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A · Describe cloud concepts

25–30% of the exam

S1 · What cloud computing is, and who is responsible for what

cloud computing	CONCEPT	Delivery of computing services over the internet.
shared responsibility model	CONCEPT	How duties are divided between the cloud provider and the customer.
on-premises datacenter	CONCEPT	A datacenter you own and run, where the whole stack is yours.
infrastructure as a service (IaaS)	CONCEPT	Service type with the most customer control and responsibility. · also S5
platform as a service (PaaS)	CONCEPT	Middle service type; the provider also runs the platform. · also S5, S20
software as a service (SaaS)	CONCEPT	Finished applications; the provider carries most responsibility. · also S5
Azure free account	FEATURE	Sign-up offer with 12 months of some free services plus always-free services.
spending limit	FEATURE	Stops spending beyond your credit amount; on by default for free accounts.
Microsoft Cost Management	SERVICE	Microsoft's suite of FinOps tools for analysing and optimising cloud costs. · also S14, S20
Cost Management + Billing	PORTAL	Portal area for billing accounts and cost tools.
Budgets	PORTAL	Menu item on a scope, such as a subscription, for creating budgets. · also S14
forecasted budget alerts	FEATURE	Alerts when projected cost is likely to exceed your threshold.

S2 · Public, private and hybrid cloud, and when to use each

public cloud	CONCEPT	Third-party cloud that anyone can buy services from. · also S20
private cloud	CONCEPT	Cloud used by a single entity, on-site or offsite.
hybrid cloud	CONCEPT	Public and private clouds in an inter-connected environment.
multicloud	CONCEPT	Using two or more public cloud providers.
Azure Arc	SERVICE	Technologies for managing resources across Azure, on-premises and other clouds. · also S17
Azure VMware Solution	SERVICE	Runs VMware workloads in Azure.
Azure Arc-enabled servers	FEATURE	Manages Windows and Linux machines hosted outside Azure. · also S17
Resource groups	PORTAL	Portal page for listing and creating resource groups.
Region	SETTING	The Azure location chosen when creating a resource group.

A · Describe cloud concepts · continued

S3 · Paying for cloud: consumption-based model, pricing models, serverless

consumption-based model	CONCEPT	Pay for the IT resources you use, and nothing more.
capital expenditure (CapEx)	CONCEPT	Up-front spending on physical infrastructure.
operational expenditure (OpEx)	CONCEPT	Ongoing spending on services; how cloud is classified.
pay-as-you-go	CONCEPT	Pay only for the services you consume.
Azure Reservations	FEATURE	One- or three-year commitment for a billing discount. · also S19
Savings plan for compute	FEATURE	Hourly spend commitment discounting eligible compute usage. · also S19
Azure Spot Virtual Machines	SERVICE	Discounted unused capacity that Azure can evict.
serverless computing	CONCEPT	Running code without managing servers.
Azure Functions	SERVICE	Event-driven, serverless compute.
Flex Consumption plan	TIER	Recommended Functions plan with pay-as-you-go billing.
Azure pricing calculator	TOOL	Turns anticipated usage into an estimated cost. · also S13, S20

S4 · Why cloud: availability, scalability, reliability, predictability, security, governance, manageability

high availability	CONCEPT	Keeping resources available despite disruptions.
scalability	CONCEPT	Adjusting resources to meet demand.
service-level agreements (SLAs)	CONCEPT	Microsoft's formal uptime commitments, which vary by service.
vertical scaling	CONCEPT	Changing a resource's CPU or RAM (up or down).
horizontal scaling	CONCEPT	Changing the number of resources (out or in).
service credits	CONCEPT	The usual compensation when an SLA target is missed.
reliability	CONCEPT	Recovering from failures and continuing to function.
predictability	CONCEPT	Confidence in performance and cost.
Microsoft Azure Well-Architected Framework	CONCEPT	Microsoft's architecture guidance, with reliability as a pillar.
autoscaling	FEATURE	Adding and removing resources automatically as demand changes.
distributed denial of service (DDoS)	CONCEPT	A flooding attack that providers are well suited to handle.
Management of the cloud	CONCEPT	Managing resources: autoscale, templates, monitoring, alerts.
Management in the cloud	CONCEPT	Managing through a portal, command line, APIs or PowerShell.
Scale up	PORTAL	App Service page for changing the plan's pricing tier.

