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AWS Certified Solutions Architect - Associate (SAA-C02)

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**QUESTION 1**

The DNS provider that hosts a company's domain name records is experiencing outages that cause service disruption for a website running on AWS. The company needs to migrate to a more resilient managed DNS service and wants the service to run on AWS.

What should a solutions architect do to rapidly migrate the DNS hosting service?

- A. Create an Amazon Route 53 public hosted zone for the domain name. Import the zone file containing the domain records hosted by the previous provider.
- B. Create an Amazon Route 53 private hosted zone for the domain name. Import the zone file containing the domain records hosted by the previous provider.
- C. Create a Simple AD directory in AWS. Enable zone transfer between the DNS provider and AWS Directory Service for Microsoft Active Directory for the domain records.
- D. Create an Amazon Route 53 Resolver inbound endpoint in the VPC. Specify the IP addresses that the provider's DNS will forward DNS queries to. Configure the provider's DNS to forward DNS queries for the domain to the IP addresses that are specified in the inbound endpoint.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 2

A solutions architect is designing a multi-Region disaster recovery solution for an application that will provide public API access. The application will use Amazon EC2 instances with a userdata script to load application code and an Amazon RDS for MySQL database. The Recovery Time Objective (RTO) is 3 hours and the Recovery Point Objective (RPO) is 24 hours.

Which architecture would meet these requirements at the LOWEST cost?

- A. Use an Application Load Balancer for Region failover. Deploy new EC2 instances with the userdata script. Deploy separate RDS instances in each Region.
- B. Use Amazon Route 53 for Region failover. Deploy new EC2 instances with the userdata script. Create a read replica of the RDS instance in a backup Region.
- C. Use Amazon API Gateway for the public APIs and Region failover. Deploy new EC2 instances with the userdata script. Create a MySQL read replica of the RDS instance in a backup Region.
- D. Use Amazon Route 53 for Region failover. Deploy new EC2 instances with the userdata script for APIs, and create a snapshot of the RDS instance daily for a backup. Replicate the snapshot to a backup Region.

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 3



A company wants to experiment with individual AWS accounts for its engineer team. The company wants to be notified as soon as the Amazon EC2 instance usage for a given month exceeds a specific threshold for each account.

What should a solutions architect do to meet this requirement MOST cost-effectively?

- A. Use Cost Explorer to create a daily report of costs by service. Filter the report by EC2 instances. Configure Cost Explorer to send an Amazon Simple Email Service (Amazon SES) notification when a threshold is exceeded.
- B. Use Cost Explorer to create a monthly report of costs by service. Filter the report by EC2 instances. Configure Cost Explorer to send an Amazon Simple Email Service (Amazon SES) notification when a threshold is exceeded.
- C. Use AWS Budgets to create a cost budget for each account. Set the period to monthly. Set the scope to EC2 instances. Set an alert threshold for the budget. Configure an Amazon Simple Notification Service (Amazon SNS) topic to receive a notification when a threshold is exceeded.
- D. Use AWS Cost and Usage Reports to create a report with hourly granularity. Integrate the report data with Amazon Athena. Use Amazon EventBridge (Amazon CloudWatch Events) to schedule an Athena query. Configure an Amazon Simple Notification Service (Amazon SNS) topic to receive a notification when a threshold is exceeded.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 4

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 combination of actions should the solutions architect take to accomplish 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 the IAM role.

Correct Answer: DE

QUESTION 5

A solutions architect is designing a two-tier web application. The application consists of a public-facing web tier hosted on Amazon EC2 in public subnets. The database tier consists of Microsoft SQL Server running on Amazon EC2 in a private subnet. Security is a high priority for the company. How should security groups be configured in this situation? (Select TWO.)



- A. Configure the security group for the web tier to allow inbound traffic on port 443 from 0 0 0 0/0
- B. Configure the security group for the web tier to allow outbound traffic on port 443 from 0 0 0 0/0
- C. Configure the security group for the database tier to allow inbound traffic on port 1433 from the security group for the web tier
- D. Configure the security group for the database tier to allow outbound traffic on ports 443 and 1433 to the security group for the web tier
- E. Configure the security group for the database tier to allow inbound traffic on ports 443 and 1433 from the security group for the web tier

Correct Answer: AC

"Security groups create an outbound rule for every inbound rule." Not completely right. Statefull does NOT mean that if you create an inbound (or outbound) rule, it will create an outbound (or inbound) rule. What it does mean is: suppose you create an inbound rule on port 443 for the X ip. When a request enters on port 443 from X ip, it will allow traffic out for that request in the port 443. However, if you look at the outbound rules, there will not be any outbound rule on port 443 unless explicitly create it. In ACLs, which are stateless, you would have to create an inbound rule to allow incoming requests and an outbound rule to allow your application responds to those incoming requests.

https://docs.aws.amazon.com/vpc/latest/userguide/VPC_SecurityGroups.html#SecurityGroupRules

QUESTION 6

A global company hosts its web application on Amazon EC2 instances behind an Application Load Balancer (ALB). The web application has static data and dynamic data. The company stores its static data in an Amazon S3 bucket. The company wants to improve performance and reduce latency for the static data and dynamic data. The company is using its own domain name registered with Amazon Route 53.

