

HISTORY A-LEVELS – BRITAIN TRANSFORMED, 1918–1997 PRACTICE TEST (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. The Representation of the People Act extended voting rights to which group?

- A. Women over 30 with qualifications and all men over 21
- B. Women over 21
- C. All men over 18
- D. All citizens over 18

2. What was the National Government?

- A. A single-party Conservative government
- B. A Liberal minority administration
- C. An abstract concept referring to a coalition of major parties, run by the Conservative and Labour during WWII
- D. A post-war coalition government including the SNP

3. Which year saw the second Representation of the People Act?

- A. 1928
- B. 1918
- C. 1929
- D. 1931

4. What was a distinctive feature of the poll tax?

- A. A progressive tax based on income
- B. A single tax rate on every adult, at a rate set by the local authority
- C. A tax on goods and services
- D. A tax on land values

5. Harold Wilson served as Prime Minister during which years?

- A. 1964 to 1970
- B. 1960 to 1964
- C. 1970 to 1974
- D. 1955 to 1963

- 6. The abolition of the death penalty in the United Kingdom occurred in which year?**
- A. 1969
 - B. 1967
 - C. 1968
 - D. 1970
- 7. The first Labour government is significant because it:**
- A. Ended the First World War
 - B. Created the NHS
 - C. Dismantled the Liberal Party
 - D. Marked the first time Labour formed a government in the UK
- 8. During which year range did Stanley Baldwin serve as Prime Minister for his second term?**
- A. 1920-1922
 - B. 1922-1924
 - C. 1924-1929
 - D. 1930-1935
- 9. Who was the Labour prime minister after World War II?**
- A. Harold Wilson
 - B. Stanley Baldwin
 - C. Winston Churchill
 - D. Clement Attlee
- 10. On Black Monday, by how much did the London stock market fall?**
- A. £5.06 million
 - B. £50.6 million
 - C. £506 million
 - D. £50.6 billion

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. The Representation of the People Act extended voting rights to which group?

- A. Women over 30 with qualifications and all men over 21**
- B. Women over 21
- C. All men over 18
- D. All citizens over 18

Understanding how voting rights were widened under the Representation of the People Act. This act extended the franchise to all men over 21 and to women over 30 who met property qualifications. That combination is why the correct option describes women over 30 with qualifications and all men over 21. It wasn't universal suffrage for all adults at once—the equal suffrage for women came later (in 1928, women over 21), and the voting age for everyone was lowered to 18 only in the later reforms.

2. What was the National Government?

- A. A single-party Conservative government
- B. A Liberal minority administration
- C. An abstract concept referring to a coalition of major parties, run by the Conservative and Labour during WWII**
- D. A post-war coalition government including the SNP

A cross-party, national unity government rather than a single-party regime. The National Government was formed to cope with a national crisis, not to run as one party's administration. It began in 1931 when Ramsay MacDonald, a Labour prime minister, pulled together Conservatives and Liberals to tackle the budget deficit and unemployment. It operated as a broad coalition, and by the wartime period it functioned as a national government led by Churchill, with ministers from Labour and Liberal parties in a broader effort to steer the country through World War II. That cross-party, unity nature is what makes it distinctive. It isn't simply a Conservative government, nor a Liberal minority administration, and it isn't a post-war coalition involving the SNP, which wasn't a factor in this period.

3. Which year saw the second Representation of the People Act?

- A. 1928**
- B. 1918
- C. 1929
- D. 1931

Suffrage reform in Britain after World War I saw two main steps. The first Representation of the People Act, passed in 1918, widened the franchise but still kept some property qualifications and gave voting rights to many men and to some women (those over 30 meeting certain criteria). The second Representation of the People Act, passed in 1928, completed the move to universal adult suffrage by granting all women over 21 the right to vote on equal terms with men. That makes 1928 the year of the second act. The other dates are associated with elections or government changes rather than new franchise laws.

4. What was a distinctive feature of the poll tax?

- A. A progressive tax based on income
- B. A single tax rate on every adult, at a rate set by the local authority**
- C. A tax on goods and services
- D. A tax on land values

The poll tax was defined by charging a single fixed amount for every adult, no matter their income or wealth. In other words, it was a flat-rate charge, with the rate set by local authorities to raise funds for local services. This makes it non-progressive and revolutionary compared with previous systems that tied payments to income or property value. Context helps: replacing the old rates on property, it aimed for simplicity and universality, but people argued it unfairly hit the less well-off harder because everyone paid the same amount regardless of means. This sparked widespread opposition and eventually led to its replacement by the Council Tax. To check the other options, note that a progressive tax increases with income, a tax on goods and services is like VAT, and a tax on land values targets property wealth. None of those describe the distinctive flat per-adult charge characterizing the poll tax.

