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STUDY GUIDE

FOUNDATIONAL (CLF-C01) EXAM

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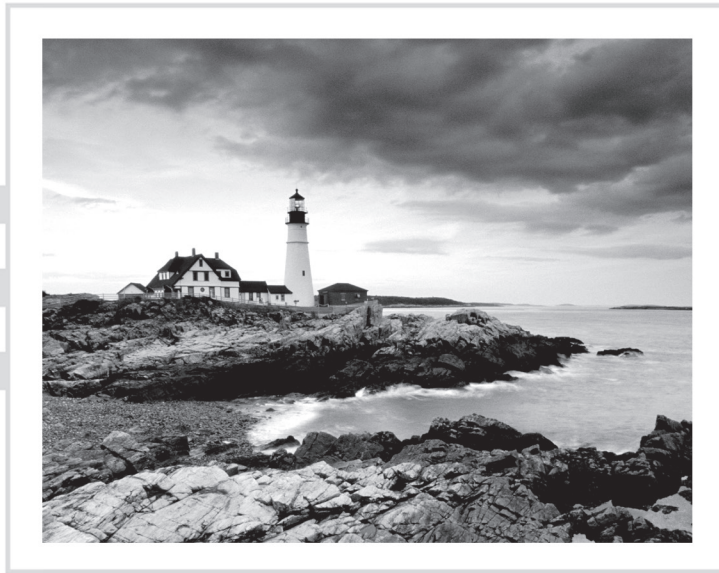
 **SYBEX[®]**
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Certified Cloud Practitioner

Study Guide

CLF-C01 Exam



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Ben Piper
David Clinton

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Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>		<i>xxi</i>
<i>Assessment Test</i>		<i>xxvii</i>
Chapter 1	The Cloud	1
Chapter 2	Understanding Your AWS Account	13
Chapter 3	Getting Support on AWS	33
Chapter 4	Understanding the AWS Environment	49
Chapter 5	Securing Your AWS Resources	67
Chapter 6	Working with Your AWS Resources	83
Chapter 7	The Core Compute Services	119
Chapter 8	The Core Storage Services	137
Chapter 9	The Core Database Services	157
Chapter 10	The Core Networking Services	175
Chapter 11	Automating Your AWS Workloads	189
Chapter 12	Common Use-Case Scenarios	209
Appendix A	Answers to Review Questions	231
Appendix B	Additional Services	251
<i>Index</i>		<i>257</i>

Contents

Introduction *xxi*

Assessment Test *xxvii*

Chapter 1 The Cloud 1

Introduction	2
What Is Cloud Computing?	2
Highly Available and Scalable Resources	2
Professionally Secured Infrastructure	3
Metered Payment Model	3
Server Virtualization: The Basics	4
Cloud Platform Models	5
Infrastructure as a Service	5
Platform as a Service	5
Software as a Service	5
Serverless Workloads	6
Scalability and Elasticity	7
Scalability	7
Elasticity	7
Summary	8
Exam Essentials	9
Review Questions	10

Chapter 2 Understanding Your AWS Account 13

Introduction	14
The Free Tier	15
How Does the Free Tier Work?	15
Tracking Your Free Tier Usage	15
What's Available Under the Free Tier?	17
Product Pricing	18
Finding AWS Pricing Documentation	18
Working with Online Calculators	19
Service Limits	23
Billing and Cost Management	23
The AWS Billing Dashboard	24
AWS Budgets	24
Monitoring Your Costs	25
AWS Organizations	26
Summary	26
Exam Essentials	27
Review Questions	28

