



SAA-C03^{Q&As}

AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate (SAA-C03)

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**QUESTION 1**

A company wants to migrate a Windows-based application from on premises to the AWS Cloud. The application has three tiers, a business tier, and a database tier with Microsoft SQL Server. The company wants to use specific features of SQL Server such as native backups and Data Quality Services. The company also needs to share files for process between the tiers.

How should a solution architect design the architecture to meet these requirements?

- A. Host all three on Amazon instances. Use Amazon FSx File Gateway for file sharing between tiers.
- B. Host all three on Amazon EC2 instances. Use Amazon FSx for Windows file sharing between the tiers.
- C. Host the application tier and the business tier on Amazon EC2 instances. Host the database tier on Amazon RDS. Use Amazon Elastic File system (Amazon EFS) for file sharing between the tiers.
- D. Host the application tier and the business tier on Amazon EC2 instances. Host the database tier on Amazon RDS. Use a Provisioned IOPS SSD (io2) Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) volume for file sharing between the tiers.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 2

A company is developing a new machine learning (ML) model solution on AWS. The models are developed as independent microservices that fetch approximately 1 GB of model data from Amazon S3 at startup and load the data into

memory. Users access the models through an asynchronous API. Users can send a request or a batch of requests and specify where the results should be sent.

The company provides models to hundreds of users. The usage patterns for the models are irregular. Some models could be unused for days or weeks. Other models could receive batches of thousands of requests at a time.

Which design should a solutions architect recommend to meet these requirements?

- A. Direct the requests from the API to a Network Load Balancer (NLB). Deploy the models as AWS Lambda functions that are invoked by the NLB.
- B. Direct the requests from the API to an Application Load Balancer (ALB). Deploy the models as Amazon Elastic Container Service (Amazon ECS) services that read from an Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) queue. Use AWS App Mesh to scale the instances of the ECS cluster based on the SQS queue size.
- C. Direct the requests from the API into an Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) queue. Deploy the models as AWS Lambda functions that are invoked by SQS events. Use AWS Auto Scaling to increase the number of vCPUs for the Lambda functions based on the SQS queue size.
- D. Direct the requests from the API into an Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) queue. Deploy the models as Amazon Elastic Container Service (Amazon ECS) services that read from the queue. Enable AWS Auto Scaling on Amazon ECS for both the cluster and copies of the service based on the queue size.

Correct Answer: D



asynchronous=SQS, microservices=ECS.

Use AWS Auto Scaling to adjust the number of ECS services.

QUESTION 3

A global marketing company has applications that run in the ap-southeast-2 Region and the eu-west-1 Region. Applications that run in a VPC in eu-west-1 need to communicate securely with databases that run in a VPC in ap-southeast-2.

Which network design will meet these requirements?

- A. Create a VPC peering connection between the eu-west-1 VPC and the ap-southeast-2 VPC. Create an inbound rule in the eu-west-1 application security group that allows traffic from the database server IP addresses in the ap-southeast2 security group.
- B. Configure a VPC peering connection between the ap-southeast-2 VPC and the eu-west-1 VPC. Update the subnet route tables. Create an inbound rule in the ap-southeast-2 database security group that references the security group ID of the application servers in eu-west-1.
- C. Configure a VPC peering connection between the ap-southeast-2 VPC and the eu-west-1 VPC. Update the subnet route tables. Create an inbound rule in the ap-southeast-2 database security group that allows traffic from the eu-west-1 application server IP addresses.
- D. Create a transit gateway with a peering attachment between the eu-west-1 VPC and the ap-southeast-2 VPC. After the transit gateways are properly peered and routing is configured, create an inbound rule in the database security group that references the security group ID of the application servers in eu-west-1.

Correct Answer: B

Option B suggests configuring a VPC peering connection between the ap-southeast-2 VPC and the eu-west-1 VPC. By establishing this peering connection, the VPCs can communicate with each other over their private IP addresses.

Additionally, updating the subnet route tables is necessary to ensure that the traffic destined for the remote VPC is correctly routed through the VPC peering connection.

To secure the communication, an inbound rule is created in the ap-southeast-2 database security group. This rule references the security group ID of the application servers in the eu-west-1 VPC, allowing traffic only from those instances. This approach ensures that only the authorized application servers can access the databases in the ap-southeast-2 VPC.

QUESTION 4

A company wants to give a customer the ability to use on-premises Microsoft Active Directory to download files that are stored in Amazon S3. The customer's application uses an SFTP client to download the files.

Which solution will meet these requirements with the LEAST operational overhead and no changes to the customer's application?

- A. Set up AWS Transfer Family with SFTP for Amazon S3. Configure integrated Active Directory authentication.
- B. Set up AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS) to synchronize the on-premises client with Amazon S3. Configure integrated Active Directory authentication.



