

# Data Center PSE Professional Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



**Everything you need from our exam experts!**

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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. Before activating the support or feature license on an ESXi deployment, what must be applied?**
  - A. A capacity auth-code**
  - B. An activation key**
  - C. A service definition**
  - D. An upgrade code**
  
- 2. What type of firewall function does the term 'stateful' refer to?**
  - A. It maintains information about active sessions**
  - B. It requires session re-establishment each time**
  - C. It blocks all traffic by default**
  - D. It only allows traffic based on port numbers**
  
- 3. Which devices can use a Dynamic Address Group with Panorama?**
  - A. All the devices managed by that Panorama appliance**
  - B. Only those devices in the selected device group in the Objects tab**
  - C. If the Shared option is selected, then all devices managed by that Panorama appliance; if not, only those in the selected device group**
  - D. If the Shared option is selected, then only those in the selected device group; if not, all devices managed by that Panorama appliance**
  
- 4. Which operating system do you select to use for a Palo Alto Networks NGFW running in Microsoft Azure?**
  - A. Windows**
  - B. BSD**
  - C. Linux**
  - D. Linux or BSD**
  
- 5. What is the primary role of Contracts in Cisco ACI?**
  - A. To prevent data loss**
  - B. To govern interaction among Endpoint Groups**
  - C. To allocate bandwidth**
  - D. To configure VLANs**

- 6. After NSX-V auto deploys a firewall, what connects the hypervisor to the firewall so it can retrieve traffic?**
- A. A. NetX management plane API**
  - B. B. They do not communicate. The service must be manually installed**
  - C. C. NetX data plane API**
  - D. D. PAN OS XML API**
- 7. Is it possible to configure backup links for the HA3 link in A/A HA deployments?**
- A. Yes, it is required**
  - B. No, backup links are not configurable**
  - C. Yes, but only for certain firewall models**
  - D. No, they are unnecessary**
- 8. Which object allows you to apply the same contract EPGs dynamically?**
- A. vzAny object**
  - B. DAG**
  - C. Tags**
  - D. VRF**
- 9. Can permissions for AWS Managed Policies be changed by users?**
- A. Yes, they can be fully customized.**
  - B. No, they are immutable.**
  - C. Only specific permissions can be altered.**
  - D. Yes, but only temporarily.**
- 10. Which model is available on ESXi but is not supported for NSX use?**
- A. VM-50**
  - B. VM-70**
  - C. VM-100**
  - D. VM-1000**

## Answers

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. Before activating the support or feature license on an ESXi deployment, what must be applied?**

- A. A capacity auth-code**
- B. An activation key**
- C. A service definition**
- D. An upgrade code**

In an ESXi deployment, before activating a support or feature license, it is necessary to apply a capacity auth-code. This code is crucial because it serves as the underlying authorization for the resources and features that can be utilized within the ESXi environment. The capacity auth-code essentially confirms that the deployment is licensed to support the specified hardware capabilities and features, enabling the proper functioning of the system in accordance with the licensing terms. An activation key, while important for other licensing processes, is distinct from the capacity auth-code, which is specific to the licensing of resources. A service definition does not apply here, as it refers to a set of configurations or specifications about a service rather than a licensing requirement. An upgrade code typically relates to transitioning between versions or tiers of software, rather than the initial licensing needed for support or features in a deployment. Thus, the correct prerequisite for activating the required support or feature license is indeed the capacity auth-code.

**2. What type of firewall function does the term 'stateful' refer to?**

- A. It maintains information about active sessions**
- B. It requires session re-establishment each time**
- C. It blocks all traffic by default**
- D. It only allows traffic based on port numbers**

The term 'stateful' in the context of firewalls refers to the capability of the firewall to maintain information about active sessions. This means that a stateful firewall can track the state of active connections and make intelligent decisions based on the context of the traffic. It records attributes of the ongoing connections, such as the source and destination IP addresses, ports, and the current state of the connection (e.g., established, new, or related). This ability allows stateful firewalls to offer more robust security than stateless firewalls, which treat each packet in isolation without considering the context of established connections. By keeping track of active sessions, stateful firewalls can enforce security policies and make more informed decisions about whether to allow or block traffic based on the state of the session, thus enhancing the overall security posture of the network.