Chapter 3	Getting Support on AWS	33
	Introduction	34
	Support Plans	34
	Support Plan Pricing	34
	The Basic Support Plan	36
	The Developer Support Plan	36
	The Business Support Plan	37
	The Enterprise Support Plan	37
	AWS Professional Services	37
	Documentation and Online Help	38
	Documentation	38
	Discussion Forums	40
	Trusted Advisor	40
	Summary	42
	Exam Essentials	43
	Review Questions	44
Chapter 4	Understanding the AWS Environment	49
	Introduction	50
	AWS Global Infrastructure: AWS Regions	50
	Regionally Based Services	52
	Globally Based Services	53
	Service Endpoints	53
	AWS Global Infrastructure: Availability Zones	54
	Availability Zone Designations	54
	Availability Zone Networking	55
	Availability Zones and High Availability	56
	AWS Global Infrastructure: Edge Locations	57
	Edge Locations and CloudFront	58
	Regional Edge Cache Locations	59
	The AWS Shared Responsibility Model	59
	Managed Resources	60
	Unmanaged Resources	61
	Service Health Status	61
	AWS Acceptable Use Policy	61
	Summary	61
	Exam Essentials	62
	Review Questions	63
Chapter 5	Securing Your AWS Resources	67
	Introduction	68
	AWS Identity and Access Management	68
	Protecting the Root User	69
	Authentication	69
	Users, Groups, and Roles	72

	Providing Federated Access	74
	Credential Report	75
	Encryption	75
	Regulatory Compliance (AWS Artifact)	76
	Summary	77
	Exam Essentials	77
	Review Questions	78
Chapter 6	Working with Your AWS Resources	83
	Introduction	84
	The AWS Management Console	85
	Accessing the AWS Management Console	85
	Opening a Service Console	87
	Working with Shortcuts	88
	Selecting a Region	88
	The Account Name Menu	90
	Resource Groups	90
	Tag Editor	91
	Tagging Strategies	92
	The AWS Console Mobile Application	94
	The AWS Command Line Interface	98
	Requirements	99
	Installation	99
	Software Development Kits	101
	Mobile Software Development Kits	101
	Internet of Things Device Software Development Kits	102
	CloudWatch	103
	CloudWatch Metrics	103
	CloudWatch Alarms	104
	CloudWatch Dashboards	104
	CloudWatch Logs	105
	CloudWatch Events	106
	CloudTrail	107
	API and Non-API Events	107
	Management and Data Events	107
	Event History	108
	Trails	108
	Log File Integrity Validation	108
	Cost Explorer	109
	Cost and Usage	109
	Reservation Reports	111
	Reserved Instance Recommendations	112
	Summary	113
	Exam Essentials	113
	Review Questions	115

Chapter 7	The Core Compute Services	119
	Introduction	120
	Deploying Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud Servers	120
	Amazon Machine Images	120
	Understanding EC2 Instance Types	123
	Server Storage: Elastic Block Store and Instance Store Volumes	124
	Understanding EC2 Pricing Models	125
	Simplified Deployments Through Managed Services	127
	Amazon Lightsail	128
	AWS Elastic Beanstalk	128
	Deploying Container and Serverless Workloads	129
	Containers	129
	Serverless Functions	129
	Summary	130
	Exam Essentials	130
	Review Questions	132
Chapter 8	The Core Storage Services	137
	Introduction	138
	Simple Storage Service	138
	Objects and Buckets	139
	S3 Storage Classes	139
	Access Permissions	142
	Encryption	143
	Versioning	143
	Object Life Cycle Configurations	144
	S3 Glacier	145
	Archives and Vaults	145
	Retrieval Options	145
	AWS Storage Gateway	146
	File Gateways	146
	Volume Gateways	146
	Tape Gateways	147
	AWS Snowball	147
	Hardware Specifications	148
	Security	148
	Snowball Edge	149
	Summary	150
	Exam Essentials	150
	Review Questions	152

Chapter 9	The Core Database Services	157
	Introduction	158
	Database Models	158
	Relational Databases	159
	Structured Query Language	160
	Nonrelational (No-SQL) Databases	160
	Amazon Relational Database Service	161
	Database Engines	161
	Licensing	162
	Instance Classes	162
	Scaling Vertically	163
	Storage	163
	Scaling Horizontally with Read Replicas	164
	High Availability with Multi-AZ	164
	Backup and Recovery	165
	Determining Your Recovery Point Objective	165
	DynamoDB	166
	Items and Tables	166
	Scaling Horizontally	167
	Queries and Scans	167
	Amazon Redshift	168
	Summary	169
	Exam Essentials	170
	Review Questions	171
Chapter 10	The Core Networking Services	175
	Introduction	176
	Virtual Private Cloud	176
	VPC CIDR Blocks	176
	Subnets	177
	Internet Access	178
	Security Groups	178
	Network Access Control Lists	178
	VPC Peering	179
	Virtual Private Networks	179
	Direct Connect	179
	Route 53	180
	Resource Records	180
	Domain Name Registration	180
	Hosted Zones	181
	Routing Policies	181
	Health Checks	182
	Traffic Flow and Traffic Policies	182

