

# Zabbix Certified Specialist Practice Exam (Sample)

## Study Guide



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## **Questions**

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- 1. What entities can be monitored when configuring a host in Zabbix?**
  - A. Items, Triggers, Graphs, Web scenarios, Discovery rules**
  - B. Contracts, SLAs, Backups, Security logs**
  - C. Scripts, Plugins, Modules, Libraries**
  - D. Templates, Policies, Configurations, Versions**
- 2. What does the Grey availability icon indicate about a host?**
  - A. All interfaces are unavailable**
  - B. At least one interface had unknown status**
  - C. All interfaces are operational**
  - D. None of the interfaces are monitored**
- 3. In Zabbix, which element is responsible for reacting to events that have occurred based on trigger conditions?**
  - A. Items**
  - B. Actions**
  - C. Conditions**
  - D. Triggers**
- 4. What does an "unsupported" item state in Zabbix indicate?**
  - A. The item is actively monitored**
  - B. The item is configured correctly and functioning well**
  - C. The item is not being processed properly due to configuration issues**
  - D. The item has insufficient data to process**
- 5. How does Zabbix manage user permissions and access?**
  - A. Through group policies externally.**
  - B. By user roles and permissions settings for different user groups.**
  - C. By creating a single user account for all access.**
  - D. Through constant manual monitoring.**

- 6. What is the main purpose of using item tags within Zabbix?**
- A. To create user access controls**
  - B. To assist in performance optimization of items**
  - C. To categorize and track monitoring data**
  - D. To enhance visualization of metrics**
- 7. How can you increase the log level using runtime controls in Zabbix?**
- A. `zabbix_server -R log_level_increase`**
  - B. `zabbix_server -R log_level_increase -config`**
  - C. `systemctl increase log level`**
  - D. `zabbix_server -R change_log_level`**
- 8. What feature in Zabbix visually maps dependencies?**
- A. Graphical User Interface.**
  - B. Service maps.**
  - C. Item prototype.**
  - D. Notification media.**
- 9. Which three tabs are included when editing user profiles in Zabbix?**
- A. User, media, reporting**
  - B. User, media, messaging**
  - C. User, alarms, messaging**
  - D. User, notifications, messaging**
- 10. What information do "service maps" in Zabbix provide?**
- A. A list of all networked devices only.**
  - B. A visual representation of services and their dependencies within the monitored environment.**
  - C. A detailed report of user activities over time.**
  - D. A summary of performance metrics across all devices.**

## **Answers**

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

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## **Explanations**

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**1. What entities can be monitored when configuring a host in Zabbix?**

- A. Items, Triggers, Graphs, Web scenarios, Discovery rules**
- B. Contracts, SLAs, Backups, Security logs**
- C. Scripts, Plugins, Modules, Libraries**
- D. Templates, Policies, Configurations, Versions**

The selection of items, triggers, graphs, web scenarios, and discovery rules as entities that can be monitored when configuring a host in Zabbix is accurate because these components are fundamental to the monitoring capabilities within the Zabbix ecosystem. Items are the basic units of monitoring—they represent the metrics collected from hosts, such as CPU load, memory usage, disk space, etc. Triggers are used to define conditions that alert users when specific thresholds are crossed, allowing proactive management of the monitored environment. Graphs visualize these items over time, providing insights into trends and behavior. Web scenarios allow monitoring of the performance of web applications by defining sequences of requests to a web page, helping in measuring response times and server behavior. Lastly, discovery rules automate the identification and addition of new items and triggers for hosts, making it easier to manage dynamic environments where resources might change frequently. The other options provided include entities that are either related to IT service management or do not exist within the specific monitoring framework of Zabbix, thus solidifying that the first choice is the most relevant and aligned with Zabbix functionality.

**2. What does the Grey availability icon indicate about a host?**

- A. All interfaces are unavailable**
- B. At least one interface had unknown status**
- C. All interfaces are operational**
- D. None of the interfaces are monitored**

The Grey availability icon signifies that at least one of the interfaces of the host has an unknown status. This could arise from various situations, such as network issues, misconfiguration, or the host not responding to health checks, leading to a lack of clear information regarding its operational state. The presence of this grey icon serves as an alert for administrators to investigate the situation further, ensuring that they address any potential underlying issues causing the ambiguity in the system's monitoring. Other indicators indicate different statuses; for instance, a green icon would denote that all interfaces are operational, while a red icon signifies that all interfaces are unavailable. The grey icon specifically highlights uncertainty, prompting the need for a closer look at the host's status or configuration. This nuanced understanding is crucial for maintaining effective monitoring in a Zabbix environment.

