

# Microsoft Azure Architect Design (AZ-301) Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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

**This is a sample study guide. To access the full version with hundreds of 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. Don't worry about getting everything right, 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, and take breaks to retain information better.**

## **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.**

## **7. Use Other Tools**

**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!**

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## **Questions**

- 1. To which Azure component should you direct the web apps to manage security and permissions for accessing web APIs?**
  - A. Azure AD**
  - B. Azure Resource Manager**
  - C. Azure API Management**
  - D. Azure Security Center**
- 2. In configuring Diagnostics settings for an Azure SQL Database, what is the maximum retention period you can set for SQLInsights data?**
  - A. 30 days**
  - B. 90 days**
  - C. 730 days**
  - D. Infinite**
- 3. What is the appropriate service to provide temporary administrative access for Quality Assurance in Azure?**
  - A. Azure AD Privileged Identity**
  - B. Azure AD Managed Services**
  - C. Azure Monitor**
  - D. Azure Automation**
- 4. What is the function of Azure Security Center?**
  - A. To monitor and manage cloud resources**
  - B. To provide identity verification for users**
  - C. To perform cost analysis**
  - D. To ensure compliance with regulations**
- 5. What is the recommended solution for adding external developers to the Contributor role in an Azure subscription?**
  - A. Create service accounts for the developers**
  - B. Create guest accounts in the Azure AD tenant**
  - C. Assign the role through Azure DevOps**
  - D. Invite developers to join Office 365 groups**



- 6. What is the role of Azure Functions in the context of event-driven architecture?**
- A. They enable execution of code in response to triggers**
  - B. They manage data storage in a NoSQL database**
  - C. They provide infrastructure for virtual machines**
  - D. They offer a platform for hosting web applications**
- 7. Which solution is suitable for identifying inactive administrative accounts in Azure AD?**
- A. Azure AD Privileged Identity Management**
  - B. Azure Active Directory Identity Protection**
  - C. Azure Monitor Logs**
  - D. Azure Advisor**
- 8. What is the main function of Azure Resource Manager?**
- A. To compile code for applications**
  - B. To manage and organize cloud resources**
  - C. To provide infrastructure as a service**
  - D. To offer marketplace apps**
- 9. Which process is recommended for regularly uploading web access log data from Azure Blob storage to Azure SQL Database?**
- A. Microsoft SQL Server Migration Assistant (SSMA)**
  - B. Azure Data Factory**
  - C. Data Migration Assistant**
  - D. AzCopy**
- 10. What is the minimum number of policy elements needed for the API management solution?**
- A. 1**
  - B. 2**
  - C. 3**
  - D. 4**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. To which Azure component should you direct the web apps to manage security and permissions for accessing web APIs?**

- A. Azure AD**
- B. Azure Resource Manager**
- C. Azure API Management**
- D. Azure Security Center**

The correct choice for managing security and permissions for accessing web APIs in conjunction with web apps is Azure API Management. This service provides an effective way to create a secure gateway for your APIs. It acts as a façade for your backend services, allowing you to manage those APIs through policies that can enforce security measures such as authentication, authorization, and access control. Azure API Management allows you to integrate with Azure Active Directory and other authentication providers, thus enabling various security features like token validation and OAuth 2.0 support. It also facilitates the management of API keys, usage quotas, and rate limits, which are vital for protecting APIs from unauthorized access and abuse. While Azure Active Directory is crucial for identity and access management, Azure API Management specifically focuses on API lifecycle management, including access security. Azure Resource Manager is primarily concerned with deployment and management of resources in Azure, and Azure Security Center serves to enhance the security posture of your entire Azure environment rather than focusing solely on API management. Therefore, directing web apps to Azure API Management is the optimal approach for effectively handling security and permissions for web API access.

**2. In configuring Diagnostics settings for an Azure SQL Database, what is the maximum retention period you can set for SQLInsights data?**

- A. 30 days**
- B. 90 days**
- C. 730 days**
- D. Infinite**

The correct answer indicates that the maximum retention period for SQLInsights data in Azure SQL Database can be set to 730 days. This setting is crucial for enabling organizations to maintain relevant diagnostic data for an extended period. Retaining this information for up to 730 days allows for effective trend analysis, performance tuning, and troubleshooting over a longer timeframe, thus helping administrators and DBAs in making more informed decisions based on historical data. Moreover, having the ability to retain diagnostic settings for this duration can facilitate compliance with various data retention policies and regulations that businesses may need to adhere to. Retaining data for up to two years ensures that organizations can access and analyze SQL performance metrics and other insights over a significant period, contributing to better database management strategies. In comparison, shorter options like 30 days and 90 days limit the window of analysis and may not suffice for comprehensive historical evaluations. An infinite retention period is not practical as it could lead to storage management challenges and potential costs that might not align with organizational data governance policies. Thus, the configuration option that allows for 730 days strikes a balance between sufficient historical data retention and manageable resource consumption.

