


Curated list of student notes on their exam experiences


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 **Shafeeq** Today at 3:15 PM
I passed CKA with 84% yesterday.

- New PSI platform was stable
- Questions are provided with the kubernetes.io doc link, which can be used to refer easily by clicking on the topic name.
- I took exam with 15 inch macbook, where zoom out option in the PSI browser helped me to fit everything in the screen. (bigger display will be an advantage, but you can manage with 15inch when you zoom out)
- Search can be performed in the browser, but use settings menu -> find in page option. (Try in firefox browser before exam)
- kodekloud Mock Exam/lightning lab could have included few more questions on topics like ingress, and clusterrole/role clusterrolebinding/rolebinding.
- Time is good enough to complete the exam.
- Killer.sh simulator is almost same as exam, but real exam works in a different browser (PSI)
- Copy paste works fine (Control + shift + c/v)
- Make sure your desk is clean, no writings on the wall or anywhere in the room.
- My connection speed was 100Mbps, but I was getting 80Mbps which does the job. (I recommend 100+ Mbps speed)
- Try to schedule exam in non-peak hours, I took it on 12:30am. (I failed to write exam because of the connection once as my network speed was 50Mbps and scheduled at 09:30pm, I had to open a support ticket and got one more chance. It may not be possible for everyone, don't take risk)
- Don't get stuck in the question if you feel it's difficult. use flag option to keep a mark on the question and come back once all others are done.
- First few questions were difficult for me, So I flagged them and move on to the rest which was easy for me. Then I came back and finished flagged questions.
- I wasted few mins on editing existing resource, as I was adding the same block twice. if you are editing existing resource, make sure you read everything what's already there and add your configs.
- Best of luck for all who are going to attend the exam, No need to panic, stay calm, and attend.

(edited)

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 **AG** Yesterday at 8:04 AM
Wow! Just finished the CKA Exam and I didn't find any problems which people pointed out about the PSI option.

The only issue I would say is the Copy/Paste and not able to use the regular alt-tab between screen. I am good with track-pad, so I was able to drag & copy whatever yaml was required from docs and paste it with `Ctrl+Shift+V`

I think the best way to prepare for the new PSI tool is to go through the `killer.sh` tool and use it for the long 20+hrs which I did for whole of today and yesterday - to get comfortable on the UI.


I realized all the mock / lightning lab from [@Mumshad Mannambeth](#) isn't using similar UI (for copying and everything) - so `killer.sh` practice is a must.

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Pass or Fail, I have to say [@Mumshad Mannambeth](#) - you rock with all your content. I am not expert of `jsonpath` and really struggle but your free course helped in learning 😊

And definitely learned lot of concepts of CKA with your course. Actually i learned how K8S is build and now may be I will venture into the hard way

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 **rajasekhar pulluru** 8:42 PM

I had a tough experience with CKAD today. After completing 3 questions, it looks like I typed some control key char combination that closed the PSI Bridge application. I had to login and re-do the proctor verification and lost 30mins, couldn't complete 3 questions with 8%. At least one of them, I knew I could have solved it. I have practiced CKAD labs and killer.sh twice and still found the 8% questions in the actual CKAD to be tough.

😞 2 😊



**Suhas Gavhane** Yesterday at 6:01 PM



Hi All,

Yesterday I failed CKA exam and need your help on below challenges.

- 1) I'm from windows background so had a hard time to edit the copied files from k8s docs in Vi editor. Also, did not find any other editor tool even notepad.
- 2) As we need to access the k8s docs from remote desktop so it was very slow to switch between different links (within two tabs) or scroll up/down.
- 3) When I tried to use --help with kublet cmds , noticed it was displaying very limited outputs.
- 4) Also, noticed the browser and terminal sessions were at one corner(left) which was very difficult to navigate between and access.

I practiced KodeKloud practice labs which was way easy compared to the actual exam platform.

It would really great if you provide guidance on these issues particularly on Vi editor and k8s documentation access in faster way. Appreciate your help.

12 replies



**Krishnaprasad** 6 hours ago

I thought they had a visual studio code editor ? Also did you try the killer.sh exam before the actual exam ?



