

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Google Cloud

Professional Data Engineer

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EDITION	Free Set 2
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QUESTIONS	10
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EXAM	Google Cloud Professional Data Engineer
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10 practice questions for the Google Cloud Professional Data Engineer exam, each followed by its answer and a short explanation. More free sets and the full practice exam:

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1. A company must keep all personal data in the European Union and show that Google-managed keys are not sufficient for one dataset. Which combination addresses both requirements?
- A A US multi-region bucket with object versioning enabled
 - B A global Bigtable instance replicated across three continents with default encryption only
 - C An EU dataset location and customer-managed encryption keys in Cloud KMS
 - D BigQuery in the US with column-level security on the personal fields

Answer: C

Choosing an EU location keeps the data resident there, and CMEK through Cloud KMS satisfies the key-control requirement. Column-level security is the tempting distractor because it limits who sees fields, but it does not control location or keys. The US and global options violate residency or key requirements.

2. Archive storage in Cloud Storage has a minimum storage duration of 365 days.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: A (True)

Archive class has a 365-day minimum storage duration, and early deletion is charged. Coldline has a 90-day minimum, which is the tempting confusion for many candidates. The answer is True.

3. Which Google Cloud service is the managed Apache Airflow offering for scheduling multi-step data workflows?
- A Cloud Scheduler
 - B Cloud Workflows
 - C Dataform
 - D Cloud Composer

Answer: D

Cloud Composer runs Apache Airflow environments, and DAGs are stored in a Cloud Storage bucket. Cloud Scheduler is the tempting distractor because it triggers jobs on a cron schedule, but it does not manage task dependencies. Workflows and Dataform are different orchestration or SQL transformation services.

4. The Pub/Sub feature that routes repeatedly failing messages to a separate topic is called a _____ topic.

Answer: dead-letter (also accepted: dead letter)

A dead-letter topic receives messages after the configured number of delivery attempts. A retention topic is a tempting alternative because retention also involves messages, but it controls replay. Accept the hyphenated or spaced form.

5. Which two practices keep a production data pipeline deployment safe? (Choose two.)

- A Deploy from version-controlled templates through a reviewed pipeline
- B Edit production SQL directly in the console to avoid review delays
- C Share one service account across development and production projects
- D Test the pipeline on a staging dataset before promoting it to production
- E Skip monitoring because the pipeline has run successfully before

Answer: A, D

Versioned, reviewed deployments and staging tests reduce the risk of production changes. Editing production directly is a tempting distractor because it is fast, but it bypasses review and audit. Shared service accounts and skipping monitoring remove the controls that catch problems.

6. A Pub/Sub subscriber repeatedly fails on one malformed message, which blocks the rest of the stream. What should be configured?
- A A larger machine type for the subscriber VMs so each redelivery of the malformed message is processed faster
 - B A dead-letter topic with a maximum delivery attempts setting on the subscription
 - C An ordering key set to the message ID
 - D A lifecycle rule on the publishing topic

Answer: B

A dead-letter topic receives messages after the configured delivery attempts, which unblocks the main subscription. A larger subscriber is the tempting distractor, since it sounds like a capacity fix, but it does not stop a poison message from being retried. Ordering keys and topic lifecycle rules do not route failed messages.

7. A team wants to restrict a BigQuery dataset so that analysts can query a subset of rows defined by region, without copying data. Which feature fits?
- A Row-level access policies
 - B Column-level policy tags
 - C Authorized datasets for a service account
 - D Customer-managed encryption keys

Answer: A

Row-level access policies filter rows based on a predicate for specific principals. Column-level policy tags are the tempting distractor because they also restrict access, but they hide columns rather than rows. Authorized datasets and CMEK control other access and encryption concerns.

8. A BigQuery authorized view lets analysts query the results without access to the base table.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: A (True)

An authorized view is granted access to the source dataset, so consumers only need access to the view. Some assume they must also be granted the base table, which is the tempting misconception. The answer is True.

9. A BI dashboard runs the same aggregate query hundreds of times a day on a large table. The team wants lower latency and lower cost with minimal application change. Which feature helps most?
- A A larger on-demand query size limit
 - B Exporting the table nightly to Cloud Storage
 - C Removing all partitions from the table
 - D A materialized view over the aggregate

Answer: D

A materialized view stores precomputed results that BigQuery refreshes and can reuse automatically for matching queries. Raising a limit is a tempting distractor because it sounds like capacity, but it does not reduce work. Exports and removing partitions make scans slower or more expensive.

10. Which practice best controls BigQuery cost for ad hoc analysts on on-demand pricing?
- A Remove all table partitions to simplify queries
 - B Give every analyst the BigQuery admin role
 - C Export all data to Cloud Storage and query it with Dataproc
 - D Use dry runs and partition or cluster filters, and set custom quotas for projects

Answer: D

Dry runs estimate bytes before a query runs, and filters plus project quotas limit scans. Removing partitions is a tempting distractor because it looks like simplification, but it forces full scans. Broad admin roles and exports do not control on-demand scan costs.