

USCIS N-400 Application Vocabulary Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.

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.

7. Use Other Tools

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!

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Questions

- 1. What action does "overthrow" refer to?**
 - A. To remove a leader or government from power by using force**
 - B. To change laws peacefully**
 - C. To negotiate with political figures**
 - D. To support a regime**
- 2. What does "immigration status" refer to?**
 - A. A person's situation with the U.S. government**
 - B. A travel permit for entering a country**
 - C. Proof of citizenship**
 - D. Permanent residency**
- 3. What does the term 'hearing impaired' specifically refer to?**
 - A. Unable to hear well**
 - B. Complete deafness**
 - C. Difficulty in speaking**
 - D. Loss of balance**
- 4. What is the term for being declared unable to understand due to mental illness or impairment?**
 - A. Legally incompetent**
 - B. Mental institution**
 - C. Association**
 - D. Advocate**
- 5. Which word most closely aligns with 'sovereignty'?**
 - A. Interdependence**
 - B. Government authority**
 - C. Shared power**
 - D. Collaboration**
- 6. Which term is used to describe someone who is a member of a royal family, such as a prince or princess?**
 - A. Noble**
 - B. Commoner**
 - C. Citizen**
 - D. Artist**

- 7. What may disqualify an individual from obtaining U.S. citizenship through the N-400?**
- A. Being born outside of the U.S.**
 - B. Having a criminal record with disqualifying offenses**
 - C. Living in the U.S. for less than 5 years**
 - D. Not being a permanent resident**
- 8. What does the term "register" mean in an official context?**
- A. To put your name on an official list**
 - B. To pay a fee**
 - C. To present an application**
 - D. To authenticate a document**
- 9. Which factors might demonstrate "good moral character"?**
- A. Continuous employment and tax evasion**
 - B. Volunteer work and community service**
 - C. High income and luxury possessions**
 - D. Membership in exclusive organizations**
- 10. What is the significance of a conditional permanent resident?**
- A. They have full permanent residency immediately**
 - B. They have limited status and must apply to remove conditions**
 - C. They are exempt from all immigration laws**
 - D. They can travel freely outside the U.S. without restrictions**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What action does "overthrow" refer to?

- A. To remove a leader or government from power by using force**
- B. To change laws peacefully**
- C. To negotiate with political figures**
- D. To support a regime**

The term "overthrow" specifically refers to the act of removing a leader or government from power, often through the use of force. This action implies a significant and often violent change in political power, typically involving a rebellion or coup d'état. Such methods can include military action or uprisings, where individuals or groups challenge and seek to dismantle an existing authority. In contrast, the other choices describe different political actions that do not involve the use of force to remove governing bodies. Changing laws peacefully involves reform through legislation and civic engagement rather than forcible removal. Negotiating with political figures implies dialogue and consensus-building, while supporting a regime involves maintaining or reinforcing the current government's authority. Each of these contrasts with the concept of "overthrow," which centers on forceful removal rather than any peaceful or supportive means.

2. What does "immigration status" refer to?

- A. A person's situation with the U.S. government**
- B. A travel permit for entering a country**
- C. Proof of citizenship**
- D. Permanent residency**

"Immigration status" refers to an individual's legal standing or situation in relation to the United States government concerning their presence in the country. It encompasses various categories such as being a citizen, permanent resident, temporary resident, visa holder, or undocumented immigrant. Essentially, it signifies how the government recognizes an individual's right to live or work in the U.S. and any associated benefits or responsibilities. This understanding of immigration status plays a vital role in the processes involved in naturalization, employment eligibility, and access to public services. The other options, while related in context, do not capture the comprehensive nature of immigration status. A travel permit specifically pertains to permission for entry, proof of citizenship signifies recognition as a citizen, and permanent residency denotes a specific type of immigration status, rather than defining the term itself.

3. What does the term 'hearing impaired' specifically refer to?

- A. Unable to hear well**
- B. Complete deafness**
- C. Difficulty in speaking**
- D. Loss of balance**

The term 'hearing impaired' specifically refers to an individual who has a reduced ability to hear. This encompasses a wide range of hearing loss, from mild to profound. Therefore, those who are hearing impaired may still have some degree of hearing but may find it challenging to understand conversations, especially in noisy environments or may require the use of hearing aids or other assistive devices. This definition aligns with the answer provided. The other options suggest more specific conditions. Complete deafness refers to total inability to hear, which does not encompass the full meaning of hearing impairment. Difficulty in speaking relates to a separate issue centered around speech production rather than hearing. Lastly, loss of balance is typically connected to vestibular problems rather than directly related to hearing ability. Thus, the term 'hearing impaired' includes a broader spectrum of individuals who may experience various degrees of hearing challenges.

4. What is the term for being declared unable to understand due to mental illness or impairment?

- A. Legally incompetent**
- B. Mental institution**
- C. Association**
- D. Advocate**

The term "legally incompetent" refers to an individual's inability to understand or manage their affairs due to mental illness or impairment. In legal contexts, a person declared legally incompetent lacks the mental capacity to make informed decisions or comprehend the nature and consequences of their actions. This determination often leads to the appointment of a guardian or conservator to manage their legal and financial matters, ensuring that the individual's rights and welfare are protected. The other options are not appropriate for describing the state of being unable to understand due to mental illness. A mental institution refers to a facility where individuals with mental health issues may receive treatment, not the status of understanding. Association typically implies a group or relationship between entities and does not relate to legal competency. An advocate represents or supports someone, but does not describe the condition of understanding mental capacity. Thus, "legally incompetent" is the most accurate term for the context provided.

