

After correlating your **wrong answers + hesitation areas**, these are the **3 topics** where you are **lagging the most** and where revisiting will give **maximum score improvement**.

🔥 1 ☐ Storage & File System Decision Logic (BIGGEST GAP)

Why this is your #1 gap

Across both mocks, you repeatedly lost marks not because you didn't know services, but because:

- Multiple storage options *looked correct*
- You picked a "technically works" answer instead of "**MOST appropriate**"

Services you must re-anchor clearly

- Amazon S3
- Amazon EFS
- Amazon FSx
- AWS Storage Gateway

What to fix mentally

- Object vs File vs Block (this caused most misses)
- Linux vs Windows file systems
- On-prem integration triggers (NFS/SMB keywords)
- Cost vs performance tradeoffs

👉 **Impact:** Fixing this alone can recover 4–6 questions

🔥 2 ☐ Databases: HA vs Scaling vs Global (Consistent Errors)

Why this keeps hurting your score

You mixed up:

- Availability vs performance
- Read scaling vs failover
- Regional vs global solutions

This showed up in **RDS, Aurora, and DR questions** in both mocks.

Services you must separate cleanly

- Amazon RDS
- Amazon Aurora
- Amazon DynamoDB

Exact confusion points

- RDS Multi-AZ ❌ used for scaling (wrong)
- Read Replicas ❌ assumed to improve HA
- Aurora Reader Endpoint ❌ not chosen for read-heavy apps
- Aurora Global DB ❌ missed in low-RTO global scenarios

👉 **Impact:** Clearing this gives 3–5 guaranteed questions

🔥 3 ☐ Networking & Access Control Edge Cases (High-Value Traps)

Why this is a silent score killer

These questions are:

- Few words
- Very specific
- Extremely easy *if pattern-matched*

You lost marks here due to **small wording traps**, not lack of knowledge.

Key areas you must re-lock

- AWS Direct Connect vs VPN
- AWS PrivateLink
- Amazon API Gateway security
- IAM condition keys (`aws:SourceIp` , `aws:RequestedRegion`)

Repeated mistake patterns

- Assuming Direct Connect is encrypted
- Picking Security Groups for API Gateway
- Misreading "caller IP" vs "resource IP"
- Overusing Transit Gateway when PrivateLink fits

👉 **Impact:** These are **easy marks** once fixed → 2–4 questions



Summary: Where You're Losing Marks

Rank	Topic Area	Why It Matters
#1	Storage & File Systems	MOST frequent + decision-heavy
#2	Databases (HA vs Scale vs Global)	High-weight, repeat questions
#3	Networking & Access Control	Trap-heavy, fast wins

🎯 What I Recommend Tonight (Very Specific)

- Spend **30 min** on Storage decision rules
- Spend **20 min** on RDS vs Aurora patterns
- Spend **10 min** on networking/security traps