

CISA DOMAIN 4 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

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- 1. To minimize data loss, how frequently should backups be performed in relation to recovery point objectives?**
 - A. Backups should always be completed daily.
 - B. Backups should not exceed the recovery time objective.
 - C. Backups should not exceed the recovery point objective.
 - D. Backups should be conducted only during off-peak hours.
- 2. Which type of continuity plan test simulates a system crash using actual resources?**
 - A. Paper test
 - B. Post-test
 - C. Preparedness test
 - D. Walk-through
- 3. Which statement best describes the importance of backup intervals for an organization's disaster recovery requirements?**
 - A. Backup intervals should not exceed the service level objective.
 - B. Backup intervals should not exceed the recovery time objective.
 - C. Backup intervals should not exceed the recovery point objective.
 - D. Backup intervals should not exceed the maximum acceptable outage.
- 4. To maintain data integrity within a relational database, what key design aspect must be upheld when references are made across tables?**
 - A. Referential integrity
 - B. Data normalization
 - C. Database indexing
 - D. Access control mechanisms
- 5. What is vital for maintaining the integrity of a production environment?**
 - A. Continuous training for all users.
 - B. Regular system audits.
 - C. Establishing a risk management framework.
 - D. Implementing strict access controls.

- 6. Which indicator best verifies that disaster recovery procedures meet requirements?**
- A. A documented procedures approved by management.
 - B. Procedures reviewed against industry best practices.
 - C. A tabletop exercise using the procedures was conducted.
 - D. Documented recovery teams and their responsibilities.
- 7. What is the initial approach in developing a disaster recovery strategy?**
- A. All threats can be completely removed
 - B. Implement a cost-effective resilience
 - C. Optimize the recovery time objective
 - D. Minimize the recovery costs
- 8. How should organizations ensure that their data backups are effective?**
- A. Regularly test the restore capability
 - B. Store backups in multiple formats
 - C. Keep backups at the same location as the primary data
 - D. Limit access to backups to a single administrator
- 9. What method of routing traffic through split-cable facilities is referred to as?**
- A. Alternative routing
 - B. Diverse routing
 - C. Long-haul network diversity
 - D. Last-mile circuit protection
- 10. What should be done after a disaster to ensure recovery objectives have been met?**
- A. Conduct a post-event analysis
 - B. Implement new recovery strategies
 - C. File an insurance claim
 - D. Notify stakeholders of the recovery status

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. To minimize data loss, how frequently should backups be performed in relation to recovery point objectives?

- A. Backups should always be completed daily.
- B. Backups should not exceed the recovery time objective.
- C. Backups should not exceed the recovery point objective.**
- D. Backups should be conducted only during off-peak hours.

The correct answer focuses on the relationship between backup frequency and recovery point objectives (RPO). The recovery point objective is the maximum tolerable period during which data might be lost due to a major incident. To minimize data loss, backups must be performed in such a way that they do not exceed the established RPO. If backups are less frequent than the RPO, there is a risk that data created between the last backup and an incident may be lost. By ensuring that backups are conducted at intervals that meet or are less than the RPO, organizations can effectively minimize potential data loss and ensure that in the event of a system failure or data breach, the restored data will be as recent as possible. In contrast, stating that backups should always be completed daily does not account for situations where more frequent backups may be necessary based on the RPO requirements. Saying backups should not exceed the recovery time objective misinterprets the role of the RTO, which focuses on how quickly systems must be restored rather than how often data needs to be backed up. Conducting backups only during off-peak hours may not adequately meet the frequency needed to comply with RPOs, leading to greater data loss than acceptable. Thus, by aligning backup frequency with the

2. Which type of continuity plan test simulates a system crash using actual resources?

- A. Paper test
- B. Post-test
- C. Preparedness test**
- D. Walk-through

The correct choice reflects a test that closely resembles real-world scenarios by simulating a system crash using actual resources. A preparedness test often involves running through the operational procedures and deploying resources as if a disaster were occurring. This hands-on approach allows organizations to assess the effectiveness of their continuity plans under real conditions, providing insight into the response capabilities of the team and the robustness of the systems involved. In contrast, other types of tests such as paper tests typically involve reviewing documentation and plans without implementing any actual resources or real-world conditions. Post-tests aim to analyze and discuss the outcomes after a test has been conducted, while walk-throughs are generally discussions where team members go through the steps of a plan without active participation in executing those steps. Thus, the preparedness test stands out as it engages the team in a practical simulation, ensuring they are ready to respond effectively in the event of an actual crisis.

