

WJEC EDUQAS GCSE USA HISTORY PRACTICE TEST (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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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. Where did Ping-pong diplomacy begin?

- A. Olympic Games in Tokyo, 1964
- B. World Table Tennis Championships in Japan, 1971
- C. World Cup Table Tennis in France, 1970
- D. Exhibition match in Beijing, 1972

2. Which statement describes SALT I?

- A. First Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty
- B. Created Mars-Plan missile deployment
- C. Established missile defense Shield
- D. Eliminated all strategic weapons

3. Which sequence best describes the key Watergate events?

- A. 1968 Nixon elected; 1972 CREEP broke into Democrat HQ; 1973 burglars convicted; 1974 Nixon resigned.
- B. 1968 Nixon elected; 1972 burglars convicted; 1973 White House tapes handed over; 1974 Nixon resigns.
- C. 1962 Nixon; 1972 break-in; 1973 burglars convicted; 1974 resignation.
- D. 1968 Nixon defeated; 1972 CREEP burglars broke into GOP HQ; 1973 tapes handed over; 1974 resignation.

4. Why was Little Rock significant in the civil rights era?

- A. Moderated views of some Americans at the time
- B. Some people in the North saw the racial hatred of the South for the first time
- C. Involved the President
- D. Civil rights was at the heart of US politics

5. Which term refers to the fear of communism in the United States?

- A. Bolshevik Revolution
- B. Red Scare
- C. McCarthyism
- D. Capitalism

- 6. Which zone arrangement was agreed for Germany at the Yalta Conference?**
- A. Germany and Berlin would be divided into four zones.
 - B. Germany would be united under Soviet control alone.
 - C. Germany would be administered jointly by the Allies without zones.
 - D. Germany's borders would be redrawn to favor the USSR.
- 7. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration provided funding for emergency relief in what form?**
- A. Provided \$500 million for emergency relief through grants to state and local agencies.
 - B. \$1 billion for road building.
 - C. \$250 million for housing.
 - D. \$2 billion for national programs.
- 8. Which act established the semi-welfare state in the United States during the New Deal era?**
- A. Wagner Act
 - B. National Industrial Recovery Act
 - C. Farm Security Act
 - D. Social Security Act
- 9. Which act was designed to restore confidence in the banking system and restricted investing of deposits in the stock market?**
- A. Abolish the Federal Reserve.
 - B. Privatize all banks.
 - C. Restore confidence in the banking system; prevent banks from investing savings deposits in the stock market.
 - D. Expand the stock market.
- 10. What was a major impact of the sit-in movement in the early 1960s?**
- A. Gained large participation and arrests, escalating the movement
 - B. JFK acted to desegregate lunch counters
 - C. Brought immediate desegregation nationwide
 - D. Only occurred in Alabama

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Where did Ping-pong diplomacy begin?

- A. Olympic Games in Tokyo, 1964
- B. World Table Tennis Championships in Japan, 1971**
- C. World Cup Table Tennis in France, 1970
- D. Exhibition match in Beijing, 1972

Ping-pong diplomacy started from a chance, friendly exchange at an international table tennis event. In 1971, the World Table Tennis Championships were held in Nagoya, Japan, where American players connected with Chinese players. That meeting led to an invitation from Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai for the American team to visit China, opening formal lines of communication between the two governments and helping to thaw decades of tension. This quick shift in relations set the stage for President Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972. The other events listed didn't spark this opening: the Tokyo Olympics in 1964, the 1970 World Cup in France, and a later 1972 Beijing exhibition all came after the initial moment in Nagoya or are unrelated to how the diplomatic shift began.

2. Which statement describes SALT I?

- A. First Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty**
- B. Created Mars-Plan missile deployment
- C. Established missile defense Shield
- D. Eliminated all strategic weapons

SALT I was a Cold War effort to slow the nuclear arms race by putting ceilings on certain strategic weapons rather than eliminating them or building a defensive shield. It was negotiated by the United States and the Soviet Union and signed in 1972, and it produced two main elements: the Anti-Ballistic Missile (ABM) Treaty, which limited defenses against missiles, and an Interim Agreement that capped the numbers of intercontinental ballistic missiles and submarine-launched ballistic missiles at existing levels. This combination shows that the agreement was about limiting arms, not deploying new ones or wiping them all out. The full name of this treaty is the First Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, so that option describes SALT I accurately. It wasn't about creating a Mars-Plan deployment, it didn't establish a broad missile defense shield, and it didn't eliminate all strategic weapons.

3. Which sequence best describes the key Watergate events?

- A. 1968 Nixon elected; 1972 CREEP broke into Democrat HQ; 1973 burglars convicted; 1974 Nixon resigned.**
- B. 1968 Nixon elected; 1972 burglars convicted; 1973 White House tapes handed over; 1974 Nixon resigns.
- C. 1962 Nixon; 1972 break-in; 1973 burglars convicted; 1974 resignation.
- D. 1968 Nixon defeated; 1972 CREEP burglars broke into GOP HQ; 1973 tapes handed over; 1974 resignation.

Tracking the sequence of Watergate events shows how a break-in sparked a widening investigation, leading to prosecutions and ultimately the President's resignation. Nixon being elected in 1968 sets the political stage for his presidency. The key incident occurred in 1972 when burglars tied to the President's re-election effort targeted the Democratic National Committee at the Watergate complex. In 1973 the burglars were convicted, and the investigation intensified, bringing to light connections to the White House. By 1974 the accumulating evidence and the threat of impeachment forced Nixon to resign. This order—election, break-in, convictions, resignation—best matches the historical sequence. Other options misdate events, misidentify the target, or place the events in a less accurate order, which doesn't align with how the scandal unfolded.

