



# AICP<sup>Q&As</sup>

American Institute of Certified Planners Exam

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#### QUESTION 1

What year was SARA passed?

- A. 1980
- B. 1984
- C. 1986
- D. 1988

Correct Answer: C

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#### QUESTION 2

Which Housing Act allowed for Section 701 funds (funds to be used for comprehensive planning for communities less than 25,000)?

- A. Housing Act of 1954
- B. Housing Act of 1959
- C. Housing Act of 1964
- D. Housing Act of 1965

Correct Answer: A

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#### QUESTION 3

Who founded the Sierra Club and when?

- A. John Muir, 1892
- B. John Muir, 1893
- C. Jacob Riis, 1892
- D. Jacob Riis, 1893

Correct Answer: A

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#### QUESTION 4

What is the purpose of the 100th meridian?

- A. A longitudinal line



- B. A latitudinal line
- C. The equator
- D. Separates east and west by rainfall

Correct Answer: D

Correct answer, runs through N. and S. Dakota and Oklahoma panhandle marking the east which receives 20 inches more precipitation per year from the drier west.

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#### QUESTION 5

What percentage of urban residing American's live in poverty, according to the 2000 Census?

- A. 10%
- B. 15.9%
- C. 20%
- D. 24%

Correct Answer: B

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#### QUESTION 6

Which of the following greenbelt towns was never completed?

- A. Greenbrook, NJ
- B. Greenbelt, MD
- C. Greenhills, OH
- D. Greendale, WI

Correct Answer: A

(Did you know that greenbelt towns were originally owned by the federal government until they were sold to a private enterprise in the 1950's during the Eisenhower Admin.)

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#### QUESTION 7

Where was the first department store located?

- A. New York City, NY
- B. Los Angeles, CA
- C. Lexington, KY



D. Salt Lake City, Utah

Correct Answer: D

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### QUESTION 8

Scenario

You work as a city planner in Town X. You recently accepted additional planning employment in Town Y, which is about 15 miles away and in the next county. Towns X and Y are similar in many respects. As a consultant for Town Y, you recommend a 50-foot buffer around a lake to protect water quality. Town Y is about to take action on this recommendation. However, in town X there are no buffer regulations and substantial residential development has been proposed to include construction to within 10 feet of a lake. The mayor and the council are very supportive of the proposed development, but a lake conservation group is demanding a buffer of at least 50-feet around the lake. What might you do?

A. Answer: See the solution below

Correct Answer: A

First, understand that the moonlighting should have been clearly explained to the primary and secondary employers and approved in writing (Rule of Conduct 4). Full written disclosure to both towns prior to accepting work in Town Y should have said that there might be conflict. Planners should try to foresee consequences, and this situation is a logical consequence of working in two very similar communities. Even with full written disclosure before beginning to work for Town Y, as soon as the potential for conflict became apparent, you should have furnished a second written disclosure to both employers and received written permission to proceed (Rules of Conduct 3, 4). However, a planner should not advocate for two opposing positions simultaneously. (Rule of Conduct 3) So unless there is a very real difference between the two situations, such as a different geologic structure of the lakes, you should remove yourself from doing one job or the other. To continue in both positions and allow the conflicting recommendations to proceed will likely diminish your reputation and effectiveness in both communities (Ethical Principles 2, 3).

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### QUESTION 9

What was Saul Alinsky know for?

- A. Incrementalism
- B. Equity
- C. Community organization
- D. Transportation oriented design

Correct Answer: C

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### QUESTION 10

Scenario

You are a newly hired planner involved in the process of preparing a new recreation plan for your community. Your supervisor learns that the City Council is anxious to take action on a recreation plan, and therefore, you are instructed to



prepare the plan without scheduling any time for public participation or public comment. Suppose you learn that there is a regulation in place and that this is clearly a violation of the regulation. What might you do?

A. Answer: See the solution below

Correct Answer: A

When you learn that a violation has occurred, bring it to the attention of your director or supervisor. If you learn that the violation has occurred unintentionally, suggest remedies, such as delaying action on the plan until there is adequate time for a participatory process, scheduling a number of participatory events quickly, publicizing the events well, and revising the plan accordingly. It might be a good idea to discuss the situation with a more experienced planner (Ethical Principle 3) If the violation has occurred you discover that the violation has occurred intentionally, this is a very serious situation because as planners we shall not accept an assignment from an employer when the service to be performed involves conduct that we know to be illegal (Rule of Conduct 2)

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### QUESTION 11

Scenario

A site application is complete and is about to go before the planning commission. You have a conflict of interest because you personally own property near the proposed site and stand to benefit from the increase in property value that the new development is projected to generate. If you are the only planner in the community what might you do?

A. Answer: See the solution below

Correct Answer: A

You are definitely conflicted in this case. So first issue is to recognize this financial conflict of interest and disclose it. (Rule of Conduct 6) You have 2 options. One option is to get approval of your supervisor with full written disclosure as to your personal interest. You may get consent in writing to move forward and complete the review. The second option is to hire an independent consultant to review the situation. It is good policy for a planning department to pre-qualify consultants for such situations so that the matter can be expeditiously turned over. This may also be a good route to take if the applicant is a member of the city council and has hiring authority over the planner.

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### QUESTION 12

Which is a better insulation for a ceiling?

A. R-16

B. R-19

C. R-22

D. R-30

Correct Answer: D

Because the higher the number the better

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### QUESTION 13



A tribal designated statistical area is?

- A. A unit drawn by tribes that do not have a recognized area
- B. A unit drawn which recognizes an area for a tribe determined by the Federal Government
- C. A unit drawn which recognizes an area for a tribe determined by the State Government
- D. A unit only used in 29 states and usually corresponds to a municipality

Correct Answer: A

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#### QUESTION 14

Which of the following had the highest population density in 2000?

- A. New York
- B. San Francisco
- C. Los Angeles
- D. Dallas

Correct Answer: A

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#### QUESTION 15

What economic analysis is being referenced in question 55?

- A. Shift-share
- B. Input-output
- C. Economic benefit
- D. PERT

Correct Answer: C

As I understand it this term is interchangeable with Economic Base Analysis

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