# AWS ACADEMY CLOUD FOUNDATIONS PRACTICE EXAM (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

**1. What is the number one reason businesses are switching to cloud computing?**

A. Finite infrastructure

B. Instant configuration

C. Increased speed and agility

D. Over-provisioning

**2. What is an AWS Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) peering connection?**

A. A dedicated internet connection between two data centers

B. A networking connection between two VPCs that enables routing of traffic using private IPv4 or IPv6 addresses

C. A service for managing user access controls

D. A protocol for encrypting data in transit

**3. Amazon EBS is recommended when data _____ and _____.**

A. is stored in a public bucket, is temporary

B. requires an encryption solution, must be quickly accessible

C. is infrequently accessed, is large

D. is viewed publicly, must be archived

**4. Which service would you use to manage and authenticate users in AWS?**

A. AWS Directory Service

B. AWS IAM

C. AWS Cognito

D. AWS Lambda

**5. True or False? Private subnets have direct access to the Internet.**

A. True

B. False

C. Only through a NAT Gateway

D. Only with an Internet Gateway

**6. How does Amazon RDS simplify database management?**

A. By handling routine tasks such as backups and upgrades

B. By providing database storage for server-less applications

C. By consolidating data analytics into one platform

D. By enabling cross-region data replication

**7. What is true about regions? (choose two)**

A. They are the physical locations of your customers

B. All regions are located in one specific geographic area

C. A region is a physical location that has multiple Availability Zones

D. Each region is located in a separate geographic area

**8. On what basis is AWS Lambda's billing calculated?**

A. Per instance per hour

B. The number of requests and the duration of code execution

C. Monthly subscriptions

D. Static monthly fees regardless of usage

**9. Which support plan is designed primarily for production workloads?**

A. Developer Support

B. Basic Support

C. Business Support

D. Enterprise Support

**10. What tool in AWS helps compare the cost of running applications in an on-premises data center versus AWS?**

A. Total Cost of Ownership

B. Total Cost of Operation calculator

C. Total cost of application

D. Total cost of products

# Answers

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

# Explanations

## 1. What is the number one reason businesses are switching to cloud computing?

A. Finite infrastructure

B. Instant configuration

C. Increased speed and agility

D. Over-provisioning

*The primary reason businesses are transitioning to cloud computing revolves around increased speed and agility. In the cloud environment, organizations can quickly provision and scale resources based on their needs, allowing them to adapt to changing market conditions or customer demands without the delays associated with traditional computing setups. This newfound agility enables companies to innovate faster, improve their operational efficiency, and respond to business opportunities in real-time. The cloud's infrastructure-as-a-service model means that businesses no longer have to commit to substantial upfront investments in hardware or wait long periods for deployment. Instead, they can deploy applications and services rapidly and scale them up or down according to their requirements. This flexibility not only enhances speed but also empowers teams to experiment and iterate, fostering a culture of innovation. While finite infrastructure refers to the limitations faced by on-premises systems and over-provisioning relates to inefficient resource allocation, these factors don't encompass the transformative capabilities that cloud computing provides. Instant configuration might enhance certain aspects of cloud deployment, but the overarching benefit of increased speed and agility is the most compelling reason driving businesses toward the cloud.*

## 2. What is an AWS Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) peering connection?

A. A dedicated internet connection between two data centers

B. A networking connection between two VPCs that enables routing of traffic using private IPv4 or IPv6 addresses

C. A service for managing user access controls

D. A protocol for encrypting data in transit

*A Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) peering connection is a networking connection that allows two separate VPCs to communicate with each other using private IPv4 or IPv6 addresses. This allows resources in one VPC to access resources in another VPC as if they were part of the same network. VPC peering is an essential feature within AWS that facilitates communication between different VPCs within the same region or across different regions, without exposing the traffic to the public internet, thus maintaining high security and performance. With VPC peering, you can directly route traffic between VPCs, making it particularly useful in scenarios where applications or services need to communicate with each other but reside in different VPCs. This is common in multi-tier applications or when separating environments such as development and production, where resources need to communicate but should remain isolated for security or compliance reasons. By enabling the use of private IP addresses for routing traffic between the VPCs, VPC peering alleviates the need for complex routing configurations or the use of VPN connections, simplifying network architecture within AWS.*

