

CISCO CERTIFIED SUPPORT TECHNICIAN (CCST) NETWORKING PRACTICE EXAM (SAMPLE) STUDY GUIDE



SAMPLE STUDY GUIDE WITH LIMITED QUESTIONS

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THE FULL VERSION STUDY GUIDE

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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. IPv6 link local addresses start with which address range?**
 - A. 2000::/3
 - B. FE80::/10
 - C. FC00::/7
 - D. 169.254::/16
- 2. What is the primary function of a firewall in a network?**
 - A. To enhance network speed
 - B. To monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on security rules
 - C. To assign IP addresses to devices
 - D. To provide encryption for data
- 3. Which security standard is known for using AES encryption in its enterprise mode?**
 - A. WPA
 - B. WPA2
 - C. WPA3
 - D. WEP
- 4. What innovation does Wi-Fi 7 introduce compared to its predecessors?**
 - A. Additional frequency bands.
 - B. Increased maximum bandwidth capabilities.
 - C. Both A and B.
 - D. None of the above.
- 5. Which security principle involves using separate networks for sensitive information?**
 - A. Encryption
 - B. Segmentation
 - C. Authentication
 - D. Redundancy

- 6. What is the default subnet mask for Class C private IPv4 addresses?**
- A. 255.255.0.0
 - B. 255.255.255.0
 - C. 255.0.0.0
 - D. N/A
- 7. What characterizes a Denial of Service (DoS) attack?**
- A. Infiltration into a secure network
 - B. Overwhelming a targeted system with requests
 - C. Automating updates to software on a device
 - D. Establishing a secure connection over an unsecured network
- 8. What speed is indicated by a green LED for the speed indicator?**
- A. 10 Mbps
 - B. 100 Mbps
 - C. 1 Gbps
 - D. No connection speed
- 9. What is the typical maximum length for a segment of Ethernet cable?**
- A. 100 meters
 - B. 150 meters
 - C. 200 meters
 - D. 250 meters
- 10. What is the term for the maximum amount of data that can theoretically be sent over a network link?**
- A. Throughput
 - B. Latency
 - C. Bandwidth
 - D. Delay

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. IPv6 link local addresses start with which address range?

- A. 2000::/3
- B. FE80::/10**
- C. FC00::/7
- D. 169.254::/16

IPv6 link-local addresses serve the purpose of enabling communication between nodes on the same local link (or network segment) without the need for a globally routable address. These addresses are essential for network operations such as automatic address configuration and neighbor discovery. Link-local addresses in IPv6 specifically start with the address range FE80::/10. This means any IPv6 address that begins with the binary format of FE80 through FEBF falls into the category of link-local addresses. These addresses are automatically assigned to interfaces when IPv6 is enabled, making them crucial for local network functions. The other choices include address ranges used for different purposes: - The range 2000::/3 refers to globally routable unicast addresses, which are used for internet communication. - The range FC00::/7 is designated for unique local addresses, similar to private addresses in IPv4. - The range 169.254::/16 pertains to link-local addresses in IPv4, known as APIPA (Automatic Private IP Addressing), but is not relevant to IPv6. Understanding the purpose and function of these address ranges is important when studying networking, as it helps in configuring and troubleshooting network connections efficiently.

2. What is the primary function of a firewall in a network?

- A. To enhance network speed
- B. To monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on security rules**
- C. To assign IP addresses to devices
- D. To provide encryption for data

The primary function of a firewall in a network is to monitor and control incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predefined security rules. This is essential for protecting a network from unauthorized access and potential threats. Firewalls act as a barrier between a trusted internal network and untrusted external networks, such as the internet. By scrutinizing the traffic that attempts to enter or leave the network, firewalls can block malicious activity and ensure that only legitimate traffic is allowed to pass, thereby maintaining the integrity and security of the network. The importance of defining specific security rules allows an organization to tailor its firewall configuration to its unique security needs, whether it involves permitting certain types of traffic, blocking others, or logging traffic for further analysis. This level of control is crucial for network security management. Other functions like enhancing network speed or assigning IP addresses are not the primary responsibilities of a firewall. While some firewalls may provide logging or even basic traffic management features, their fundamental role remains focused on security and traffic regulation. Similarly, encryption is a function typically handled by other networking components or tools, and not by firewalls directly.

