

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Linux Foundation / CNCF

CKA

Certified Kubernetes Administrator

SHARED BY [u/cozyrouter1976](#) on aiexamcerts

EDITION	Free Set 1
QUESTIONS	10
SHARED	October 15, 2026
EXAM	Linux Foundation / CNCF CKA, Certified Kubernetes Administrator

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10 practice questions for the Linux Foundation / CNCF CKA exam, Certified Kubernetes Administrator, each followed by its answer and a short explanation. More free sets and the full practice exam:

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1. A pod is in CrashLoopBackOff and its current container logs are empty. Which command shows the output from the last failed run?

- A `kubectl logs <pod> --tail=0`
- B `kubectl logs <pod> --previous`
- C `kubectl describe node <node>`
- D `kubectl get pod <pod> -o wide`

Answer: B

The `--previous` flag returns logs from the terminated container instance, which is where the crash output lives. The `tail` option is a tempting distractor because it limits output, but it still reads the current container. Describing the node and listing pods do not show application output.

2. The `kubectl` flag that returns logs from the last terminated container instance is `--` _____.

Answer: previous

The `previous` flag reads logs from the container instance that exited, which is where crash output lives. The `tail` flag is a tempting alternative because it limits output, but it still reads the current instance. The accepted answer is `previous`.

3. Before restoring an etcd snapshot, which action is required so the API server stops writing to the old data?

- A Delete all namespaces so the restore has nothing to conflict with
- B Stop the kube-apiserver and etcd static pods by moving their manifests out of the static pod directory
- C Run `kubectl drain` on every control plane node
- D Restart the kubelet on the worker nodes only

Answer: B

Moving the static pod manifests out makes the kubelet stop those control plane components, which prevents writes during restore. Deleting namespaces is a tempting distractor because it seems to clear state, but it destroys data. Draining and restarting workers do not stop the control plane.

4. Without the ignore-daemonsets flag, kubectl drain evicts pods that are managed by a DaemonSet.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: B (False)

The drain command refuses to evict DaemonSet pods unless the ignore-daemonsets flag is set, since they are tied to the node. Many assume drain removes everything, which is the tempting misconception. The answer is False.

5. Which two scheduling features can keep a pod off a specific node? (Choose two.)
- A A taint with the NoSchedule effect on the node
 - B A toleration added to the pod for that node's taint
 - C A higher priority class on the pod
 - D A node affinity rule that does not match the node's labels
 - E A PreferNoSchedule taint, which blocks scheduling absolutely

Answer: A, D

NoSchedule taints and non-matching required node affinity both prevent placement. A matching toleration is a tempting distractor because it allows placement rather than blocking it. Priority classes affect preemption order, and PreferNoSchedule is only a soft preference, not a hard block.

6. Which command exposes an existing deployment named web as a NodePort Service on port 80, forwarding to container port 8080?
- A `kubectl create service web --port=80 --target=8080 --node`
 - B `kubectl expose deployment web --port=8080 --type=LoadBalancer --external`
 - C `kubectl expose deployment web --port=80 --target-port=8080 --type=NodePort`
 - D `kubectl port-forward deployment/web 80:8080 --type=NodePort`

Answer: C

The expose subcommand with --port, --target-port, and --type=NodePort creates the Service that matches the requirement. The LoadBalancer option is a tempting distractor because it also exposes traffic, but it is the wrong type and the wrong port mapping. The port-forward subcommand is a local debugging tool and creates no Service.

7. A pod in namespace app must reach a Service named db in namespace data. Which DNS name works?
- A db.app.svc.cluster.local
 - B data.db.svc.cluster.local
 - C db.data.pod.cluster.local
 - D db.data.svc.cluster.local

Answer: D

Service DNS names follow the form `service.namespace.svc.cluster.local`, so db in data is db.data. The app-namespace option is a tempting distractor because the calling pod is in app, but the Service lives in data. The other two orderings are not valid Service names.

8. The Deployment field that caps how many pods can be created above the desired count during a rollout is _____.

Answer: maxSurge

maxSurge sets how many extra pods can exist during a rolling update, and maxUnavailable sets how many can be missing. The maxUnavailable field is a tempting alternative because it is in the same strategy block, but it limits missing pods. The accepted answer is maxSurge.

9. A PersistentVolume must keep its data after its claim is deleted, so an administrator can recover it. Which reclaim policy does this?
- A Delete
 - B Recycle
 - C Archive
 - D Retain

Answer: D

Retain keeps the volume and its data after the claim is released, leaving manual cleanup to an administrator. Delete is a tempting distractor because it is the default for dynamically provisioned volumes, but it removes the underlying storage. Recycle is deprecated, and Archive is not a reclaim policy.

10. Which field on a StorageClass must be true before an existing PVC can be resized?
- A allowVolumeExpansion: true
 - B reclaimPolicy: Retain
 - C volumeBindingMode: Immediate
 - D provisioner: local

Answer: A

Volume expansion requires the StorageClass to allow it, and the PVC is then edited to request more storage. Retain is a tempting distractor because it protects data after deletion, but it does not enable resizing. Binding mode and provisioner choices do not control expansion.