	CloudFront	183
	Summary	183
	Exam Essentials	184
	Review Questions	185
Chapter 11	Automating Your AWS Workloads	189
	Introduction	190
	The Imperative Approach	190
	The Declarative Approach	191
	Infrastructure as Code	191
	CloudFormation	191
	Templates	192
	Stacks	192
	CloudFormation vs. the AWS CLI	193
	AWS Developer Tools	194
	CodeCommit	194
	CodeBuild	195
	CodeDeploy	196
	CodePipeline	197
	EC2 Auto Scaling	199
	Launch Configurations and Launch Templates	199
	Auto Scaling Groups	199
	Scaling Actions	200
	Configuration Management	200
	Systems Manager	200
	OpsWorks	201
	Summary	203
	Exam Essentials	204
	Review Questions	205
Chapter 12	Common Use-Case Scenarios	209
	Introduction	210
	The Well-Architected Framework	210
	Reliability	211
	Performance Efficiency	211
	Security	211
	Cost Optimization	212
	Operational Excellence	213
	A Highly Available Web Application Using Auto Scaling and Elastic Load Balancing	213
	Creating an Inbound Security Group Rule	214
	Creating an Application Load Balancer	216
	Creating a Launch Template	218
	Creating an Auto Scaling Group	219

	Static Website Hosting Using S3	222
	Summary	224
	Exam Essentials	224
	Review Questions	226
Appendix A	Answers to Review Questions	231
	Chapter 1: The Cloud	232
	Chapter 2: Understanding Your AWS Account	232
	Chapter 3: Getting Support on AWS	234
	Chapter 4: Understanding the AWS Environment	235
	Chapter 5: Securing Your AWS Resources	237
	Chapter 6: Working with Your AWS Resources	238
	Chapter 7: The Core Compute Services	240
	Chapter 8: The Core Storage Services	242
	Chapter 9: The Core Database Services	244
	Chapter 10: The Core Networking Services	245
	Chapter 11: Automating Your AWS Workloads	247
	Chapter 12: Common Use-Case Scenarios	248
Appendix B	Additional Services	251
	Athena	252
	AWS Backup	252
	AWS Glue	252
	Batch	252
	Cognito	253
	Database Migration Service	253
	Elastic File System	253
	Elastic MapReduce	253
	Inspector	254
	Kinesis	254
	Macie	254
	Neptune	254
	Simple Queue Service	254
	WorkDocs	254
	WorkSpaces	255
	<i>Index</i>	257

Table of Exercises

Exercise	1.1	Create an AWS Account.	8
Exercise	2.1	Calculate Monthly Costs for an EC2 Instance	19
Exercise	2.2	Build a Deployment Cost Estimate Using the AWS Simple Monthly Calculator	20
Exercise	2.3	Compare the On-Premises Costs of Running Your Application with AWS Costs	22
Exercise	2.4	Create a Cost Budget to Track Spending	24
Exercise	3.1	Find Out How to Copy Files from One S3 Bucket to Another	39
Exercise	3.2	Confirm That Your Account Security Settings Are Compliant with Best Practices	42
Exercise	4.1	Select a Subnet and AZ for an EC2 Instance	55
Exercise	4.2	Take a Quick Look at the Way CloudFront Distributions Are Configured	58
Exercise	5.1	Create a Password Policy for Your IAM Users.	71
Exercise	5.2	Create an IAM User and Assign Limited Permissions	73
Exercise	5.3	Assign Multiple Users to an IAM Group	74
Exercise	6.1	Install the AWS Command Line Interface	100
Exercise	7.1	Select an EC2 AMI.	122
Exercise	7.2	Launch an Apache Web Server on an EC2 Instance.	126
Exercise	8.1	Create an S3 Bucket	144
Exercise	9.1	Create a DynamoDB Table	168
Exercise	11.1	Explore the CloudFormation Designer.	193
Exercise	12.1	Create an Inbound Security Group Rule	215
Exercise	12.2	Create an Application Load Balancer	216
Exercise	12.3	Create a Launch Template	219
Exercise	12.4	Create an Auto Scaling Group.	220
Exercise	12.5	Create a Static Website Hosted Using S3	222