### **3. What is the appropriate service to provide temporary administrative access for Quality Assurance in Azure?**

- A. Azure AD Privileged Identity**
- B. Azure AD Managed Services**
- C. Azure Monitor**
- D. Azure Automation**

The most appropriate service to provide temporary administrative access in Azure for Quality Assurance is Azure AD Privileged Identity. This service enables you to implement just-in-time access to Azure resources, allowing administrators to request temporary permissions for specific tasks. It enhances security by minimizing the time that high-privilege roles are active, reducing the risk of security breaches. Azure AD Privileged Identity Management (PIM) provides a way to manage, control, and monitor access within Azure AD, making it an ideal choice for scenarios where temporary or limited access is needed for specific roles or tasks. By using PIM, organizations can enforce policy compliance and ensure that access is granted only when necessary, which is a critical consideration in environments like Quality Assurance. The other services mentioned do not specifically cater to the need for managing administrative access in this way. Azure AD Managed Services focuses more on providing support for managing Azure Active Directory itself, while Azure Monitor deals with the performance and health monitoring of applications and services in Azure. Azure Automation primarily focuses on automating processes and tasks in Azure, rather than directly providing temporary access solutions. Therefore, Azure AD Privileged Identity is the best fit for providing temporary administrative access.

### **4. What is the function of Azure Security Center?**

- A. To monitor and manage cloud resources**
- B. To provide identity verification for users**
- C. To perform cost analysis**
- D. To ensure compliance with regulations**

Azure Security Center serves a crucial role in enhancing the security posture of your cloud resources. Its primary function is to monitor and manage the security of your Azure environments. This involves continuous assessment of security configurations and providing recommendations for improvements to safeguard your resources against potential threats. Additionally, it offers features such as threat detection, security incident management, and integrated security policy management, which help in identifying vulnerabilities and securing the environment effectively. The tool leverages machine learning and advanced analytics to detect anomalies and to provide actionable insights that can be acted upon to fortify security measures. While the other options address important aspects of cloud management, they are not the main focus of Azure Security Center. Its dedicated mission centers on monitoring and managing the security of cloud resources, making it an essential component of a robust security strategy in Azure.

**5. What is the recommended solution for adding external developers to the Contributor role in an Azure subscription?**

- A. Create service accounts for the developers**
- B. Create guest accounts in the Azure AD tenant**
- C. Assign the role through Azure DevOps**
- D. Invite developers to join Office 365 groups**

Creating guest accounts in the Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) tenant is the recommended solution for adding external developers to the Contributor role in an Azure subscription. This approach allows external developers to be securely integrated into the Azure environment while maintaining control over their access and permissions. When you create guest accounts, you can give these external users specific roles and permissions without needing to create separate service accounts or compromising the security of your system. This method also ensures that external collaborators adhere to the policies set within your Azure environment. By leveraging Azure AD, guest users can utilize their existing accounts from other services like Google or their work emails, which simplifies the onboarding process. Furthermore, integrating external users as guests within your Azure AD allows for better monitoring and governance of their activities, as access permissions can be managed and audited through Azure's role-based access control (RBAC) system. The accountability and traceability offered through guest accounts make this the best practice for collaborating with external developers. This solution stands out alongside the other options. For instance, creating service accounts could lead to unnecessary complexity and the need for additional account management, while assigning roles through Azure DevOps would not give external users the necessary access at the subscription level. Inviting developers to join Office 365 groups might not directly

**6. What is the role of Azure Functions in the context of event-driven architecture?**

- A. They enable execution of code in response to triggers**
- B. They manage data storage in a NoSQL database**
- C. They provide infrastructure for virtual machines**
- D. They offer a platform for hosting web applications**

In an event-driven architecture, Azure Functions play a crucial role by enabling the execution of code in response to various events or triggers. This capability allows developers to create applications that respond instantly to changes or actions, such as messages in a queue, changes in data, or scheduled events. When an event occurs, Azure Functions automatically trigger the execution of the relevant code, providing a scalable and efficient way to handle workloads without requiring the provisioning or management of servers. This serverless approach allows developers to focus on writing the business logic without worrying about the underlying infrastructure. In contrast, options related to data storage, virtual machine infrastructure, or hosting web applications do not directly align with the primary purpose of Azure Functions in event-driven scenarios. Azure Functions are specifically designed to facilitate event-driven programming, allowing applications to dynamically respond to events as they occur.

