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ISACA has designed and created *CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 12th Edition* primarily as an educational resource to assist individuals preparing to take the CISA certification exam. It was produced independently from the CISA exam and the CISA Certification Committee, which has had no responsibility for its content. Copies of past exams are not released to the public and were not made available to ISACA for preparation of this publication. ISACA makes no representations or warranties whatsoever with regard to these or other ISACA publications assuring candidates' passage of the CISA exam.

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CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 12th Edition

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PREFACE

ISACA is pleased to offer the 1,000 review questions in the *CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 12th Edition*. The purpose of this manual is to provide the Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) candidate with sample questions and testing topics to help prepare and study for the CISA exam.

This manual includes 1,000 multiple-choice study questions, answers and explanations, which are organized according to the newly revised CISA job practice domains. These questions, answers and explanations are intended to introduce CISA candidates to the types of questions that may appear on the CISA exam. They are not actual questions from the exam. This manual also contains a 150-question sample exam, which has the same proportion of questions related to each CISA job practice domain as the actual exam.

The candidate also may want to obtain a copy of the *CISA® Review Manual 27th Edition*, which provides the foundational knowledge of a CISA. The *CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database-12-Month Subscription* contains the same questions found in this manual in a web-based application. Finally, the candidate may also want to use the CISA® Online Review course or CISA virtual or live instructor-led training for exam preparation.

A job practice study is conducted periodically to ensure that the CISA certification is current and relevant. Further details regarding the new job practice is in the “New-CISA Job Practice” section in this manual.

ISACA created this publication as an educational resource to assist individuals who are preparing to take the CISA exam. It was produced independently from the CISA Certification Working Group, which has no responsibility for its content. Copies of past exams are not released to the public and are not made available to candidates. ISACA makes no representations or warranties whatsoever regarding these or other ISACA or IT Governance Institute publications assuring candidates’ passage of the CISA exam.

ISACA wishes you success with the CISA exam. Your commitment to pursuing the leading certification for information systems (IS) audit, assurance, security and control professionals is exemplary, and ISACA welcomes your comments and suggestions on the use and coverage of this manual. After completion of the exam, please complete the online evaluation that corresponds to this publication (www.isaca.org/studyaidsevaluation). Your observations will be invaluable as new questions, answers and explanations are prepared.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 12th Edition is the result of the collective efforts of many volunteers. ISACA members from throughout the world participated, generously offering their talents and expertise. This international team exhibited a spirit and selflessness that has become the hallmark of contributors to this valuable manual. Their participation and insight are truly appreciated.

NEW—CISA JOB PRACTICE

Beginning in 2019, the Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA) exam tests the new CISA job practice.

An international job practice analysis is conducted periodically to maintain the validity of the CISA certification program. A new job practice forms the basis of the CISA exam.

The primary focus of the job practice is on the current tasks performed and the knowledge used by CISAs. By gathering evidence of the current work practice of CISAs, ISACA ensures that the CISA program continues to meet the high standards for the certification of professionals throughout the world.

The findings of the CISA job practice analysis are carefully considered and directly influence the development of new test specifications to ensure that the CISA exam reflects the most current best practices.

The new job practice reflects the areas of study to be tested and is compared below to the previous job practice. The complete CISA job practice is at www.isaca.org/cisajobpractice.

Previous CISA Job Practice	New CISA Job Practice
Domain 1: The Process of Auditing Information Systems (21%)	Domain 1: Information System Auditing Process (21%)
Domain 2: Governance and Management of IT (16%)	Domain 2: Governance and Management of IT (17%)
Domain 3: Information Systems Acquisition, Development and Implementation (18%)	Domain 3: Information Systems Acquisition, Development and Implementation (12%)
Domain 4: Information Systems Operations, Maintenance and Service Management (20%)	Domain 4: Information Systems Operations and Business Resilience (23%)
Domain 5: Protection of Information Assets (25%)	Domain 5: Protection of Information Assets (27%)

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INTRODUCTION

OVERVIEW

This manual consists of 1,000 multiple-choice questions, answers and explanations. The questions are numbered A1-1, A2-1, etc.

