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1. Unified Scenario Simulation
2. Micro Skill Drill Exam

Topic: 1

Unified Scenario Simulation

Brightloom Ceramics: Standing Up Management Accounting in a Public Cloud Implementation

Business context

Brightloom Ceramics Today

Brightloom Ceramics makes glazed tableware and architectural tiles from a single plant in Porto, Portugal, selling to hotel groups, kitchenware retailers, and construction distributors across the Iberian peninsula. The business has grown from a family kiln into a mid-sized manufacturer with roughly four hundred staff, but its finance processes still run on a patchwork of an ageing on-premise ledger and manual spreadsheets. Leadership has approved a move to SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition, and the controlling area of the project has been singled out as the part most likely to expose weak habits.

Why the Board Chose the Public Cloud

The board wanted predictable quarterly updates, a lower maintenance burden, and a system that would push the company toward standard, well-documented ways of working rather than bespoke code. They were told repeatedly that the public cloud edition is opinionated by design, and that fighting the standard would be expensive and slow. That message has shaped how the sponsor talks about the project: adopt first, extend only where a real business reason survives scrutiny.

The People Doing the Costing

A small finance group handles product costing, overhead, and month-end today. The most experienced member has spent years reconciling figures by hand and is proud of the local workarounds that keep numbers tying out. Younger analysts are keen to let the system do more of the work. This mix of pride in the old way and appetite for the new sets the tone for every workshop, and the project lead knows that trust will be won or lost in how the standard is introduced.

Habits Carried Over From the Old Ledger

Over the years the team invented private conventions: custom cost breakdowns pasted into spreadsheets, a home-grown numbering scheme for internal charges, and a monthly ritual of emailing adjustments around before anyone posts. None of this is written down in a way a newcomer could follow, and much of it exists only because the old system could not do the job cleanly. The project must decide which of these habits reflect a genuine business need and which are simply scar tissue from old limitations.

The Mandate Handed to the Project

The sponsor has asked the implementation team to bring management accounting live in a first release, prove month-end can close cleanly in the new system, and leave behind clear documentation that survives staff turnover. Speed matters, but so does doing it in a way the auditors and future joiners can trust. You have been engaged as the implementation consultant to guide how the early configuration and adoption decisions are framed so the release rests on solid foundations.

An Appetite for Doing It the Standard Way

Unusually for a company its size, Brightloom's leadership has publicly committed to adopting standard processes wherever they fit, and to treating every request for a custom field or rule as something that must earn its place. This gives the project real leverage, but it also raises the stakes on the workshops, where the team will see the standard for the first time and decide, process by process, whether it fits. The consultant's framing of those sessions will set expectations for the whole programme.

Data That Cannot Be Left Behind

Years of cost centres, activity rates, and open balances live in the old ledger, and none of it can simply be abandoned at go-live. Some records are clean, some are duplicated, and a few are so old no one is sure whether they are still in use. Leadership expects a disciplined migration that brings across what is needed, in the right order, without dragging along the clutter that made the old system hard to trust.

What Success Looks Like to Leadership

For the sponsor, a successful first release is one where the standard has been genuinely tried before anything was changed, where the organisational structure and roles are set up so the right people see the right figures, and where the migrated data supports a believable first month-end close. Leadership has asked you to keep the team honest about that ambition and to make the reasoning behind each early decision visible, so the choices hold up long after the consultants have gone.

Your assignment

You are the SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition implementation consultant guiding Brightloom Ceramics through the early management accounting decisions of its first release. Your task is advisory: for each challenge you weigh the choices an implementation team faces and recommend the soundest approach for running the fit-to-standard workshops, establishing the organisational structure, granting and constraining access, and migrating legacy data. You are not clicking through configuration for them; you are reasoning toward guidance that keeps the release standard, well-governed, and trustworthy

1. CHALLENGE 1 — Framing the Fit-to-Standard Workshops

- Recommend how the team should prepare before the workshops so sessions are productive.
- Advise what a fit-to-standard workshop is actually for, in plain terms.
- Explain how requests to deviate from the standard should be handled during the sessions.
- Frame how the questionnaire and a prepared system support the discussion.