3. Which statement best describes the importance of backup intervals for an organization's disaster recovery requirements?

- A. Backup intervals should not exceed the service level objective.
- B. Backup intervals should not exceed the recovery time objective.
- C. Backup intervals should not exceed the recovery point objective.**
- D. Backup intervals should not exceed the maximum acceptable outage.

The significance of backup intervals in relation to an organization's disaster recovery requirements is best captured by the recovery point objective (RPO). The recovery point objective defines the maximum acceptable amount of data loss measured in time. Therefore, backup intervals must align with this objective to ensure that, in the event of a disaster, the organization can restore its systems to a point that is within the RPO. For example, if an organization has established an RPO of one hour, it is essential that backups occur at least every hour. This means that if a disaster were to occur, the organization would only lose data generated in the last hour, thereby minimizing data loss and disruptions to business operations. In contrast, service level objectives and recovery time objectives relate to the time frame for services to be restored after a disaster, but they do not directly define the frequency of data backups. Lastly, the maximum acceptable outage pertains to the overall maximum downtime allowed for services, which, while important, does not specifically address the need to minimize data loss through appropriate backup intervals. Thus, understanding and adhering to the recovery point objective is critical for effectively planning and executing backup strategies within a disaster recovery plan.

4. To maintain data integrity within a relational database, what key design aspect must be upheld when references are made across tables?

- A. Referential integrity**
- B. Data normalization
- C. Database indexing
- D. Access control mechanisms

The correct answer is referential integrity. This concept is essential in relational databases because it ensures that relationships between tables remain consistent. When a table references another table, referential integrity enforces rules that protect the validity of these references. For example, if a foreign key in one table points to a primary key in another, referential integrity ensures that every foreign key entry corresponds to a valid primary key entry. This prevents orphaned records—instances where a record in one table points to a record in another table that does not exist. By maintaining referential integrity, databases ensure that relationships between tables do not lead to inconsistencies, which is crucial for data accuracy and reliability. It is a fundamental principle that maintains data integrity and can help prevent data anomalies during insert, update, or delete operations. In contrast, while data normalization helps organize the database to reduce redundancy, it does not specifically enforce the relationships between tables. Database indexing improves performance and speed of data retrieval, but it does not impact the integrity of references across tables. Access control mechanisms, although critical for security and user permissions, do not directly affect data integrity within the relational model. Each of these elements plays a role in database management, but referential integrity is the key aspect specifically related to maintaining

5. What is vital for maintaining the integrity of a production environment?

- A. Continuous training for all users.
- B. Regular system audits.
- C. Establishing a risk management framework.
- D. Implementing strict access controls.**

Maintaining the integrity of a production environment is critically dependent on implementing strict access controls. Access controls are essential for ensuring that only authorized personnel can modify, interact with, or manage the production systems. By establishing a well-defined access control policy, organizations can prevent unauthorized changes and protect sensitive data from breaches or accidental modifications. This also means that any actions taken within the environment are recorded and monitored, adding an additional layer of security and accountability. While continuous training for users, regular system audits, and establishing a risk management framework are all important components of an overarching security strategy, they primarily serve as supportive measures rather than direct controls. Continuous training ensures that users are aware of policies and procedures, regular audits help ensure compliance and detect issues, and a risk management framework provides a structured approach to identifying and mitigating risks; however, without strict access controls in place, the integrity of the production environment can still be compromised. Thus, the implementation of strict access controls is vital for protecting the environment from both internal and external threats.

6. Which indicator best verifies that disaster recovery procedures meet requirements?

- A. A documented procedures approved by management.
- B. Procedures reviewed against industry best practices.
- C. A tabletop exercise using the procedures was conducted.**
- D. Documented recovery teams and their responsibilities.

The best indicator that disaster recovery procedures meet requirements is the conduct of a tabletop exercise using those procedures. This approach goes beyond merely having documentation or theoretical alignment with industry best practices. A tabletop exercise simulates a disaster scenario where team members can walk through the procedures in a controlled environment, testing their understanding of the protocols and uncovering any gaps or weaknesses in the plan. This hands-on evaluation allows for real-time feedback, encourages team collaboration, and identifies necessary adjustments, ensuring that the procedures are practical and effective. Successful execution of such an exercise demonstrates that the team is prepared and that the procedures align with actual operational capabilities. Thus, the performance and outcomes of the tabletop exercise serve as a strong indication of the effectiveness of the disaster recovery plan. While documented procedures and management approval are essential for establishing a framework, and reviews against best practices are valuable for benchmarking, the practical application through a tabletop exercise directly tests the readiness and resilience of the organization's disaster recovery strategies. Additionally, the presence of documented recovery teams and their roles provides structure but does not confirm the actual capability to respond effectively in a disaster scenario.

