**Scenario**

Your study group for the AZ-305 exam needs guidance on setting up a sandbox Azure environment for hands-on practice. You’ve been tasked with creating a step-by-step guide to configure the required tools.

**Objectives**

* Set up a free Azure account with a subscription.
* Install and configure Azure CLI and PowerShell.
* Validate the setup by deploying a test resource.

**Instructions**

1. **Azure Account Creation**: Sign up for a free Azure account using an educational email. Document the steps, including subscription selection (Pay-As-You-Go vs. Free Tier) and identity verification.
2. **Tool Installation**: Install Azure CLI and Azure PowerShell on your OS. Provide commands to verify installations (az --version, Get-Module -ListAvailable Az).
3. **Sandbox Configuration**: Use Azure Cloud Shell to create a resource group named “AZ305-Lab” in the East US region. Capture screenshots of successful creation.
4. **Validation**: Deploy a sample storage account via CLI (az storage account create). Share the output log showing no errors.

**Step 1: Sign Up for Free Account**

* Go to: <https://azure.microsoft.com/en-us/free/>
* Click **"Start free"**
* Use your **educational email address** (e.g., ending in .edu) for bonus offers.
* Log in with a Microsoft account Or, click **Create one!** if you don’t have one.
* Provide personal information.
* Verify identity via **phone number** (text or call) and **credit card** (no charges unless upgraded).
  + By default, you'll get a **Free Tier subscription**: $200 credit for 30 days
  + Access to 12 months of free services
* After credit expires, convert to **Pay-As-You-Go** to continue.

2. Tool Installation

Azure CLI: Download: <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/cli/azure/install-azure-cli>

A screen shot of a computer

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Azure PowerShell

Set-ExecutionPolicy -ExecutionPolicy RemoteSigned -Scope CurrentUser

Install-Module -Name Az -Repository PSGallery -Force

Update-Module -Name Az -Force

**To Sign-in**

Connect-AzAccount

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**Sandbox Configuration**:

Open Azure Cloud Shell: <https://shell.azure.com/>

Create Resource Group: az group create --name AZ305-Lab --location eastus

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Create Storage Account

az storage account create --name az305labstore$RANDOM --resource-group AZ305-Lab --location eastus --sku Standard\_LRS --kind StorageV2

A screen shot of a computer screen

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