3. Which security standard is known for using AES encryption in its enterprise mode?

- A. WPA
- B. WPA2
- C. WPA3**
- D. WEP

The answer is based on the fact that WPA3 is the latest security standard for wireless networks, and it utilizes Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) in its enterprise mode to provide enhanced security features. AES is a robust encryption protocol that is widely recognized for its strength in protecting data privacy. WPA3 builds upon the security improvements of its predecessors by implementing a more secure handshake process and protection against brute-force attacks, which makes it particularly suitable for modern wireless networks. By using AES encryption in enterprise mode, WPA3 ensures that sensitive data transmitted over wireless networks is well-protected, making it a preferred choice for organizations that prioritize security. In contrast, while WPA and WPA2 also use AES encryption with WPA2 being the first to fully adopt it as a mandatory feature, WPA3 represents the most current and secure framework for wireless security. WEP, on the other hand, is an outdated standard that employs weak encryption and is no longer considered secure, making it unsuitable for protecting sensitive data.

4. What innovation does Wi-Fi 7 introduce compared to its predecessors?

- A. Additional frequency bands.
- B. Increased maximum bandwidth capabilities.
- C. Both A and B.**
- D. None of the above.

Wi-Fi 7 introduces significant advancements by incorporating both additional frequency bands and increased maximum bandwidth capabilities. By utilizing a wider range of frequency bands, which includes the 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, and the newly added 6 GHz band, Wi-Fi 7 can reduce congestion and provide more channels for devices to operate on. This results in improved performance in crowded environments where many devices are trying to connect simultaneously. Moreover, Wi-Fi 7 enhances maximum bandwidth capabilities, effectively enabling faster data transfer rates. This is achieved through technologies such as Multi-Link Operation (MLO) and 4096-QAM (Quadrature Amplitude Modulation), which allow for more efficient data handling and increased throughput. These innovations collectively contribute to a more robust and efficient wireless experience, making connections faster and more reliable compared to earlier Wi-Fi standards. Overall, the combination of additional frequency bands and increased maximum bandwidth capabilities is what makes Wi-Fi 7 a leap forward in wireless technology.

5. Which security principle involves using separate networks for sensitive information?

- A. Encryption
- B. Segmentation**
- C. Authentication
- D. Redundancy

The security principle that involves using separate networks for sensitive information is segmentation. This practice enhances security by isolating sensitive data and systems from the rest of the network, limiting access and reducing the risk of unauthorized access or data breaches. Segmentation allows organizations to create distinct zones within their network, each with its own security controls. For instance, critical financial systems can be placed on a separate network segment, so even if a less secure part of the network is compromised, the sensitive data remains protected. Properly segmented networks enable more focused monitoring and enforcement of security policies, thus increasing the overall security posture of the organization. In contrast, encryption refers to the process of converting data into a coded format to prevent unauthorized access. While it is a vital security practice for protecting data at rest and in transit, it doesn't involve the isolation of networks. Authentication ensures that users are who they claim to be and is important for controlling access to resources, but it does not address the physical or logical separation of networks. Redundancy involves creating additional or backup resources to ensure availability and reliability but does not apply specifically to the principle of keeping sensitive information isolated from other network traffic.

