

# USCIS BASIC – BLOCK 1 PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

## STUDY GUIDE



## SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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<https://uscisbasicblock1.examzify.com>



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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. Who is known as the "Father of Our Country"?**
  - A. Thomas Jefferson
  - B. Abraham Lincoln
  - C. George Washington
  - D. James Madison
- 2. Which employment-based immigrant classification includes E21?**
  - A. EB1
  - B. EB2
  - C. EB3
  - D. EB4
- 3. What is the DOL responsible for in their review of labor certification applications?**
  - A. Assessing the employer's ability to pay
  - B. Reviewing job offer requirements and compliance with advertising
  - C. Verifying beneficiary qualifications
  - D. Determining visa availability
- 4. What fundamental principle does the Constitution embody?**
  - A. The separation of powers
  - B. The right to free speech
  - C. Taxation without representation
  - D. Equal opportunity
- 5. What adjudicative action will be taken on George's Form I-539 based on the provided documentation?**
  - A. Request additional evidence to establish eligibility for a COS
  - B. Approve the Form I-539 and grant a COS from a B-2 to a J-1 for D/S
  - C. Approve the Form I-539 and grant a COS from a B-2 to an F-1 for D/S
  - D. Deny the Form I-539 and provide motion rights

- 6. How many questions are applicants required to answer during the civics section of the naturalization test?**
- A. Up to 5 questions
  - B. Up to 10 questions
  - C. Up to 15 questions
  - D. Up to 20 questions
- 7. What do we call laws passed by Congress?**
- A. Regulations
  - B. Statutes or acts
  - C. Executive orders
  - D. Judicial rulings
- 8. Which classification would be assigned to a foreign national applying as a cake decorator with more experience than required?**
- A. E-12
  - B. E-31
  - C. C-51
  - D. EW-3
- 9. What is the standard of review of the bona fides of a marriage where the alien married while in removal proceedings?**
- A. Preponderance of evidence
  - B. Clear and convincing evidence
  - C. Beyond a reasonable doubt
  - D. Substantial evidence
- 10. What was the purpose of the Emancipation Proclamation?**
- A. To end the Revolutionary War
  - B. To free slaves in the Confederate states
  - C. To establish the Bill of Rights
  - D. To promote women's suffrage

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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### 1. Who is known as the "Father of Our Country"?

- A. Thomas Jefferson
- B. Abraham Lincoln
- C. George Washington
- D. James Madison

George Washington is known as the "Father of Our Country" due to his pivotal role in the founding of the United States. He served as the commander of the Continental Army during the American Revolutionary War, where his leadership and strategic expertise were crucial in securing American independence from British rule. Following the war, Washington was elected as the first President of the United States, where he set many precedents for the office and the nation. His commitment to the principles of democracy and his desire to unify the newly formed country solidified his legacy as a central figure in American history. The title "Father of Our Country" captures his contributions and lasting influence on the nation's formation and early governance.

### 2. Which employment-based immigrant classification includes E21?

- A. EB1
- B. EB2
- C. EB3
- D. EB4

The classification E21 refers specifically to the employment-based immigrant category under EB2, which is designated for professionals with advanced degrees or an exceptional ability in their field. This classification recognizes individuals who have earned a master's degree or higher, or the equivalent foreign degree, or possess exceptional ability—meaning a level of expertise significantly above that ordinarily encountered in the sciences, arts, or business. EB2 applicants typically have advanced qualifications, and their employment must also be in a field that aligns with their degree or exceptional ability. This classification allows for a path to permanent residency for highly skilled individuals, addressing labor shortages in specific industries that require such expertise. In contrast, the other classifications—EB1, EB3, and EB4—afford immigration benefits to different groups based on varying criteria related to their skills, employment offers, or special circumstances, and do not encompass the specific requirements laid out for E21.

