NCFE WORLD HISTORY PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

VISIT US ONLINE FOR THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

https://ncfeworldhistory.examzify.com

Copyright © 2026 by Examzify - A Kaluba Technologies Inc. product.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

No part of this book may be reproduced or transferred in any form or by any means, graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, web distribution, taping, or by any information storage retrieval system, without the written permission of the author.

Notice: Examzify makes every reasonable effort to obtain accurate, complete, and timely information about this product from reliable sources.

SAMPLE

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 16

SAMPLE

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.

SAMPLE

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!

SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

1. **What is Calvinism based on?**

   A. The teachings of John Calvin

   B. The teachings of Martin Luther

   C. The teachings of Henry VIII

   D. The teachings of the Pope

2. **What was the Great Alliance in the context of historical city-states?**

   A. A military and political pact among three city-states

   B. A cultural exchange program between neighboring states

   C. An economic treaty for trade development

   D. A social club for city leaders

3. **Which historical site is often regarded as the first university founded by Alexander the Great?**

   A. Great Wall of China

   B. Library of Alexandria

   C. Colossus of Rhodes

   D. Hanging Gardens of Babylon

4. **Which Portuguese navigator led the first expedition to sail around the world?**

   A. Henry Hudson

   B. Vasco da Gama

   C. Francis Drake

   D. Ferdinand Magellan

5. **Which term best describes Muslims who follow the teachings of the Qur'an?**

   A. Mumin

   B. Muslim

   C. Fasiq

   D. Fuqaha

SAMPLE

6. Which ancient city was part of the Indus civilization?

A. Mohenjo-Daro

B. Thebes

C. Babylon

D. Jericho

7. What was one of Alexander the Great's well-known traits as a military leader?

A. He never lost a battle

B. He often retreated in war

C. He focused on defensive strategies

D. He avoided direct combat

8. What does the term 'polis' refer to in ancient Greek context?

A. A type of weapon used in battle

B. The Greek word for a city-state

C. A form of government

D. A philosophical school of thought

9. What was the main purpose of the Roman "Senate" within the government structure?

A. To legislate and provide counsel

B. To conduct warfare

C. To administer justice

D. To collect taxes

10. What was one of the primary reasons for the fall of the Roman Empire?

A. Strong military forces

B. Increased trade alliances

C. Political instability and disorder

D. A powerful economy and workforce

SAMPLE

Answers

SAMPLE

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

SAMPLE

Explanations

SAMPLE

1. What is Calvinism based on?

A. The teachings of John Calvin

B. The teachings of Martin Luther

C. The teachings of Henry VIII

D. The teachings of the Pope

Calvinism is based on the teachings of John Calvin, who was a prominent figure in the Protestant Reformation during the 16th century. Calvin's theological ideas emphasized the sovereignty of God, the doctrine of predestination, and the authority of Scripture. His writings, particularly "Institutes of the Christian Religion," laid out the framework for a systematic theological approach that significantly influenced Protestant beliefs and ecclesiastical structures. Calvin's emphasis on the primacy of God's will and grace distinguished his teachings from other reformers. While he shared some common beliefs with Martin Luther, such as justification by faith alone, Calvin's interpretations and innovations in areas like predestination and the nature of the Church set Calvinism apart as a distinct branch of Protestantism. His influence extended beyond theology; it also shaped the governance of churches and broader societal views within communities that adopted his teachings.

2. What was the Great Alliance in the context of historical city-states?

A. A military and political pact among three city-states

B. A cultural exchange program between neighboring states

C. An economic treaty for trade development

D. A social club for city leaders

The Great Alliance refers to a military and political pact among three city-states, which signifies a significant cooperation for mutual defense and political unity against common threats. Historically, such alliances were essential for city-states that faced external pressures from larger empires or rival powers. By banding together, these states could pool their resources, share military strength, and establish a unified front, enhancing their security and influence in the region. In the context of historical city-states, this type of alliance often involved cooperative military strategies and joint decisions on political matters, enabling the members to navigate their political landscape more effectively. This cooperative framework was vital for the stability and longevity of smaller entities in a complex geopolitical environment.