- C. Set up AWS DataSync to synchronize between the on-premises location and the S3 location by using AWS IAM Identity Center (AWS Single Sign-On).
- D. Set up a Windows Amazon EC2 instance with SFTP to connect the on-premises client with Amazon S3. Integrate AWS Identity and Access Management (IAM).

Correct Answer: A

using AWS Batch to LEAST operational overhead and have SFTP to no changes to the customer's application
<https://aws.amazon.com/vi/blogs/architecture/managed-file-transfer-using-aws-transfer-family-and-amazon-s3/>

QUESTION 5

A company runs container applications by using Amazon Elastic Kubernetes Service (Amazon EKS). The company's workload is not consistent throughout the day. The company wants Amazon EKS to scale in and out according to the workload.

Which combination of steps will meet these requirements with the LEAST operational overhead? (Choose two.)

- A. Use an AWS Lambda function to resize the EKS cluster.
- B. Use the Kubernetes Metrics Server to activate horizontal pod autoscaling.
- C. Use the Kubernetes Cluster Autoscaler to manage the number of nodes in the cluster.
- D. Use Amazon API Gateway and connect it to Amazon EKS.
- E. Use AWS App Mesh to observe network activity.

Correct Answer: BC

By combining the Kubernetes Cluster Autoscaler (option C) to manage the number of nodes in the cluster and enabling horizontal pod autoscaling (option B) with the Kubernetes Metrics Server, you can achieve automatic scaling of your EKS cluster and container applications based on workload demand. This approach minimizes operational overhead as it leverages built-in Kubernetes functionality and automation mechanisms.

QUESTION 6

A company runs workloads on AWS. The company needs to connect to a service from an external provider. The service is hosted in the provider's VPC. According to the company's security team, the connectivity must be private and must be restricted to the target service. The connection must be initiated only from the company's VPC.

Which solution will meet these requirements?

- A. Create a VPC peering connection between the company's VPC and the provider's VPC. Update the route table to connect to the target service.
- B. Ask the provider to create a virtual private gateway in its VPC. Use AWS PrivateLink to connect to the target service.
- C. Create a NAT gateway in a public subnet of the company's VPC. Update the route table to connect to the target service.
- D. Ask the provider to create a VPC endpoint for the target service. Use AWS PrivateLink to connect to the target



service.

Correct Answer: D

AWS PrivateLink provides private connectivity between VPCs, AWS services, and your on-premises networks, without exposing your traffic to the public internet**. AWS PrivateLink makes it easy to connect services across different accounts

and VPCs to significantly simplify your network architecture.

Interface **VPC endpoints**, powered by AWS PrivateLink, connect you to services hosted by AWS Partners and supported solutions available in AWS Marketplace.

<https://aws.amazon.com/privatelink/>

QUESTION 7

A company is implementing a shared storage solution for a gaming application that is hosted in the AWS Cloud. The company needs the ability to use Lustre clients to access data. The solution must be fully managed.

Which solution meets these requirements?

- A. Create an AWS DataSync task that shares the data as a mountable file system. Mount the file system to the application server.
- B. Create an AWS Storage Gateway file gateway. Create a file share that uses the required client protocol. Connect the application server to the file share.
- C. Create an Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS) file system, and configure it to support Lustre. Attach the file system to the origin server. Connect the application server to the file system.
- D. Create an Amazon FSx for Lustre file system. Attach the file system to the origin server. Connect the application server to the file system.

Correct Answer: D

To meet the requirements of a shared storage solution for a gaming application that can be accessed using Lustre clients and is fully managed, the best solution would be to use Amazon FSx for Lustre. Amazon FSx for Lustre is a fully managed file system that is optimized for compute-intensive workloads, such as high-performance computing, machine learning, and gaming. It provides a POSIX-compliant file system that can be accessed using Lustre clients and offers high

performance, scalability, and data durability.

This solution provides a highly available, scalable, and fully managed shared storage solution that can be accessed using Lustre clients. Amazon FSx for Lustre is optimized for compute-intensive workloads and provides high performance

and durability.

QUESTION 8

A new employee has joined a company as a deployment engineer. The deployment engineer will be using AWS



CloudFormation templates to create multiple AWS resources. A solutions architect wants the deployment engineer to perform job activities while following the principle of least privilege.

Which steps should the solutions architect do in conjunction to reach this goal? (Select two.)

