

# AWS Session Q & A

1. What other free training resources for AWS?  
AWS SkillBuilder: <https://explore.skillbuilder.aws/learn>
2. Does taking a snapshot require shutdown?  
No. Snapshots can be created while the system is running:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/ebs-creating-snapshot.html>
3. When can you use magnetic disk for EC2?  
For any non-boot disk: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/ebs-volume-types.html#hard-disk-drives>
4. When would you use EFS vs EBS?  
Use EBS for EC2 instances only. EFS is used for shared file storage:  
<https://aws.amazon.com/efs/faq/>
5. Can you use apps that require SCSI on EC2? Does SCSI work with EBS?  
Yes. Using the AWS Storage Gateway:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/storagegateway/latest/userguide/GettingStarted-use-volumes.html#GettingStartedAccessVolumes>
6. How do you restrict access to a single bucket?  
Bucket policies or ACLs: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/example-bucket-policies.html>  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/acl-overview.html>
7. How to use your own key server for S3 bucket?  
Enable encryption and specify the key source during configuration:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/bucket-encryption.html>
8. What is the SLA for S3, EFS and EBS?  
Data storage SLAs are well within the capabilities of AWS data storage options considering their effective “durability”: <https://aws.amazon.com/legal/service-level-agreements/>
9. Does S3 data compression affect latency?  
Compression will improve I/O operations, but must be done with third party tools:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/wellarchitected/latest/analytics-lens/best-practice-11-3.html>
10. How to setup retention policy for S3?  
S3 allows the creation of Lifecycle Policies where you can set options for file expiration:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/object-lifecycle-mgmt.html>

# AWS Session Q & A

11. Is data put in a standard S3 bucket “guaranteed” to be in other AZs?  
Yes: <https://aws.amazon.com/s3/storage-classes/>
12. Can you modify S3 ACLs after they have been assigned?  
Yes. It can be done from the Console or from the command-line:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/managing-acls.html>
13. Are bucket names unique globally / per account?  
Bucket names are globally unique and share the same namespace:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/UsingBucket.html>
14. How does the web app we used for the class connect to S3 / DynamoDB?  
All AWS services can be reached through an API:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/apigateway/latest/developerguide/getting-started.html>
15. What is the charge for storing data on S3?  
It depends on the Region and storage class: <https://aws.amazon.com/s3/pricing/>
16. How is the DNS name for an S3 bucket / website assigned?  
DNS names are assigned automatically by AWS. Custom names can be assigned with Route 53:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/website-hosting-custom-domain-walkthrough.html>
17. Why are OS patches not the responsibility of AWS?  
AWS not responsible for applications installed on EC2:  
<https://aws.amazon.com/compliance/shared-responsibility-model/>
18. Provide example of S3 Bucket Policy?  
Sample file and example provided. AWS documentation has tutorial:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/access-policy-language-overview.html>
19. Can you change storage performance (reads / writes)?  
No. There are best practices, however, than can improve performance:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/optimizing-performance.html>
20. How to replicate data across regions?  
Can be done from the console or programmatically:  
<https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AmazonS3/latest/userguide/replication-how-setup.html>

# AWS Session Q & A

21. Can you do database mirroring with managed databases?  
No, only with unmanaged installs on EC2: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/prescriptive-guidance/latest/migration-sql-server/db-mirroring.html>
22. Can you implement RAID for databases?  
No. However, RAID can be configured for EC2 instances at the operating system level: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/WindowsGuide/raid-config.html>
23. Is DynamoDB equivalent to IBM Cloudant?  
AWS recommends DynamoDB as a possible migration destination from Cloudant: <https://forums.aws.amazon.com/thread.jspa?messageID=923087>
24. Installing AWS CLI on client computer?  
Can be done on Windows, Linux or macOS: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/cli/latest/userguide/getting-started-install.html>
25. SQL Server (RDS) available in the free tier?  
Yes. The compute resources can be used in the free tier: <https://aws.amazon.com/free/>
26. In the EC2 window, how to change attributes displayed for instances and identify VPC it is in?  
AWS documentation provides instructions on listing and filtering resources: [https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/Using\\_Filtering.html](https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/Using_Filtering.html)
27. Adding new attributes to an existing DynamoDB table?  
This can be done programmatically or from the console: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/amazondynamodb/latest/developerguide/WorkingWithItems.html>
28. Can you monitor individual processes on an instance with CloudWatch?  
You can enable detailed monitoring for EC2 in CloudWatch: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/AWSEC2/latest/UserGuide/using-cloudwatch.html>
29. Can you create your own load balancer with EC2 instances?  
Possible with the right software, but no documentation on doing this.
30. For autoscaling when would configuration change from desired to minimum?  
Minimum is used to make sure there is a floor on the number of instances available: <https://docs.aws.amazon.com/autoscaling/ec2/userguide/asg-capacity-limits.html>