5. Which word most closely aligns with 'sovereignty'?

- A. Interdependence**
- B. Government authority**
- C. Shared power**
- D. Collaboration**

The term 'sovereignty' refers to the supreme power or authority of a state to govern itself or another state. It embodies the concept of full control over a territory and the political decisions made within it, often distinguishing it from other entities or countries.

'Government authority' aligns closely with 'sovereignty' because it directly reflects the power that a governmental body has to make and enforce laws, manage resources, and carry out governance without external interference. This sense of autonomy is central to the concept of sovereignty, as it emphasizes the right of a government to exercise authority over its population and territory independently. The other options, while relevant in political discussions, do not capture the essence of sovereign power as clearly. For instance, 'interdependence' suggests mutual reliance among entities, which does not relate directly to self-governance. 'Shared power' indicates a distribution of authority rather than an assertion of complete independence or control. 'Collaboration' conveys working together, which is different from the notion of sovereignty where an entity operates independently.

6. Which term is used to describe someone who is a member of a royal family, such as a prince or princess?

- A. Noble**
- B. Commoner**
- C. Citizen**
- D. Artist**

The term used to describe someone who is a member of a royal family, such as a prince or princess, is "noble." Nobility refers to individuals who hold a high social rank, typically associated with a royal lineage and often possessing titles or estates. Members of the nobility usually have a recognized status in society that is distinct from common citizens, which is why "noble" is the appropriate choice in this context. The other terms do not accurately describe members of a royal family. A commoner refers to someone who does not belong to the nobility or a royal family and typically has no special privileges associated with their status. A citizen denotes an individual who has legal recognition as a member of a state or nation, which can include both nobles and commoners. An artist is someone engaged in a creative endeavor, and while an artist can belong to any social class, the term does not relate specifically to royal or noble status. Thus, "noble" is the term that specifically indicates membership in a royal family.

7. What may disqualify an individual from obtaining U.S. citizenship through the N-400?

- A. Being born outside of the U.S.**
- B. Having a criminal record with disqualifying offenses**
- C. Living in the U.S. for less than 5 years**
- D. Not being a permanent resident**

Having a criminal record with disqualifying offenses is a significant factor that may disqualify an individual from obtaining U.S. citizenship through the N-400 application. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) evaluates applicants' moral character as part of the naturalization process. Certain crimes can have serious implications on an applicant's eligibility, particularly those categorized as aggravated felonies or offenses that demonstrate a lack of good moral character. This assessment of moral character generally looks back over the past five years, or from the time of an applicant's application to their decision, and any offenses recorded may raise concerns about the individual's suitability to become a citizen. The other options highlight circumstances that, while potentially significant, do not directly disqualify an individual from citizenship. Being born outside of the U.S. does not inherently prevent someone from gaining citizenship, as naturalization is available to many individuals of different national origins. Living in the U.S. for less than five years may affect the timeline for eligibility but doesn't immediately disqualify an individual if other conditions are met. Finally, not being a permanent resident is fundamental since only lawful permanent residents (green card holders) can apply for citizenship through the N-400. However, this would not typically

8. What does the term "register" mean in an official context?

- A. To put your name on an official list**
- B. To pay a fee**
- C. To present an application**
- D. To authenticate a document**

The term "register" in an official context means to put your name on an official list. This procedure is often required for various purposes, such as voting, enrolling in school, or applying for legal benefits. Registration typically involves providing necessary personal information and ensuring that you are acknowledged as part of a system or organization. The other options refer to different actions that are not synonymous with registering. Paying a fee usually indicates a financial transaction rather than compiling one's name on a registry. Presenting an application relates to submitting a request for something, which may require registration, but is not the same action. Authenticating a document involves verifying its legitimacy, which is a separate process from the act of registering one's name.

9. Which factors might demonstrate "good moral character"?

- A. Continuous employment and tax evasion**
- B. Volunteer work and community service**
- C. High income and luxury possessions**
- D. Membership in exclusive organizations**

The choice that signifies "good moral character" is associated with behaviors and actions that reflect positively on a person's integrity and commitment to their community. Engaging in volunteer work and community service showcases a willingness to help others without expecting financial gain or personal rewards. These activities often indicate a sense of responsibility and a genuine interest in contributing positively to society, which are essential qualities in demonstrating good moral character. While continuous employment can reflect stability, tax evasion undermines the concept of moral character because it involves illegal activity. A high income and luxury possessions, though potentially indicative of success, do not necessarily reflect an individual's character or ethics. Membership in exclusive organizations might imply a certain level of social status, but it does not inherently reveal the person's moral values or their contributions to the community. In this context, volunteer work and community service are the most telling indicators of good moral character, aligning with the expectations and values of citizenship.

10. What is the significance of a conditional permanent resident?

- A. They have full permanent residency immediately**
- B. They have limited status and must apply to remove conditions**
- C. They are exempt from all immigration laws**
- D. They can travel freely outside the U.S. without restrictions**

A conditional permanent resident holds a unique status in the United States immigration system, indicating that their permanent residency comes with specific limitations designed to safeguard the integrity of immigration laws. This status typically applies to individuals who obtained their residency through marriage to a U.S. citizen or permanent resident when the marriage is less than two years old. The key aspect of this designation is that conditional permanent residents are not granted full, unencumbered residency rights immediately. Instead, their status is temporary and contingent upon them meeting certain conditions — for instance, demonstrating that the marriage is genuine and not solely for immigration benefits. To transition from conditional residency to full permanent residency, these individuals must apply to remove the conditions before their conditional status expires. This process helps ensure that those who receive permanent residency have maintained the integrity of their immigration claims and their relationships. The other options describe characteristics that do not apply to conditional permanent residents. They do not enjoy full permanent residency rights right away, they are not exempt from immigration laws, and their ability to travel can be subject to various regulations, especially during the conditional status phase.

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://uscisn400applicationvocab.examzify.com>

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