AWS Certified Developer Associate Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Table of Contents

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. Is CloudFormation free to use?

A. Yes, it is completely free

B. No, you have to pay for the service

C. CloudFormation is free, but resources provisioned incur charges

D. It is free for the first year only

2. Is Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) push-based or pull-based?

A. Push-based

B. Pull-based

C. Hybrid

D. None of the above

3. Which part of AWS can you contact to increase your provisioned throughput limits for DynamoDB?

A. AWS Support

B. AWS CloudWatch

C. AWS IAM

D. AWS Config

4. How are writes measured in DynamoDB?

A. 2 KB per write

B. 1 KB per write

C. 500 bytes per write

D. 4 KB per write

5. What is one read capacity unit equivalent to for eventually consistent reads in DynamoDB?

A. One read per second for items up to 4 KB

B. Two reads per second for items up to 4 KB

C. One read per second for items up to 8 KB

D. Two reads per second for items up to 8 KB

6. What is the maximum file size you can transfer to S3 using a PUT request?

A. 1 GB

B. 5 GB

C. 10 GB

D. No limit

7. Which programming language is not supported by the AWS SDK?

A. JavaScript

B. Python

C. C++

D. Java

8. Which Amazon service allows you to receive notifications via HTTP/S?

A. AWS Lambda

B. Amazon SNS

C. Amazon S3

D. Amazon RDS

9. What is the maximum size of SQS messages in terms of text content?

A. 128 KB

B. 256 KB

C. 512 KB

D. 1 MB

10. Do subnets in a VPC need to be either public or private?

A. Yes, they must be categorized

B. No, subnets can be hybrid

C. Only public subnets are allowed

D. Only private subnets are allowed

Answers

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

Explanations

1. Is CloudFormation free to use?

A. Yes, it is completely free

B. No, you have to pay for the service

C. CloudFormation is free, but resources provisioned incur charges

D. It is free for the first year only

CloudFormation is indeed free to use in terms of the service itself; however, any resources that you provision using CloudFormation do incur charges based on standard AWS pricing. This means that while you can create and manage your infrastructure as code without any direct fees associated with CloudFormation, you will still pay for the underlying AWS services and resources that get created through your templates. This often leads to scenarios where users can launch multiple environments or stacks using CloudFormation, but they need to be aware that costs will accrue depending on the types of resources they deploy, such as EC2 instances, RDS databases, S3 storage, etc. Understanding this distinction is crucial for managing costs effectively while using CloudFormation in your AWS environment.

2. Is Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) push-based or pull-based?

A. Push-based

B. Pull-based

C. Hybrid

D. None of the above

Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) is classified as a push-based messaging service. This means that SNS sends notifications directly to subscribers or endpoints as soon as a message is published, rather than waiting for the subscribers to request the messages. In a push-based system like SNS, when a message is published to a topic, it is immediately delivered to all subscribed endpoints – which can include applications, mobile devices, or email addresses. Subscribers do not need to request or poll for new messages; they receive them in real time as they are published. This is particularly useful for use cases that require immediate notification, such as alerting or real-time updates. The other potential classifications do not accurately reflect how SNS operates. A pull-based system would require subscribers to actively check for new messages (polling), which does not apply to SNS. Hybrid systems would involve characteristics of both push and pull, but SNS does not have this functionality, focusing solely on the push model. Therefore, the classification of SNS as push-based is essential for understanding its design and use cases in managing notification workflows.

3. Which part of AWS can you contact to increase your provisioned throughput limits for DynamoDB?

A. AWS Support

B. AWS CloudWatch

C. AWS IAM

D. AWS Config

The correct choice is AWS Support because they are the dedicated team responsible for assisting customers with service limits and other account-related requests within AWS. When it comes to DynamoDB, the service has specific throughput limits that can affect application performance. If you require more throughput capacity than what is currently provisioned for your DynamoDB tables, contacting AWS Support is the appropriate step to request an increase in those limits. AWS CloudWatch serves as a monitoring service that provides data and insights about your AWS resources, but it does not facilitate changes to resource limits. Rather, it can help you track the performance and utilization of your DynamoDB tables. AWS IAM (Identity and Access Management) is focused on managing access to AWS services and resources securely. While it is essential for controlling permissions and access policies, it does not play a role in adjusting throughput limits. AWS Config is a service designed for resource tracking and compliance monitoring. It helps you assess, audit, and evaluate the configurations of your AWS resources. Similar to CloudWatch, it does not have functionality related to modifying service limits. Thus, when seeking to increase provisioned throughput limits for DynamoDB, AWS Support is the appropriate contact point.

4. How are writes measured in DynamoDB?

A. 2 KB per write

B. 1 KB per write

C. 500 bytes per write

D. 4 KB per write

In DynamoDB, write operations are measured based on the size of the item being written. Specifically, one write capacity unit (WCU) allows you to perform one write operation for an item up to 1 KB in size. If the item exceeds 1 KB, additional write capacity units will be consumed correspondingly. So, when you write an item that is, for instance, 1 KB or smaller, it will consume a single write capacity unit. If the item is larger, say 2 KB, it would consume two write capacity units. This scaling is crucial for understanding how to optimize your database operations and manage costs effectively. In contrast, other size options referenced in the erroneous choices do not align with DynamoDB's pricing model, where establishing the correct unit of measure (1 KB) is key for managing write operations. Understanding this concept helps in estimating the required throughput and budgeting for usage based on the expected item sizes in your application.