### 3. Which devices can use a Dynamic Address Group with Panorama?

- A. All the devices managed by that Panorama appliance
- B. Only those devices in the selected device group in the Objects tab
- C. If the Shared option is selected, then all devices managed by that Panorama appliance; if not, only those in the selected device group**
- D. If the Shared option is selected, then only those in the selected device group; if not, all devices managed by that Panorama appliance

Dynamic Address Groups are a powerful feature in Panorama which is used to create groups of devices or IP addresses that can change dynamically based on criteria such as IP address or other attributes. The correct answer asserts that if the "Shared" option is selected, all devices managed by that Panorama appliance can utilize the Dynamic Address Group; conversely, if the option is not selected, only the devices within the chosen device group will have access to that group. This versatility is significant because it allows network administrators to efficiently manage security policies across multiple devices from a centralized location. When the Shared option is active, it facilitates broader access, which is valuable in environments where multiple devices might need to react rapidly to address changes without needing to create individual rules for each device. Without the Shared option, the Dynamic Address Group is more focused and limited to the devices actively participating within the specified device group, thereby providing finer control when needed. This ability to toggle the shared nature of the Dynamic Address Group enhances flexibility in managing and deploying policies and adapting quickly to network changes.

### 4. Which operating system do you select to use for a Palo Alto Networks NGFW running in Microsoft Azure?

- A. Windows
- B. BSD
- C. Linux**
- D. Linux or BSD

When selecting an operating system for a Palo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW) running in Microsoft Azure, the choice of Linux is appropriate because Palo Alto's operating system is built on a customized version of Linux, which is designed to support the firewall's features and functionalities effectively. Linux is widely recognized for its stability, performance, and security, making it an ideal fit for network appliances that require robust and reliable service. Furthermore, the deployment of advanced firewall features, such as threat detection and prevention, virtual private networking, and traffic management, can be better optimized on a Linux platform. This is particularly relevant in a cloud environment like Azure, where scalability and resource efficiency are paramount. The other options do not align with the operational requirements of the Palo Alto NGFW. Windows is not suitable because it does not provide the necessary control and flexibility that a firewall operating system demands. BSD, while it may offer some benefits and has its own robust security features, is not the base operating system for the Palo Alto firewalls. Lastly, while Linux or BSD might seem like a viable option, the specific design and optimization of the Palo Alto systems are tailored to Linux, making it the most appropriate choice for this context.

## 5. What is the primary role of Contracts in Cisco ACI?

- A. To prevent data loss
- B. To govern interaction among Endpoint Groups**
- C. To allocate bandwidth
- D. To configure VLANs

In Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure (ACI), the primary role of Contracts is to govern interaction among Endpoint Groups (EPGs). Contracts define the rules and policies for communication between different EPGs, establishing what types of traffic are permitted or denied based on application requirements and security policies. This mechanism is crucial for maintaining the desired level of security and for implementing micro-segmentation within the data center. By using Contracts, network administrators can precisely control and manage connectivity between various applications and services, ensuring that the infrastructure is both secure and efficient. This interaction does not merely focus on preventing data loss or allocating bandwidth; rather, it is centered on defining the acceptable interactions based on specific application needs. Additionally, while VLAN configuration plays a role in networking, it is more of a foundational element in traditional networking rather than a direct function of how Cisco ACI handles EPG interactions through Contracts.

## 6. After NSX-V auto deploys a firewall, what connects the hypervisor to the firewall so it can retrieve traffic?

- A. A. NetX management plane API
- B. B. They do not communicate. The service must be manually installed
- C. C. NetX data plane API**
- D. D. PAN OS XML API

The NetX data plane API is integral to the communication between the hypervisor and the deployed firewall. Once NSX-V auto-deploys the firewall, it utilizes this API to facilitate the flow of traffic data between the hypervisor and the firewall. The data plane is responsible for the actual transmission of network packets; as such, the API allows for efficient handling and monitoring of these packets as they traverse the network. The data plane API ensures that the firewall can retrieve traffic information from the hypervisor, allowing it to apply its security policies effectively. This integration is crucial for maintaining seamless network operations and security posture, as it enables real-time interaction and data exchanges that are essential for maintaining visibility and control over the network traffic. Other options do not fulfill the role required for this communication. The management plane API, while important for configuration and management tasks, does not handle the actual traffic flow between the hypervisor and the firewall. The notion that there is no communication and that the service must be manually installed contradicts the automated nature of the NSX-V deployment process. Finally, although PAN OS XML API pertains to firewalls from Palo Alto Networks and is relevant in specific contexts, it is not applicable to the NSX-V environment.