Introduction

Studying for any certification always involves deciding how much of your studying should be practical hands-on experience and how much should be simply memorizing facts and figures. Between the two of us, we've taken more than 20 different IT certification exams, so we know how important it is to use your study time wisely. We've designed this book to help you discover your strengths and weaknesses on the AWS platform so that you can focus your efforts properly. Whether you've been working with AWS for a long time or you're relatively new to it, we encourage you to carefully read this book from cover to cover.

Passing the AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner exam won't require you to know how to provision and launch complex, multitier cloud deployments. But you will need to be broadly familiar with the workings of a wide range of AWS services. Everything you'll have to know should be available in this book, but you may sometimes find yourself curious about finer details. Feel free to take advantage of Amazon's official documentation, which is generally available in HTML, PDF, and Kindle formats.

Even though the *AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Study Guide CLF-C01 Exam* skews a bit more to the theoretical side than other AWS certifications, there's still a great deal of value in working through each chapter's hands-on exercises. The exercises here aren't meant to turn you into a solutions architect who knows *how* things work but to help you understand *why* they're so important.

Bear in mind that some of the exercises and figures rely on the AWS Management Console, which is in constant flux. As such, screen shots and step-by-step details of exercises may change. If what you see in the Management Console doesn't match the way it's described in this book, use it as an opportunity to dig into the AWS online documentation or experiment on your own.

Each chapter includes review questions to thoroughly test your understanding of the services you've seen. We've designed the questions to help you realistically gauge your understanding and readiness for the exam. Although the difficulty level will vary between questions, you can be sure there's no "fluff." Once you complete a chapter's assessment, refer to Appendix A for the correct answers and detailed explanations.

The book also comes with a self-assessment exam at the beginning with 25 questions, two practice exams with a total of 100 questions, and flashcards to help you learn and retain key facts needed to prepare for the exam.

Changes to AWS services happen frequently, so you can expect that some information in this book might fall behind over time. To help you keep up, we've created a place where we'll announce relevant updates and where you can also let us know of issues you encounter. Check in regularly to this resource at <https://awsccp.github.io/>.

What Does This Book Cover?

This book covers topics you need to know to prepare for the Amazon Web Services (AWS) Certified Cloud Practitioner Study Guide exam:

Chapter 1: The Cloud This chapter describes the core features of a cloud environment that distinguish it from traditional data center operations. It discusses how cloud platforms provide greater availability, scalability, and elasticity and what role technologies such as virtualization and automated, metered billing play.

Chapter 2: Understanding Your AWS Account In this chapter, you'll learn about AWS billing structures, planning and monitoring your deployment costs, and how you can use the Free Tier for a full year to try nearly any AWS service in real-world operations for little or no cost.

Chapter 3: Getting Support on AWS This chapter is focused on where to find support with a problem that needs solving or when you're trying to choose between complex options. You'll learn about what's available under the free Basic Support plan as opposed to the Developer, Business, and Enterprise levels.

Chapter 4: Understanding the AWS Environment In this chapter, we discuss how, to enhance security and availability, Amazon organizes its resources in geographic regions and Availability Zones. You'll also learn about Amazon's global network of edge locations built to provide superior network performance for your applications.

Chapter 5: Securing Your AWS Resources The focus of this chapter is security. You'll learn how you control access to your AWS-based resources through identities, authentication, and roles. You'll also learn about data encryption and how AWS can simplify your regulatory compliance.

Chapter 6: Working with Your AWS Resources How will your team access AWS resources so they can effectively manage them? This chapter will introduce you to the AWS Management Console, the AWS Command Line Interface, software development kits, and various infrastructure monitoring tools.

Chapter 7: The Core Compute Services Providing an alternative to traditional physical compute services is a cornerstone of cloud computing. This chapter discusses Amazon's Elastic Compute Cloud (EC2), Lightsail, and Elastic Beanstalk services. We also take a quick look at various serverless workload models.

