AWS Database Types & Keywords

Database Type	Key Words / Clues	Exam Focus / Example
Amazon RDS (Relational Database Service)	“Relational”, “SQL”, “managed database”, “structured data”, “multi-AZ for high availability”, “backups managed by AWS”	MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, SQL Server
Amazon Aurora	“High performance relational DB”, “MySQL/PostgreSQL compatible”, “auto-scaling storage”, “up to 5x faster than standard RDS”	For high-performance relational workloads
Amazon DynamoDB	“NoSQL”, “key-value or document database”, “fully managed”, “serverless”, “millisecond latency”, “scales automatically”	For fast, high-scale, unstructured data
Amazon Redshift	“Data warehouse”, “analytics”, “large-scale data”, “columnar storage”, “OLAP”	For reporting, BI, analytics
Amazon DocumentDB	“Managed MongoDB-compatible database”, “NoSQL document database”	Document-based workloads, JSON storage
Amazon ElastiCache	“In-memory caching”, “Redis / Memcached”, “low-latency access”, “speed up applications”	For caching, session storage, quick read/write
Amazon Neptune	“Graph database”, “relationships between data”, “highly connected datasets”, “triple store”	Social networks, recommendation engines, fraud detection
Amazon QLDB	“Immutable ledger”, “central trusted authority”, “cryptographically verifiable”	Financial, auditing, ledger-type apps
Amazon Timestream	“Time-series data”, “IoT / sensor data”, “fast ingestion & analytics”	Metrics, IoT, logs
Amazon Keyspaces	“Apache Cassandra-compatible”, “managed NoSQL wide-column DB”	Scalable, distributed NoSQL apps

AWS Analytics Services & Keywords

Service	Type / Focus	Key Keywords / Clues	Use Case / Example
Amazon Redshift	Data Warehouse	“Structured data”, “OLAP”, “BI reports”, “petabyte-scale”, “columnar storage”	Analytics on relational/structured data; BI dashboards
Amazon Athena	Serverless Query	“Query S3 data”, “ad hoc SQL”, “serverless”, “pay per query”	Query structured/unstructured data directly in S3 without moving it
Amazon EMR	Big Data / Data Processing	“Hadoop”, “Spark”, “Presto”, “batch processing”, “data lakes”	Transform & process massive datasets; ETL pipelines
AWS Glue	ETL / Data Catalog	“Extract, transform, load”, “serverless”, “data preparation”, “catalog”, “schema”	Prepare and catalog data for analytics or machine learning
Amazon Kinesis Data Streams	Real-Time Streaming	“Real-time data”, “streaming analytics”, “IoT”, “clickstream”	Capture and process streaming data in real time
Amazon Kinesis Data Firehose	Streaming Ingestion	“Stream to S3/Redshift/Elasticsearch”, “delivery pipeline”, “real-time streaming”	Real-time delivery of streaming data to AWS destinations
Amazon Kinesis Data Analytics	Streaming Analytics	“SQL-based streaming queries”, “real-time analysis”	Real-time analytics on streaming data without managing servers
Amazon QuickSight	BI / Visualization	“Dashboards”, “visualizations”, “interactive charts”, “business intelligence”	Visualize and share insights from AWS data sources
AWS Data Pipeline	Batch Workflow / ETL	“Automate data movement”, “schedule workflows”, “data transformation”	Move and transform data between AWS services or on-premises

Service	Type / Focus	Key Keywords / Clues	Use Case / Example
AWS Lake Formation	Data Lake Management	“Centralized data lake”, “security & governance”, “catalog”	Build secure, governed data lakes for analytics
AWS Database Migration Service (DMS)	Migration	“Migrate database”, “minimal downtime”, “homogeneous / heterogeneous migration”	Move on-premises or cloud databases into AWS for analytics pipelines

AWS Database Migration – Exam Keywords

AWS Database Migration Service (AWS DMS)

- **Keywords / Clues:**
  - “Migrate databases with minimal downtime”
  - “Continuous replication”
  - “Heterogeneous migration (Oracle → Aurora, SQL Server → MySQL)”
  - “Schema conversion + live migration”
- **Use case:** Migrating on-premises or cloud DBs to AWS, supports both homogeneous and heterogeneous.

AWS Schema Conversion Tool (SCT)

- **Keywords / Clues:**
  - “Schema translation”, “converting database engines”
  - “Oracle → PostgreSQL”, “SQL Server → Aurora”
- **Use case:** Used *with DMS* when migrating between different DB engines.

Snow Family Services & Exam Keywords

AWS Snowcone (smallest)

- Keywords / Clues:
  - “Small device” (rugged, portable)

    - “Edge computing”, “IoT”, “disconnected / limited network”
    - “Up to 8 TB usable storage”
    - “Battery or vehicle powered”
- Use case: Small-scale edge computing & offline data collection.

AWS Snowball Edge (mid-size)

Two types:

1. Snowball Edge Storage Optimized
    - “80 TB+ storage”, “large dataset transfer”
    - “Offline migration to AWS”
2. Snowball Edge Compute Optimized
    - “Edge computing + GPU”, “run EC2 instances / Lambda at the edge”
    - “Remote locations, disconnected environments”

- Keywords: “Petabyte-scale migration”, “edge compute in remote site”, “data collection without internet”.

AWS Snowmobile (largest)

- Keywords / Clues:
    - “Exabyte-scale”, “45-foot shipping container”, “semi-truck”
    - “Migrate an entire data center”
    - “Extremely large data transfer”
- Use case: When data is too massive for Snowball or internet transfer.

AWS DataSync

- **Keywords / Clues:**
    - “Automated data transfer”, “sync on-premises storage to AWS”, “NFS / SMB”
    - “Large files, object storage, block storage”
- **Use case:** File system migration (not relational databases).

AWS Transfer Family

- **Keywords / Clues:**
    - “SFTP, FTPS, FTP transfer into S3”
- **Use case:** Managed file transfers into AWS, not databases.