OCI Foundations Associate 1Z0-1085 — Practice Study Guide (Sampler)

Core cloud concepts • OCI services & architecture • Security & billing basics • MCQs with explanations

- - 20 short scenario/knowledge drills with model answers
- - 20 multiple-choice questions with step-by-step rationales
- - Covers: cloud models, regions/ADs/FDs, IAM & compartments, networking (VCN, gateways), storage (Object/Block/File), compute, database options, security (Vault, Cloud Guard, WAF), monitoring, Budgets/cost management, SLAs & support plans, pricing models
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Disclaimer: This is original practice content aligned to common OCI Foundations objectives. Always verify with the latest OCI documentation and exam guide.

Part I — Short Drills & Model Answers (20)

Drill 1: Cloud Service Models

Briefly distinguish IaaS, PaaS, and SaaS with one OCI example each.

Model answer: IaaS: infrastructure building blocks (Compute, Block Volume). PaaS: managed platforms (Autonomous Database, Functions). SaaS: finished apps (Oracle Fusion Apps; conceptually beyond most OCI services).

Drill 2: Regions, ADs, and Fault Domains

Explain how regions, availability domains, and fault domains improve resiliency.

Model answer: Regions are separate geographic areas. Each region has multiple ADs (independent data centers). Fault domains partition hardware within an AD. Spreading resources across ADs/FDs reduces correlated failures.

Drill 3: Compartments & IAM

Why use compartments and IAM groups/policies?

Model answer: Compartments logically isolate resources for governance and billing tags. IAM groups/policies grant least-privilege access scoped to compartments.

Drill 4: VCN Basics

Define VCN, subnet, route table, and security list at a high level.

Model answer: A VCN is a private network in OCI. Subnets segment IP ranges (public or private). Route tables direct traffic to gateways. Security lists define stateful ingress/egress rules at subnet level.

Drill 5: Internet vs. NAT vs. Service Gateway

Differentiate the three in one sentence each.

Model answer: Internet Gateway enables public ingress/egress for public subnets; NAT Gateway allows private subnets outbound-only Internet; Service Gateway gives private access to Oracle services like Object Storage.

Drill 6: Object vs. Block vs. File Storage

When would you use each?

Model answer: Object: unstructured data and backups. Block: low-latency disks for compute/DB. File: shared POSIX file systems for multiple instances.

Drill 7: Load Balancer

Purpose of a load balancer and one health-check benefit.

Model answer: Distributes client traffic across backends to improve availability/scale; health checks automatically remove unhealthy backends.

Drill 8: Autoscaling

When should you use autoscaling with instance pools?

Model answer: For variable workloads—define policies on CPU/requests to scale out/in automatically while keeping HA across ADs.

Drill 9: Identity: Users, Groups, Policies

State a least-privilege policy pattern for read-only access in a compartment.

Model answer: Allow group Analysts to read all-resources in compartment Analytics.

Drill 10: Vault & Keys

What problem does OCI Vault solve?

Model answer: Centralized key management and secret storage; supports key rotation and access control via IAM policies.

Drill 11: Cloud Guard

High-level value of Cloud Guard?

Model answer: Continuously detects misconfigurations and risky activities with detector/responder recipes for posture improvement.

Drill 12: WAF

Why place WAF in front of public web apps?

Model answer: Mitigates OWASP Top 10 risks, filters bots, and provides rate limiting and IP reputation controls.

Drill 13: Budgets & Cost Analysis

How do you avoid unexpected spend?

Model answer: Create Budgets with alert thresholds, tag resources for showback/chargeback, and review Cost Analysis/usage exports.

Drill 14: Support & SLAs

Name one SLA category and why it matters.

Model answer: Availability SLA (e.g., for Compute/Block/Object) sets expectations for uptime and credits—used in risk planning.

Drill 15: Database Options

When choose Autonomous Database vs. Base Database Service?

Model answer: Autonomous for managed automation (patching, tuning) and rapid scale; Base DB for more control/customization.

Drill 16: Events & Functions

Give a simple event-driven example.

Model answer: On 'Object Created' in a bucket, trigger a Function to process metadata or move the object to Archive tier.

Drill 17: DNS & Traffic Mgmt

Why use DNS with low TTL during cutovers?

Model answer: Faster propagation of changes for blue/green or failover scenarios.

Drill 18: Security Principles

State two shared responsibility examples.

Model answer: OCI secures physical infrastructure; customers secure OS/app configs, IAM policies, and data classification.

Drill 19: Monitoring & Alarms

One best practice for alerts?

Model answer: Set actionable thresholds with proper windowing and route through Notifications to email/chat/on-call tools.

Drill 20: Quota Policies

What are quotas used for?

Model answer: To restrict resource creation (e.g., block public IPs) at compartment/tenancy level for governance.