5. What is one read capacity unit equivalent to for eventually consistent reads in DynamoDB?

A. One read per second for items up to 4 KB

B. Two reads per second for items up to 4 KB

C. One read per second for items up to 8 KB

D. Two reads per second for items up to 8 KB

One read capacity unit for eventually consistent reads in DynamoDB is equivalent to one read per second for items up to 4 KB in size. Eventually consistent reads provide the most flexibility and cost-effectiveness when accessing data, allowing for high performance while minimizing costs associated with read throughput. Eventual consistency means that when a read request is made, it may not reflect the latest write unless that write has propagated to all storage locations. However, the advantage is that you can consume half the read capacity when compared to strongly consistent reads. In the case of strongly consistent reads, one read capacity unit would be required for each read operation on an item up to 4 KB. Therefore, considering that it takes one read capacity unit to perform one eventually consistent read for an item of this size, this directly aligns with the understanding that one read capacity unit allows you to retrieve one 4 KB item per second under eventual consistency. This fundamental concept is essential for determining how to plan your read capacity in applications making use of DynamoDB.

6. What is the maximum file size you can transfer to S3 using a PUT request?

A. 1 GB

B. 5 GB

C. 10 GB

D. No limit

The maximum file size that can be transferred to Amazon S3 using a PUT request is 5 GB. This limitation applies specifically when using a single PUT operation to upload a file. For files larger than 5 GB, AWS S3 provides the Multipart Upload feature, allowing you to upload your file in multiple parts, which can each be up to 5 GB in size. This method is particularly useful for transferring large files efficiently and ensures that if an upload fails, you can simply retry uploading the failed parts rather than starting the entire upload process over again. Understanding this limitation is important for developers working with AWS, as it impacts how they design their applications for file uploads. For instance, if an application frequently deals with large file uploads, it would need to implement Multipart Upload to handle those files effectively rather than relying on a single PUT request. This knowledge also highlights the flexibility and scalability of Amazon S3 for handling various sizes of files through its different upload methods.

7. Which programming language is not supported by the AWS SDK?

A. JavaScript

B. Python

C. C++

D. Java

The AWS SDK (Software Development Kit) is designed to facilitate the development of applications using various programming languages, providing developers with a set of tools, libraries, and documentation that make it easier to interact with AWS services. C++ is indeed supported by AWS through the AWS SDK for C++. The SDK includes libraries for several languages to provide access to AWS services, including popular languages like JavaScript, Python, and Java. Each of these languages has a dedicated SDK that allows developers to write applications that can seamlessly interact with various AWS services such as S3, DynamoDB, and EC2, among others. While developers have the option to use other methods or libraries for different languages, C++ is generally recognized and supported within AWS's set of programming languages for their SDK, along with the others mentioned. Therefore, it is important to ensure clarity around which languages are actually part of AWS's official support for SDKs.

8. Which Amazon service allows you to receive notifications via HTTP/S?

A. AWS Lambda

B. Amazon SNS

C. Amazon S3

D. Amazon RDS

Amazon Simple Notification Service (SNS) is the service that enables the delivery of messages or notifications via various protocols, including HTTP and HTTPS. When you use Amazon SNS, you can create topics and subscribe endpoints to those topics. These endpoints can be HTTP/S endpoints, allowing for automated communication with web servers or applications that listen for notifications. When a message is published to a topic, SNS sends a notification to all subscribers of that topic using the specified protocol. The ability to communicate via HTTP/S is particularly useful for applications that need to react to real-time notifications, enabling seamless integration with web services and application workflows. While other services like AWS Lambda, Amazon S3, and Amazon RDS are integral aspects of the AWS ecosystem, they do not directly provide functionality for sending notifications via HTTP/S. Lambda handles event-driven computing, S3 is focused on object storage, and RDS is a managed database service. Thus, the specific capability to send notifications through HTTP/S makes Amazon SNS the correct choice.

9. What is the maximum size of SQS messages in terms of text content?

A. 128 KB

B. 256 KB

C. 512 KB

D. 1 MB

The maximum size of a message that can be sent using Amazon Simple Queue Service (SQS) is 256 KB. This limit includes both the message body and any attributes associated with the message. It's important to recognize that this size restriction ensures messages can be quickly processed and retrieved without overwhelming the SQS infrastructure. Understanding this limit is critical when designing applications that utilize SQS for message queuing. If your application needs to handle larger messages, you would need to implement a different strategy, such as breaking down larger payloads into smaller messages or using services like Amazon S3 to store larger data and sending a reference to that data in the SQS message. Overall, knowing that the message size is capped at 256 KB helps developers make informed decisions about message formats and processing logic when integrating SQS into their applications.

10. Do subnets in a VPC need to be either public or private?

A. Yes, they must be categorized

B. No, subnets can be hybrid

C. Only public subnets are allowed

D. Only private subnets are allowed

Subnets within a Virtual Private Cloud (VPC) indeed fall into two primary categories: public and private. A public subnet is one that has a route to an Internet Gateway, allowing resources within the subnet to communicate directly with the internet. Conversely, a private subnet does not have such direct access to the internet; instead, resources within it may communicate with the internet via a Network Address Translation (NAT) gateway or instance. By categorizing subnets into public or private, it helps define the level of accessibility and the type of resources that can be deployed within them. This categorization is essential for implementing security measures, controlling data flow, and maintaining an organized network structure. Properly distinguishing between the two types of subnets allows for more effective architecture of a VPC, tailored to specific application needs and security compliance. The other options suggest various extremes regarding subnet classification, which do not accurately reflect the flexible and purposeful design of VPC networks. Thus, the correct understanding that subnets must be categorized into public or private is fundamental to managing a VPC effectively.

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://awscertifieddevassociate.examzify.com

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