S5 · IaaS, PaaS and SaaS, and choosing between them

Azure Virtual Machines	SERVICE	Microsoft's IaaS example. · also S8
Azure App Service	SERVICE	Microsoft's PaaS example for web apps. · also S8
Microsoft 365	SERVICE	Microsoft's SaaS productivity example.
Dynamics 365	SERVICE	Microsoft's SaaS business-application example.
App Service plan	CONCEPT	The compute resources a web app runs on.
Lift-and-shift migration	CONCEPT	IaaS use case: move workloads largely unchanged.
Testing and development	CONCEPT	IaaS use case: quickly replicate environments.
Development framework	CONCEPT	PaaS use case: build on provided components.
Analytics or business intelligence	CONCEPT	PaaS use case: analyse data with provided tools.

B · Describe Azure architecture and services

35–40% of the exam

S6 · Where Azure lives: regions, region pairs, sovereign regions, availability zones, datacenters

availability zones	CONCEPT	Separate groups of datacenters within one region, each with independent power, cooling and networking. · also S20
zonal	CONCEPT	A resource deployed to a single availability zone that you select.
zone-redundant	CONCEPT	A resource the service replicates or distributes across zones.
region pair	CONCEPT	Two associated regions, usually in the same geography.
nonpaired regions	CONCEPT	Regions without a pair, relying on availability zones instead.
geography	CONCEPT	A data residency boundary containing one or more regions.
sovereign regions	CONCEPT	Instances of Azure isolated from the main instance, for compliance or legal needs.
US DoD Central	CONCEPT	An example sovereign region for US government agencies and partners.
Azure Government	SERVICE	Dedicated cloud for US government agencies and partners, in the US only.
Microsoft Azure operated by 21Vianet	SERVICE	Physically separated instance of Azure in China, operated by 21Vianet.
az account list-locations	CLI	Lists the regions supported for the current subscription.
Get-AzLocation	POWERSHELL	Gets all locations and the resource providers each supports.
No storage account required	PORTAL	Cloud Shell option that starts an ephemeral session with nothing to store.

S7 · How Azure is organised: resources, resource groups, subscriptions, management groups

Azure Resource Manager	SERVICE	The deployment and management service for Azure. · also S17
resource group	CONCEPT	A container that holds related resources for an Azure solution.
resource provider	CONCEPT	A service that supplies Azure resources, such as Microsoft.Compute. · also S17
Azure subscription	CONCEPT	A unit of management, billing and scale that gives access to Azure services.
Billing boundary	CONCEPT	Each subscription gets separate billing reports and invoices.
Access control boundary	CONCEPT	Access-management policies apply at the subscription level.
Azure management groups	SERVICE	Containers above subscriptions whose governance conditions are inherited below.
Tenant Root Group	CONCEPT	The single top-level management group in every Microsoft Entra tenant.
root management group	CONCEPT	The group all management groups and subscriptions fold into; can't be moved or deleted.
Subscription ID	PORTAL	The identifier shown for each subscription on the Subscriptions page.
Add tags	PORTAL	Portal button for adding name-value tags to a resource or resource group. · also S14
az group create	CLI	Creates a resource group; takes --name, --location and optional --tags. · also S16

B · Describe Azure architecture and services · continued

S7 · How Azure is organised: resources, resource groups, subscriptions, management groups

az group delete	CLI	Deletes a resource group and its resources; --yes skips the prompt. · also S16
az account show	CLI	Gets the details of the current subscription, including its ID. · also S16

S8 · Compute: containers, VMs, functions, VM options and app hosting

Azure Virtual Machine Scale Sets	SERVICE	A group of load-balanced VMs that can scale automatically.
availability sets	FEATURE	Logical groupings of VMs that reduce correlated failures.
fault domains	CONCEPT	VMs that share a common power source and network switch.
update domains	CONCEPT	VMs and hardware that can be restarted at the same time.
Azure Virtual Desktop	SERVICE	Desktop and app virtualisation service that runs on Azure.
multi-session	FEATURE	Windows Enterprise capability, exclusive to Azure Virtual Desktop, that reduces the VMs needed.
Azure Container Instances	SERVICE	The fastest and simplest way to run a container, with no VMs to manage.
Azure Container Apps	SERVICE	Container hosting with built-in load balancing and scaling.
Azure Kubernetes Service (AKS)	SERVICE	A container orchestration service.
WebJobs	FEATURE	App Service feature for running a program or script with an app.
Durable Functions	FEATURE	Stateful functions that track earlier activity.
Network security group (NSG)	CONCEPT	Manages network traffic to and from a VM by allowing or blocking ports.

