SNOWPRO ADVANCED ARCHITECT PRACTICE TEST (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 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.

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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. If a table is cloned, historical data for the table clone begins at the time/point when the clone was created.

A. False

B. It depends on retention

C. Historical data begins after clone creation

D. True

2. The number of load operations that run in parallel cannot exceed the number of data files to be loaded.

A. False

B. True

C. Only for certain warehouses

D. Depends on file size

3. What is the default scaling policy for multi-cluster warehouses?

A. Economy

B. Auto-scale

C. Maximized

D. Standard (default)

4. Does the search optimization service support tables with masking policies and row access policies?

A. No

B. Yes in Preview for Enterprise or Above

C. Yes for all Editions

D. Only with Special Enablement

5. Which clause sorts the result set by a specified column?

A. ORDER BY NAME sorts the results by the NAME column

B. GROUP BY NAME sorts the results by groups

C. SORT BY NAME sorts the results

D. ORDER NAME sorts the results

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6. Are cloud-based functions such as AWS Lambda and Microsoft Azure Functions considered remote services in Snowflake external functions?

A. True

B. False

C. Sometimes True

D. Not Sure

7. Which usage schema has higher latency for views, according to the material?

A. Information Schema

B. Data Sharing Usage

C. Account Usage

D. Organization Usage

8. In a VARIANT column, NULL values are stored as the string 'null' rather than the SQL NULL value.

A. False

B. True

C. Not applicable

D. Depends on the data type

9. To replicate data across Snowflake regions, you must maintain a separate Snowflake account in each region.

A. False

B. Not required

C. True

D. Only for replication

10. Which authentication method does the Kafka connector use?

A. Username/password requiring a password with numbers and letters

B. Key pair Authentication, which requires a 1024-bit (minimum) RSA key pair

C. Key pair Authentication, which requires a 2048-bit (minimum) RSA key pair

D. Username/password requiring a password with numbers, letters, and symbols

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Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. If a table is cloned, historical data for the table clone begins at the time/point when the clone was created.

A. False

B. It depends on retention

C. Historical data begins after clone creation

D. True

When you clone a table in Snowflake, you create a new object that references the source data as it exists at the exact moment of cloning. The clone is effectively a snapshot at that creation time, and after that moment any changes to the source do not alter the clone. Time Travel works per object, so you can query the clone as it existed at or after its creation, up to its retention period. There is no historical data for the clone from before it was created because the clone did not exist then. Thus, the clone's historical data begins at the moment of its creation, and you can travel forward in time from there (subject to the clone's own retention).

2. The number of load operations that run in parallel cannot exceed the number of data files to be loaded.

A. False

B. True

C. Only for certain warehouses

D. Depends on file size

Parallel loading is driven by how many files you have to load. Each parallel loader works on a single file, so you can't have more concurrent load operations than the number of data files staged for the load. If you have, say, five files, Snowflake can run up to five loaders in parallel (subject to warehouse capacity). If there are fewer files, some parallel slots stay idle. This behavior is consistent across warehouses and isn't dictated by file size.

3. What is the default scaling policy for multi-cluster warehouses?

A. Economy

B. Auto-scale

C. Maximized

D. Standard (default)

When a multi-cluster warehouse handles many users or heavy workloads, the scaling policy determines how many clusters Snowflake starts and stops to meet that demand. The default setting is Standard, which offers a balanced approach: it adds clusters as needed for higher concurrency but avoids keeping many clusters running all the time, helping manage costs. If you want automatic growth and shrinking in response to load, you can enable Auto-scale, which adjusts cluster counts within your defined min and max. Other policies lean toward more aggressive cost savings (Economy) or maximum performance (Maximized) and aren't the default.

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4. Does the search optimization service support tables with masking policies and row access policies?

A. No

B. Yes in Preview for Enterprise or Above

C. Yes for all Editions

D. Only with Special Enablement

The idea being tested is how feature availability for the Search Optimization Service is controlled by your Snowflake edition and preview status, especially when governance features like masking policies and row access policies are in play. The correct understanding is that this capability exists, but only in public preview for Enterprise or above. That means you can try it if your account is on Enterprise or higher and enrolled in the preview, but it isn't generally available to all editions or to GA yet. So when you see this option, it reflects that the feature is technically supported in that Preview scope, not universally across all editions.