**Suhas Gavhane** 6 hours ago

no Krishna...I did not try killer sh, it seems my free sessions are expired



**Krishnaprasad** 5 hours ago

But did you take it any time ?



**Krishnaprasad** 5 hours ago

Cos, I think you have two chances for the killer.sh



**Suhas Gavhane** 5 hours ago

no..I raised support ticket with Killer sh



**Shafeeq** 5 hours ago

1. Get familiar with linux preferably ubuntu 20.04, vim and firefox  
or

Figure out your own way after attending killer.sh simulation ( use vs code )

For me it was easy after making browser and terminal in full screen, two switch between these two, I just had to select from the top banner.

2. Make sure your internet is 100+ Mbps and schedule exam in local non-peak hours



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 **Akash Gupta** 6:55 PM

Hey guys,

I pass CKA certs today!

Here is some experience which can help others:


- i found remote desktop ok ( not cool!) but was prepare after reading lots of comments here and have experienced similar env in killer so yes practise killer.sh helped me too..
- TBH I found exam slightly easier than CKAD ( heard other way last year, not sure if they have made some recant change for CKA) as i did gave CKAD last year..
- I gave full 7-8 days for preparation ( kept it timebox before my family join me after summer vacation ;))
  - Giving CKAD last year helped as most of the topics are same

Tips:

- give 5-7 mins to yourself to adjust and understand exam setup( open the docs, mousepad, terminal size, alias etc)..it ll give you value back later !
- dont get stuck in hard question in first go..pick the easy one first, get the required confidence and then pick tricky one..

All the very best..keep learning guys.. this is awesome group..had gone through with lots of recent message before appearing for the exam just to get the feel and if i'm not missing anything obvious.. needless to say Mumshad course is awesome and more than sufficient for this Exam!!

Cheers  
Akash (edited)

 **sankar narayanan** Today at 3:05 AM

Hi Team,


I need your input today my exam for CKA 2AM IST system check all passed

After that PSI exam portal got launched after that it was provided **error need to end some process.**


**Non of the process was running my system but it was provided error keep on i tried multiple time not able to launch exam.**

Please provide your input on that its a black day for me 🙄

1 reply

 **Track Buddy** 1 hour ago

It happened with me also...**did u check services of your computer that time? Bcoz all the application that the check reports r actually background services...**it happened with me also , i panicked initially due to shortage of time but **disabled those services and was able to attempt.**

 **Raj.k** 3:51 PM

Thanks to this awesome community, I cleared my CKAD with a score of 88.

SETUP

- **Windows PC laptop with external monitor**
- **Disabled laptop screen using Windows key + P**
- **No external webcam, just used laptop webcam**
- 100 Mbps connection

EXPERIENCE


- Smooth experience just as killer.sh, except for scrolling through K8s documentation. There is a bit of a lag.

TIPS

- Practice kubectl explain and avoid using documentation as much as possible
- If 36 hours isn't enough, you can save killer.sh solutions as HTML page.
- Give the 2nd mock couple of days before the exam and try to get a score of atleast 100. And, finally revise your notes that you may have prepared.
- I found kx and kn aliases from kubectl cheat sheet useful for switching/checking current context and namespace.
- Use multiple workspace available. In my 27 inch monitor, I was able to access 4 workspaces. I had terminal opened in 2 of them, one for doing the actual task and the other for running k explain. And, one each for documentation and mouse pad.

Once again, thanks for all the support. (edited)

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 **Track Buddy** 1:05 PM

I am happy to inform that i passed CKA exam today with 75/100..

Thanks to this group who supported and Special thanks to few members who supported a bit more than others.

As a strategy, i focussed on questions that were easy and then attempted difficult ones. I lost connectivity twice that resulted in 30mins wastage else i beilev i could hav done more.

I spent almost 80-100 hours on this course with no previous knowledge of k8s. Hands-on practice is must.

Thanks to wonderful course by mumshad and practice test.

**Since many people were complaining about screen size, so i used my TV (32 inch) as monitor.**

Stared with alias setup for short command and proceed to attempt simple questions.

Time was short as always with the exam and that i knew from my first attempt.

Keep cool and go for it..not that hard

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