**3. In Zabbix, which element is responsible for reacting to events that have occurred based on trigger conditions?**

**A. Items**

**B. Actions**

**C. Conditions**

**D. Triggers**

In Zabbix, actions are the elements responsible for responding to events that arise based on specified trigger conditions. When a trigger evaluates to the "problem" state, it indicates that a condition has been met that requires attention. The action is then executed to define what should happen next, which may include sending notifications, executing remote commands, or changing the status of certain items. The purpose of actions is to automate the response process, so Zabbix users can promptly react to issues without manual intervention. This automated process enhances the efficiency of monitoring and allows for faster resolution of potential problems, which is critical in maintaining system reliability and performance. Triggers serve to detect the conditions that lead to problems, but they do not themselves perform any action. Items refer to the data collected from monitored systems, and conditions are specific criteria used within actions to further define when certain actions should be taken. Therefore, in the context of reacting to events based on triggers, actions play the pivotal role.

**4. What does an "unsupported" item state in Zabbix indicate?**

**A. The item is actively monitored**

**B. The item is configured correctly and functioning well**

**C. The item is not being processed properly due to configuration issues**

**D. The item has insufficient data to process**

An "unsupported" item state in Zabbix indicates that the item is not being processed properly due to configuration issues. This means that Zabbix has encountered a problem preventing it from obtaining data for that item, which could stem from various reasons such as incorrect item configuration, unresolvable keys, or issues with the underlying agent or server. When an item is marked as unsupported, it signals that the monitoring setup requires attention, as the expected data collection and processing are not occurring effectively. Additionally, while an unsupported item does not imply that it is actively monitored or configured correctly, it serves as an important diagnostic indicator that prompts the administrator to investigate the specific cause of the issue to ensure proper functioning of the monitoring setup.

## 5. How does Zabbix manage user permissions and access?

- A. Through group policies externally.
- B. By user roles and permissions settings for different user groups.**
- C. By creating a single user account for all access.
- D. Through constant manual monitoring.

Zabbix manages user permissions and access effectively through the use of user roles and permissions settings for different user groups. This method allows for a structured approach where permissions can be tailored to meet the needs of various users based on their roles within an organization. By defining roles, Zabbix ensures that users only have access to the functionalities and data that are relevant to their responsibilities. For example, an administrator will have different permissions compared to a read-only user, which enhances security and operational efficiency. User groups can also be assigned specific permissions, making it easier to manage access for multiple users at once. This hierarchical model not only simplifies user management but also helps in enforcing the principle of least privilege, where users have only the necessary access rights needed to perform their job functions. The alternatives do not effectively capture Zabbix's user management capabilities. Group policies externally may not relate directly to how Zabbix is structured. Creating a single user account for all access undermines accountability and security by not allowing for individualized access control. Constant manual monitoring would be inefficient and impractical for managing user permissions in a dynamic environment like Zabbix. Therefore, the approach of using roles and permissions for different user groups stands out as a robust method for managing user access and

## 6. What is the main purpose of using item tags within Zabbix?

- A. To create user access controls
- B. To assist in performance optimization of items
- C. To categorize and track monitoring data**
- D. To enhance visualization of metrics

Using item tags within Zabbix serves the primary function of categorizing and tracking monitoring data. This capability allows users to assign specific tags to items, which can then be utilized to organize and filter the monitoring data based on related characteristics or criteria. By effectively categorizing the items, it becomes much easier to manage them and conduct analyses, making it simpler to identify trends, issues, or performance patterns across different monitored entities. This feature enhances overall visibility and can greatly improve the process of querying and reporting, as it groups similar items together, aiding in efficient data retrieval. This categorization also simplifies the identification of related metrics and assists in overall data management, making tags an essential aspect of monitoring strategies in Zabbix. The other options focus on different functionalities that are not the primary role of item tags. For instance, user access controls pertain more to security and permissions rather than tagging. While performance optimization may benefit from organized data, that isn't the direct function of tags. Enhancing visualization of metrics is also not the main purpose; instead, item tags help with categorization and filtering, which indirectly supports better visualization but does not directly define it.

