AWS ACADEMY CLOUD FOUNDATIONS PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE)

STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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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 16

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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.

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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!

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Questions

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1. **Which AWS service would you use to improve content delivery?**

   A. Amazon S3

   B. Amazon CloudFront

   C. Amazon EC2

   D. Amazon RDS

2. **Which service can be used to connect on-premises networks to AWS VPCs?**

   A. Amazon CloudFront

   B. AWS Direct Connect

   C. Amazon Route 53

   D. Amazon EC2

3. **S3 replicates all objects _____.**

   A. in one availability zone

   B. across all AWS accounts

   C. in multiple availability zones within the same region

   D. in a single geographic region

4. **Which Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) feature ensures your instances will not share a physical host with instances from any other AWS customer?**

   A. Spot Instances

   B. Dynamically Scalable Instances

   C. Dedicated Instances

   D. Reserved Instances

5. **What is the primary function of AWS Secrets Manager?**

   A. To protect access to applications

   B. To schedule backups

   C. To automate deployments

   D. To provide monitoring tools

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6. What does the AWS Free Tier provide to new users?

A. Unlimited access to all AWS services

B. Free credits that can be used indefinitely

C. Limited access to AWS resources and services free of charge for a limited time

D. A premium subscription to exclusive features

7. Which component of AWS global infrastructure does Amazon CloudFront use to ensure low-latency delivery?

A. AWS Regions

B. AWS Availability Zones

C. AWS edge locations

D. AWS data centers

8. Your web application needs four instances to support steady traffic all of the time. On the last day of the month, the traffic triples. What is the most cost-effective way to handle this pattern?

A. Run four Reserved Instances constantly

B. Add eight Spot Instances

C. Run four Reserved Instances constantly, then add eight On-Demand Instances

D. Upgrade to larger Reserved Instances

9. How long does Amazon CloudWatch keep metric data?

A. 1 month

B. 6 months

C. 15 months

D. 2 years

10. Which of the following are geographic areas that host two or more Availability Zones?

A. AWS regions

B. AWS origins

C. Edge locations

D. Compute zones

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. Which AWS service would you use to improve content delivery?

A. Amazon S3

B. Amazon CloudFront

C. Amazon EC2

D. Amazon RDS

Amazon CloudFront is a content delivery network (CDN) service that significantly improves the delivery of your static and dynamic web content, such as HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and images, to users globally. By caching content at edge locations that are geographically closer to users, CloudFront reduces latency and speeds up the load time of websites and applications. This service optimizes the delivery process by serving cached content whenever possible and dynamically delivering content that isn't cached. Additionally, it integrates seamlessly with other AWS services, such as Amazon S3 for static file storage and Amazon EC2 for computing resources, enhancing the overall performance of web applications. The other services mentioned serve different purposes: Amazon S3 is primarily for object storage, Amazon EC2 provides compute capacity in the cloud, and Amazon RDS is focused on managed relational database services. While these services can be components of a web application architecture, they do not directly enhance content delivery in the same way that CloudFront does.

2. Which service can be used to connect on-premises networks to AWS VPCs?

A. Amazon CloudFront

B. AWS Direct Connect

C. Amazon Route 53

D. Amazon EC2

AWS Direct Connect is the service that facilitates a dedicated network connection from your on-premises infrastructure to your AWS Virtual Private Clouds (VPCs). This service offers several benefits, including lower latency, more consistent performance, and potentially reduced costs associated with data transfer compared to using standard internet connections. Amazon CloudFront is a content delivery network (CDN) that helps in delivering data, videos, applications, and APIs to customers globally with low latency. It does not provide capabilities to create a private connection between on-premises networks and AWS VPCs. Amazon Route 53 is a scalable Domain Name System (DNS) web service designed for routing internet traffic to resources within AWS and other locations. While it plays a role in directing users to your resources, it does not facilitate a physical or virtual connection between your on-premises network and your AWS environments. Amazon EC2 is a service that provides resizable compute capacity in the cloud. It is used to run applications but does not establish connectivity between on-premises infrastructure and AWS VPCs. In summary, AWS Direct Connect is specifically designed for the purpose of connecting on-premises networks to AWS, making it the correct choice in this scenario.

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3. S3 replicates all objects _____.

