CCIE Service Provider Unified
Exam Topics v4.1

The Cisco CCIE® Service Provider version 4.1 unifies written and lab exam topics documents into a unique curriculum, while explicitly disclosing which domains pertain to which exam, and relative weight of each domain.

The Cisco CCIE® Service Provider written exam version 4.1 (400-201) is a two-hour test with 90–110 questions that validate professionals who have the expertise to design, implement, diagnose, and troubleshoot complex Service Provider highly available network infrastructure and services based on dual stack solutions (IPv4 and IPv6); understand how the network and service components interoperate; and understand the functional requirements and translate into specific device configurations. The exam is closed book and no outside reference materials are allowed.

An Evolving Technologies section is included in the written exam only. It will enable candidates to bridge their core technology expertise with knowledge of the evolving technologies that are being adopted at an accelerated pace, such as cloud, IoT, and network programmability.

The Cisco CCIE® Service Provider Lab Exam is an eight-hour, hands-on exam which requires a candidate to configure, diagnose, and troubleshoot a series of complex network scenarios for a given specification based on dual stack solutions (IPv4 and IPv6). Knowledge of troubleshooting is an important skill and candidates are expected to diagnose and solve issues as part of the CCIE lab exam. The candidate will not configure all end-user system; however, the candidate is responsible for all devices residing in the network.

The following topics are general guidelines for the content likely to be included on the exam. However, other related topics may also appear on any specific delivery of the exam. In order to better reflect the contents of the exam and for clarity purposes, the guidelines below may change at any time without notice.

NOTE: This CCIE Service Provider unified exams topics version 4.1 includes Evolving Technologies v1.1 domain and should referenced for written exams scheduled on August 30, 2018 and beyond.

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1.0  Core Routing
1.1.  Interior Gateway Protocol
1.1.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IS-IS
1.1.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot OSPFv2 and OSPFv3
1.1.c. Describe and optimize IGP scale and performance

1.2. Border Gateway Protocol
1.2.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IBGP, EBGP, and MP-BGP
1.2.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot BGP route policy enforcement
1.2.c. Describe BGP path attribute
1.2.d. Describe and optimize BGP scale and performance
1.2.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot advanced BGP features

1.3. Multiprotocol Label Switching
1.3.a. Describe MPLS forwarding and control plane mechanisms
1.3.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot LDP
1.3.c. Describe and optimize LDP scale and performance

1.4. MPLS Traffic Engineering
1.4.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot RSVP
1.4.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot ISIS and OSPF extensions
1.4.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot MPLS TE policy enforcement
1.4.d. Describe MPLS TE attributes
1.4.e. Describe and optimize MPLS TE scale and performance
1.4.f. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot MPLS advanced features, for example: Segment Routing and MPLS-TE Inter-AS

1.5. Multicast
1.5.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot PIM (PIM-SM, PIM-SSM, and PIM-BIDIR)
1.5.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot RP (Auto-RP, BSR, Static, Anycast RP, and MSDP)
1.5.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot mVPN
1.5.d. Describe and optimize multicast scale and performance

1.6. Quality of Service
1.6.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot classification and marking
1.6.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot congestion management and scheduling
1.6.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot congestion avoidance
1.6.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot MPLS QoS models (Pipe, Short Pipe, and Uniform)
1.6.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot MPLS TE QoS (MAM, RDM, CBTS, PBTS, and DS-TE)

2.0 Service Provider Architecture and Services
2.1. Service provider architecture concepts
2.1.a. Describe network architecture component and service provider network domains, for example: PE, P, CE, Metro Ethernet Core, Aggregation, RAN Backhaul, and eNodeB
2.1.b. Describe Cisco IOS, Cisco IOS-XE, and Cisco IOS-XR software architecture components, for example: XR Kernel, System Manager, and Interprocess communication

2.2. Virtualization concepts
2.2.a. Describe physical router virtualization, for example: SDR, Multiple-Logical-Routers, and Satellite Network Virtualization
2.2.b. Describe Network Function Virtualization architecture concepts, for example: Service Function Chaining, ESP, EPN, and NFVI

2.3. Carrier Ethernet
2.3.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot E-LINE, for example: VPWS
2.3.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot E-LAN and E-TREE, for example: VPLS and H-VPLS
2.3.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot EVPN
2.3.d. Describe IEEE 802.1ad (Q-in-Q), IEEE 802.1ah (Mac-in-Mac), and ITU G.8032 (REP)

2.4. L3VPN
2.4.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot L3VPN
2.4.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot Inter-AS L3VPN
2.4.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot multicast VPN
2.4.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot unified MPLS and CSC
2.4.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot shared services, for example: Extranet and
Internet access

2.5. Overlay VPN
   2.5.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot L2TPv3
   2.5.b. Describe LISP

2.6. Internet service
   2.6.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IPv6 transition mechanism, for example: NAT44, NAT64, 6RD, MAP, and DS Lite
   2.6.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot Internet peering route and transit policy enforcement

