Red Hat Certified Systems Admin (RHCSA) EX200 Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide

Everything you need from our exam experts!

Table of Contents

Copyright **1**

Table of Contents **2**

Introduction **3**

How to Use This Guide **4**

Questions **5**

Answers **8**

Explanations **10**

Next Steps **16**

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

1. After adding a service to a firewall, which command reloads the firewall to apply changes?

A. firewall-cmd --reload

B. firewall-cmd --update

C. systemctl reload firewalld

D. firewall-cmd --make-permanent

2. Which command can be used to display information about kernel packages, including installed and available kernels?

A. yum list kernel

B. uname -r

C. yum info kernel

D. rpm -qa kernel

3. Which systemd-based command powers off the system?

A. poweroff

B. systemctl poweroff

C. shutdown -P

D. halt

4. Which command downloads the nano package as an RPM using yumdownloader?

A. yumdownloader nano

B. yum install nano

C. rpm -ivh nano.rpm

D. dnf download nano

5. In tar, what is the meaning of the options -c -v -f?

A. Create archive, verbose output, specify archive filename

B. Extract archive, verbose output, specify archive filename

C. Create archive, silent, specify archive filename

D. Create archive, verbose and gzip compression, specify archive filename

6. Which command sets the sticky bit on a directory such as /shared?

A. chmod -t /shared

B. chmod +t /shared

C. chmod 0777 /shared

D. chmod +x /shared

7. Which pair of commands pauses and resumes a background job respectively?

A. kill -SIGTERM, kill -SIGKILL

B. kill -SIGINT, kill -SIGQUIT

C. kill -SIGSTOP, kill -SIGTSTP

D. kill -SIGCONT, kill -SIGSTOP

8. Which command is used to verify the integrity of an installed package and its files against the package database?

A. rpm -Q packagename

B. rpm -V packagename

C. rpm -i packagename

D. rpm -K packagename

9. Which command creates a volume group named battlestar from the physical volumes /dev/xvdf1 and /dev/xvdg1?

A. pvcreate /dev/xvdf1 /dev/xvdg1

B. vgcreate battlestar /dev/xvdf1 /dev/xvdg1

C. lvcreate -n galactica -L 20G battlestar

D. mkfs -t xfs /dev/battlestar/galactica

10. Which command extends the logical volume /dev/battlestar/galactica by +20G?

A. lvextend -L -20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

B. lvresize -L +20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

C. lvextend -L 20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

D. lvextend -L +20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

Answers

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

Explanations

1. After adding a service to a firewall, which command reloads the firewall to apply changes?

A. firewall-cmd --reload

B. firewall-cmd --update

C. systemctl reload firewalld

D. firewall-cmd --make-permanent

Firewalld works with two layers: runtime rules that are active now and permanent rules saved to disk. When you add a service and save it permanently, you're updating the stored configuration, and you must reload the daemon for those changes to take effect in the running firewall. The exact command to do that is firewall-cmd --reload, which makes the runtime rules reflect the updated permanent configuration. If you added the service without --permanent, the change applies immediately and a reload isn't required. The --permanent option only saves the change for future use; it doesn't apply it to the current runtime until you reload. The other options don't perform the targeted reload to apply permanent changes, and systemctl reload firewalld is a broader restart of the daemon rather than the precise, standard method to apply updated firewall rules.

2. Which command can be used to display information about kernel packages, including installed and available kernels?

A. yum list kernel

B. uname -r

C. yum info kernel

D. rpm -qa kernel

This question tests how to obtain kernel package metadata, including what's installed and what's available to install. Using the package manager to view details for the kernel package provides a complete picture: it shows the installed kernel version (if any) and the versions that are available in enabled repositories, along with description, repository, and dependencies. This helps you decide if an upgrade is needed and what options exist. The reason this is the best choice is that it yields descriptive information about the kernel package itself, not just a list. The command will show both the currently installed kernel and what versions are in the repos you can install from, which is exactly what's asked. Other options either report the running kernel only (uname -r) or list installed kernels without offering the full package metadata (rpm -qa kernel). Listing via a simple query can show versions, but it doesn't provide the detailed package information you'd get with the info subcommand.

3. Which systemd-based command powers off the system?

A. poweroff

B. systemctl poweroff

C. shutdown -P

D. halt

When using systemd, powering off the machine is done with the systemctl poweroff command. This explicitly asks systemd to run the shutdown sequence and reach the poweroff.target, ensuring all units and services are stopped cleanly, filesystems unmounted, and the hardware is then powered down. It's the formal, systemd-native way to shut down. Other options may also halt or power off in some environments, but they aren't the explicit systemd interface. A plain poweroff command can be a wrapper or link to systemctl in some distros, shutdown -P is a traditional shutdown utility that can power off, and halt may stop the system without necessarily powering the hardware off, depending on the setup.

4. Which command downloads the nano package as an RPM using yumdownloader?

A. yumdownloader nano

B. yum install nano

C. rpm -ivh nano.rpm

D. dnf download nano

yumdownloader fetches a package's RPM from configured repositories without installing it. Running yumdownloader nano downloads the nano RPM into your current directory, giving you the file you can inspect or install later. If you want to pull in dependencies at the same time, you can add --resolve, but the basic usage shown downloads just the nano RPM itself. The other options don't fit this goal: installing with yum install would actually install the package, not just download it; rpm -ivh nano.rpm would install a pre-downloaded RPM from disk; and dnf download would use DNF's tooling, not yumdownloader, which is specifically what the question is asking about.