- A. Have the deployment engineer use AWS account root user credentials for performing AWS CloudFormation stack operations.
- B. Create a new IAM user for the deployment engineer and add the IAM user to a group that has the PowerUsers IAM policy attached.
- C. Create a new IAM user for the deployment engineer and add the IAM user to a group that has the Administrate/Access IAM policy attached.
- D. Create a new IAM User for the deployment engineer and add the IAM user to a group that has an IAM policy that allows AWS CloudFormation actions only.
- E. Create an IAM role for the deployment engineer to explicitly define the permissions specific to the AWS CloudFormation stack and launch stacks using Dial IAM role.

Correct Answer: DE

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/IAM/latest/UserGuide/id_roles.html

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/IAM/latest/UserGuide/id_users.html

QUESTION 9

A company is implementing a new business application. The application runs on two Amazon EC2 instances and uses an Amazon S3 bucket for document storage. A solutions architect needs to ensure that the EC2 instances can access the S3 bucket.

What should the solutions architect do to meet this requirement?

- A. Create an IAM role that grants access to the S3 bucket. Attach the role to the EC2 instances.
- B. Create an IAM policy that grants access to the S3 bucket. Attach the policy to the EC2 instances.
- C. Create an IAM group that grants access to the S3 bucket. Attach the group to the EC2 instances.
- D. Create an IAM user that grants access to the S3 bucket. Attach the user account to the EC2 instances.

Correct Answer: A

<https://aws.amazon.com/premiumsupport/knowledge-center/ec2-instance-access-s3-bucket/>

QUESTION 10

A gaming company is designing a highly available architecture. The application runs on a modified Linux kernel and supports only UDP-based traffic. The company needs the front-end tier to provide the best possible user experience. That tier must have low latency, route traffic to the nearest edge location, and provide static IP addresses for entry into the application endpoints.

What should a solutions architect do to meet these requirements?



- A. Configure Amazon Route 53 to forward requests to an Application Load Balancer. Use AWS Lambda for the application in AWS Application Auto Scaling.
- B. Configure Amazon CloudFront to forward requests to a Network Load Balancer. Use AWS Lambda for the application in an AWS Application Auto Scaling group.
- C. Configure AWS Global Accelerator to forward requests to a Network Load Balancer. Use Amazon EC2 instances for the application in an EC2 Auto Scaling group.
- D. Configure Amazon API Gateway to forward requests to an Application Load Balancer. Use Amazon EC2 instances for the application in an EC2 Auto Scaling group.

Correct Answer: C

AWS Global Accelerator and Amazon CloudFront are separate services that use the AWS global network and its edge locations around the world. CloudFront improves performance for both cacheable content (such as images and videos) and dynamic content (such as API acceleration and dynamic site delivery). Global Accelerator improves performance for a wide range of applications over TCP or UDP by proxying packets at the edge to applications running in one or more AWS Regions. Global Accelerator is a good fit for non-HTTP use cases, such as gaming (UDP), IoT (MQTT), or Voice over IP, as well as for HTTP use cases that specifically require static IP addresses or deterministic, fast regional failover. Both services integrate with AWS Shield for DDoS protection.

QUESTION 11

A security audit reveals that Amazon EC2 instances are not being patched regularly. A solutions architect needs to provide a solution that will run regular security scans across a large fleet of EC2 instances. The solution should also patch the EC2 instances on a regular schedule and provide a report of each instance's patch status.

Which solution will meet these requirements?

- A. Set up Amazon Macie to scan the EC2 instances for software vulnerabilities. Set up a cron job on each EC2 instance to patch the instance on a regular schedule.
- B. Turn on Amazon GuardDuty in the account. Configure GuardDuty to scan the EC2 instances for software vulnerabilities. Set up AWS Systems Manager Session Manager to patch the EC2 instances on a regular schedule.
- C. Set up Amazon Detective to scan the EC2 instances for software vulnerabilities. Set up an Amazon EventBridge scheduled rule to patch the EC2 instances on a regular schedule.
- D. Turn on Amazon Inspector in the account. Configure Amazon Inspector to scan the EC2 instances for software vulnerabilities. Set up AWS Systems Manager Patch Manager to patch the EC2 instances on a regular schedule.

Correct Answer: D

Amazon Inspector is a security assessment service that helps improve the security and compliance of applications deployed on Amazon Web Services (AWS). It automatically assesses applications for vulnerabilities or deviations from best practices. Amazon Inspector can be used to identify security issues and recommend fixes for them. It is an ideal solution for running regular security scans across a large fleet of EC2 instances.

AWS Systems Manager Patch Manager is a service that helps you automate the process of patching Windows and Linux instances. It provides a simple, automated way to patch your instances with the latest security patches and updates. Patch Manager helps you maintain compliance with security policies and regulations by providing detailed reports on the patch status of your instances.



QUESTION 12

A company previously migrated its data warehouse solution to AWS. The company also has an AWS Direct Connect connection. Corporate office users query the data warehouse using a visualization tool. The average size of a query returned by the data warehouse is 50 MB and each webpage sent by the visualization tool is approximately 500 KB. Result sets returned by the data warehouse are not cached.