SAMPLE

3. Which historical site is often regarded as the first university founded by Alexander the Great?

A. Great Wall of China

B. Library of Alexandria

C. Colossus of Rhodes

D. Hanging Gardens of Babylon

The Library of Alexandria is often regarded as the first university founded by Alexander the Great because it was established in the context of his ambition to blend Greek culture with that of the territories he conquered. Founded in the 3rd century BCE in Alexandria, Egypt, the Library was part of a larger research institution known as the Museum of Alexandria. This institution was dedicated to the Muses and served as a center for scholarly research and the accumulation of knowledge. It attracted scholars and thinkers from various parts of the ancient world, fostering an environment that was conducive to intellectual exchange and study. The Library was renowned for its vast collection of manuscripts and texts, facilitating the pursuit of learning that is fundamental to the concept of a university. This makes it a key landmark in the history of education and scholarship, embodying the ideals of enlightenment and inquiry promoted by Alexander's vision for a culturally rich and interconnected Mediterranean world. In contrast, the other options listed do not have the same educational significance or association with Alexander the Great. The Great Wall of China is a monumental architectural achievement primarily for defense. The Colossus of Rhodes was a statue symbolizing victory but was not related to higher learning. The Hanging Gardens of Babylon, while legendary, are largely linked to aesthetic beauty rather

4. Which Portuguese navigator led the first expedition to sail around the world?

A. Henry Hudson

B. Vasco da Gama

C. Francis Drake

D. Ferdinand Magellan

Ferdinand Magellan is recognized for leading the first expedition to successfully sail around the world, which took place in the early 16th century. Magellan's journey began in 1519 and was crucial for several reasons. Firstly, it marked the first time that a European expedition had completed a circumnavigation of the globe, providing invaluable information about the size of Earth and the vastness of the oceans. Magellan started with a fleet of five ships and aimed to find a westward route to the Spice Islands in the East Indies. The expedition demonstrated the viability of global maritime navigation and opened new sea routes for trade and exploration. Although Magellan himself did not complete the journey—he was killed in the Philippines in 1521—one of his ships, the Victoria, completed the trip back to Spain in September 1522, successfully rounding the globe. This achievement laid the groundwork for future exploration and had significant implications for global trade, colonialism, and the interaction between different cultures. The significance of Magellan's expedition extends far beyond the voyage itself; it had lasting impacts on geography and historical understanding of the world.

SAMPLE

5. Which term best describes Muslims who follow the teachings of the Qur'an?

A. Mumin

B. Muslim

C. Fasiq

D. Fuqaha

The term that best describes individuals who adhere to the teachings of the Qur'an is "Muslim." This term specifically designates followers of Islam, which is a faith rooted in the revelations contained in the Qur'an. Muslims strive to apply the teachings of the Qur'an to their lives, encompassing aspects of faith, ethics, and law as outlined within the text. In contrast, "Mumin" refers to a believer in a broader sense but does not specifically indicate adherence to the Qur'an. "Fasiq" denotes a person who is deemed sinful or a transgressor in Islamic context, which does not apply to those following the Qur'an's teachings. "Fuqaha" refers to scholars or jurists well-versed in Islamic law and jurisprudence, which again, does not specifically capture the essence of all practitioners of Islam. Therefore, "Muslim" accurately encapsulates anyone who accepts and follows the Qur'an as foundational to their faith.

6. Which ancient city was part of the Indus civilization?

A. Mohenjo-Daro

B. Thebes

C. Babylon

D. Jericho

Mohenjo-Daro is recognized as one of the most significant urban centers of the Indus Civilization, which flourished around 2500 BCE in what is now Pakistan and northwest India. This ancient city is known for its advanced urban planning, including a sophisticated drainage system, standardized fired-brick construction, and well-organized streets. The Indus Civilization was notable for its remarkable engineering and architecture, with Mohenjo-Daro serving as a prime example of such advancements. The city's layout and the archaeological finds indicate it was an important center for trade and culture. The other cities mentioned—Thebes, Babylon, and Jericho—belong to different ancient civilizations and geographical regions. Thebes was a major city in ancient Egypt, Babylon was a significant city in ancient Mesopotamia, and Jericho is one of the oldest inhabited cities in the world, located in the Levant. Each of these cities played pivotal roles in their respective cultures but did not have any affiliation with the Indus Civilization.

