

# Device Configuration and Management Practice Test (Sample)

## Study Guide



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**SAMPLE**

## **Questions**

- 1. Why should configurations be tested prior to deployment?**
  - A. To verify compliance with legal standards**
  - B. To ensure they will work without introducing issues**
  - C. To train users on new configurations**
  - D. To reduce the time spent on configuration**
- 2. What are some benefits of using configuration management tools?**
  - A. Automation**
  - B. Increased manual work**
  - C. Higher downtime**
  - D. Limited security**
- 3. What is one of the primary reasons for employing standardized configurations?**
  - A. To have varied settings for all devices**
  - B. To minimize discrepancies across devices**
  - C. To increase downtime during updates**
  - D. To complicate device management**
- 4. What is the importance of configuration baseline reviews?**
  - A. They reduce system performance issues**
  - B. They ensure compliance with external regulations**
  - C. They keep configurations aligned with current needs**
  - D. They generate automated backup procedures**
- 5. What is drift detection?**
  - A. A method to enforce user roles**
  - B. A technique for monitoring network traffic**
  - C. A process that identifies unexpected configuration changes**
  - D. A strategy for backing up devices**

- 6. What troubleshooting step would help if a display cable is disconnecting frequently?**
- A. Upgrade the display driver**
  - B. Change the monitor resolution**
  - C. Switch to a connector with a locking mechanism**
  - D. Replace the monitor**
- 7. What is the role of logging in configuration management?**
- A. Logging schedules backups for configurations**
  - B. Logging provides an audit trail for changes**
  - C. Logging is used to manage user accounts**
  - D. Logging helps in monitoring network traffic**
- 8. To lower the risk of virus infections via email, which two actions should be taken?**
- A. Run antivirus software on the client**
  - B. Open attachments from unknown sources**
  - C. Run a firewall**
  - D. Open only attachments received from trusted sources**
- 9. Which aspect of BitLocker relates to the protection of local drives?**
- A. Folder-level encryption**
  - B. Device authentication**
  - C. Pre-start system integrity verification**
  - D. Network file sharing**
- 10. What is the difference between configuration management and change management?**
- A. Configuration management is about tracking downtime while change management focuses on hardware upgrades**
  - B. Configuration management addresses the security of devices while change management manages installation processes**
  - C. Configuration management focuses on maintaining performance, while change management addresses altering configurations**
  - D. There is no difference; both terms mean the same thing**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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## 1. Why should configurations be tested prior to deployment?

- A. To verify compliance with legal standards
- B. To ensure they will work without introducing issues**
- C. To train users on new configurations
- D. To reduce the time spent on configuration

Testing configurations prior to deployment is crucial to ensure that they will function as intended without introducing any new issues into the system. This step allows administrators to identify and resolve potential problems before the configurations go live, minimizing the risk of negative impacts on operations, user experiences, and system reliability. By conducting thorough testing, organizations can verify that the configurations achieve the desired outcomes and maintain system stability, which is essential for achieving business goals and operational efficiency. Compliance with legal standards, user training, and time reduction can be important factors in the overall management process, but they do not directly address the immediate need to ensure the functionality and reliability of configurations in a live environment.

## 2. What are some benefits of using configuration management tools?

- A. Automation**
- B. Increased manual work
- C. Higher downtime
- D. Limited security

Utilizing configuration management tools offers several significant benefits, with automation being a primary advantage. Automation streamlines various repetitive tasks involved in configuration management, such as system setup, updates, and resource provisioning. By automating these processes, organizations can reduce the likelihood of human error, ensure consistency across different environments, and improve efficiency. This allows IT teams to focus on more strategic initiatives rather than getting bogged down by routine manual configurations. Additionally, automation can enhance deployment speed and reliability, allowing for faster rollouts of applications and services while maintaining compliance with organizational policies. This increased efficiency also contributes to better resource management and potentially lowers operational costs. In contrast, options that suggest increased manual work, higher downtime, and limited security are generally associated with mismanagement or lack of effective tools and practices, which configuration management seeks to improve upon. Therefore, automation stands out as a defining benefit of employing configuration management tools in effective device and resource management.