What should a solutions architect do to meet these requirements?

- A. Create an Amazon CloudFront distribution that has the S3 bucket and the ALB as origins Configure Route 53 to route traffic to the CloudFront distribution.
- B. Create an Amazon CloudFront distribution that has the ALB as an origin Create an AWS Global Accelerator standard accelerator that has the S3 bucket as an endpoint. Configure Route 53 to route traffic to the CloudFront distribution.
- C. Create an Amazon CloudFront distribution that has the S3 bucket as an origin Create an AWS Global Accelerator standard accelerator that has the ALB and the CloudFront distribution as endpoints Create a custom domain name that points to the accelerator DNS name Use the custom domain name as an endpoint for the web application.
- D. Create an Amazon CloudFront distribution that has the ALB as an origin C. Create an AWS Global Accelerator standard accelerator that has the S3 bucket as an endpoint Create two domain names. Point one domain name to the CloudFront DNS name for dynamic content, Point the other domain name to the accelerator DNS name for static content Use the domain names as endpoints for the web application.

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 7



A solutions architect is designing the architecture for a company website that is composed of static content. The company's target customers are located in the United States and Europe. Which architecture should the solutions architect recommend to MINIMIZE cost?

- A. Store the website files on Amazon S3 in the us-east-2 Region. Use an Amazon CloudFront distribution with the price class configured to limit the edge locations in use.
- B. Store the website files on Amazon S3 in the us-east-2 Region. Use an Amazon CloudFront distribution with the price class configured to maximize the use of edge locations.
- C. Store the website files on Amazon S3 in the us-east-2 Region and the eu-west-1 Region. Use an Amazon CloudFront geolocation routing policy to route requests to the closest Region to the user.
- D. Store the website files on Amazon S3 in the us-east-2 Region and the eu-west-1 Region. Use an Amazon CloudFront distribution with an Amazon Route 53 latency routing policy to route requests to the closest Region to the user.

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 8

An online gaming company is designing a game that is expected to be popular all over the world. A solutions architect needs to define an AWS Cloud architecture that supports near-real-time recording and displaying of current game statistics for each player, along with the names of the top 25 players in the world, at any given time.

Which AWS database solution and configuration should the solutions architect use to meet these requirements?

- A. Use Amazon RDS for MySQL as the data store for player activity. Configure the RDS DB instance for Multi-AZ support.
- B. Use Amazon DynamoDB as the data store for player activity. Configure DynamoDB Accelerator (DAX) for the player data.
- C. Use Amazon DynamoDB as the data store for player activity. Configure global tables in each required AWS Region for the player data.
- D. Use Amazon RDS for MySQL as the data store for player activity. Configure cross-Region read replicas in each required AWS Region based on player proximity.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 9

A company is using Amazon EC2 to run its big data analytics workloads. These variable workloads run each night, and it is critical they finish by the start of business the following day. A solutions architect has been tasked with designing the

MOST cost-effective solution.

Which solution will accomplish this?

- A. Spot Fleet



- B. Spot Instances
- C. Reserved Instances
- D. On-Demand Instances

Correct Answer: C

QUESTION 10

A company runs a static website through its on-premises data center. The company has multiple servers that handle all of its traffic, but on busy days, services are interrupted and the website becomes unavailable. The company wants to expand its presence globally and plans to triple its website traffic.

What should a solutions architect recommend to meet these requirements?

- A. Migrate the website content to Amazon S3 and host the website on Amazon CloudFront.
- B. Migrate the website content to Amazon EC2 instances with public Elastic IP addresses in multiple AWS Regions.
- C. Migrate the website content to Amazon EC2 instances and vertically scale as the load increases.
- D. Use Amazon Route 53 to distribute the loads across multiple Amazon CloudFront distributions for each AWS Region that exists globally.

Correct Answer: D

Amazon CloudFront is a global Content Delivery Network (CDN), which will host your website on a global network of edge servers, helping users load your website more quickly. When requests for your website content come through, they are automatically routed to the nearest edge location, closest to where the request originated from, so your content is delivered to your end user with the best possible performance.