Chapter 8: The Core Storage Services This chapter explores Amazon's object storage services including Simple Storage Service (S3) and Glacier for inexpensive and highly accessible storage, and Storage Gateway and Snowball for integration with your local resources.

Chapter 9: The Core Database Services Here you will learn about how data is managed at scale on AWS, exploring the SQL-compatible Relational Database Service (RDS), the NoSQL DynamoDB platform, and Redshift for data warehousing at volume.

Chapter 10: The Core Networking Services AWS lets you control network access to your resources through virtual private clouds (VPCs), virtual private networks (VPNs), DNS routing through the Route 53 service, and network caching via CloudFront. This chapter focuses on all of them.

Chapter 11: Automating Your AWS Workloads This chapter covers the AWS services designed to permit automated deployments and close DevOps integration connecting your development processes with your Amazon-based application environments.

Chapter 12: Common Use-Case Scenarios This chapter illustrates some real-world, cloud-optimized deployment architectures to give you an idea of the kinds of application environments you can build on AWS.

Appendix A: Answers to Review Questions This appendix provides the answers and brief explanations for the questions at the end of each chapter.

Appendix B: Additional Services To make sure you're at least familiar with the full scope of AWS infrastructure, this appendix provides brief introductions to many of the services not mentioned directly in the chapters of this book.

Interactive Online Learning Environment and Test Bank

The authors have worked hard to create some really great tools to help you with your certification process. The interactive online learning environment that accompanies this *AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Study Guide* includes a test bank with study tools to help you prepare for the certification exam—and increase your chances of passing it the first time! The test bank includes the following:

Sample tests All the questions in this book are included online, including the assessment test at the end of this introduction and the review questions printed after each chapter. In addition, there are two practice exams with 50 questions each. Use these questions to assess how you're likely to perform on the real exam. The online test bank runs on multiple devices.

Flashcards The online text banks include 100 flashcards specifically written to hit you hard, so don't get discouraged if you don't ace your way through them at first. They're there to ensure that you're really ready for the exam. And no worries—armed with the review questions, practice exams, and flashcards, you'll be more than prepared when exam day comes. Questions are provided in digital flashcard format (a question followed by a single correct answer). You can use the flashcards to reinforce your learning and provide last-minute test prep before the exam.

We plan to update any errors or changes to the AWS platform that aren't currently reflected in these questions as we discover them here: <https://awsccp.github.io/>.

Should you notice any problems before we do, please be in touch.

Glossary A glossary of key terms from this book is available as a fully searchable PDF.



Go to www.wiley.com/go/sybextestprep to register and gain access to this interactive online learning environment and test bank with study tools.

Exam Objectives

According to the *AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner Exam Guide* (version 1.4), the AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner (CLF-C01) examination is “intended for individuals who have the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively demonstrate an overall understanding of the AWS Cloud, independent of specific technical roles addressed by other AWS certifications” (for example, solution architects or SysOps administrators).

To be successful, you’ll be expected to be able to describe the following:

- The AWS Cloud and its basic global infrastructure
- AWS Cloud architectural principles
- The AWS Cloud value proposition
- Key AWS services along with their common use cases (for example, highly available web applications or data analysis)
- The basic security and compliance practices relating to the AWS platform and the shared security model
- AWS billing, account management, and pricing models
- Documentation and technical assistance resources
- Basic characteristics for deploying and operating in the AWS Cloud

AWS recommends that “candidates have at least six months of experience with the AWS Cloud in any role, including technical, managerial, sales, purchasing, or financial.” They should also possess general knowledge of information technology and application servers and their uses in the AWS Cloud.

Objective Map

The exam covers four domains, with each domain broken down into objectives. The following table lists each domain and its weighting in the exam, along with the chapters in the book where that domain’s objectives are covered.

