
Success Story

1 message

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I passed the CCSP exam on August 25, 2021.

Let me first talk about the CCSP test. The test was not easy.

There wasn't a single question that I could say came straight from the book.

All the questions are based on your knowledge that you gain from the study guides ((CBK and SYBEX) and from your practical application obtained working in cloud technologies.

It is a 3 hours exam with 125 questions - with no option to go back and review your answers. Once you submit an answer you move on to the next question. Besides having patience - one needs to maintain focus and answer the questions with confidence - by applying the concepts that you learned. It took me 2 hours 45 minutes to complete the 125 questions.

The knowledge gained while working with cloud technologies helped me a lot in Cloud data security topics.

Being from a technical engineering background my work experience in O365, Azure, VMWare, Federation and SSO helped in mapping the cloud concepts related topics that were easy to grasp.

I used a number of references in addition to the official study guide and Sybex book.

CCSP-CBK

CCSP official study guide - Sybex

CSA-Guide-v4-FINAL (from CCSK preparation Kit)

Cloud Computing Benefits, risks and recommendations for information security - ENISA (from CCSK preparation Kit)

CCSP - Practise questions from Sybex

CCSP training from Mr. Naresh (<https://mission-2020.com/>)

Journey:

I started preparing for CCSK a year back on my own. I read the book cover to cover - but then I realized I needed expert guidance in mapping the work experience to the 6 domains of CCSP.

I contacted Mr. Naresh after going through his profile. And I must say I was highly impressed with his passing rate. I even contacted some of the past students and they had nothing but good things to say about Mr. Naresh and his teaching skills.

I then started my sessions with Mr. Naresh Gupta, and found that he was indeed a good teacher. His instructions were clear and were well received by all of us attending the session. He makes sure you have got the concepts drilled in and even pings you individually in the class (to make sure you are paying attention). He revises the concepts in the following sessions. He even shares additional tips and tricks on how to remember the concepts. His sessions have very good coverage of CBK. I got inspired and gained confidence while attending those sessions. Additionally it helped me organise the scattered knowledge I had about the cloud and map it to the 6 CCSP domains.

Post the training sessions, I re-read the CBK and it made so much sense now. I was able to map the concepts to the CCSP domains. If you genuinely appreciate a trainer following up with you checking in on you and also guiding you on taking the mock tests; then Mr. Naresh is the trainer that you will appreciate. His checking in helped me stay on track and helped me focus in the last month prior to the exam.

He also guides you on reading additional material related to Cloud Security (See list above). I also read the CCSK and ENISA guides mentioned above again. I highly recommend you continue to read various blogs and articles, and watch youtube videos that have additional details about the topics that you read in the book. Remember Cloud technology is an evolving field and there are new things being discovered every time.

Over the weekends I spent 5 hours on Sat and Sun each. And during the week I spent 3 hours daily; studying and reading the additional material. Practising the question banks certainly helps in scenario based questions.

During the exam it is very important to read the questions carefully. Do not rush to answer any question without knowing what the question is really looking for. I saw questions in the exam where I found myself clueless. But I answered to the best of my ability - by trying to map to the concepts from the CBK.

I would highly recommend you go through Naresh's slides and the additional documentation listed above. Good Luck!

Thanks and Regards,
Jayashree C.