QUESTION 11

A company has multiple applications that use Amazon RDS for MySQL as its database. The company recently discovered that a new custom reporting application has increased the number of queries on the database. This is slowing down performance.

How should a solutions architect resolve this issue with the LEAST amount of application changes?

- A. Add a secondary DB instance using Multi-AZ
- B. Set up a read replica and Multi-AZ on Amazon RDS.
- C. Set up a standby replica and Multi-AZ on Amazon RDS
- D. Use caching on Amazon RDS to improve the overall performance

Correct Answer: D

QUESTION 12



A solutions architect is designing an elastic application that will have between 10 and 50 Amazon EC2 concurrent instances running depending on the load. Each instance must mount storage that will read and write to the same 50 GB folder. Which storage type meets the requirements?

- A. Amazon S3
- B. Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS)
- C. Amazon Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) volumes
- D. Amazon EC2 instance store

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 13

A solutions architect needs to design a managed storage solution for a company's application that includes high-performance machine learning. This application runs on AWS Fargate, and the connected storage needs to have concurrent access to files and deliver high performance.

Which storage option should the solutions architect recommend?

- A. Create an Amazon S3 bucket for the application and establish an IAM role for Fargate to communicate with Amazon S3.
- B. Create an Amazon FSx for Lustre file share and establish an IAM role that allows Fargate to communicate with FSx for Lustre.
- C. Create an Amazon Elastic File System (Amazon EFS) file share and establish an IAM role that allows Fargate to communicate with Amazon EFS.
- D. Create an Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon EBS) volume for the application and establish an IAM role that allows Fargate to communicate with Amazon EBS.

Correct Answer: B

QUESTION 14

A company has migrated a two-tier application from its on-premises data center to the AWS Cloud. The data tier is a Multi-AZ deployment of Amazon RDS for Oracle with 12 TB of General Purpose SSD Amazon Elastic Block Store (Amazon

EBS) storage. The application is designed to process and store documents in the database as binary large objects (blobs) with an average document size of 6 MB.

The database size has grown over time, reducing the performance and increasing the cost of storage. The company must improve the database performance and needs a solution that is highly available and resilient.

Which solution will meet these requirements MOST cost-effectively?

- A. Reduce the RDS DB instance size. Increase the storage capacity to 24 TiB. Change the storage type to Magnetic.



B. Increase the RDS DB instance size. Increase the storage capacity to 24 TiB. Change the storage type to Provisioned IOPS.

C. Create an Amazon S3 bucket. Update the application to store documents in the S3 bucket. Store the object metadata in the existing database.

D. Create an Amazon DynamoDB table. Update the application to use DynamoDB. Use AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS) to migrate data from the Oracle database to DynamoDB.

Correct Answer: D

Reference: <https://aws.amazon.com/getting-started/hands-on/break-free-from-legacy-databases/migrate-sql-server-to-amazon-dynamodb/>

QUESTION 15

A company currently operates a web application backed by an Amazon RDS MySQL database. It has automated backups that are run daily and are not encrypted. A security audit requires future backups to be encrypted and the unencrypted backups to be destroyed. The company will make at least one encrypted backup before destroying the old backups. What should be done to enable encryption for future backups?

A. Enable default encryption for the Amazon S3 bucket where backups are stored

B. Modify the backup section of the database configuration to toggle the Enable encryption check box

C. Create a snapshot of the database. Copy it to an encrypted snapshot. Restore the database from the encrypted snapshot.

D. Enable an encrypted read replica on RDS for MySQL. Promote the encrypted read replica to primary. Remove the original database instance.

Correct Answer: C

However, because you can encrypt a copy of an unencrypted DB snapshot, you can effectively add encryption to an unencrypted DB instance. That is, you can create a snapshot of your DB instance, and then create an encrypted copy of that snapshot. You can then restore a DB instance from the encrypted snapshot, and thus you have an encrypted copy of your original DB instance. DB instances that are encrypted can't be modified to disable encryption. You can't have an encrypted read replica of an unencrypted DB instance or an unencrypted read replica of an encrypted DB instance. Encrypted read replicas must be encrypted with the same key as the source DB instance when both are in the same AWS Region. You can't restore an unencrypted backup or snapshot to an encrypted DB instance. To copy an encrypted snapshot from one AWS Region to another, you must specify the KMS key identifier of the destination AWS Region. This is because KMS encryption keys are specific to the AWS Region that they are created in.

<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonRDS/latest/UserGuide/Overview.Encryption.html>

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