## 3. Amazon EBS is recommended when data _____ and _____.

A. is stored in a public bucket, is temporary

B. requires an encryption solution, must be quickly accessible

C. is infrequently accessed, is large

D. is viewed publicly, must be archived

*Amazon Elastic Block Store (EBS) is a cloud storage solution provided by AWS that is designed to be used with Amazon EC2 instances. It is well-suited for scenarios where data needs to be both highly accessible and secure, making it an ideal choice for applications and workloads that require fast and reliable data access. Data that "requires an encryption solution" benefits from EBS's built-in encryption capabilities, allowing sensitive information to be stored securely. This is particularly important for compliance with regulatory requirements and safeguarding customer information. Furthermore, data that "must be quickly accessible" aligns with EBS's purpose of providing low-latency block storage. EBS volumes can be attached to EC2 instances and enable fast read and write operations, making them essential for applications that require immediate access to data, such as databases, transactional applications, and other workloads where performance is critical. The other choices illustrate scenarios that do not align with EBS's strengths. For example, storing data in a public bucket suggests an object storage solution like Amazon S3, while infrequently accessed and large data sets are better suited for Amazon S3's capabilities rather than EBS. Lastly, data that is viewed publicly and must be archived points towards S3's strengths in handling static*

## 4. Which service would you use to manage and authenticate users in AWS?

A. AWS Directory Service

B. AWS IAM

C. AWS Cognito

D. AWS Lambda

*AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM) is the primary service for managing users and permissions in AWS. With IAM, you can create and manage AWS users and groups and set permissions to allow or deny access to AWS resources. It enables fine-grained control over user access, allowing you to implement security best practices by granting the least privilege principle. IAM is designed specifically for managing permissions and identities within the AWS infrastructure, which makes it suitable for authenticating users who need to access AWS services directly. This means you can control who can log in and what actions they can take based on their assigned permissions. While other services like AWS Directory Service and AWS Cognito also deal with user management, they serve different purposes. The Directory Service focuses on creating a managed Microsoft Active Directory environment and integrating AWS resources within that context, and is not the go-to for directly managing AWS user permissions. AWS Cognito is aimed at developers who need to add user sign-up and sign-in functionality to their applications, but it primarily focuses on web and mobile app user authentication rather than managing AWS-level permissions and access controls that IAM handles. AWS Lambda is a compute service that runs code in response to events, and it does not provide user management or authentication capabilities. Therefore, IAM is the*

## 5. True or False? Private subnets have direct access to the Internet.

A. True

B. False

C. Only through a NAT Gateway

D. Only with an Internet Gateway

*Private subnets do not have direct access to the Internet. This is primarily because resources located in a private subnet are designed to be accessible only from within the Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) or via specific means like Virtual Private Network (VPN) connections or AWS Direct Connect. When a subnet is defined as private, it means that it does not have an associated route to an Internet Gateway, which is the component that facilitates external Internet connectivity within a VPC. As a result, instances in a private subnet cannot directly initiate outbound connections to the Internet nor can they receive inbound connections from the Internet. For resources within a private subnet to access the Internet, they typically must go through a Network Address Translation (NAT) Gateway or NAT instance, which allow those resources to send outbound traffic to the Internet while still keeping the resources shielded from direct inbound traffic. This limitation maintains the security posture of the subnet, ensuring that critical data and services do not face direct exposure to potential Internet threats. In summary, the assertion that private subnets have direct access to the Internet is false; they lack this capability unless specifically configured to operate through NAT gateways, emphasizing their designed purpose for isolation and security within the AWS environment.*

## 6. How does Amazon RDS simplify database management?

A. By handling routine tasks such as backups and upgrades

B. By providing database storage for server-less applications

C. By consolidating data analytics into one platform

D. By enabling cross-region data replication

*Amazon RDS, or Relational Database Service, simplifies database management primarily by automating routine tasks, which significantly reduces the administrative burden on users. With RDS, many everyday database maintenance activities such as backups, software patching, scaling, and failover are automatically managed. This means that users do not need to manually perform these tasks, allowing them to focus more on application development and less on database management. RDS automatically creates backups of the databases and can perform point-in-time recovery, ensuring data availability and durability. It also manages database engine upgrades and can scale compute and storage resources up or down as needed based on application requirements. By providing these services, Amazon RDS enhances operational efficiency and reliability, making database management more straightforward and accessible to developers and system administrators alike, regardless of their expertise level. Other options refer to features of AWS services that, while beneficial in certain contexts, do not specifically address the automation and management aspect that RDS provides. For example, offering database storage for serverless applications pertains more to AWS Lambda and its integration with databases rather than the specific management functionalities of RDS.*