S9 · Networking: virtual networks, subnets, peering, Azure DNS, VPN Gateway, ExpressRoute, endpoints

Azure Virtual Network	SERVICE	Private networking in Azure; one virtual network is limited to a single region.
subnets	CONCEPT	Named parts of a virtual network's IP address space.
virtual network peering	FEATURE	Links virtual networks privately over the Microsoft backbone, even across regions.
Public endpoints	CONCEPT	Have a public IP address and can be reached from anywhere in the world.
private endpoint	CONCEPT	A network interface with a private IP address from your virtual network.
Azure Private Link	SERVICE	Powers the services a private endpoint connects to privately.
Azure VPN Gateway	SERVICE	Virtual network gateway for encrypted site-to-site, point-to-site and network-to-network links. · also S19, S20
site-to-site	CONCEPT	A VPN connection from an on-premises datacenter to a virtual network.
point-to-site	CONCEPT	A VPN connection from an individual device to a virtual network.
Azure ExpressRoute	SERVICE	Private connection to the Microsoft cloud through a connectivity provider. · also S19
ExpressRoute Global Reach	FEATURE	Global connectivity to Microsoft services across all regions.
Azure DNS	SERVICE	Hosting service for DNS domains; it can't buy a domain name.

B · Describe Azure architecture and services · continued

S9 · Networking: virtual networks, subnets, peering, Azure DNS, VPN Gateway, ExpressRoute, endpoints

az network vnet create	CLI	Creates a virtual network, optionally with a first subnet.
az network vnet subnet create	CLI	Creates a subnet in an existing virtual network.

S10 · Storage: services, tiers, redundancy, accounts, moving files, migration

Standard general-purpose v2	TIER	Storage account type recommended for most scenarios.
Locally redundant storage (LRS)	SETTING	Replicates data within one datacenter in the primary region.
Zone-redundant storage (ZRS)	SETTING	Copies data synchronously across three or more zones.
Geo-redundant storage (GRS)	SETTING	LRS plus an asynchronous copy in a secondary region.
Geo-zone-redundant storage (GZRS)	SETTING	ZRS plus an asynchronous copy in a secondary region.
read-access geo-redundant storage (RA-GRS)	SETTING	GRS with read access to the secondary region.
read-access geo-zone-redundant storage (RA-GZRS)	SETTING	GZRS with read access to the secondary region.
Cold tier	TIER	Online tier for rarely accessed data; 90-day minimum.
Archive tier	TIER	Offline tier; 180-day minimum, hours to rehydrate.
AzCopy	TOOL	Command-line utility for copying blobs or files.
Azure Storage Explorer	TOOL	Standalone graphical app for managing files and blobs.
Azure File Sync	SERVICE	Centralises file shares in Azure Files, keeping Windows file servers.
Azure Migrate	SERVICE	Helps you plan and carry out a migration to Azure.
Azure Data Box	SERVICE	Ships a storage device for large data transfers.

S11 · Identity: Microsoft Entra ID, sign-in methods, external identities, Conditional Access