Part II — Multiple-Choice Questions with Explanations (20)

MCQ 1. Which best describes a region in OCI?

A) A single data hall
B) A geographic area containing one or more availability domains
C) A security boundary within a subnet
D) A DNS zone only

Explanation: Regions are geographic areas made up of one or more ADs.

MCQ 2. What is an availability domain (AD)?

A) A private IP range
B) A distinct data center within a region
C) A set of IAM users
D) A route table

Explanation: ADs are isolated data centers inside a region.

MCQ 3. What do fault domains provide?

A) Cheaper pricing
B) Granular hardware fault isolation within an AD
C) A public IP service
D) Free DNS

Explanation: FDs partition hardware to reduce correlated failure.

MCQ 4. A VCN is best described as:

A) A physical router
B) A software-defined private network in OCI
C) A billing account
D) An audit log

Explanation: VCN = software-defined network with subnets, routes, rules.

MCQ 5. Which gateway lets private subnets reach Internet without public IPs?

A) Internet Gateway
B) NAT Gateway

C) Service Gateway

D) Dynamic Routing Gateway

Explanation: NAT enables outbound-only Internet from private subnets.

MCQ 6. Service Gateway is used to:

A) Expose instances to Internet

B) Privately access Oracle services like Object Storage

C) Connect to on-prem networks

D) Provide DNS resolution

Explanation: Service Gateway provides private access to Oracle services.

MCQ 7. Which object is attached to a subnet?

A) Security list

B) NSG only

C) Compartment

D) Group

Explanation: Security lists attach to subnets; NSGs attach to VNICs.

MCQ 8. Which is true of compartments?

A) Resources can belong to multiple compartments

B) They help organize/secure resources and scope policies

C) They are the same as VCNs

D) They replace IAM

Explanation: Compartments organize and scope policies/costs.

MCQ 9. A policy statement granting read-only in compartment 'Analytics' is:

A) Allow group Analysts to read all-resources in compartment Analytics

B) Allow group Analytics to manage all-resources in tenancy

C) Allow group Dev to use instance-family in tenancy

D) Allow dynamic-group to read buckets in compartment Tenancy

Explanation: Pattern grants read on all-resources in a specific compartment.

MCQ 10. Object vs. Block vs. File — which is best for unstructured backups?

A) Block

B) File

C) Object

D) Database

Explanation: Object Storage suits unstructured backup/archives.

MCQ 11. WAF primarily protects against:

A) OS patch failures

B) Application-layer attacks like OWASP Top 10

C) Disk failures

D) Power outages

Explanation: WAF mitigates web app attacks/bots.

MCQ 12. Cloud Guard provides:

A) Load balancing

B) Central detection of misconfigurations and risky activities

C) Tenant-wide DNS

D) Key management

Explanation: Continuous posture management and responders.

MCQ 13. Budgets help by:

A) Auto-scaling instances

B) Alerting on spend thresholds and tracking costs

C) Encrypting disks

D) Creating IAM users

Explanation: Budgets alert on spend and support showback.

MCQ 14. Which load balancer is recommended for HA across a region?

A) AD-specific LB

B) Regional public/private LB

C) Only DNS-based LB

D) No LB needed

Explanation: Regional LBs span ADs for high availability.

MCQ 15. Autonomous Database vs. Base DB — key difference:

A) Autonomous automates patching/tuning; Base DB gives more control

B) Base DB is serverless only

C) Autonomous has no backups

D) Both require manual scaling only

Explanation: Autonomous automates many tasks; Base DB offers control.

MCQ 16. Monitoring & Alarms are used to:

A) Create budgets

B) Send notifications on metric thresholds

C) Manage IAM keys

D) Provision VCNs

Explanation: Alarms notify on metric thresholds via Notifications.

MCQ 17. Events can:

A) Trigger Functions to react to resource changes

B) Replace IAM policies

C) Encrypt all disks

D) Create new regions

Explanation: Events + Functions enable serverless automation.

MCQ 18. Dynamic Routing Gateway (DRG) is for:

A) Public Internet access

B) Hybrid private connectivity to on-prem via VPN/FastConnect

C) DNS resolution

D) Storing objects

Explanation: DRG connects VCNs to on-prem/private networks.

MCQ 19. Which statement about pricing is correct?

A) All services are free
B) OCI charges pay-as-you-go and has committed/discount models
C) Only annual subscriptions exist
D) Traffic is never billed

Explanation: PAYG and committed options exist; some network egress billed.

MCQ 20. Shared responsibility means:

A) OCI handles all security
B) Customer handles physical security
C) OCI and customer split responsibilities based on service model
D) Security is optional

Explanation: Both parties share depending on service layer.

About This Study Guide

This sampler mirrors the full OCI Foundations pack: short scenario drills and MCQs with clear rationales across cloud basics, OCI core services, networking, security, monitoring, and billing. Use it to self-check key exam concepts.

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