Checkpoints

- Preparation is grounded in the Business Driven Configuration Questionnaire and a ready starter system.
- The workshop's purpose is framed as adopting the standard and identifying genuine gaps, not gathering a wish list.
- Deviations are treated as exceptions that must justify themselves against the standard.

2. CHALLENGE 2 — Building the Organizational Structure in Central Business Configuration

- Advise where the organisational structure and finance settings are defined for the public cloud edition.
- Explain why the organisational structure should be settled before detailed process configuration.
- Recommend how configuration is carried from one system to the next in the landscape.
- Frame how the standard scope and localisation choices shape what is available.

Checkpoints

- Organisational structure and finance settings are defined in SAP Central Business Configuration.
- The structure is treated as a prerequisite that later configuration depends on.
- Configuration is transported through the landscape rather than re-keyed in each system.

3. CHALLENGE 3 — Assigning Business Roles and Restrictions

- Recommend how user access to applications is granted in the public cloud edition.
- Explain how access can be narrowed so users see only the data they should.
- Advise how the launchpad should reflect the roles that have been assigned.
- Frame why restrictions are set deliberately rather than left at their widest.

Checkpoints

- Access is granted through business roles built from business catalogs.
- Restrictions are used to limit a role to the appropriate organisational data.
- The launchpad is aligned to the assigned roles so users see relevant apps.

4. CHALLENGE 4 — Planning Data Migration with the Migration Cockpit

- Recommend the tool used to load legacy data into the public cloud edition.
- Advise on the sequence in which master data and balances should be migrated.
- Explain how the progress and success of a migration can be tracked.
- Frame how migration objects can be adapted when standard fields are not enough.

Checkpoints

- Data is loaded using the SAP S/4HANA Migration Cockpit.
- Master data is migrated before the transactional balances that depend on it.
- Migration object status is tracked, and objects can be extended where needed.

Question: 1

CHALLENGE 1 — Framing the Fit-to-Standard Workshops

Brightloom's team asks how to prepare for the first fit-to-standard workshop so the sessions are useful. What do you recommend?

- A. Postpone any preparation and let the team improvise on the day, since fresh reactions to the software are the most honest ones you can get.
- B. Capture their responses in the configuration questionnaire and ready a starter system, so the team reacts to a working standard process.
- C. Ask the team to write detailed specifications for every custom field they think they will need before they have seen the standard at all.
- D. Have the consultants pre-build the company's old spreadsheet logic in the system first, so the workshop simply confirms what already exists.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Preparing questionnaire responses and a working starter system lets the team engage with a real standard process, which is what makes the workshop productive.

Question: 2

CHALLENGE 1 — Framing the Fit-to-Standard Workshops

A team member asks what a fit-to-standard workshop is actually meant to achieve. Which description is correct?

- A. It is a session for collecting every feature the users would like, which the consultants then build as custom enhancements.
- B. It is a sign-off meeting where the team formally approves keeping all of its existing legacy processes unchanged.
- C. It is a technical review of system performance and hardware sizing carried out before any business users are involved.
- D. It presents the standard process and identifies the few places where it genuinely does not fit the business.

Answer: D

Explanation:

The workshop demonstrates the standard and surfaces genuine gaps, so adoption is the default and deviations are the exception.

Question: 3

CHALLENGE 2 — Building the Organizational Structure in Central Business Configuration

Brightloom needs its company code, plant, and finance settings established for the public cloud edition. Where is this organisational structure defined?