Domain	Percentage of Exam	Chapter(s)
Domain 1: Cloud Concepts	28%	
1.1 Define the AWS Cloud and its value proposition		1, 12
1.2 Identify aspects of AWS Cloud economics		1, 12
1.3 List the different cloud architecture design principles		1, 9, 10, 11, 12

Domain	Percentage of Exam	Chapter(s)
Domain 2: Security	24%	
2.1 Define the AWS Shared Responsibility model		4
2.2 Define AWS Cloud security and compliance concepts		5, 6, 8, 10
2.3 Identify AWS access management capabilities		5, 8, 10, 11
2.4 Identify resources for security support		3, 6
Domain 3: Technology	36%	
3.1 Define methods of deploying and operating in the AWS Cloud		6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
3.2 Define the AWS global infrastructure		4, 10
3.3 Identify the core AWS services		6, 7, 8, 9, 10
3.4 Identify resources for technology support		3
Domain 4: Billing and Pricing	12%	
4.1 Compare and contrast the various pricing models for AWS		2, 7
4.2 Recognize the various account structures in relation to AWS billing and pricing		2, 7
4.3 Identify resources available for billing support		2, 3, 6

Assessment Test

1. Which of the following describes the cloud design principle of scalability?
 - A. The ability to automatically increase available compute resources to meet growing user demand
 - B. The ability to route incoming client requests between multiple application servers
 - C. The ability to segment physical resources into multiple virtual partitions
 - D. The ability to reduce production costs by spreading capital expenses across many accounts
2. Which of the following best describes the cloud service model known as infrastructure as a service (IaaS)?
 - A. End user access to software applications delivered over the internet
 - B. Access to a simplified interface through which customers can directly deploy their application code without having to worry about managing the underlying infrastructure
 - C. Customer rental of the use of measured units of a provider's physical compute, storage, and networking resources
 - D. Abstracted interfaces built to manage clusters of containerized workloads
3. How does AWS ensure that no single customer consumes an unsustainable proportion of available resources?
 - A. AWS allows customers to consume as much as they're willing to pay for, regardless of general availability.
 - B. AWS imposes default limits on the use of its service resources but allows customers to request higher limits.
 - C. AWS imposes hard default limits on the use of its service resources.
 - D. AWS imposes default limits on the use of its services by Basic account holders; Premium account holders face no limits.
4. The AWS Free Tier is designed to give new account holders the opportunity to get to know how their services work without necessarily costing any money. How does it work?
 - A. You get service credits that can be used to provision and launch a few typical workloads.
 - B. You get full free access to a few core AWS services for one month.
 - C. You get low-cost access to many core AWS services for three months.
 - D. You get free lightweight access to many core AWS services for a full 12 months.
5. AWS customers receive "production system down" support within one hour when they subscribe to which support plan(s)?
 - A. Enterprise.
 - B. Business and Enterprise.
 - C. Developer and Basic.
 - D. All plans get this level of support.

6. AWS customers get full access to the AWS Trusted Advisor best practice checks when they subscribe to which support plan(s)?
 - A. All plans get this level of support.
 - B. Basic and Business.
 - C. Business and Enterprise.
 - D. Developer, Business, and Enterprise.
7. The AWS Shared Responsibility Model illustrates how AWS itself (as opposed to its customers) is responsible for which aspects of the cloud environment?
 - A. The redundancy and integrity of customer-added data
 - B. The underlying integrity and security of AWS physical resources
 - C. Data and configurations added by customers
 - D. The operating systems run on EC2 instances
8. Which of these is a designation for two or more AWS data centers within a single geographic area?
 - A. Availability Zone
 - B. Region
 - C. Network subnet
 - D. Geo-unit
9. How, using security best practices, should your organization's team members access your AWS account resources?
 - A. Only a single team member should be given any account access.
 - B. Through a jointly shared single account user who's been given full account-wide permissions.
 - C. Through the use of specially created users, groups, and roles, each given the fewest permissions necessary.
 - D. Ideally, resource access should occur only through the use of access keys.
10. Which of the following describes a methodology that protects your organization's data when it's on-site locally, in transit to AWS, and stored on AWS?
 - A. Client-side encryption
 - B. Server-side encryption
 - C. Cryptographic transformation
 - D. Encryption at rest
11. What authentication method will you use to access your AWS resources remotely through the AWS Command Line Interface (CLI)?
 - A. Strong password
 - B. Multifactor authentication
 - C. SSH key pairs
 - D. Access keys