SAMPLE

7. What was one of Alexander the Great's well-known traits as a military leader?

A. He never lost a battle

B. He often retreated in war

C. He focused on defensive strategies

D. He avoided direct combat

One of Alexander the Great's most distinguished traits as a military leader was that he never lost a battle throughout his extensive military campaigns. This remarkable record showcases his strategic brilliance, tactical innovation, and ability to adapt to various combat situations. His conquests across three continents dramatically expanded his empire, and his successful battles, such as those at Granicus, Issus, and Gaugamela, exemplify his offensive strategies and coordination of diverse forces, including infantry, cavalry, and siege engines. The significance of his unbeaten record lies not just in the victories themselves but also in how they influenced the subsequent Hellenistic world, spreading Greek culture and ideas across vast territories. This undefeated status solidified his reputation as one of history's greatest military commanders and has inspired countless leaders and military strategists throughout the ages.

8. What does the term 'polis' refer to in ancient Greek context?

A. A type of weapon used in battle

B. The Greek word for a city-state

C. A form of government

D. A philosophical school of thought

The term 'polis' in the ancient Greek context specifically refers to the concept of a city-state. It encapsulates not just the physical city but also the surrounding territory and the community of citizens that comprised it. Each polis functioned as an independent entity with its own government, laws, customs, and often its own military. This structure allowed for a unique sense of identity and civic pride among the inhabitants. The importance of the polis in ancient Greece is monumental, as it was the foundational unit of political and social life, particularly influencing the development of democratic principles in places such as Athens. The other choices convey concepts that do not align with the specific meaning of 'polis.' The mentioned weapon does not pertain to the formation or governance of Greek states. While forms of government did exist within city-states, they do not define what a polis is. Similarly, philosophical schools of thought, while significant in Greek culture, do not relate to the geographical or political definition of a polis. Thus, understanding 'polis' as a city-state is crucial to grasping the social and political fabric of ancient Greece.

SAMPLE

9. What was the main purpose of the Roman "Senate" within the government structure?

A. To legislate and provide counsel

B. To conduct warfare

C. To administer justice

D. To collect taxes

The primary purpose of the Roman Senate was to legislate and provide counsel, playing a crucial role in the governance of ancient Rome. The Senate was composed of some of the most experienced and influential members of society, primarily from the patrician class. It served as an advisory body to the consuls and later the emperors, shaping laws, discussing foreign policy, and managing public finances. The Senate was instrumental in the legislative process as it proposed and debated laws before they were officially enacted. This body wielded significant political power, particularly during the Roman Republic, influencing decisions that affected the lives of citizens and the direction of the state. Its deliberative function was a cornerstone of the Roman political system, underscoring the importance of seasoned counsel in governance. Other options, while relevant to various aspects of governance, did not capture the Senate's main function. Conducting warfare was typically the responsibility of military leaders and consuls. Administering justice was primarily the role of elected magistrates and specialized courts, while collecting taxes fell to various administrative officials rather than the Senate itself. Thus, the role of the Senate was centered around legislation and providing counsel, reinforcing its vital position in the political framework of ancient Rome.

10. What was one of the primary reasons for the fall of the Roman Empire?

A. Strong military forces

B. Increased trade alliances

C. Political instability and disorder

D. A powerful economy and workforce

The decline of the Roman Empire is intricately tied to the political instability and disorder that plagued the government in its later years. As the Empire expanded, it became increasingly difficult to manage its vast territories, leading to a series of ineffective and often corrupt leaders. Civil wars, power struggles, and the division of the Empire into Eastern and Western halves contributed to a lack of coherent governance and implemented reforms. This instability weakened the central authority, making it challenging to respond effectively to external threats from various invading groups, such as the Visigoths and Vandals. In addition, political infighting and a lack of legitimate succession led to frequent changes in leadership, which hindered long-term planning and stability. A strong political foundation is crucial for any state to thrive; however, in Rome's case, the loss of this foundation contributed significantly to the eventual disintegration of the Empire.

SAMPLE

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://ncfeworldhistory.examzify.com

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

SAMPLE