AWS IAM Interview Questions & Answers

Q: What is AWS IAM and why is it critical?

A: AWS IAM controls who can access AWS resources and what actions they can perform. Misconfiguration can lead to unauthorized access and account compromise.

Q: IAM User vs IAM Role?

A: IAM users are permanent identities mainly for humans. IAM roles are temporary identities assumed by services or users and use short-lived credentials, making them more secure.

Q: What is an IAM policy?

A: An IAM policy is a JSON document that defines allowed and denied actions on AWS resources.

Q: How does AWS decide to allow or deny a request?

A: AWS evaluates permissions by checking explicit deny first, then allow. If no allow is found, access is denied by default.

Q: Why is least privilege important?

A: Least privilege reduces risk by limiting permissions to only what is required for a task.