment provides. The First Amendment guarantees five basic rights: freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, freedom to assemble, and the right to petition the government. These freedoms limit government power and let people express ideas, worship as they choose, publish information, gather peacefully, and request changes from their government without fear of censorship or punishment. The other options refer to rights found in different amendments: the right to keep and bear arms comes from the Second Amendment; no quartering of soldiers is from the Third Amendment; and protection against unreasonable searches is from the Fourth Amendment.

7. The mass population doing the same thing is called what?

- A. Conformity**
- B. Uniformity**
- C. Popularization**
- D. Mainstreaming**

Conformity is the tendency of individuals to adjust their actions, beliefs, or attitudes to align with the group's norms. When many people adopt the same behavior, it shows how powerful group influence can be in shaping what individuals do, sometimes even when they would choose differently on their own. Uniformity describes a state of sameness, but it's a result, not the social force behind why people change to match others. Mainstreaming refers to making a trend or idea part of the mainstream, the broader process by which something becomes common, rather than the act of people actually behaving the same way. Popularization means making something more widely known or accepted, which can lead to widespread adoption but doesn't inherently describe the pressure people feel to fit in. So the idea best describing many people doing the same thing because of social influence is conformity.

8. Before entering World War I, the United States generally pursued which stance?

- A. The United States joined the Allies in 1917**
- B. The United States supported the Central Powers**
- C. The United States pursued neutrality at first**
- D. The United States declared war in 1915**

Neutrality at first. When World War I broke out, the United States chose to stay out of the fighting and avoid backing any one European power, focusing instead on protecting its own interests and keeping trade open with all sides. This stance was reinforced by a long-standing preference to avoid entangling alliances. The U.S. did not declare war or align with the Allies or the Central Powers early on; it entered the war later, in 1917, after events like unrestricted submarine warfare and other provocations pushed the country toward involvement on the side of the Allies.

9. Which event marked the fall of the capital of South Vietnam to communist forces?

- A. Massacre at My Lai**
- B. Fall of Saigon**
- C. Kent State Killings**
- D. Ho Chi Minh**

The main idea is identifying the moment when South Vietnam's government collapsed as North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces overtook its capital, marking the end of the Vietnam War. The Fall of Saigon occurred on April 30, 1975, when North Vietnamese troops entered Saigon and the city surrendered, effectively unifying Vietnam under communist rule. After this event, the capital of South Vietnam ceased to exist as a separate political center, and the city was later renamed Ho Chi Minh City. The other events are not about the capital falling: the Massacre at My Lai happened in 1968 as a atrocity during the war, the Kent State shootings were anti-war protests in 1970, and Ho Chi Minh was the North Vietnamese leader, not a happening.

10. The Soviet policy of restructuring is known as what?

- A. Glasnost**
- B. Perestroika**
- C. Containment**
- D. Shock Therapy**

Perestroika is the name of the policy of restructuring in the Soviet Union, introduced by Mikhail Gorbachev in the 1980s. It aimed to reform the economy by decentralizing decision-making, allowing some private enterprise and cooperative ventures, reducing heavy central planning, and introducing limited market-like mechanisms to boost efficiency. This reform effort went hand in hand with glasnost, which promoted openness and political reform, but perestroika itself focuses on changing how the system works economically and politically rather than just encouraging open discussion. It is not containment, which was a Cold War strategy by the United States to stop the spread of communism. It is not shock therapy, which refers to rapid market liberalization reforms used in post-Soviet states after the USSR collapsed. Perestroika ultimately contributed to sweeping changes that helped bring about broad reforms and the eventual dissolution of the Soviet Union.

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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://ushistorystaareoc.examzify.com>

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

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