## 7. What is true about regions? (choose two)

A. They are the physical locations of your customers

B. All regions are located in one specific geographic area

C. A region is a physical location that has multiple Availability Zones

D. Each region is located in a separate geographic area

*A region in AWS is indeed a physical location that contains multiple Availability Zones. This design is critical for providing high availability and fault tolerance. Each Availability Zone consists of one or more data centers, and they are engineered to be independent from one another. This means that if one Availability Zone experiences an issue, the others can continue to operate, allowing for applications and services to remain available even in case of localized failures. The concept of having multiple Availability Zones within a region is central to AWS's architecture, allowing users to design resilient applications that can withstand outages and provide consistent performance levels. This setup also supports disaster recovery strategies by enabling the distribution of applications and data across different physical locations within the same region. In terms of geographic distinctions, while a region might serve a broad area, it is composed of several strategically placed Availability Zones. Thus, the correct understanding of regions being defined by their multiple Availability Zones is essential for effective cloud architecture and resource management.*

## 8. On what basis is AWS Lambda's billing calculated?

A. Per instance per hour

B. The number of requests and the duration of code execution

C. Monthly subscriptions

D. Static monthly fees regardless of usage

*AWS Lambda's billing is calculated based on two main factors: the number of requests your function handles and the duration of code execution. Specifically, AWS Lambda charges you for each request that your function receives and for the compute time that your code takes to execute. The number of requests is simply the count of how many times your function is called. Meanwhile, the duration is measured in milliseconds, starting from the moment your code begins execution until it finishes or returns a response. This model allows for a highly scalable and flexible pricing structure, where you only pay for the resources you actually use, rather than for reserved capacity or a flat monthly fee. By focusing on usage, AWS Lambda supports a pay-as-you-go model that is beneficial for applications with variable usage patterns. This means you avoid the costs associated with pre-provisioned infrastructure while only incurring costs directly correlated to your application's activity.*

## 9. Which support plan is designed primarily for production workloads?

A. Developer Support

B. Basic Support

C. Business Support

D. Enterprise Support

*The Enterprise Support plan is specifically tailored for businesses running critical production workloads on AWS. It offers comprehensive support, including access to a Technical Account Manager (TAM), 24/7 access to Cloud Support Engineers, and a faster response time to support cases, which is vital for any production environment that requires immediate assistance to minimize downtime and ensure smooth operation. Furthermore, this support tier provides architectural guidance, best practices for operating in the cloud, and proactive management for system performance and cost optimization. The dedicated support focuses on minimizing disruptions and enhancing performance, which is essential for organizations that depend on seamless operations for their production services. The other options, while they offer various levels of support, do not provide the same level of services and responsiveness tailored for high-stakes production environments. For instance, the Business Support plan also supports production workloads but lacks some of the advanced features that Enterprise Support provides, such as a dedicated TAM and the highest level of response times. Therefore, for organizations with critical production needs, the Enterprise Support plan stands out as the most suitable and robust choice.*

## 10. What tool in AWS helps compare the cost of running applications in an on-premises data center versus AWS?

A. Total Cost of Ownership

B. Total Cost of Operation calculator

C. Total cost of application

D. Total cost of products

*The tool that assists in comparing the cost of running applications in an on-premises data center versus AWS is referred to as the Total Cost of Ownership (TCO). This approach helps organizations assess their existing infrastructure costs against what they would incur if they moved to the cloud. The TCO calculator provides insights into the various factors influencing cost, including hardware, software, personnel, and operational overhead. It calculates and compares these costs across different deployment models, enabling businesses to make informed decisions about potential migration to AWS. The TCO analysis emphasizes the long-term savings and efficiencies that can be realized through cloud adoption, helping organizations weigh the financial implications of their current operations against AWS offerings. Other choices, while they might seem relevant, do not specifically serve the purpose of a direct cost comparison between on-premises setups and AWS cloud solutions in the same structured way.*

# 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!