7. What is the initial approach in developing a disaster recovery strategy?

- A. All threats can be completely removed
- B. Implement a cost-effective resilience**
- C. Optimize the recovery time objective
- D. Minimize the recovery costs

The initial approach in developing a disaster recovery strategy focuses on implementing a cost-effective resilience. This means that the strategy should aim to ensure that the organization can continue its operations despite potential disruptions or disasters while being mindful of budget constraints. Cost-effective resilience allows organizations to prioritize critical business functions and invest in recovery solutions that provide the best return on investment. This strategy ensures that while risks cannot be entirely eliminated—acknowledging that some level of risk will always exist—organizations can build a robust framework to withstand and recover from incidents. Additionally, implementing resilience involves assessing various elements such as redundancy, backup processes, and response plans that align with the organization's risk appetite. By doing so, organizations can effectively manage their resources and prepare for various potential scenarios, establishing an overall strategy that is both practical and financially viable. This foundational step sets the stage for optimizing specific metrics like recovery time objectives and managing costs, which are important but secondary considerations that follow the establishment of a resilient framework.

8. How should organizations ensure that their data backups are effective?

- A. Regularly test the restore capability**
- B. Store backups in multiple formats
- C. Keep backups at the same location as the primary data
- D. Limit access to backups to a single administrator

To ensure that data backups are effective, it is essential for organizations to regularly test the restore capability. This practice serves multiple vital purposes: it not only confirms that the backup data can be successfully restored, but it also validates that the backup processes are functioning as intended. Testing restores helps identify any issues with the backup data or the software being used, enabling organizations to address potential problems before a real disaster occurs. Moreover, regular restore testing provides assurance that the data is intact and accessible, which is crucial for business continuity plans. If data is needed in an emergency, knowing that it can be restored successfully reduces downtime and mitigates risks associated with data loss. While storing backups in multiple formats, keeping backups at separate locations from primary data, and limiting access to backups are important strategies for data management and security, they do not directly address the need to confirm the actual usability of backup data. Without testing, organizations may mistakenly believe their backups are reliable, potentially leading to critical failures when they are needed most.

9. What method of routing traffic through split-cable facilities is referred to as?

- A. Alternative routing
- B. Diverse routing**
- C. Long-haul network diversity
- D. Last-mile circuit protection

The method of routing traffic through split-cable facilities is referred to as diverse routing. This term describes a technique that ensures reliability and redundancy in network designs by providing multiple paths for data to travel. By using diverse routing, organizations can mitigate the risk of downtime caused by the failure of a single route or cable. This method is particularly crucial in maintaining continuous service and enhancing the overall robustness of the network infrastructure. In the context of split-cable facilities, diverse routing typically involves physically separate paths for data transmission, reducing the likelihood of both paths being affected by the same disruptive event, such as a cable cut or failure. Implementing diverse routing can significantly enhance the resilience of data communications and is a critical aspect of thorough disaster recovery planning, ensuring that organizations can maintain operations even in adverse conditions.

10. What should be done after a disaster to ensure recovery objectives have been met?

- A. Conduct a post-event analysis**
- B. Implement new recovery strategies
- C. File an insurance claim
- D. Notify stakeholders of the recovery status

Conducting a post-event analysis is a crucial step after a disaster to ensure that recovery objectives have been met. This process involves assessing how effectively the organization responded to the disaster, evaluating the efficiency of the recovery strategies that were implemented, and identifying areas for improvement. This analysis helps to determine whether the recovery objectives—such as restoring operations to normal levels, protecting data integrity, and minimizing downtime—have been achieved. Through this analysis, organizations can gather insights that inform future planning and preparedness strategies, ensuring better response to potential future incidents. It serves as a learning tool to enhance resilience and refine disaster recovery plans. The other options, while they may be relevant actions in the context of disaster recovery, do not primarily focus on evaluating the success of the recovery objectives. Implementing new recovery strategies may be considered only after reviewing previous outcomes, filing an insurance claim typically addresses financial recovery rather than operational recovery, and notifying stakeholders of the recovery status is important for communication but does not directly assess whether recovery objectives were met.

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://cisadomain4.examzify.com>

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

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