A. in one availability zone

B. across all AWS accounts

C. in multiple availability zones within the same region

D. in a single geographic region

Amazon S3 (Simple Storage Service) is designed to provide durability by automatically replicating data across multiple availability zones within the same region. This means that when an object is stored in S3, it is not confined to a single physical location; rather, it is replicated to different data centers (availability zones) that are geographically isolated but connected by low-latency links. This replication strategy is crucial because it enhances data availability and resilience to failures. Should one availability zone experience an outage or other issues, the data remains accessible from another availability zone, ensuring business continuity and minimizing data loss risk. By replicating data in multiple availability zones, S3 achieves a high level of durability, typically quoted at 99.999999999% (11 nines), which makes it reliable for storing critical information. In contrast, storing objects in one availability zone would limit redundancy and increase the risk of data loss. Replicating across all AWS accounts or in a single geographic region does not capture the benefit of multi-availability zone replication, which is central to Amazon S3's architecture for durability and availability.

4. Which Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) feature ensures your instances will not share a physical host with instances from any other AWS customer?

A. Spot Instances

B. Dynamically Scalable Instances

C. Dedicated Instances

D. Reserved Instances

Dedicated Instances are a feature of Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud (Amazon EC2) that guarantees your instances will run on physical hardware that is not shared with instances from other AWS customers. This ensures that you have exclusive access to the physical resources of the host for your instances, enhancing security and compliance for applications that require higher levels of isolation. By utilizing Dedicated Instances, organizations can meet specific regulatory or compliance requirements that necessitate the isolation of workloads from those of other AWS customers. This is particularly vital for sensitive data processing or applications that demand stringent privacy measures. Other EC2 options, such as Spot Instances, dynamically scalable instances, and Reserved Instances, do not provide this level of isolation. Spot Instances allow you to bid on unused capacity, which means they can be terminated at any time if the demand for instances increases, without ensuring the physical host's exclusivity. Dynamically scalable instances refer to the ability to automatically scale resources up or down based on demand but do not guarantee physical host isolation. Reserved Instances provide a way to reserve capacity in advance for a specified term, offering cost savings but again do not ensure physical isolation from other AWS customers.

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5. What is the primary function of AWS Secrets Manager?

A. To protect access to applications

B. To schedule backups

C. To automate deployments

D. To provide monitoring tools

AWS Secrets Manager is primarily designed to protect access to applications by securely managing and storing sensitive information, such as passwords, API keys, and database credentials. It allows users to safely retrieve these secrets through API calls, which aids in maintaining security as application codes can leverage these credentials without hardcoding them. This service also includes features such as automatic rotation of secrets, which adds an additional layer of security by ensuring that credentials remain up-to-date and are not exposed for extended periods. While scheduling backups is critical for data recovery, that function is more appropriately handled by services like AWS Backup or Amazon S3 lifecycle policies. Automating deployments is typically the concern of services such as AWS CodeDeploy or AWS CloudFormation, which focus on infrastructure management and continuous integration/continuous deployment (CI/CD) processes. Monitoring tools are provided by services like Amazon CloudWatch, which help in observing resource usage and performance metrics rather than managing sensitive credentials. Therefore, the primary role of AWS Secrets Manager is centered on the secure management of access credentials, making it a crucial component in maintaining application security.

6. What does the AWS Free Tier provide to new users?

A. Unlimited access to all AWS services

B. Free credits that can be used indefinitely

C. Limited access to AWS resources and services free of charge for a limited time

D. A premium subscription to exclusive features

The AWS Free Tier is designed to allow new users to explore and get hands-on experience with AWS services without incurring costs initially. This option provides a limited amount of access to specific AWS resources and services free of charge, but it has constraints such as usage limits and a defined period during which the free access is available, often for the first 12 months following account creation. This approach enables users to learn how to use AWS effectively while understanding the associated costs as they begin to utilize more extensive resources outside of the Free Tier limits. The Free Tier typically includes certain services that are available at no cost within specified parameters, which can help users experiment and build applications without immediate financial commitment. The other choices do not accurately describe the Free Tier. While the first choice suggests unlimited access, AWS restricts the services and usage to specific limits. The second option implies that credits can be used indefinitely, which is not true as the Free Tier usage is limited to the first year and specific quotas. The fourth choice, about a premium subscription, misrepresents the purpose of the Free Tier, which is to offer a trial rather than a paid subscription model.

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7. Which component of AWS global infrastructure does Amazon CloudFront use to ensure low-latency delivery?