**3. What is one of the primary reasons for employing standardized configurations?**

- A. To have varied settings for all devices**
- B. To minimize discrepancies across devices**
- C. To increase downtime during updates**
- D. To complicate device management**

Employing standardized configurations is primarily aimed at minimizing discrepancies across devices. Standardization ensures that all devices operate under the same settings and configurations, which enhances consistency and predictability in performance. This approach helps IT teams manage devices more effectively, streamline troubleshooting efforts, and maintain uniform security postures, as all devices adhere to the same configuration rules. By reducing variations, organizations can prevent configuration drift, where individual devices diverge from the intended settings over time, potentially leading to security vulnerabilities and operational inefficiencies. Standardized configurations thus create a more manageable and homogeneous environment, making it easier to deploy updates, implement policies, and ensure compliance across the fleet of devices. This efficiency significantly improves operational effectiveness and minimizes the risk of errors associated with diverse configurations.

**4. What is the importance of configuration baseline reviews?**

- A. They reduce system performance issues**
- B. They ensure compliance with external regulations**
- C. They keep configurations aligned with current needs**
- D. They generate automated backup procedures**

Configuration baseline reviews are crucial because they serve to ensure that the configurations of systems, applications, and devices align with the current operational needs and business objectives. Over time, as organizations evolve, their technology requirements, security policies, and operational processes may change. Regular reviews of the configuration baselines facilitate the identification of outdated or misaligned configurations that could hinder operational efficiency. By assessing and updating configuration baselines, organizations can better adapt to emerging technologies, incorporate new features, and maintain security standards, thus supporting overall organizational agility. This practice helps ensure that devices and systems continue to function optimally within the context of the evolving business landscape.

## 5. What is drift detection?

- A. A method to enforce user roles
- B. A technique for monitoring network traffic
- C. A process that identifies unexpected configuration changes**
- D. A strategy for backing up devices

Drift detection refers to the process of identifying unexpected configuration changes within a system. This is crucial in maintaining the integrity and security of devices and networks, as unauthorized or unintentional alterations can lead to vulnerabilities and operational issues. Drift detection involves continuous monitoring and comparison of current configurations against a desired baseline or standard. When deviations occur, such as changes in settings or unauthorized modifications, the drift detection system can alert administrators, allowing for swift corrective actions to restore compliance with the intended configuration. This process is essential for maintaining consistent performance, security policies, and regulatory compliance, making it a vital part of effective configuration management and device governance practices. By identifying drift early, organizations can mitigate risks associated with security breaches or system failures that could stem from non-standard configurations.

## 6. What troubleshooting step would help if a display cable is disconnecting frequently?

- A. Upgrade the display driver
- B. Change the monitor resolution
- C. Switch to a connector with a locking mechanism**
- D. Replace the monitor

Choosing a connector with a locking mechanism is an effective troubleshooting step for frequent disconnections of a display cable. This type of connector is designed to securely hold the cable in place, preventing accidental disconnections caused by movement or vibrations. When a display cable frequently disconnects, it may indicate that the current connector is not gripping securely enough, leading to an unstable connection which can interrupt the video signal. In contrast, upgrading the display driver or changing the monitor resolution would not address the physical connection issue at hand. These actions may improve performance or compatibility with certain configurations, but they do not resolve the underlying connectivity problem. Additionally, replacing the monitor can be a more inconvenient and costly solution, especially if the monitor is functioning well except for the cable issue. Therefore, opting for a connector designed with a locking mechanism directly addresses the root cause of the frequent disconnections.