6. What is the default subnet mask for Class C private IPv4 addresses?

- A. 255.255.0.0
- B. 255.255.255.0**
- C. 255.0.0.0
- D. N/A

The default subnet mask for Class C private IPv4 addresses is indeed 255.255.255.0. Class C addresses are defined by their first three octets as being part of the network and the last octet for host addresses. In the case of private Class C addresses, the range is specifically from 192.168.0.0 to 192.168.255.255. A subnet mask of 255.255.255.0 divides the IP address into 24 bits for the network part (the first three octets) and 8 bits for the host part (the last octet), which allows for a maximum of 256 IP addresses in this subnet. Out of these, two addresses are reserved: one for the network address and one for the broadcast address, leaving 254 usable IP addresses for hosts. Understanding this mask is critical for configuring networks that utilize private IP space since it defines how devices communicate and how network traffic is managed. The choice of 255.255.255.0 thus aligns perfectly with the characteristics of Class C private address allocations.

7. What characterizes a Denial of Service (DoS) attack?

- A. Infiltration into a secure network
- B. Overwhelming a targeted system with requests**
- C. Automating updates to software on a device
- D. Establishing a secure connection over an unsecured network

A Denial of Service (DoS) attack is characterized by overwhelming a targeted system with an excessive amount of requests, which can cause the system to become slow, unresponsive, or completely unavailable to legitimate users. The primary goal of a DoS attack is to disrupt the normal functioning of the targeted service or network by consuming its resources, such as bandwidth, processing power, or memory. This leads to a state where authorized users cannot access the services they need, hence the term "denial of service." In this context, options that deal with infiltration, automation of software updates, or establishing secure connections do not adequately describe the nature of a DoS attack. They refer to other aspects of network security or management, which are unrelated to the unique behavior of a DoS attack focused on service disruption through resource exhaustion.

8. What speed is indicated by a green LED for the speed indicator?

- A. 10 Mbps
- B. 100 Mbps**
- C. 1 Gbps
- D. No connection speed

The indication of a green LED for the speed indicator typically signifies a connection speed of 100 Mbps. In network devices like switches and routers, LEDs are used to provide visual feedback about the status of the connection. The specific coloring of these LEDs often corresponds to different speeds; for instance, a green LED commonly represents a functioning connection at the 100 Mbps speed. This standardization helps technicians and users quickly assess the status of a network device without needing to check configuration settings or device management interfaces. When the LED is green, it suggests that the connection is stable and operating effectively at this speed, thus confirming the information displayed by the LED indicator.

9. What is the typical maximum length for a segment of Ethernet cable?

- A. 100 meters**
- B. 150 meters
- C. 200 meters
- D. 250 meters

The typical maximum length for a segment of Ethernet cable is 100 meters. This measurement is based on the specifications for various types of Ethernet standards, particularly for twisted pair cabling such as Category 5e and Category 6, which are commonly used for 10/100/1000 Mbps networks. The 100-meter limit applying to Ethernet ensures reliable communication and minimizes signal loss or degradation over distance. Beyond this length, the likelihood of signal attenuation increases, which can lead to network performance issues, such as slower speeds or connectivity dropouts. Understanding this standard is crucial for networking professionals to design networks effectively, ensuring that the cabling layouts conform to the established limitations to maintain the performance and reliability of the network.

10. What is the term for the maximum amount of data that can theoretically be sent over a network link?

- A. Throughput
- B. Latency
- C. Bandwidth**
- D. Delay

The term that refers to the maximum amount of data that can theoretically be sent over a network link is bandwidth. Bandwidth measures the capacity of the network connection, typically expressed in bits per second (bps). This metric determines the potential data transfer rate, indicating how much information can be pushed through the link simultaneously at any given time under ideal conditions. In contrast, throughput refers to the actual amount of data that is successfully transferred over the network in a given time frame, which may be less than the bandwidth due to various factors such as network congestion or limitations in technology. Latency is the time it takes for a packet of data to travel from source to destination. It is not a measure of how much data can be sent but rather how quickly it can be sent. Delay is a similar concept, often used interchangeably with latency, representing any wait time experienced in data transmission. Understanding bandwidth as a theoretical calculation is essential, as it sets the stage for evaluating the effectiveness of a network and its ability to handle large volumes of data traffic based on its design and technology.

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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://ccstnetworking.examzify.com>

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

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