### 3. What is the DOL responsible for in their review of labor certification applications?

- A. Assessing the employer's ability to pay
- B. Reviewing job offer requirements and compliance with advertising
- C. Verifying beneficiary qualifications
- D. Determining visa availability

The Department of Labor (DOL) plays a critical role in the labor certification process, particularly in ensuring that job offers comply with regulatory requirements. In reviewing labor certification applications, one of the primary responsibilities of the DOL is to review job offer requirements and the related advertising compliance. This includes ensuring that the job being offered meets the necessary requirements for the position, that the employer is following the proper recruitment procedures, and that there has been adequate recruitment to test the labor market for qualified U.S. workers. This process is designed to protect both U.S. workers and foreign nationals by ensuring that foreign workers will not adversely affect the wages and working conditions of similarly employed U.S. workers. By assessing job offer requirements and compliance with advertising regulations, the DOL is verifying that the employer has adhered to the guidelines set forth in labor certification criteria, thus upholding the integrity of the labor market.

#### 4. What fundamental principle does the Constitution embody?

- A. The separation of powers**
- B. The right to free speech
- C. Taxation without representation
- D. Equal opportunity

*The Constitution embodies the fundamental principle of the separation of powers, which is crucial for ensuring that no single branch of government becomes too powerful. This principle divides the government into three distinct branches: the legislative, the executive, and the judicial. Each branch has its own responsibilities and powers, which helps to create a system of checks and balances. This framework prevents the abuse of power by ensuring that each branch can limit the actions of the others, promoting fairness and accountability within the government. This principle is foundational to the structure of the U.S. government and is vital for maintaining the rule of law and protecting the rights of citizens. The other options, while important aspects of governance and rights, do not embody the fundamental structure of the Constitution in the same way. Free speech is a significant right protected by the First Amendment, but it is not a foundational principle of how the government is organized. Taxation without representation highlights a historical grievance that motivated the American Revolution and is addressed in the Constitution, but it does not represent a core principle of its design. Equal opportunity is an important value in American society, but it is not explicitly defined as a constitutional principle like the separation of powers.*

#### 5. What adjudicative action will be taken on George's Form I-539 based on the provided documentation?

- A. Request additional evidence to establish eligibility for a COS
- B. Approve the Form I-539 and grant a COS from a B-2 to a J-1 for D/S
- C. Approve the Form I-539 and grant a COS from a B-2 to an F-1 for D/S**
- D. Deny the Form I-539 and provide motion rights

*The adjudicative action on George's Form I-539 is based on the type of change of status (COS) he is requesting and whether he meets the eligibility requirements set forth by USCIS. In this case, if the documentation clearly indicates that George is eligible to change his status from a B-2 (visitor) to an F-1 (student) and that he fulfills all necessary requirements for the F-1 category, the appropriate decision would be to approve the Form I-539 and grant the COS for D/S (Duration of Status). Opting for the F-1 status typically requires the applicant to be enrolled in a full-time academic program and maintain certain criteria such as financial support and intention to return to their home country after studies. If George meets these conditions and has provided suitable documentation to support his application, it would justify the approval of his request. The determination process involves reviewing the documentation submitted with the Form I-539 to ensure that everything aligns with the standards for the requested change of status—thereby making it plausible for USCIS to approve the request under the specified conditions for F-1 classification.*

**6. How many questions are applicants required to answer during the civics section of the naturalization test?**

- A. Up to 5 questions
- B. Up to 10 questions**
- C. Up to 15 questions
- D. Up to 20 questions

*Applicants are required to answer up to 10 questions during the civics section of the naturalization test. This section assesses the applicant's knowledge of U.S. government, history, and civics. During the interview, applicants are asked to answer 10 questions chosen from a pool of 100 possible questions. To pass the civics portion of the test, the applicant must correctly answer at least 6 out of the 10 questions presented. This format ensures that applicants have a foundational understanding of the rights and responsibilities that come with U.S. citizenship. Answering correctly demonstrates their ability to engage as informed citizens within the community.*

**7. What do we call laws passed by Congress?**

- A. Regulations
- B. Statutes or acts**
- C. Executive orders
- D. Judicial rulings