Microsoft Entra ID	SERVICE	Microsoft's cloud-based identity and access management service. · also S19, S20
Microsoft Entra Domain Services	SERVICE	Managed domain services for legacy apps, with no domain controllers to run. · also S19
Microsoft Entra Connect	TOOL	Syncs on-premises Active Directory identities with Entra ID.
single sign-on (SSO)	CONCEPT	Sign in once to reach multiple trusted applications.
multifactor authentication (MFA)	CONCEPT	Requires an extra factor beyond the password.
Windows Hello for Business	FEATURE	Passwordless sign-in tied to the user's own PC.
Microsoft Authenticator app	FEATURE	Phone app that can serve as a passwordless credential.
FIDO2 security keys	FEATURE	Unphishable hardware keys for passwordless sign-in.
Microsoft Entra External ID	SERVICE	Capabilities for users outside your tenant.
B2B collaboration	FEATURE	Outsiders sign in with their own identity, as guests.
B2B direct connect	FEATURE	Two-way trust with another Entra tenant, for Teams shared channels.
Microsoft Entra Conditional Access	FEATURE	Uses signals to allow access, require MFA or block.
Microsoft Entra ID P1	TIER	The licence Conditional Access requires.
security defaults	SETTING	Preconfigured identity protection for all customers.

B · Describe Azure architecture and services · continued

S12 · Access and security: RBAC, Zero Trust, defense in depth, Defender for Cloud

Azure role-based access control (Azure RBAC)	SERVICE	Controls who can act on which Azure resources, at which scope. · also S19, S20
Owner	ROLE	Full access, including assigning roles.
Contributor	ROLE	Full access to manage resources, but can't assign roles.
Reader	ROLE	View all resources without making changes.
User Access Administrator	ROLE	Manages user access to Azure resources.
Access control (IAM)	PORTAL	Page on any scope for viewing roles and role assignments.
Zero Trust	CONCEPT	Security model that assumes breach and verifies every request.
Verify explicitly	CONCEPT	Zero Trust principle: authenticate and authorise on all available data.
Use least privilege access	CONCEPT	Zero Trust principle: give only the access needed.
Assume breach	CONCEPT	Zero Trust principle: limit impact and segment access.
defense-in-depth	CONCEPT	Layered security with data at the centre.
Microsoft Defender for Cloud	SERVICE	Security posture management and threat protection across clouds. · also S19
secure score	FEATURE	Defender for Cloud's summary of your security posture.
Cloud Security Posture Management (CSPM)	FEATURE	Checks and improves the security posture of cloud resources.

C · Describe Azure management and governance

30–35% of the exam

S13 · What drives cost, and the pricing calculator (hands-on)

Resource type	CONCEPT	Cost factor: the resource, its settings and its region.
Consumption	CONCEPT	Cost factor: pay-as-you-go use, and commitment discounts.
Maintenance	CONCEPT	Cost factor: leftover resources that keep costing money.
Geography	CONCEPT	Cost factor: prices differ by region.
Network traffic	CONCEPT	Cost factor: data-transfer pricing, based on billing zones.
Subscription type	CONCEPT	Cost factor: some subscriptions include usage allowances.
Azure Marketplace	SERVICE	Third-party solutions, where the vendor sets billing.
billing zone	CONCEPT	A grouping of Azure regions for data-transfer pricing.
Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) calculator	TOOL	Retired, according to the current AZ-900 Learn unit.
Export	PORTAL	Calculator control that downloads the estimate as an Excel file.
Share	PORTAL	Calculator control that creates a unique link to the estimate.

S14 · Cost management and tags

Cost analysis	FEATURE	Visual view of your Azure costs, grouped in different ways.
Cost alerts	PORTAL	One place to check every Cost Management alert.
Budget alerts	FEATURE	Notify you when spending reaches a threshold you define.
Credit alerts	FEATURE	Notify you when Azure Prepayment is consumed.
Department spending quota alerts	FEATURE	EA alerts when a department reaches a quota threshold.
Azure Prepayment	CONCEPT	Prepaid credit for Enterprise Agreement organisations.

C · Describe Azure management and governance · continued

S14 · Cost management and tags

Anomaly alerts	FEATURE	Notify recipients of unexpected changes in daily usage.
Resource tags	CONCEPT	Name-value metadata for organising resources.
tag inheritance	SETTING	Cost Management setting that applies parent tags to usage records.