3.0 Access and Aggregation

3.1. Transport and encapsulation technologies
   3.1.a. Describe transport technologies, for example: optical, xDSL, DOCSIS, TDM, and GPON
   3.1.b. Describe Ethernet technologies
   3.1.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot link aggregation techniques

3.2. PE-CE connectivity
   3.2.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot PE-CE routing protocols, for example: static, OSPF, RIP, RIPng, EIGRP, ISIS, and BGP
   3.2.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot route redistribution
   3.2.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot route filtering
   3.2.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot loop prevention techniques in multihomed environments
   3.2.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot Multi-VRF CE

3.3. Quality of Service
   3.3.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot classification and marking
   3.3.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot congestion management and scheduling, for example: policing, shaping, and queuing
   3.3.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot congestion avoidance

3.4. Multicast
   3.4.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IGMP and MLD
   3.4.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot PIM
   3.4.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot RP
   3.4.d. Describe and optimize multicast scale and performance

4.0 High Availability and Fast Convergence

4.1. System level HA
   4.1.a. Describe Multichassis/clustering HA
   4.1.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot SS0/NSF, NSR, and GR
   4.1.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IGP-LDP Sync
   4.1.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot LDP Session Protection

4.2. Layer 1/2/3 failure detection techniques
   4.2.a. Describe Layer 1 failure detection
   4.2.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot Layer 2 failure detection
   4.2.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot Layer 3 failure detection

4.3. Routing/fast convergence
   4.3.a. Describe, implement, and optimize IGP convergence
   4.3.b. Describe, implement, and optimize BGP convergence
   4.3.c. Describe, implement, and optimize IP FRR and MPLS TE FRR

5.0 Service Provider Security, Operation, and Management

5.1. Control plane security
   5.1.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot control plane protection techniques, for example: LPTS and CoPP
   5.1.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot routing protocol security, for example: BGP-TTL security and protocol authentication
5.1.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot BGP prefix suppression
5.1.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot LDP security, for example: authentication and label allocation filtering
5.1.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot BGP prefix based filtering
5.1.f. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot BGPsec

5.2. Management plane security
5.2.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot device management, for example: MPP, SSH, VTY
5.2.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot logging and SNMP security
5.2.c. Describe backscatter Traceback

5.3. Infrastructure security
5.3.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot uRPF
5.3.b. Describe Lawful-intercept
5.3.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot iACL
5.3.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot RTBH
5.3.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot BGP Flowspec
5.3.f. Describe DDoS mitigation techniques

5.4. Timing and synchronization
5.4.a. Describe timing protocol, for example: NTP, 1588v2, and SyncE

5.5. Network monitoring and troubleshooting
5.5.a. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot syslog and logging functions
5.5.b. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot SNMP traps, RMON, EEM, and EPC
5.5.c. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot NetFlow and IPFIX
5.5.d. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot IP SLA
5.5.e. Describe, implement, and troubleshoot MPLS OAM and Ethernet OAM

5.6. Network configuration and change management
5.6.a. Describe configuration change, implementation, and rollback

6.0 Evolving Technologies v1.1

6.1 Cloud
6.1.a. Compare and contrast public, private, hybrid, and multicloud design considerations
   6.1.a (i) Infrastructure, platform, and software as a service (XaaS)
   6.1.a (ii) Performance, scalability, and high availability
   6.1.a (iii) Security implications, compliance, and policy
   6.1.a (iv) Workload migration
6.1.b. Describe cloud infrastructure and operations
   6.1.b (i) Compute virtualization (containers and virtual machines)
   6.1.b (ii) Connectivity (virtual switches, SD-WAN and SD-Access)
   6.1.b (iii) Virtualization functions (NFVi, VNF, and L4/L6)
   6.1.b (iv) Automation and orchestration tools (CloudCenter, DNA-center, and Kubernetes)

6.2 Network programmability (SDN)
6.2.a. Describe architectural and operational considerations for a programmable network
   6.2.a (i) Data models and structures (YANG, JSON and XML)
   6.2.a (ii) Device programmability (gRPC, NETCONF and RESTCONF)
   6.2.a (iii) Controller based network design (policy driven configuration and northbound/southbound APIs)
   6.2.a (iv) Configuration management tools (agent and agentless) and version control systems (Git and SVN)

6.3 Internet of things (IoT)
6.3.a. Describe architectural framework and deployment considerations for IoT
   6.3.a (i) IoT technology stack (IoT Network Hierarchy, data acquisition and flow)
   6.3.a (ii) IoT standards and protocols (characteristics within IT and OT environment)
   6.3.a (iii) IoT security (network segmentation, device profiling, and secure remote access)
   6.3.a (iv) IoT edge and fog computing (data aggregation and edge intelligence)