**7. What is the role of logging in configuration management?**

- A. Logging schedules backups for configurations**
- B. Logging provides an audit trail for changes**
- C. Logging is used to manage user accounts**
- D. Logging helps in monitoring network traffic**

Logging plays a crucial role in configuration management by providing an audit trail for changes made to the system or application configurations. This audit trail is essential for tracking modifications, understanding who made specific changes, when these changes occurred, and why they were implemented. Such information is vital for compliance purposes, troubleshooting issues, and maintaining accountability within the management of configurations. An audit trail helps administrators identify the source of problems that may arise from misconfigurations or unintended changes. Moreover, it allows organizations to adhere to regulatory standards that require documentation of changes made to systems. This visibility into configuration changes enhances security and reliability, as it enables quick responses to vulnerabilities that could emerge from faulty configurations. In the context of configuration management, the focus on logging as an audit trail underscores its importance for maintaining system integrity and providing insights that guide future configuration decisions.

**8. To lower the risk of virus infections via email, which two actions should be taken?**

- A. Run antivirus software on the client**
- B. Open attachments from unknown sources**
- C. Run a firewall**
- D. Open only attachments received from trusted sources**

Running antivirus software on the client is a crucial step in lowering the risk of virus infections via email. Antivirus software actively scans incoming emails and attachments for known malware and viruses, providing a layer of protection that can identify and potentially remove harmful content before it can infect the system. This software stays updated with the latest virus definitions, ensuring that it can combat new threats effectively. By having this software installed and regularly updated, users significantly enhance their email security. Additionally, opening only attachments received from trusted sources is equally important. This practice minimizes the risk of inadvertently downloading malware, as emails from unknown or untrusted sources can often carry malicious attachments designed to compromise security. By being cautious and verifying the legitimacy of the sender before opening any attachments, users further protect themselves from potential virus infections. Together, these actions create a robust defense against email-based threats, making it less likely for viruses to infiltrate devices through email communications.

**9. Which aspect of BitLocker relates to the protection of local drives?**

- A. Folder-level encryption**
- B. Device authentication**
- C. Pre-start system integrity verification**
- D. Network file sharing**

The aspect of BitLocker that relates to the protection of local drives is pre-start system integrity verification. BitLocker is a disk encryption program included with certain versions of Microsoft Windows, designed to protect data by providing encryption for entire volumes. The pre-start system integrity verification process occurs during the boot phase of the system and ensures that the system has not been tampered with before the operating system is loaded. This verification helps prevent unauthorized access to the drive, ensuring that only a trusted operating system can decrypt and access the data on the local drive. The integrity checks happen through a mechanism known as the Trusted Platform Module (TPM), which stores encryption keys and ensures that if any changes are detected in the pre-boot environment (such as a change in BIOS or bootloader), BitLocker will halt the boot process and require the recovery key for access. This provides a strong layer of security for local drives by safeguarding against various types of attacks, such as pre-boot exploits or unauthorized modifications. In contrast, folder-level encryption focuses on specific files or folders rather than entire drives; device authentication verifies the identity of the device, and network file sharing pertains to sharing files over a network rather than securing local drives. Thus, pre-start system integrity verification is key to ensuring

**10. What is the difference between configuration management and change management?**

- A. Configuration management is about tracking downtime while change management focuses on hardware upgrades**
- B. Configuration management addresses the security of devices while change management manages installation processes**
- C. Configuration management focuses on maintaining performance, while change management addresses altering configurations**
- D. There is no difference; both terms mean the same thing**

Configuration management and change management are distinct processes within the realm of IT and device management, each serving specific purposes that support the stability and performance of technology systems. The correct answer emphasizes that configuration management is primarily concerned with maintaining the performance and integrity of systems by tracking the configuration of hardware and software over time. This includes ensuring that the existing configurations are well-documented, monitored, and aligned with organizational standards, which helps in maintaining optimal performance and reliability. On the other hand, change management deals with the processes and protocols surrounding alterations to configurations. This includes planning, approving, and implementing changes in such a way that minimizes disruption to services and maintains the system's stability. It ensures that any modifications are systematically thought out, communicated, authorized, and recorded. Understanding the distinction between these two is crucial for effective IT management. Configuration management lays the groundwork for knowing what is currently deployed and how it performs, while change management provides a structured approach to making modifications without inadvertently causing issues. This structured approach helps organizations avoid conflicts and maintain consistent service delivery during upgrades or adjustments.