**7. Is it possible to configure backup links for the HA3 link in A/A HA deployments?**

**A. Yes, it is required**

**B. No, backup links are not configurable**

**C. Yes, but only for certain firewall models**

**D. No, they are unnecessary**

In Active/Active (A/A) High Availability (HA) deployments, the HA3 link is specifically utilized for state synchronization between the devices involved. This mechanism encompasses the sharing of session information, which is crucial for maintaining consistent traffic flow across the HA pairs. The nature of the HA3 link means that it is not designed to have backup links configured. Instead, the architecture relies on a single HA3 link to ensure efficient and immediate communication between the units. Having additional backup links would complicate the synchronization process without providing a distinct advantage. The design philosophy behind A/A deployments focuses on maintaining simplicity and sufficient reliability in the primary HA3 link to handle state sharing effectively. While various firewall models may exhibit different capabilities and configurations, the standard understanding remains that the HA3 link should operate as a single, reliable connection, thereby affirming the notion that backup links are not an option for this particular setup. Consequently, the answer reflects that backup links simply cannot be configured for the HA3 link in A/A HA deployments.

**8. Which object allows you to apply the same contract EPGs dynamically?**

**A. vzAny object**

**B. DAG**

**C. Tags**

**D. VRF**

The vzAny object is designed specifically to facilitate the application of policies and contracts across multiple endpoints dynamically within a network. By using the vzAny object, any endpoint that matches the specified criteria can be associated with the relevant contract endpoint groups (EPGs). This functionality makes vzAny particularly effective in environments where endpoint characteristics may change frequently or where there is a need for flexible policy application on-the-fly. In contrast, other options do not provide the same level of dynamic association. DAG (Device Aggregation Group) is generally used for grouping resources but does not specifically apply contracts to EPGs dynamically. Tags can be useful for categorization and can trigger specific actions, but they don't inherently manage dynamic contract applications like vzAny. VRF (Virtual Routing and Forwarding) allows multiple instances of routing tables to exist within the same router but is unrelated to the management of EPG contracts. Therefore, vzAny stands out for its specific purpose in the context of applying the same contract across multiple EPGs dynamically.

**9. Can permissions for AWS Managed Policies be changed by users?**

- A. Yes, they can be fully customized.**
- B. No, they are immutable.**
- C. Only specific permissions can be altered.**
- D. Yes, but only temporarily.**

AWS Managed Policies are designed to be predefined sets of permissions that AWS provides and maintains. These policies are immutable, meaning that the permissions included in these policies cannot be modified by users. This design ensures consistency and security across AWS services, as changes to these policies could lead to unauthorized access or other security risks. Instead of changing AWS Managed Policies, users have the option to create their own custom policies that suit their specific requirements, allowing for greater flexibility in managing permissions according to their particular use cases. This distinction underscores the importance of maintaining clear boundaries between AWS-managed security and user-defined security measures. Consequently, while custom policies can be tailored to specific needs, AWS Managed Policies remain unchanged and maintain their original intent and structure.

**10. Which model is available on ESXi but is not supported for NSX use?**

- A. VM-50**
- B. VM-70**
- C. VM-100**
- D. VM-1000**

The VM-50 model is available on ESXi but is not supported for use with NSX because it typically represents a smaller form factor in terms of resource allocation, meaning it may lack the necessary performance and features required to effectively support NSX functionality. NSX, which is VMware's network virtualization platform, requires a certain level of resources to provide features such as distributed networking, security, and multi-tenancy, which are essential for larger, more complex environments. That's why lower-tier models like the VM-50 are generally considered unsuitable for NSX deployments, as they may not provide the scalability and performance needed for such advanced networking functionalities. In contrast, higher-end models, which have greater resources and capabilities, may be fully supported for NSX use, making them more suitable for enterprises looking to leverage NSX's capabilities 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](mailto:hello@examzify.com).**

**Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:**

**<https://datacenterpsepro.examzify.com>**

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

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