

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

AWS

SOA-C03

AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate

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EDITION Free Set 1

QUESTIONS 10

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EXAM AWS SOA-C03, AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate

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10 practice questions for the AWS SOA-C03 exam, AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate, each followed by its answer and a short explanation. More free sets and the full practice exam: www.aiexamcerts.com/aws/soa-c03. Spotted a mistake? Email support@aiexamcerts.com with the exam code SOA-C03 and the question number.

1. An automated response is needed when an EC2 instance enters the stopped state. Which combination is the most appropriate?
 - A A CloudWatch dashboard widget that graphs the instance state over time
 - B A CloudTrail trail that stores the StopInstances call in S3 with no other action
 - C An EventBridge rule that matches the EC2 state-change event and invokes a Systems Manager Automation runbook or Lambda function
 - D An AWS Config rule that checks instance tags once every twelve hours

Answer: C

EventBridge matches state-change events in near real time and can start an Automation runbook or a Lambda function as the response. A CloudTrail trail records the API call for audit, but it does not trigger anything by itself, which makes it the tempting distractor. Dashboards only display data and the Config rule evaluates on its own schedule.

2. The AWS service that records API calls made in an account, including who made each call and from where, is called AWS _____.

Answer: CloudTrail (also accepted: Cloud Trail)

CloudTrail records account activity for governance, compliance and troubleshooting. CloudWatch collects metrics and logs, which is the tempting confusion because both are monitoring services.

3. An RDS for MySQL database must fail over automatically to a standby in another Availability Zone during an unplanned outage. Which option provides this?
 - A Create a read replica in the same Availability Zone as the primary
 - B Take a manual snapshot every hour and restore it when an outage occurs
 - C Enable Multi-AZ deployment for the DB instance
 - D Enable automated backups with a 35-day retention period

Answer: C

Multi-AZ keeps a synchronously replicated standby that RDS promotes automatically when the primary fails. A read replica is asynchronous and is not promoted automatically in a Multi-AZ failover, which makes it a tempting but incorrect answer. Backups and snapshots restore data, but they take far longer than an automatic failover.

4. A new S3 Cross-Region Replication rule copies objects that already existed in the source bucket before the rule was created.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: B (False)

Replication applies to objects written after the rule is in place, so existing objects need a separate step such as S3 Batch Replication. Assuming that old objects are included is the tempting misconception. The statement is false.

5. Which two options allow a Lambda function's new version to be released gradually? (Choose two.)
- A A weighted alias that shifts traffic between two function versions
 - B Deletion of the previous function version before the new version is published
 - C CodeDeploy with the Canary or Linear deployment configurations for Lambda
 - D A change of the function runtime that keeps the same code artifact
 - E Direct edits to the function code in the console while it serves live traffic

Answer: A, C

Weighted aliases split invocations between versions, and CodeDeploy supports canary and linear shifts for Lambda. Deleting the previous version removes the fallback, which is the opposite of a gradual release. Runtime changes and live console edits bypass the controlled rollout entirely.

6. A CodeDeploy deployment to EC2 instances needs hook scripts to run at lifecycle events such as BeforeInstall and ApplicationStart. Which file defines these hooks?
- A `appspec.yml`
 - B `buildspec.yml`
 - C `taskdef.json`
 - D `template.yaml`

Answer: A

The AppSpec file for EC2 and on-premises deployments declares the files to copy and the scripts to run at each lifecycle event. `buildspec.yml` belongs to CodeBuild, which makes it the tempting distractor. The task definition and SAM template belong to ECS and serverless deployments.

7. Which service continuously monitors an AWS account for threats such as unusual API activity and potentially compromised instances, using threat intelligence feeds?
- A Amazon GuardDuty
 - B Amazon Inspector
 - C AWS Config
 - D Amazon Macie

Answer: A

GuardDuty analyzes CloudTrail, VPC Flow Logs and DNS logs to find threats, and it does not require agents. Inspector scans workloads for software vulnerabilities, which is the tempting confusion for instance security. Config tracks configuration changes and Macie discovers sensitive data in S3.

8. An Elastic IP address is a static public IPv4 address that can be associated with an EC2 instance or a network interface. Its full name is Elastic _____.

Answer: IP (also accepted: IP address, IPv4)

An Elastic IP is a reserved public IPv4 address that persists across instance stops and starts, which is why it is used for stable endpoints. A public IP is assigned dynamically, which is the tempting contrast.

9. Which service identifies S3 buckets or IAM roles that can be accessed from outside the account or organization?
- A AWS Shield Advanced
 - B IAM Access Analyzer
 - C Amazon Detective
 - D AWS WAF

Answer: B

IAM Access Analyzer reviews resource policies and reports resources shared with external principals. Shield protects against DDoS attacks, which makes it a tempting but unrelated choice. Detective investigates findings and WAF filters web requests.

10. Which VPC feature is stateless and evaluates numbered rules for traffic entering or leaving a subnet?
- A A security group
 - B A network ACL
 - C A route table
 - D A DHCP option set

Answer: B

Network ACLs are stateless, so return traffic must be allowed by a separate rule, and they evaluate rules in numeric order. Security groups are stateful and attach to instances, which makes them the most tempting distractor. Route tables direct traffic and DHCP option sets configure name resolution and domain settings.