4. Why was Little Rock significant in the civil rights era?

- A. Moderated views of some Americans at the time
- B. Some people in the North saw the racial hatred of the South for the first time
- C. Involved the President**
- D. Civil rights was at the heart of US politics

The key idea is that this event showed the federal government stepping in to enforce civil rights, with the President taking active action. When nine African American students faced violent resistance and state authorities blocked their attendance at Central High, the President federalized the Arkansas National Guard and sent in the 101st Airborne to protect the students and uphold the Supreme Court's desegregation ruling. This demonstrated that protecting constitutional rights in education could require direct presidential intervention and federal force, marking a clear turning point in how civil rights were enforced in the United States. Other options miss the main point: the incident wasn't mainly about moderating American views, nor was it just about Northern awareness of Southern racism, nor was it a broad political focus on civil rights in general. The defining feature here is the President's decisive involvement to enforce desegregation.

5. Which term refers to the fear of communism in the United States?

- A. Bolshevik Revolution
- B. Red Scare**
- C. McCarthyism
- D. Capitalism

Red Scare describes the fear of communism that swept the United States. After the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917, Americans worried that communist ideas could spread to the U.S., leading to suspicion, political repression, and government investigations of suspected radicals. The term covers periods of intense anti-communist sentiment, including the era after World War I and the much more heated 1950s climate tied to McCarthyism. The Bolshevik Revolution is the event that sparked the fear, not the fear itself, while McCarthyism is a specific campaign within the later period. Capitalism is simply the economic system opposed to communism, not a fear. So the term that refers to the fear itself is Red Scare.

6. Which zone arrangement was agreed for Germany at the Yalta Conference?

- A. Germany and Berlin would be divided into four zones.**
- B. Germany would be united under Soviet control alone.
- C. Germany would be administered jointly by the Allies without zones.
- D. Germany's borders would be redrawn to favor the USSR.

After World War II was ending, managing Germany became a crucial issue for the Allies. The key idea being tested is how Germany would be governed in the immediate postwar period. At Yalta, the leaders agreed that Germany would be divided into four occupation zones, each held by one of the major Allied powers, and that Berlin would be split into four sectors as well. This setup was designed to prevent any single power from dominating Germany, allow coordinated demilitarization and denazification, and establish a framework for postwar administration and reparations. The four-zone plan shaped the occupation regime that lasted into the early Cold War and helped pave the path toward the later division of Germany into East and West.

7. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration provided funding for emergency relief in what form?

- A. Provided \$500 million for emergency relief through grants to state and local agencies.**
- B. \$1 billion for road building.
- C. \$250 million for housing.
- D. \$2 billion for national programs.

FERA's job was to provide immediate relief by funding the states to run relief programs. The money was given as grants to state and local agencies, so communities could quickly support unemployed workers and needy families with local relief efforts. The amount was \$500 million, making it a large federal grant program aimed at empowering state administrations to address hardship rather than creating national projects from the top down. Road building and housing were handled by other New Deal programs, and national-scale initiatives weren't how FERA functioned.

8. Which act established the semi-welfare state in the United States during the New Deal era?

- A. Wagner Act
- B. National Industrial Recovery Act
- C. Farm Security Act
- D. Social Security Act**

The main idea here is recognizing how government responsibility for citizens' economic security expanded during the New Deal. The Social Security Act of 1935 created a nationwide framework of social insurance and welfare programs, including old-age pensions, unemployment insurance, and aid to dependents and the disabled. This established a lasting role for the federal government in providing a safety net, which is why it's often described as laying the groundwork for a semi-welfare state in the United States. The other measures were important for the era but served different purposes. The Wagner Act protected workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively, which strengthened labor, not a broad social safety net. The National Industrial Recovery Act aimed to revive industry and set codes of fair competition, but it was later struck down and didn't create enduring welfare programs. The Farm Security Administration focused on rural poverty, addressing a specific problem rather than building nationwide social insurance.

9. Which act was designed to restore confidence in the banking system and restricted investing of deposits in the stock market?

- A. Abolish the Federal Reserve.
- B. Privatize all banks.
- C. Restore confidence in the banking system; prevent banks from investing savings deposits in the stock market.**
- D. Expand the stock market.

The key idea is the 1933 Glass-Steagall Act, which aimed to restore confidence in the banking system by reforming how banks operated and by limiting deposit usage. It required a separation between commercial banking (the everyday banking people rely on for deposits and loans) and investment banking (speculating in the stock market), so savings deposits could not be used for stock investments. This separation, along with the broader move to reassure savers about the safety of their funds, helped rebuild trust after the Great Depression. The other options wouldn't achieve this combination of restoring trust and curbing deposit investments: abolishing the Federal Reserve would remove important stabilization, privatizing all banks would remove public safeguards, and expanding the stock market would increase exposure of deposits to market risk.

10. What was a major impact of the sit-in movement in the early 1960s?

- A. Gained large participation and arrests, escalating the movement**
- B. JFK acted to desegregate lunch counters
- C. Brought immediate desegregation nationwide
- D. Only occurred in Alabama

Nonviolent sit-ins challenged segregation by turning everyday spaces into protests and showing how ordinary people could demand change through peaceful action. The big impact was that this tactic drew in large numbers of participants across many cities and led to a wave of arrests, turning a handful of demonstrations into a nationwide movement. That surge in participation and the visibility from arrests put economic and social pressure on businesses to desegregate and helped energize the Civil Rights Movement more broadly. Desegregation did not happen instantly or everywhere, and federal action followed later, but the escalating scale of participation and arrests remains the defining effect of the sit-in campaigns.

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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