5. Harold Wilson served as Prime Minister during which years?

- A. 1964 to 1970**
- B. 1960 to 1964
- C. 1970 to 1974
- D. 1955 to 1963

This question tests your knowledge of when Harold Wilson actually held the office of Prime Minister. He became Prime Minister after Labour won the 1964 general election and led the country from 1964 until Labour's defeat in the 1970 election. He did not govern in the other periods listed, and although he returned as PM later from 1974 to 1976, that interval isn't shown in the options. So the period that matches his first and main tenure as Prime Minister is 1964 to 1970.

6. The abolition of the death penalty in the United Kingdom occurred in which year?

- A. 1969**
- B. 1967
- C. 1968
- D. 1970

The key point is that the death penalty was made permanent in 1969 after a five-year experimental pause. In 1965 Parliament passed a measure that suspended executions for murder as a five-year trial. By 1969, after debate and shifting public opinion, MPs and Lords voted to keep abolition permanent, marking the end of capital punishment for murder in the UK (though a few other specific offences had different timelines). This reflects the broader liberal reform mood of the late 1960s and why 1969 is the pivotal year. The earlier years didn't finalize permanence, and years after wouldn't be when the policy was first settled.

7. The first Labour government is significant because it:

- A. Ended the First World War
- B. Created the NHS
- C. Dismantled the Liberal Party
- D. Marked the first time Labour formed a government in the UK**

Being the first Labour government shows a historic step: Labour actually taking office and governing, not just arguing from the backbenches. This proved that Labour had become a major political force capable of running the country and shaping policy, not merely campaigning on reform ideas. Although it was a short, minority government and depended on Liberal support, it demonstrated that Labour could implement policy and push a reformist agenda, signaling a shift in British politics away from Liberal dominance toward Labour as a leading party. It didn't end the war, didn't create the NHS, and wasn't about dismantling the Liberal Party in a single move; its significance lies in establishing Labour as a legitimate governing option for the first time.

8. During which year range did Stanley Baldwin serve as Prime Minister for his second term?

- A. 1920-1922
- B. 1922-1924
- C. 1924-1929**
- D. 1930-1935

Understanding the timeline of Baldwin's leadership helps you see this clearly. Stanley Baldwin's second term as Prime Minister began after the 1924 general election, when the Conservatives won a decisive return to power and formed the government. That administration continued until the general election of 1929, at which point Baldwin's government was defeated and he stepped down. So the period that corresponds to his second term is 1924-1929. The other ranges don't fit this sequence: they either occur before his return to power, cover his first term, or refer to his later period in the 1930s.

9. Who was the Labour prime minister after World War II?

- A. Harold Wilson
- B. Stanley Baldwin
- C. Winston Churchill
- D. Clement Attlee**

The key fact tested is who led Britain immediately after World War II. Clement Attlee became prime minister in 1945 after the Labour Party won the general election, forming the first majority Labour government. He steered a sweeping reform program that defined the postwar settlement, notably creating the National Health Service in 1948 and beginning broad nationalizations to build the welfare state. This sets him apart from the other figures: Stanley Baldwin and Winston Churchill were Conservatives who governed before or during the war (Churchill did return briefly after the war but not as the postwar Labour leader), while Harold Wilson came to office later in the 1960s. So the Labour prime minister after World War II was Clement Attlee.

10. On Black Monday, by how much did the London stock market fall?

A. £5.06 million

B. £50.6 million

C. £506 million

D. £50.6 billion

The question is about measuring the crash in monetary terms rather than by percentage. On Black Monday in 1987, the London market's impact is often recorded as the total fall in market capitalization—the value of all listed shares on the London Stock Exchange that day. The figure of about £50.6 million represents that net loss in currency terms, which is why it's considered the best answer here. It communicates the scale of the day's damage in a straightforward way. The other options either imply a far smaller daily loss or an unrealistically large one for London at the time, so they don't fit the way historians and economists quantify the immediate impact of the crash in London.

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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:

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

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