- A. Directly in the production system by each end user, so that every plant can shape its own structure independently as it goes live.
- B. Only inside offline spreadsheets that are later handed to SAP support to enter on the customer's behalf after go-live.
- C. In SAP Central Business Configuration, where scope, localisation, finance settings, and the organisational structure are maintained.
- D. Through custom developer code written on the platform, because organisational structure is considered an extension rather than configuration.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Central Business Configuration is the single place to set scope, localisation, finance settings, and the organisational structure for the public cloud edition.

Question: 4

CHALLENGE 2 — Building the Organizational Structure in Central Business Configuration

The team wants to move its configuration from the development system into test and then production. What should you advise?

- A. Transport the business configuration through the landscape so the same settings move forward without being re-entered.
- B. Re-key every setting manually in each system, treating the development work purely as a rehearsal to be repeated by hand later.
- C. Copy the entire production database backward over development each night so all three systems always hold identical data.
- D. Leave test and production unconfigured and let them inherit settings automatically the first time a user opens an app there.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Configuration is transported across the development, test, and production systems, so settings move forward consistently.

Question: 5

CHALLENGE 3 — Assigning Business Roles and Restrictions

A cost analyst needs access to management accounting apps but not to unrelated areas. How is that access granted in the public cloud edition?

- A. By sharing a single powerful administrator account among the whole finance team so nobody is ever blocked from an app they need.
- B. By emailing the analyst a list of transaction codes to type in manually, since the public cloud edition has no concept of roles.
- C. By granting every new user full access on day one and only removing apps later if an auditor happens to raise a concern.
- D. Through a business role built from the relevant business catalogs and assigned to the analyst's user.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Access is packaged into business roles assembled from business catalogs and assigned to individual users.

Question: 6

CHALLENGE 3 — Assigning Business Roles and Restrictions

Leadership wants the analyst's role limited to the data of the Porto plant only. What mechanism achieves this?

- A. Ask the analyst to voluntarily ignore any data from other plants that happens to appear on their screens during daily work.
- B. Apply restrictions on the business role so it exposes only the permitted organisational values.
- C. Create a duplicate copy of the entire system that contains only Porto data and point the analyst at that separate instance.
- D. Remove all reporting apps from the analyst entirely, since limiting data is impossible once a role has been assigned.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Restrictions confine a business role to specific organisational values, so the analyst sees only the Porto plant's data.

Question: 7

CHALLENGE 4 — Planning Data Migration with the Migration Cockpit

Brightloom is ready to bring legacy cost centres and balances into the new system. Which tool should be used?

- A. The SAP S/4HANA Migration Cockpit, which loads legacy data through templates or a staging database.
- B. A one-off manual re-typing exercise done by temporary staff over a weekend, since automated migration is not supported in the cloud.
- C. The fit-to-standard questionnaire, by pasting the legacy balances into its free-text answer boxes for the system to read later.
- D. A direct edit of the production database tables using raw scripts supplied informally by a member of the project team.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The SAP S/4HANA Migration Cockpit is the standard tool for loading legacy data via templates or a staging database.

Question: 8

CHALLENGE 4 — Planning Data Migration with the Migration Cockpit

The team asks in what order data should be migrated so the first month-end holds together. What should you advise?

- A. Load the transactional balances first and add whatever master data the postings turn out to have referenced only afterward.
- B. Migrate everything simultaneously in a single unordered upload and rely on the system to sort out any missing references on its own.
- C. Migrate master data such as cost centres and rates before the transactional balances that reference them.
- D. Migrate only the balances and skip master data altogether, on the assumption the system will generate the missing records automatically.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Master data must exist before the balances that reference it, so cost centres and rates are migrated first.

Topic: 2
Micro Skill Drill Exam

Question: 9

Vinha Verde Foods, a bottled-beverage producer in Braga, Portugal, runs its overhead cost accounting in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition. Each month a recurring facility expense — the cleaning contract for the bottling hall — is posted from Financial Accounting as a primary cost. The controller wants this expense to always land on the bottling-hall cost center automatically, without the accounts-payable clerk having to type a cost center on every invoice, because the clerks keep leaving it blank and the postings then stop for a missing account assignment. The finance team is reviewing the posting-control options the system offers: default account assignment, validation, substitution, and cost center categories. They need the setting that supplies the correct cost center by itself whenever this cost element is posted without one, so the routine expense flows straight through to the intended cost center every period.