Which solution provides the LOWEST data transfer egress cost for the company?

- A. Host the visualization tool on premises and query the data warehouse directly over the internet.
- B. Host the visualization tool in the same AWS Region as the data warehouse. Access it over the internet.
- C. Host the visualization tool on premises and query the data warehouse directly over a Direct Connect connection at a location in the same AWS Region.
- D. Host the visualization tool in the same AWS Region as the data warehouse and access it over a Direct Connect connection at a location in the same Region.

Correct Answer: D

<https://aws.amazon.com/directconnect/pricing/> <https://aws.amazon.com/blogs/aws/aws-data-transfer-prices-reduced/>

QUESTION 13

A company maintains an Amazon RDS database that maps users to cost centers. The company has accounts in an organization in AWS Organizations. The company needs a solution that will tag all resources that are created in a specific

AWS account in the organization. The solution must tag each resource with the cost center ID of the user who created the resource.

Which solution will meet these requirements?

- A. Move the specific AWS account to a new organizational unit (OU) in Organizations from the management account. Create a service control policy (SCP) that requires all existing resources to have the correct cost center tag before the resources are created. Apply the SCP to the new OU.
- B. Create an AWS Lambda function to tag the resources after the Lambda function looks up the appropriate cost center from the RDS database. Configure an Amazon EventBridge rule that reacts to AWS CloudTrail events to invoke the Lambda function.
- C. Create an AWS CloudFormation stack to deploy an AWS Lambda function. Configure the Lambda function to look up the appropriate cost center from the RDS database and to tag resources. Create an Amazon EventBridge scheduled rule to invoke the CloudFormation stack.
- D. Create an AWS Lambda function to tag the resources with a default value. Configure an Amazon EventBridge rule that reacts to AWS CloudTrail events to invoke the Lambda function when a resource is missing the cost center tag.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 14



A company has hired a solutions architect to design a reliable architecture for its application. The application consists of one Amazon RDS DB instance and two manually provisioned Amazon EC2 instances that run web servers. The EC2 instances are located in a single Availability Zone.

An employee recently deleted the DB instance, and the application was unavailable for 24 hours as a result. The company is concerned with the overall reliability of its environment.

What should the solutions architect do to maximize reliability of the application's infrastructure?

- A. Delete one EC2 instance and enable termination protection on the other EC2 instance. Update the DB instance to be Multi-AZ, and enable deletion protection.
- B. Update the DB instance to be Multi-AZ, and enable deletion protection. Place the EC2 instances behind an Application Load Balancer, and run them in an EC2 Auto Scaling group across multiple Availability Zones.
- C. Create an additional DB instance along with an Amazon API Gateway and an AWS Lambda function. Configure the application to invoke the Lambda function through API Gateway. Have the Lambda function write the data to the two DB instances.
- D. Place the EC2 instances in an EC2 Auto Scaling group that has multiple subnets located in multiple Availability Zones. Use Spot Instances instead of On-Demand Instances. Set up Amazon CloudWatch alarms to monitor the health of the instances. Update the DB instance to be Multi-AZ, and enable deletion protection.

Correct Answer: B

HA ensured by DB in Multi-AZ and EC2 in AG

QUESTION 15

A company has a Windows-based application that must be migrated to AWS. The application requires the use of a shared Windows file system attached to multiple Amazon EC2 Windows instances that are deployed across multiple Availability Zones.

What should a solutions architect do to meet this requirement?

- A. Configure AWS Storage Gateway in volume gateway mode. Mount the volume to each Windows instance.
- B. Configure Amazon FSx for Windows File Server. Mount the Amazon FSx file system to each Windows instance.
- C. Configure a file system by using Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS). Mount the EFS file system to each Windows instance.
- D. Configure an Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) volume with the required size. Attach each EC2 instance to the volume. Mount the file system within the volume to each Windows instance.

Correct Answer: B

- A. Configure AWS Storage Gateway in volume gateway mode. Mount the volume to each Windows instance.

This option is incorrect because AWS Storage Gateway is not a file storage service. It is a hybrid storage service that allows you to store data in the cloud while maintaining low-latency access to frequently accessed data. It is designed to integrate with on-premises storage systems, not to provide file storage for Amazon EC2 instances.

- B. Configure Amazon FSx for Windows File Server. Mount the Amazon FSx file system to each Windows instance.



This is the correct answer. Amazon FSx for Windows File Server is a fully managed file storage service that provides a native Windows file system that can be accessed over the SMB protocol. It is specifically designed for use with Windows-based applications, and it can be easily integrated with existing applications by mounting the file system to each EC2 instance.

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