

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

AWS

SOA-C03

AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate

SHARED BY [u/Wise-Narwhal-9559](#) on aiexamcerts

EDITION Free Set 2

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. Which CloudWatch Logs feature converts matching log lines into a numeric metric that an alarm can evaluate?
 - A A saved CloudWatch Logs Insights query that only renders results in the console
 - B A subscription filter that streams log events to Kinesis Data Firehose
 - C A retention setting that deletes log events after a fixed number of days
 - D A metric filter attached to the log group

Answer: D

A metric filter matches a pattern in incoming log events and publishes a count or value as a CloudWatch metric. A subscription filter also matches events, but it forwards them to another destination rather than creating a metric. Saved queries and retention settings do not create metrics.

2. CloudTrail management events are delivered only to CloudWatch Logs and cannot be stored in an S3 bucket.
 - A True
 - B False

Answer: B (False)

Trails deliver events to S3 for long-term storage and can also send them to CloudWatch Logs for alerting and queries. Restricting management events to one destination is the tempting misconception. The statement is false.

3. Which Auto Scaling health check setting makes the group replace an instance that fails load balancer health checks?
 - A Keep only EC2 status checks, because load balancer checks are advisory only
 - B Disable health checks and rely on CPU alarms to find failed instances
 - C Increase the health check grace period to 24 hours
 - D Set the health check type to ELB so that load balancer health checks also mark instances unhealthy

Answer: D

With the ELB health check type, an instance that fails the target group check is marked unhealthy and replaced, not just the ones that fail EC2 status checks. Relying only on EC2 status checks is the tempting default, but it misses application-level failures. Disabling health checks removes automatic recovery entirely, and a longer grace period only delays replacement.

4. The recovery time objective (RTO) is the target maximum time to restore service after a disaster, and the _____ is the maximum acceptable amount of data loss measured in time.

Answer: RPO (also accepted: recovery point objective)

The RPO sets how much recent data the business can afford to lose, which determines backup or replication frequency. RTO and RPO are often confused, which is why the question defines both.

5. Which two controls help protect data at rest on Amazon EBS volumes? (Choose two.)

- A Using a security group to control which instances can read the volume
- B Relying on TLS between clients and the instance to protect stored data
- C Enabling EBS encryption by default for the account in each Region
- D Using Amazon Data Lifecycle Manager to take unencrypted daily snapshots
- E Using a customer managed KMS key for volumes that need explicit key control

Answer: C, E

Default EBS encryption ensures new volumes and snapshots are encrypted, and a customer managed key gives control over key policy and rotation. Security groups do not govern EBS volumes, and TLS protects data in transit rather than data at rest. Unencrypted snapshots leave the stored data readable.

6. Which CodeDeploy deployment type shifts traffic from the original environment to a replacement environment, which allows a fast rollback?

- A In-place deployment that stops the application on each instance in turn
- B Blue/green deployment
- C Rolling restart of one instance at a time with the same instances kept
- D Snapshot restore of the original instances onto the same volumes

Answer: B

Blue/green deployments provision a replacement environment and move traffic to it, and the original environment stays available for rollback. In-place deployments update the same instances, which makes them a tempting but slower choice for quick reversal. Rolling restarts and snapshot restores do not switch between two complete environments.

7. Why is a launch template generally preferred over a launch configuration for Auto Scaling?

- A It is the only option that can launch Spot Instances in a group
- B It removes the need to create an AMI for the instances
- C It supports versioning and newer EC2 features that launch configurations lack
- D It automatically places every instance on dedicated tenancy

Answer: C

Launch templates support versions, newer instance options and features that launch configurations do not receive, so AWS recommends them. Spot Instances can be used with both approaches, which makes that claim a tempting but false distinction. Launch templates still reference an AMI, and they do not force dedicated tenancy.

8. Network ACL rules are evaluated in ascending rule number order, and the first matching rule determines whether traffic is allowed or denied.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: A (True)

Rules are processed from the lowest number upward, and evaluation stops at the first match. The implicit deny at the end applies when nothing matches. The statement is true.

9. Which AWS KMS setting rotates the key material of a customer managed key automatically on a yearly schedule?
- A Creating a new alias for the key every year by hand
 - B Deleting and re-creating the key with the same name each year
 - C Enabling automatic key rotation on the key
 - D Exporting the key material to a file every quarter for backup

Answer: C

Automatic rotation generates new backing key material on a schedule while keeping the same key ID for applications. Aliases point to keys but do not rotate key material, which makes the alias option a tempting misconception. Re-creating a key changes its ID and breaks existing encryption references.

10. Which endpoint type lets private subnets reach Amazon S3 without a NAT gateway, and carries no hourly endpoint charge?
- A An interface VPC endpoint for S3 with private DNS enabled
 - B A PrivateLink endpoint service that a partner publishes
 - C A gateway VPC endpoint for S3
 - D An egress-only internet gateway for IPv6 outbound traffic

Answer: C

A gateway endpoint adds a route in the route table for S3 and has no hourly charge, which is why it is the usual choice for S3 and DynamoDB. Interface endpoints do have an hourly charge and an ENI in the subnet, which makes them a tempting but more expensive option. An egress-only gateway handles IPv6 and does not reach S3 privately.