

PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Microsoft

DP-420

Azure Cosmos DB Developer Specialty

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EDITION Free Set 2

QUESTIONS 10

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EXAM Microsoft DP-420, Azure Cosmos DB Developer Specialty

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10 practice questions for the Microsoft DP-420 exam, Azure Cosmos DB Developer Specialty, each followed by its answer and a short explanation. More free sets and the full practice exam: www.aiexamcerts.com/microsoft/dp-420. Spotted a mistake? Email support@aiexamcerts.com with the exam code DP-420 and the question number.

1. A client that calls the REST API directly needs to keep read-your-writes guarantees across requests under Session consistency. Which header carries the session token it must send back?
 - A x-ms-continuation
 - B If-Match
 - C x-ms-session-token
 - D x-ms-retry-after-ms

Answer: C

The x-ms-session-token header carries the session token that the service returns, and the client sends it back to read its own writes. x-ms-continuation is used for paging through query results. If-Match is for optimistic concurrency, and x-ms-retry-after-ms tells the client how long to wait after throttling.

2. Changing the indexing policy of an existing container is applied asynchronously as an index transformation.
 - A True
 - B False

Answer: A (True)

When an indexing policy changes on a container with data, the service rebuilds the index in the background, and the operation is not immediate. The account keeps serving requests during the transformation. The statement is true.

3. An app has users in Europe and the United States and must keep reads local to each group. Which approach does this?
 - A Enable Strong consistency for the whole account in every region
 - B Add a read region near each user group and set preferred locations in the SDK
 - C Lower the RU/s in each region until latency improves
 - D Turn off the change feed so that reads avoid cross-region replication

Answer: B

Read regions near the users plus preferred locations in the SDK let reads go to the closest replica. Strong consistency increases latency across regions instead of reducing it. Lowering throughput and turning off the change feed do not change where reads are served.

4. Hierarchical partition keys let a container use up to _____ levels of partition key paths.

Answer: three (also accepted: 3)

Hierarchical partition keys support up to three levels, such as tenant, user and session, which spreads multi-tenant data more evenly than one key. Each level adds to the distribution of logical partitions. The number is the documented maximum.

5. Which two statements about time to live (TTL) in Azure Cosmos DB are correct? (Choose two.)

- A TTL is measured in seconds from the item's last modification time
- B TTL deletes every item as soon as the container is created
- C An item ttl value of -1 means the item does not expire when container TTL is turned on
- D TTL can be applied only to items larger than 1 MB
- E Expired items are billed to the client as a read on every delete

Answer: A, C

TTL counts seconds from the last modification, and setting an item ttl of -1 opts that item out of expiry when the container has TTL on. TTL does not delete items when a container is created, and it is not limited by item size. Expiry deletes are not billed as client reads.

6. Which operation returns HTTP 409 Conflict?

- A Reading an item by its id and partition key
- B Running a query that returns zero results
- C Upserting an item that already exists in the same container
- D Creating an item whose id already exists in that logical partition

Answer: D

A create that reuses an id within the same logical partition fails with 409 Conflict. Reads and empty queries succeed, and an upsert replaces the existing item rather than conflicting. Handling 409 on create is a common way to make retries idempotent.

7. Which built-in role gives an identity read-only access to Cosmos DB data through Microsoft Entra ID?

- A Cosmos DB Built-in Data Reader
- B Cosmos DB Account Reader Role for management metadata only
- C Storage Blob Data Reader on the storage account
- D Contributor at the subscription level

Answer: A

The Cosmos DB Built-in Data Reader role is a data-plane role that allows reading items and running queries with Entra ID tokens. The Account Reader role covers management metadata rather than item data. Storage Blob and Contributor roles do not apply to Cosmos DB data.

8. The integrated cache uses a dedicated gateway and can serve repeated point reads with lower latency.
- A True
 - B False

Answer: A (True)

The integrated cache is provided through a dedicated gateway that keeps recently read items in memory, so repeated point reads are faster and cost fewer request units. The gateway is a separate resource you provision. The statement is true.

9. Which query practice reduces request unit cost the most for a large container?
- A Use SELECT * on all cross-partition queries to keep code simple
 - B Return a million items in one page for every request
 - C Disable indexing so that queries skip index maintenance
 - D Filter on the partition key and project needed fields only

Answer: D

Filtering on the partition key limits the fan-out, and projecting only needed properties reduces the data returned and the work to serialize it. SELECT * across partitions and very large pages increase cost. Disabling indexing forces scans that make queries more expensive.

10. An application must validate each item on the server before the write is stored. Which feature fits this need?
- A A unique key on the item's name
 - B The integrated cache for writes
 - C A vector index on the item's embedding
 - D A pre-trigger written in JavaScript

Answer: D

A pre-trigger is JavaScript that runs before a write on the server and can reject or change the item, which enforces server-side rules. A unique key rejects duplicates but cannot validate arbitrary fields. The integrated cache serves reads, and a vector index supports similarity search.