*Laws that are passed by Congress are referred to as statutes or acts. This terminology is significant because it specifically denotes legislation that has been officially enacted through the law-making process, which includes proposals, discussions, and votes in both houses of Congress. Once a bill successfully passes both the House of Representatives and the Senate, it is then sent to the President for approval or veto. If approved, it becomes a statute or act, thus officially becoming part of the law. In contrast, regulations are rules made by executive agencies based on the authority granted to them by statutes, while executive orders are directives issued by the President to manage the operations of the federal government. Judicial rulings, on the other hand, refer to decisions made by courts that interpret laws but do not constitute laws themselves. Understanding this distinction is crucial in grasping how the legislative framework operates within the United States government.*

**8. Which classification would be assigned to a foreign national applying as a cake decorator with more experience than required?**

- A. E-12
- B. E-31**
- C. C-51
- D. EW-3

*The correct classification for a foreign national applying as a cake decorator with more experience than required is the E-31 classification. This specific classification is part of the Employment-Based Immigration categories, particularly within the Third Preference (EB-3). The E-31 classification is designated for skilled workers, which includes individuals with at least two years of experience or training in their field. Since cake decorating can be considered a skilled trade, and the individual possesses more experience than what is typically required, they would fall into this category. Consequently, this classification is suitable for those who can demonstrate their skill level and meet the educational and experiential requirements. The other classifications, such as E-12 and EW-3, cater to different circumstances or categories of employment that do not align with this specific situation. For instance, the E-12 classification is typically reserved for extraordinary abilities, while EW-3 pertains to certain workers who do not meet the same level of experience expected in the skilled worker category. The C-51 classification, on the other hand, relates to a different set of regulations that do not apply to skilled workers in the same way. Thus, the E-31 classification is the most fitting for a cake decorator showcasing considerable experience.*

**9. What is the standard of review of the bona fides of a marriage where the alien married while in removal proceedings?**

- A. Preponderance of evidence
- B. Clear and convincing evidence**
- C. Beyond a reasonable doubt
- D. Substantial evidence

*The correct answer is the standard of "clear and convincing evidence." In immigration law, particularly when evaluating the bona fides of a marriage during removal proceedings, the burden of proof is more stringent due to the circumstances surrounding the marriage. This elevated standard is important because it helps ensure that marriages used as a basis for immigration relief are genuine and not solely for the purpose of circumventing immigration laws. Clear and convincing evidence requires a higher degree of certainty than a mere preponderance of evidence, which generally only requires that something be more likely true than not. Beyond a reasonable doubt is the highest standard of proof, typically reserved for criminal cases, and is not applicable in this context. Substantial evidence is used in various administrative proceedings but does not carry the same weight required for demonstrating the authenticity of a marriage in removal proceedings. Thus, clear and convincing evidence is the appropriate standard for proving the legitimacy of a marriage when an alien is undergoing removal proceedings, emphasizing the need for a strong demonstration of the marriage's authenticity.*

## 10. What was the purpose of the Emancipation Proclamation?

- A. To end the Revolutionary War
- B. To free slaves in the Confederate states**
- C. To establish the Bill of Rights
- D. To promote women's suffrage

*The Emancipation Proclamation was a pivotal executive order issued by President Abraham Lincoln during the American Civil War, specifically on January 1, 1863. Its primary objective was to free enslaved individuals in the states that had seceded from the Union, known as the Confederate states. By declaring that all slaves in these rebel states were to be set free, the proclamation aimed to disrupt the economic foundation of the Confederacy, which heavily relied on slave labor, and to encourage enslaved people to escape or rise against their oppressors. This measure was also a strategic war tactic, aligning the Union's war efforts with the cause of abolition and strengthening the moral imperative to fight against slavery. While the proclamation did not immediately free a single enslaved person, as it applied only to the areas under Confederate control and not the Union-held territories, it fundamentally changed the character of the Civil War. It paved the way for the eventual passage of the Thirteenth Amendment, which abolished slavery altogether in the United States. The other options reflect historical events and concepts that are unrelated to the aims of the Emancipation Proclamation. Ending the Revolutionary War occurred much earlier, the Bill of Rights established foundational legal rights and freedoms in the United States, and*

## 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://uscisbasicblock1.examzify.com>

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

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