



Free CompTIA A+ Practice Test

Free CompTIA A+ Practice Test - Core 1 & Core 2

40 Questions + Answer Explanations

✓ Updated 2026

☐ Strategy Box for each question

🔑 Answer Key Included

1

What is the primary purpose of a smartphone's NFC feature?

A Increase battery life

B Enable short-range wireless communication

C Improve cellular signal strength

D Store cloud backups

EXPLANATION:

In A+ scenarios, NFC is used for contactless payments and device pairing. It does not affect battery, signal strength, or storage, making option B correct.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Enable short-range wireless communication

2

Which device connects multiple networks and directs traffic between them?

A Switch

B Router

C Hub

D Access Point

EXPLANATION:

A router connects different networks and directs data packets based on IP addresses.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Router

3

What cloud service model provides virtual machines and operating systems?

A SaaS

B PaaS

C IaaS

D DaaS

EXPLANATION:

IaaS provides virtualized computing resources like servers, storage, and networking.

✓ Correct Answer: C. IaaS

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Which mobile connection type is used for short-range device pairing, like headphones?

A Bluetooth

B LTE

C Ethernet

D VPN

EXPLANATION:

Bluetooth is designed for short-range wireless communication between devices.

✓ Correct Answer: A. Bluetooth

5

What device is primarily used to extend Wi-Fi coverage in a building?

A Firewall

B Repeater

C Router

D Proxy server

EXPLANATION:

A repeater regenerates and amplifies wireless signals to extend network coverage.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Repeater

6

What is the main function of a SIM card in a mobile device?

A Store apps

B Provide cloud storage

C Authenticate cellular network access

D Improve screen resolution

EXPLANATION:

A SIM card identifies and authenticates a user on a mobile network. Cellular services like calls and data cannot function without it.

✓ Correct Answer: C. Authenticate cellular network access

7

Which cloud model is best described as software accessible over the internet?

A IaaS

B SaaS

C PaaS

D VPN

EXPLANATION:

SaaS delivers applications through the internet, like Google Workspace or Microsoft 365.

✓ Correct Answer: B. SaaS

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What networking device assigns IP addresses automatically?

A DNS server

B DHCP server

C Proxy server

D Switch

EXPLANATION:

DHCP automatically assigns IP addresses to devices on a network, reducing manual configuration.

✓ Correct Answer: B. DHCP server

9

What is the primary purpose of airplane mode on a mobile device?

A Increase battery charging speed

B Disable all wireless transmissions

C Improve Wi-Fi range

D Enable GPS tracking

EXPLANATION:

Airplane mode disables cellular, Wi-Fi, and Bluetooth transmissions.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Disable all wireless transmissions

10

Which cloud feature allows users to access services on demand without managing infrastructure?

A Scalability

B Virtualization

C On-demand self-service

D Load balancing

EXPLANATION:

On-demand self-service allows users to provision computing resources automatically without provider interaction.

✓ Correct Answer: C. On-demand self-service

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What device filters traffic based on security rules between networks?

A Router

B Firewall

C Hub

D Repeater

EXPLANATION:

A firewall monitors and controls incoming and outgoing network traffic based on security policies, protecting internal networks from threats.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Firewall

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Which mobile feature is primarily used for location tracking?

A NFC

B GPS

C Bluetooth

D LTE

EXPLANATION:

GPS uses satellite signals to determine a device's location. It is widely used in maps and navigation apps.

✓ Correct Answer: B. GPS

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What is the function of a network switch?

A Connect multiple networks

B Forward data to specific devices using MAC addresses

C Block internet access

D Provide wireless connectivity

EXPLANATION:

A switch operates at Layer 2 and uses MAC addresses to forward data to the correct device.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Forward data to specific devices using MAC addresses

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Which cloud deployment model is used exclusively by one organization?

- A Public cloud B Hybrid cloud C Private cloud D Community cloud

EXPLANATION:

A private cloud is dedicated to a single organization, offering higher security and control compared to public cloud environments.

✓ Correct Answer: C. Private cloud

15

What type of mobile device storage is non-volatile?

- A RAM B Cache C Flash storage D CPU registers

EXPLANATION:

Flash storage retains data even when power is off, making it the primary storage medium in smartphones and tablets.

✓ Correct Answer: C. Flash storage

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Which networking device combines modem and router functions?

- A Switch B Access point C Gateway D Repeater

EXPLANATION:

A gateway connects different networks and often combines modem and router functionalities in home networks.

✓ Correct Answer: C. Gateway

17

What is virtualization in cloud computing?

- A Physical hardware upgrade B Creating multiple virtual machines on one system C Installing antivirus software D Encrypting data only

EXPLANATION:

Virtualization allows multiple operating systems to run on a single physical machine, forming the foundation of cloud infrastructure.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Creating multiple virtual machines on one system

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Which mobile feature allows secure device unlocking using fingerprints?

- A NFC B Biometrics C GPS D LTE

EXPLANATION:

Biometrics uses fingerprint or facial recognition for secure authentication, widely used in modern mobile devices.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Biometrics

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What device connects a wired network to wireless devices?

 A Switch B Router C Access point D Hub**EXPLANATION:**

A wireless access point enables Wi-Fi connectivity by bridging wired networks with wireless devices.