Questions Sorted by Domain

Questions, answers and explanations are sorted by the CISA job practice domains. The CISA candidate can refer to specific domain questions to evaluate comprehension of the topics that are covered within each domain. These questions are representative of CISA exam questions, although they are not actual exam items. The questions assist the CISA candidate in understanding the materials in the *CISA® Review Manual 27th Edition* and depict the type of question format typically found on the CISA exam. The number of questions, answers and explanations provided in the five domain sections in this publication provide the CISA candidate with the maximum number of study questions.

Sample Exam

A sample exam of 150 questions is also provided in this manual. **This exam is organized according to the domain percentages specified in the CISA job practice and used on the CISA exam:**

- Domain 1—Information System Auditing Process.....21 percent
- Domain 2—Governance and Management of IT.....17 percent
- Domain 3—Information Systems Acquisition, Development and Implementation12 percent
- Domain 4—Information Systems Operations and Business Resilience.....23 percent
- Domain 5—Protection of Information Assets.....27 percent

Candidates are urged to use this sample exam and the answer sheet provided to simulate an actual exam. Many candidates use this exam as a pretest to determine their strengths or weaknesses, or as a final exam. The sample exam answer sheet is provided for both uses. In addition, a CISA sample exam answer and reference key is included that cross references the exam questions to the questions in this publication, so it is convenient to refer to the explanations of the correct answers. This publication is ideal to use with the *CISA® Review Manual 27th Edition*.

The *CISA® Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Manual 12th Edition* was developed to assist CISA candidates in studying and preparing for the CISA exam. As candidates use this publication to prepare for the exam, they should note that it covers a broad spectrum of IS audit, assurance, control and security issues. Candidates should not assume that reading and working through the questions in this manual will fully prepare them for the exam. Because exam questions often relate to practical experiences, CISA candidates are cautioned to refer to their own experiences and to other publications referred to in the *CISA® Review Manual 27th Edition*. These additional references are excellent sources of further detailed information and clarification. It is recommended that candidates evaluate the job practice domains in which they feel weak or require a further understanding, and study accordingly.

This publication uses standard American English.

TYPES OF QUESTIONS ON THE CISA EXAM

CISA exam questions are developed with the intent of measuring and testing practical knowledge and applying general concepts and standards. Questions are presented in a multiple-choice format and are designed for one best answer.

The candidate is cautioned to read each question carefully. Many times, a CISA exam question will require the candidate to choose the appropriate answer that is most likely or best or choose a practice or procedure that would be performed first, related to the other answers. In every case, the candidate is required to read the question carefully, eliminate known wrong answers and then make the best choice possible. Knowing that these types of questions are asked and how to study to answer them will help candidates to answer these types of questions correctly.

Each CISA question has a stem (question) and four options (answer choices). The candidate is asked to choose the best answer from the options. The stem may be in the form of a question or incomplete statement. In some instances, a scenario or description of a problem may be included. These questions normally include a description of a situation and require the candidate to answer two or more questions based on the information provided.

When candidates prepare for the exam, they should recognize that IS audit and control is a global profession, and individual perceptions and experiences may not reflect the more global position or circumstance. Because the exam and CISA manuals are written for the international IS audit and control community, a candidate will be required to be somewhat flexible when reading an audit or control condition that may be contrary to a candidate's experience. It should be noted that CISA exam questions are written by experienced IS audit practitioners from around the world. Each question on the exam is reviewed by ISACA's CISA Test Enhancement Subcommittee and CISA Certification Working Group, which consist of international members. This geographical representation ensures that all test questions are understood equally in each country and language.

Note: ISACA review manuals are living documents. As technology advances, ISACA manuals are updated to reflect such advances. Further updates to this document before the date of the exam can be viewed at www.isaca.org/studyaupdates.

Any suggestions to enhance the materials covered herein, or reference materials, should be submitted online at support.isaca.org.