A. AWS Regions

B. AWS Availability Zones

C. AWS edge locations

D. AWS data centers

Amazon CloudFront utilizes AWS edge locations to ensure low-latency delivery. Edge locations are strategically positioned worldwide and serve as content delivery points that cache content closer to end-users. This reduces the physical distance that data must travel, thereby improving access speed and minimizing latency. When a user requests content from CloudFront, the service can deliver that content from the nearest edge location, which results in faster load times for websites, videos, and other resources. These edge locations play a critical role in accelerating the distribution of dynamic and static web content, as well as APIs, by providing a seamless experience for users, regardless of their geographic location. This setup is particularly beneficial for applications that require high performance and quick response times. In contrast, AWS Regions and Availability Zones refer to larger geographic areas and their subdivisions that primarily offer compute, storage, and networking resources rather than optimizing content delivery. AWS data centers, while part of the infrastructure, are not specifically designed for low-latency distribution; rather, they function primarily as operational hubs for the resources contained within a region or availability zone.

8. Your web application needs four instances to support steady traffic all of the time. On the last day of the month, the traffic triples. What is the most cost-effective way to handle this pattern?

A. Run four Reserved Instances constantly

B. Add eight Spot Instances

C. Run four Reserved Instances constantly, then add eight On-Demand Instances

D. Upgrade to larger Reserved Instances

Running four Reserved Instances constantly, then adding eight On-Demand Instances is the most cost-effective way to manage the variable traffic pattern effectively. Reserved Instances provide a significant discount compared to On-Demand pricing for instances that are needed consistently, which is beneficial for the normal, steady traffic that your application experiences. By having four instances reserved, you ensure that you have the necessary capacity at a lower cost during regular usage. When the traffic significantly increases, as noted on the last day of the month when it triples, the additional On-Demand Instances can be quickly deployed to scale based on the immediate demand. On-Demand pricing allows you to adjust capacity without long-term commitments, which is ideal for handling sudden spikes in traffic. This approach balances both the cost and flexibility needs of your web application—the Reserved Instances provide predictable costs and stability during steady traffic, and the On-Demand Instances allow you to scale up as needed without pre-purchasing capacity that could lead to wasted resources during low-traffic periods. Upgrading to larger Reserved Instances would increase the costs unnecessarily since the current reserved capacity is sufficient for regular traffic. Similarly, relying only on Spot Instances poses a risk, as their availability fluctuates and they can be terminated at any time, which

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9. How long does Amazon CloudWatch keep metric data?

A. 1 month

B. 6 months

C. 15 months

D. 2 years

Amazon CloudWatch retains metric data for different periods based on the granularity of the data. For standard metrics, the data is stored for 15 months, which includes: - Data points with a granularity of 1 minute are available for 15 days. - Data points with a granularity of 5 minutes are available for 63 days. - Data points with a granularity of 1 hour are retained for 15 months. This retention policy allows users to analyze historical metrics and understand trends over the last year and beyond. This capability is essential for monitoring application performance and maintaining compliance, as users can access both recent and older metrics to make informed decisions. The other duration options, such as 1 month, 6 months, and 2 years, do not accurately reflect the retention schedule set by Amazon CloudWatch for standard metrics. This structure enables efficient data management and accessibility for various monitoring and alerting purposes within the AWS ecosystem.

10. Which of the following are geographic areas that host two or more Availability Zones?

A. AWS regions

B. AWS origins

C. Edge locations

D. Compute zones

The correct choice is AWS regions because these regions are defined as specific geographic areas that contain multiple Availability Zones. Each AWS region is a physically separated location within a specified geographic area, and it is designed to enable users to distribute resources across multiple Availability Zones for high availability, fault tolerance, and low latency. Each Availability Zone within a region consists of one or more data centers, and by leveraging these multiple zones, customers can architect applications that are resilient to failures. In contrast, the other options do not adequately describe a geographic area that hosts multiple Availability Zones. AWS origins is not a recognized term in AWS architecture. Edge locations are part of the Amazon CloudFront content delivery network and are used for caching content closer to users but do not consist of Availability Zones. Compute zones is also not a standard term used in AWS documentation to refer to geographic areas or infrastructure. Thus, the distinction between the terms is essential for understanding AWS infrastructure.

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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:

https://awsacademycloudfoundations.examzify.com

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

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