✓ Correct Answer: C. Access point

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Which cloud feature ensures resources are shared among multiple users efficiently?

 A Resource pooling B Virtualization C Encryption D Caching**EXPLANATION:**

Resource pooling allows cloud providers to serve multiple customers using shared physical resources while maintaining isolation.

✓ Correct Answer: A. Resource pooling

21

Which Windows tool is used to view and manage running processes?

 A Disk Management B Task Manager C Device Manager D Control Panel**EXPLANATION:**

Task Manager displays active processes, CPU usage, memory consumption, and allows users to end unresponsive applications.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Task Manager

22

What Linux command is used to list files in a directory?

 A cd B mkdir C ls D ping**EXPLANATION:**

The ls command lists directory contents in Linux. It is one of the most fundamental commands for navigation and file management in Linux-based systems.

✓ Correct Answer: C. ls

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Which security feature protects data by converting it into an unreadable format?

 A Compression B Encryption C Defragmentation D Virtualization**EXPLANATION:**

Encryption secures data by converting it into ciphertext, ensuring only authorized users with the correct key can access it.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Encryption

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What Windows utility is used to uninstall or change programs?

A Device Manager

B Programs and Features

C Disk Cleanup

D System Restore

EXPLANATION:

Programs and Features allows users to install, uninstall, or modify software applications in Windows systems.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Programs and Features

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Which malware type secretly records user keystrokes?

A Worm

B Keylogger

C Trojan

D Ransomware

EXPLANATION:

A keylogger captures keystrokes to steal sensitive information like passwords and credit card details.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Keylogger

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What command is used in Windows to check network connectivity?

A ipconfig

B ping

C netstat

D tracert

EXPLANATION:

The ping command tests connectivity between devices by sending ICMP packets and measuring response time.

✓ Correct Answer: B. ping

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Which Linux command changes the directory location?

A ls

B cd

C rm

D pwd

EXPLANATION:

The cd command is used to navigate between directories in Linux systems.

✓ Correct Answer: B. cd

28

What is the primary purpose of Windows Firewall?

A Increase speed

B Block unauthorized

C Manage storage

D Install drivers

network access

EXPLANATION:

Windows Firewall monitors and controls incoming/outgoing traffic based on security rules to protect the system.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Block unauthorized network access

29

Which file system is commonly used by Windows operating systems?

A EXT4

B FAT32

C NTFS

D HFS+

EXPLANATION:

NTFS is the default file system for modern Windows systems, supporting permissions, encryption, and large file sizes.

✓ Correct Answer: C. NTFS

30

What is the purpose of Safe Mode in Windows?

A Increase performance

B Run the system with minimal drivers for troubleshooting

C Install updates faster

D Enable gaming mode

EXPLANATION:

Safe Mode starts Windows with essential drivers only, helping diagnose and fix system issues.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Run the system with minimal drivers for troubleshooting

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Which Linux command shows the current directory path?

A pwd

B ls

C whoami

D echo

EXPLANATION:

pwd displays the full path of the current directory.

✓ Correct Answer: A. pwd

32

What type of attack involves overwhelming a system with traffic?

A Phishing

B DDoS

C Spoofing

D Brute force

EXPLANATION:

A DDoS attack floods a system with traffic, making it unavailable to users.

✓ Correct Answer: B. DDoS

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Which tool is used to restore a system to a previous working state?

A Disk Cleanup

B System Restore

C Task Scheduler

D Event Viewer

EXPLANATION:

System Restore rolls back system settings and configurations to a previous restore point without affecting personal files.

✓ Correct Answer: B. System Restore

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What does antivirus software primarily protect against?

A Hardware failure

B Malware infections

C Power outages

D Network latency

EXPLANATION:

Antivirus software detects, prevents, and removes malicious software.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Malware infections

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Which Windows tool shows error logs and system events?

A Event Viewer

B Disk Management

C Services

D Performance Monitor

EXPLANATION:

Event Viewer logs system, security, and application events, making it essential for troubleshooting.

✓ Correct Answer: A. Event Viewer

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What is the main function of a patch update?

A Add new hardware

B Fix bugs and security vulnerabilities

C Increase screen resolution

D Format the system

EXPLANATION:

Patches fix software bugs and security vulnerabilities, improving system stability and protection.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Fix bugs and security vulnerabilities

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Which Linux command removes a file?

A rm

B del

C erase

D delete

EXPLANATION:

rm is used to delete files in Linux systems. It is a powerful command that should be used carefully.

✓ Correct Answer: A. rm

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What is phishing primarily designed to do?

- A Improve system speed
- B Steal sensitive information
- C Backup data
- D Optimize storage

EXPLANATION:

Phishing tricks users into revealing sensitive information like passwords through fake emails or websites.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Steal sensitive information

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Which Windows feature allows scheduling automated tasks?

- A Task Scheduler
- B Device Manager
- C Control Panel
- D Disk Cleanup

EXPLANATION:

Task Scheduler runs programs or scripts at specified times or events automatically.

✓ Correct Answer: A. Task Scheduler

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What is the first step in troubleshooting a computer issue?

- A Reinstall OS
- B Identify the problem
- C Replace hardware
- D Format disk

EXPLANATION:

Proper troubleshooting begins with identifying the exact issue before attempting any fix, ensuring efficient resolution.

✓ Correct Answer: B. Identify the problem