**7. Which solution is suitable for identifying inactive administrative accounts in Azure AD?**

- A. Azure AD Privileged Identity Management**
- B. Azure Active Directory Identity Protection**
- C. Azure Monitor Logs**
- D. Azure Advisor**

The correct solution for identifying inactive administrative accounts in Azure AD is Azure AD Privileged Identity Management (PIM). PIM is specifically designed to manage, control, and monitor access within Azure Active Directory (Azure AD). It includes capabilities to enable just-in-time access for administrative roles, and it also helps organizations meet the principle of least privilege by ensuring that administrative accounts are only active when needed. One of the key features of PIM is its ability to track and review the usage of privileged accounts, which can help identify accounts that have not been used over a specific period. This functionality plays a critical role in maintaining security by allowing administrators to spot and take action on inactive accounts that may pose a security risk if left unchecked. Other options, while valuable for different aspects of Azure management, do not specifically focus on identifying inactive administrative accounts. Azure Active Directory Identity Protection primarily deals with risk detection and conditional access policies to protect users from identity compromises. Azure Monitor Logs provide insights into operational data and monitoring performance but are not tailored for identifying inactive accounts. Azure Advisor offers personalized best practices for Azure services but does not drill down into the specifics of account activity or status.

**8. What is the main function of Azure Resource Manager?**

- A. To compile code for applications**
- B. To manage and organize cloud resources**
- C. To provide infrastructure as a service**
- D. To offer marketplace apps**

Azure Resource Manager serves as a management layer in Azure that enables users to create, update, and delete resources in their Azure subscription. This framework is essential for organizing resources efficiently, as it allows for the grouping of related resources that provide a specific service or application. By using Resource Manager, users can manage resources through templates that define infrastructure and configurations consistently and repeatably. This approach not only facilitates better resource organization but also enhances governance, security, and compliance management, ensuring that resources are utilized in an optimized manner. The ability to apply role-based access control at the resource group level is another critical feature, making it easier to manage permissions and access efficiently across a diverse set of resources. The other options represent different functionalities or services in Azure that do not pertain specifically to the organizational and management capabilities provided by Azure Resource Manager.



**9. Which process is recommended for regularly uploading web access log data from Azure Blob storage to Azure SQL Database?**

- A. Microsoft SQL Server Migration Assistant (SSMA)**
- B. Azure Data Factory**
- C. Data Migration Assistant**
- D. AzCopy**

The recommended process for regularly uploading web access log data from Azure Blob storage to Azure SQL Database is Azure Data Factory. Azure Data Factory is a cloud-based data integration service that allows you to create data-driven workflows for orchestrating and automating data movement and data transformation. It is specifically designed for handling various data ingestion scenarios, including the seamless transfer of large volumes of data from Blob storage to an SQL Database. With its built-in scheduling capabilities, Azure Data Factory can facilitate regular uploads, ensuring that the data stays current without requiring manual intervention. In contrast, while the other options also serve important functions within Azure, they do not specifically cater to the regular uploading of data from Blob storage to SQL databases. The SQL Server Migration Assistant and Data Migration Assistant are primarily focused on migrating databases or assessing compatibility rather than providing ongoing data transfer solutions. Similarly, AzCopy is a command-line utility designed to copy data efficiently to and from Azure Storage but lacks the orchestration and scheduling features that Azure Data Factory offers, making it less suitable for regular uploads of web access log data.

**10. What is the minimum number of policy elements needed for the API management solution?**

- A. 1**
- B. 2**
- C. 3**
- D. 4**

In an API management solution, the implementation of policies is essential for controlling how APIs behave and interact with requests and responses. The minimum number of policy elements needed typically includes essential configurations that ensure functionality and security. Primarily, the policies generally involve: 1. **\*\*Inbound Policies\*\***: These are used to manage the request before it reaches the back-end service. They can include checks for authentication, validation of headers and parameters, or logging of request information. 2. **\*\*Backend Policies\*\***: These govern how API calls are handled internally, including transformations, caching, or simply forwarding requests to the designated back-end service. 3. **\*\*Outbound Policies\*\***: These apply modifications to the response that is sent back to the client, which can include adding headers, changing response formats, or transforming the content. At a minimum, you need at least two policy elements (inbound and outbound) to manage both the incoming requests and the outgoing responses effectively. This foundational setup allows for basic control of the API's operation and ensures a connected, managed approach without unnecessary complexity. Hence, two policy elements are required to provide a functioning API management solution 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://az-301.examzify.com>**

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