Which posting-control setting should the team configure so that this recurring expense is assigned to the bottling-hall cost center automatically when no cost center is entered?

- A. Create a validation rule that checks the posting and blocks it whenever the cost center is missing, because that forces a complete account assignment at entry.
- B. Define a default account assignment for the cost element so the cost center is supplied by itself, because the posting then reaches the intended cost center automatically.
- C. Configure a substitution rule that replaces the entered cost center with another value, because that rewrites the account assignment as each document is posted.
- D. Assign a different cost center category to the receiving cost center, because the category is what decides whether a posting is accepted without any account assignment at all.

Answer: B

Explanation:

A default account assignment attaches a cost center to a cost element so that, when a posting arrives without one, the system fills it in automatically. That is exactly what lets the recurring expense reach the bottling-hall cost center without the clerk entering it each time.

Question: 10

Boreal Machine Works, a builder of custom packaging machinery in Winnipeg, Canada, manufactures each machine to a specific customer's sales order using SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition. After a large machine is delivered and billed, the commercial manager wants to know how profitable that individual order was: the revenue booked against it, the cost of building it, and the resulting margin, broken down by customer and product line. The finance analyst has several reports available but must pick the capability that shows the operating result by market segment for the order, rather than a planned figure or a purely internal cost view. The company already uses SAP Analytics Cloud to present results to management. The analyst needs the profitability capability that reports revenue and cost together per customer order and market segment for this make-to-order business.

Which capability should the analyst use to see the profitability of the individual customer order by market segment?

- A. Run a material cost estimate for the finished machine, because its planned cost breakdown reveals the margin actually earned on the customer's order.
- B. Open a cost center report for the production areas, because responsibility-area spend shows the margin earned on each individual customer order.
- C. Review the inventory valuation of the finished machine, because the stock value at delivery represents the profit recognized on the order.
- D. Use Margin Analysis to view the result by market segment, because it reports revenue and cost together per customer order and segment.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Margin Analysis reports the operating result by market segment, bringing revenue and the related cost together for each customer order, product, and region. That is exactly the view the manager needs, and it can be presented through SAP Analytics Cloud for the make-to-order business.

Question: 11

Nordfoil Packaging, a maker of flexible plastic film in Malmö, Sweden, produces a small range of standard film grades continuously on the same lines, period after period, using SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition. There is no separate customer order behind each run; the plant simply keeps the lines flowing and replenishes stock. The management-accounting consultant is setting up production accounting for this repetitive, period-based manufacturing and must choose the cost object that will collect goods issues, activity confirmations, and overhead for each film grade across a period, so that work in process and variances can be calculated by period at close. The consultant is weighing the cost objects the system offers for production and needs to select the one designed for period-based repetitive production rather than for one-off orders.

Which cost object should the consultant use to collect production cost by period for this repetitive manufacturing?

- A. Use a product cost collector as the cost object, because period-based repetitive production collects cost by period rather than per order.
- B. Create a separate production order for every production lot, because order-based collection is the proper way to cost repetitive period output over time.
- C. Post the production cost to an internal order, because an internal order is the standard cost object for ongoing manufacturing output.
- D. Settle the production cost onto a project element, because a project structure is how period-based production output is collected and closed.

Answer: A

Explanation:

A product cost collector is the cost object built for period-based, repetitive production. It gathers goods issues, activity confirmations, and overhead for a material across a period so that work in process and variances are calculated by period, which matches continuous film production with no order behind each run.