**7. How can you increase the log level using runtime controls in Zabbix?**

- A. zabbix\_server -R log\_level\_increase**
- B. zabbix\_server -R log\_level\_increase -config**
- C. systemctl increase log level**
- D. zabbix\_server -R change\_log\_level**

The method to increase the log level using runtime controls in Zabbix requires sending a specific command to the Zabbix server process. The correct command utilizes a runtime control option that allows administrators to adjust the logging configuration on-the-fly without needing to restart the server. The command ``zabbix_server -R log_level_increase`` effectively instructs the Zabbix server to elevate its log level, which can be essential for troubleshooting and monitoring the server's behavior in real-time. This functionality is particularly useful as it enables administrators to gather more detailed log information when investigating issues. In contrast, other options do not align with Zabbix's command structure for adjusting logging levels. For example, specifying ``-R log_level_increase -config`` does not correctly utilize the runtime control mechanism, as the configuration parameter isn't relevant in this context. Additionally, commands like ``systemctl increase log level`` do not pertain to Zabbix's operational controls but rather involve system-level service management, which is outside the specific context of Zabbix's logging control. The option that suggests changing the log level through the command ``zabbix_server -R change_log_level`` might seem plausible, yet this is not the correct syntax or command.

**8. What feature in Zabbix visually maps dependencies?**

- A. Graphical User Interface.**
- B. Service maps.**
- C. Item prototype.**
- D. Notification media.**

Service maps in Zabbix allow users to visually represent and manage complex service dependencies across various components of their IT infrastructure. This feature enables teams to understand how different services and devices are interconnected, making it easier to identify potential impacts of issues on related services. With service maps, users can customize their views, include various elements such as servers, applications, and network devices, and represent their relationships and dependencies graphically. This visual representation is crucial for quick diagnosis of problems, as it highlights how issues in one part of the system may affect others. In contrast, the other options do not primarily focus on visual mapping of dependencies. The Graphical User Interface is a more general concept and encompasses all visual aspects of the Zabbix software, while item prototypes are part of Zabbix's functionality for automating the creation of items, and notification media relates to communication methods for alerts, none of which are specifically tailored to depict service dependencies visually.

**9. Which three tabs are included when editing user profiles in Zabbix?**

- A. User, media, reporting**
- B. User, media, messaging**
- C. User, alarms, messaging**
- D. User, notifications, messaging**

When editing user profiles in Zabbix, the three tabs provided are User, media, and messaging. The "User" tab contains information related to the user's account, such as permissions and roles. The "media" tab allows configuration of how and when notifications are sent to the user, including various media types (like email, SMS, etc.). The "messaging" tab is typically associated with settings that manage how messages and notifications are processed, ensuring that the user receives critical alerts in a timely manner. This combination of tabs provides a comprehensive approach for managing user settings and notification preferences, allowing for flexibility in how users interact with the Zabbix monitoring framework. Understanding these tabs is crucial for effective user management and communication in Zabbix.

**10. What information do "service maps" in Zabbix provide?**

- A. A list of all networked devices only.**
- B. A visual representation of services and their dependencies within the monitored environment.**
- C. A detailed report of user activities over time.**
- D. A summary of performance metrics across all devices.**

Service maps in Zabbix offer a visual representation of services and their dependencies within the monitored environment, making it easier to understand how different components interact with one another. They help administrators visualize complex environments by illustrating the relationships between various services, applications, and the underlying infrastructure. This representation is critical for monitoring, troubleshooting, and optimizing services, as it allows users to quickly identify bottlenecks or points of failure caused by interdependencies. By using service maps, Zabbix users can gain insights into the overall health of services based on the status of individual components, facilitating more effective incident management and root cause analysis. The other options focus on different aspects of monitoring and do not encapsulate the primary function of service maps. For instance, while a list of all networked devices or a detailed report of user activities can provide valuable information, they do not convey the relational dynamics that service maps do. Similarly, a summary of performance metrics offers numerical insights rather than contextualizing services through a visual map of their dependencies.