5. Which clause sorts the result set by a specified column?

A. ORDER BY NAME sorts the results by the NAME column

B. GROUP BY NAME sorts the results by groups

C. SORT BY NAME sorts the results

D. ORDER NAME sorts the results

Sorting a result set in SQL is done with an ORDER BY clause. It arranges rows according to the values in a specified column, and by default this is in ascending order. In the example, ORDER BY NAME sorts the results by the NAME column, placing rows in alphabetical order (you can specify DESC for descending). GROUP BY NAME would not sort the entire result set; it groups rows by NAME instead. SORT BY NAME isn't a standard SQL clause, and ORDER NAME is missing the required BY keyword. So the clause that sorts the result set by a specified column is ORDER BY NAME.

6. Are cloud-based functions such as AWS Lambda and Microsoft Azure Functions considered remote services in Snowflake external functions?

A. True

B. False

C. Sometimes True

D. Not Sure

External functions let Snowflake run code that lives outside Snowflake by calling out to a remote service. Cloud-based functions like AWS Lambda and Microsoft Azure Functions run in their own managed, serverless environments, separate from Snowflake. When you define an external function, Snowflake makes an HTTP(S) call to the remote endpoint hosted by that service, sending input data and receiving output to return to your query. The actual computation happens outside Snowflake, in the Lambda or Azure Functions environment, which is exactly what a remote service is in this context. So these cloud-based functions are considered remote services, making the statement true.

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7. Which usage schema has higher latency for views, according to the material?

A. Information Schema

B. Data Sharing Usage

C. Account Usage

D. Organization Usage

Account Usage views are higher latency because this schema is populated from usage logs on a scheduled batch process intended for historical analytics rather than real-time visibility. Updates to usage data, including view activity, are produced after the data pipeline runs, introducing a delay. In contrast, Information Schema is tied to current metadata and updates almost immediately as objects change, giving much lower latency.

8. In a VARIANT column, NULL values are stored as the string 'null' rather than the SQL NULL value.

A. False

B. True

C. Not applicable

D. Depends on the data type

VARIANT holds semi-structured data like JSON, including the JSON null value. When a JSON field is null, Snowflake represents that as a SQL NULL when you access the field, not as the literal text 'null'. The string 'null' is just a real string value if you explicitly stored those characters, and it does not represent a missing value. So NULL within a VARIANT is not stored as the string 'null'; it is represented as SQL NULL when queried.

9. To replicate data across Snowflake regions, you must maintain a separate Snowflake account in each region.

A. False

B. Not required

C. True

D. Only for replication

Cross-region replication in Snowflake relies on a primary account and a separate secondary account in the destination region. To replicate data to another region, you provision a Snowflake account in that region and configure replication between the primary account and the secondary account in the target region. The replicated objects sit in that target account, and failover or recovery can be managed from there. Because each destination region requires its own account, you must maintain a separate Snowflake account in every region you want replicas in. If you only replicate to one region, you need one additional account; for multiple regions, you need an account in each.

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10. Which authentication method does the Kafka connector use?

A. Username/password requiring a password with numbers and letters

B. Key pair Authentication, which requires a 1024-bit (minimum) RSA key pair

C. Key pair Authentication, which requires a 2048-bit (minimum) RSA key pair

D. Username/password requiring a password with numbers, letters, and symbols

Key pair authentication using RSA client certificates is the method the Kafka connector uses. This relies on TLS mutual authentication, where the client proves its identity with a private key that corresponds to a certificate trusted by the broker, rather than sending a password. That's why the correct option specifies a key pair approach rather than username/password. Among key pair options, the 2048-bit minimum RSA key length is chosen because it provides substantially stronger security against factoring attacks than 1024-bit keys, which are considered insecure and are generally deprecated. In practice, you'd configure TLS with the client's keystore containing the private key and certificate, and a truststore with the broker's CA certificate.

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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://snowproadvancedarchitect.examzify.com

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

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