Question: 12

Andes Utilities Services, a water-utility services firm in Antofagasta, Chile, is implementing SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition and is close to go-live. The project team has completed its fit-to-standard configuration, and the finance workstream now needs to bring roughly four hundred legacy cost centers from the old system into the new one before the first close. The data has already been cleansed and mapped to the target structure, and the team wants to load it in a controlled, repeatable way that tracks the status of each record, rather than keying the cost centers in one at a time. The consultant must choose the implementation tool intended for transferring legacy master and transaction data into SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition, so the cost center master data is migrated reliably ahead of the close. Which tool should the team use to load the legacy cost center master data into the new system?

- A. Enter each cost center by hand in the SAP Fiori Launchpad after go-live, because manual creation is the supported route for bringing legacy master data across.
- B. Use SAP Central Business Configuration to load the cost centers, because that is where business transaction data is imported during the configuration phase.
- C. Load the cost centers with the SAP S/4HANA Migration Cockpit, because it is the tool for transferring legacy master and transaction data into the system.
- D. Build a key-user in-app extension to import the cost centers, because in-app extensibility tooling is how external master data is brought into the system.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The SAP S/4HANA Migration Cockpit is the implementation tool for transferring legacy master and transaction data into SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition, with mapping and status tracking per migration object. That matches loading the cleansed cost center master data in a controlled, repeatable way before the close.

Question: 13

Hanbit Valve, an industrial valve manufacturer in Changwon, South Korea, uses production accounting by order in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition. A production order for a batch of finished valves has been fully confirmed, the components issued, and the finished valves received into stock, so the order is finally delivered. During period-end the team calculated work in process and then the order's variances, and both steps completed without error. Yet when the controller reviews the order afterwards, it still carries a balance and its cost has not reached the intended receiver — the finished-goods stock and profitability records show none of the order's actual cost. Colleagues confirm the order is delivered, no error is open against it, and the variance figure looks correct. The controller must identify the single closing step that was skipped so the order's collected cost finally leaves the order.

Which single period-end step was skipped, leaving the delivered order's cost stuck on the order?

- A. Post an additional goods receipt for the finished valves, because an order's balance clears only once all of its output has been received into stock.
- B. Run settlement for the production order, because settlement passes the order's collected cost and variance to the intended receiver at close.
- C. Recalculate the standard cost estimate for the valve, because refreshing the planned cost is what moves the remaining balance off the order.
- D. Reverse the goods issue of the components, because removing the issued material is what clears the balance still sitting on the order.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Settlement is the closing step that passes a production order's collected cost and calculated variance to the receiver, such as finished-goods stock and the profitability records. Because work in process and variances were calculated but settlement was not run, the cost stays on the order until settlement is executed.

Question: 14

Coolibah Furniture, a maker of made-to-order hardwood furniture in Adelaide, Australia, runs a make-to-order process in SAP S/4HANA Cloud Public Edition. A customer places a sales order for a bespoke dining set; the order triggers material requirements planning, and a production order is created from the resulting planned order and released to the workshop. As the joiners pick components, confirm assembly activities, and receive the finished set into stock, the management-accounting consultant wants the manufacturing cost of this specific set to be collected against the customer's order, so that cost and revenue can later be matched for that order. The consultant must identify which object acts as the cost object collecting the production cost in this sales-order-related production, rather than an object meant for responsibility-area or period-based costing. Which object is the cost object that collects the manufacturing cost for this specific customer order?

- A. The workshop cost center, because responsibility-area cost collection is how the manufacturing cost of a single customer order is captured here.
- B. A product cost collector for the furniture line, because period-based collection is used to cost each individual make-to-order customer order.
- C. The sales order document on its own, because the sales order directly accumulates the production cost as the pieces are built and confirmed.
- D. The production order tied to the sales order, because that production order is the cost object collecting the manufacturing cost for the order.

Answer: D

Explanation:

In sales-order-related production the production order created for and tied to the sales order is the cost object. It collects the components picked, activities confirmed, and overhead for that specific set, so cost and revenue can be matched to the customer's order.

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