S15 · Governance: Microsoft Purview, Azure Policy, resource locks

Microsoft Purview	SERVICE	Data governance, risk and compliance solutions with one unified view of data. · also S19
risk and compliance	CONCEPT	Purview solution area built on Microsoft 365 services.
unified data governance	CONCEPT	Purview solution area for on-premises, multicloud and SaaS data.
Microsoft Purview Data Map	FEATURE	Captures metadata through scanning and classification.
Azure Policy	SERVICE	Creates, assigns and manages policies that control or audit resources. · also S19, S20
policy definitions	CONCEPT	Business rules in JSON, each with conditions and an effect.
initiative definition	CONCEPT	A collection of policy definitions for one overarching goal.
Allowed locations	SETTING	Built-in policy that restricts where resources can be deployed.
deny	SETTING	Policy effect that fails a non-compliant request.
resource lock	FEATURE	Prevents resources from being accidentally deleted or changed.
Delete	SETTING	Portal lock type: modify allowed, delete blocked.
Read-only	SETTING	Portal lock type: read only; no update or delete.
CanNotDelete	SETTING	Command-line name of the Delete lock.
ReadOnly	SETTING	Command-line name of the Read-only lock.

S16 · Managing Azure: the portal, Cloud Shell, Azure CLI, Azure PowerShell

Azure portal	SERVICE	Web-based, unified console for managing Azure through a graphical interface.
Azure Cloud Shell	TOOL	Authenticated, browser-based terminal offering Bash or PowerShell.
Azure CLI	TOOL	Cross-platform command-line tool for Azure; commands start with az.
Azure PowerShell	TOOL	Microsoft's official PowerShell modules for managing Azure.
cmdlets	CONCEPT	The commands you run in Azure PowerShell.
ephemeral session	FEATURE	Cloud Shell without a storage account; files are deleted when it ends.
az group list	CLI	Lists resource groups.
Get-AzContext	POWERSHELL	Shows the account, subscription and environment your cmdlets use.
Get-AzResourceGroup	POWERSHELL	Gets resource groups in the current subscription.
New-AzResourceGroup	POWERSHELL	Creates a resource group.
Remove-AzResourceGroup	POWERSHELL	Removes a resource group and its resources.

C · Describe Azure management and governance · continued

S17 · Azure Arc, infrastructure as code, ARM and ARM templates

Infrastructure as code (IaC)	CONCEPT	Managing infrastructure through code and templates instead of manual configuration.
Bicep	TOOL	Declarative language for Azure deployments; converted to an ARM template.
ARM template	CONCEPT	A JSON file that defines resources to deploy.
declarative syntax	CONCEPT	Stating what you want to create, not the commands to create it.
az deployment group create	CLI	Deploys a template to a resource group.
az deployment group export	CLI	Saves the template used by a past deployment.
Export template	PORTAL	Portal command that exports resources as a template.
New-AzResourceGroupDeployment	POWERSHELL	Deploys a template to a resource group in Azure PowerShell.
Export-AzResourceGroup	POWERSHELL	Captures a resource group as a template file.

S18 · Monitoring: Azure Advisor, Service Health, Azure Monitor

Azure Advisor	SERVICE	Recommends improvements to your Azure resources. · also S19
Operational Excellence	CONCEPT	Advisor category for workflow and deployment improvements.
Azure Service Health	SERVICE	Keeps you informed about the health of Azure and your resources. · also S19
Azure Status	FEATURE	Global view of Azure's health across all services and regions.
Resource Health	FEATURE	Health of an individual resource, such as one VM.
Service issues	PORTAL	Service Health pane for problems affecting you now.
Health advisories	PORTAL	Service Health pane for changes that need your attention.
Azure Monitor	SERVICE	Collects, analyses and acts on data from resources and applications. · also S19, S20
Log Analytics	TOOL	Portal tool for writing and running queries on monitoring data.
Kusto Query Language	CONCEPT	The query language used in Log Analytics' KQL mode.
alert rule	CONCEPT	Defines the condition that triggers an Azure Monitor alert.
action group	CONCEPT	Defines who is notified and what happens when an alert fires.
Application Insights	FEATURE	Azure Monitor feature for web application performance and usage.
Activity log	PORTAL	Record of management operations on your resources.

Across the course · review and capstone

session 20

S20 · Final review: practice exam debrief and weak-spot repair

region pairs	CONCEPT	Regions paired within the same geography for resilience.
management groups	CONCEPT	Containers above subscriptions that apply governance to all beneath them.