5. In tar, what is the meaning of the options -c -v -f?

A. Create archive, verbose output, specify archive filename

B. Extract archive, verbose output, specify archive filename

C. Create archive, silent, specify archive filename

D. Create archive, verbose and gzip compression, specify archive filename

These options tell tar how to operate and where to put the result. The first option means you're creating a new archive rather than extracting or listing. The second option makes tar print each file as it's added, so you can see what's being included. The third option specifies that the next argument is the archive's filename, which is essential for tar to know where to write the archive (and you can also use -f - to write to stdout). Put together, you'd typically see a command like tar -cvf archive.tar /path/to/dir, which creates archive.tar containing the listed files and shows each file as it's added. If you omit the verbose flag, you still create the archive but won't get the per-file progress output. If you omit the filename after -f, tar wouldn't know where to write the archive.

6. Which command sets the sticky bit on a directory such as /shared?

A. chmod -t /shared

B. chmod +t /shared

C. chmod 0777 /shared

D. chmod +x /shared

The sticky bit is a special permission on directories that prevents users from deleting or renaming files owned by others inside that directory. To enable it, you add the sticky bit with chmod using add mode, which leaves existing permissions intact: chmod +t /shared. This is why that option is the best choice here—the command explicitly turns on the sticky bit without altering the other permissions. The other options don't set the sticky bit. Removing it with -t would clear the sticky bit. Adding only +x changes execute permissions and does not touch the sticky bit. Using 0777 changes the standard read/write/execute bits for user, group, and others but does not enable the sticky bit, since the special-permission digit (the leading digit) remains 0; to include sticky with numeric mode you'd use something like 1777.

7. Which pair of commands pauses and resumes a background job respectively?

A. kill -SIGTERM, kill -SIGKILL

B. kill -SIGINT, kill -SIGQUIT

C. kill -SIGSTOP, kill -SIGTSTP

D. kill -SIGCONT, kill -SIGSTOP

The idea being tested is how signals control the state of a running process, specifically pausing and resuming a background job. The key signals are SIGSTOP, which pauses a process, and SIGCONT, which resumes a process that has been stopped. The pair shown includes both actions: one signal that can bring a stopped job back to execution and another that can pause a running one. This combination directly maps to the ability to manage a background job's lifecycle. The other signals in the options are mostly about termination or interruption rather than resuming from a paused state. SIGTERM and SIGKILL terminate processes; SIGINT and SIGQUIT interrupt or quit; SIGTSTP is a terminal stop used in interactive foreground scenarios. For reliable pause-and-resume control of background jobs, SIGSTOP and SIGCONT are the appropriate signals, and that's why this pairing is the best choice. In practice you'd pause with kill -SIGSTOP <pid> and resume with kill -SIGCONT <pid>, or use the shell's job control commands like bg and fg as needed.

8. Which command is used to verify the integrity of an installed package and its files against the package database?

A. rpm -Q packagename

B. rpm -V packagename

C. rpm -i packagename

D. rpm -K packagename

Verifying installed package contents against the RPM database is what rpm -V packagename does. It performs a file-by-file check of every file installed by the package, comparing information stored in the RPM database with what's currently on disk. Specifically it checks attributes like size, checksum, permissions, owner, group, and modification time. If any discrepancy is found, the system reports it, indicating that a file may have changed, been corrupted, or tampered with since installation. This is the exact method for ensuring the installed package matches what the package database expects. Other options serve different purposes: one queries the package database to see if a package is installed or to get metadata, but does not verify file integrity; another installs a package from a file, not verify installed files; and another checks the cryptographic signature of a package file, which is about the package file itself, not the installed system files.

9. Which command creates a volume group named battlestar from the physical volumes /dev/xvdf1 and /dev/xvdg1?

A. pvcreate /dev/xvdf1 /dev/xvdg1

B. vgcreate battlestar /dev/xvdf1 /dev/xvdg1

C. lvcreate -n galactica -L 20G battlestar

D. mkfs -t xfs /dev/battlestar/galactica

In LVM, a volume group is formed by combining one or more physical volumes into a single pool. To create a volume group named battlestar from the devices /dev/xvdf1 and /dev/xvdg1, you use the command that names the group and lists the physical volumes: vgcreate battlestar /dev/xvdf1 /dev/xvdg1. This tells the system to assemble those two PVs into a new VG called battlestar. It's common to prepare the devices as physical volumes first with pvcreate, but the actual creation of the group is done by vgcreate. After this, you can create a logical volume inside the battlestar VG with something like lvcreate -n galactica -L 20G battlestar, which would create /dev/battlestar/galactica. You'd then format that LV with mkfs as needed, for example mkfs -t xfs /dev/battlestar/galactica. The other options don't form a volume group: pvcreate initializes PVs, lvcreate makes a logical volume within an existing VG, and mkfs formats a filesystem on a block device.

10. Which command extends the logical volume /dev/battlestar/galactica by +20G?

A. lvextend -L -20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

B. lvresize -L +20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

C. lvextend -L 20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

D. lvextend -L +20G /dev/battlestar/galactica

Extending a logical volume by a specific amount uses a plus sign to indicate an increase. The command lvextend -L +20G /dev/battlestar/galactica takes the current size of the LV and adds 20G to it, giving you a larger volume without guessing a new total size. If you instead used -L 20G, you'd be setting the LV to exactly 20G in total, which could shrink it if it was already bigger. Using -L -20G would shrink the LV by 20G, not extend it. While lvresize can also extend with +20G, using lvextend with the incremental form is the standard way to grow a logical volume in this context. After extending the LV, don't forget to grow the filesystem to use the new space (specific command depends on the filesystem in use).

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://rhcsaex200.examzify.com

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