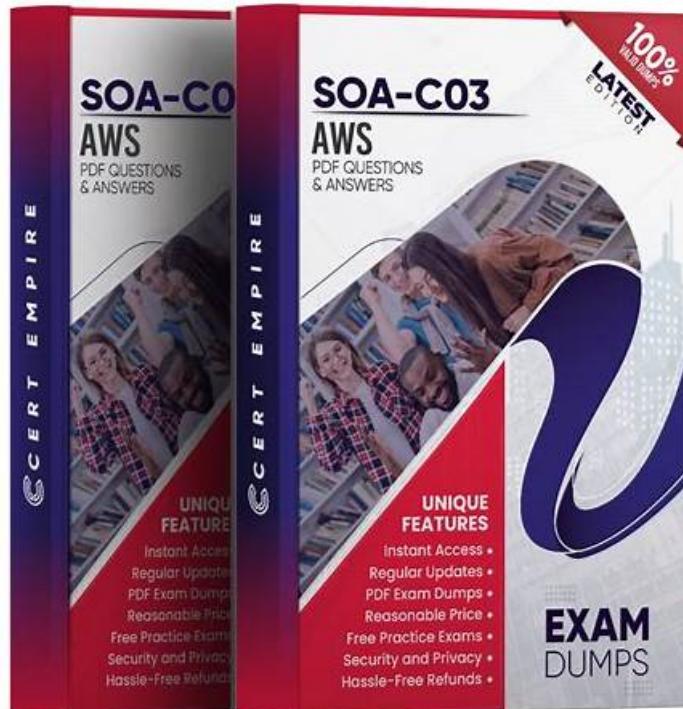


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Amazon SOA-C03 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Deployment, Provisioning, and Automation: This section measures the skills of Cloud Engineers and covers provisioning and maintaining cloud resources using AWS CloudFormation, CDK, and third-party tools. It evaluates automation of deployments, remediation of resource issues, and managing infrastructure using Systems Manager and event-driven processes like Lambda or S3 notifications.

Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networking and Content Delivery: This section measures skills of Cloud Network Engineers and focuses on VPC configuration, subnets, routing, network ACLs, and gateways. It includes optimizing network cost and performance, configuring DNS with Route 53, using CloudFront and Global Accelerator for content delivery, and troubleshooting network and hybrid connectivity using logs and monitoring tools.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Security and Compliance: This section measures skills of Security Engineers and includes implementing IAM policies, roles, MFA, and access controls. It focuses on troubleshooting access issues, enforcing compliance, securing data at rest and in transit using AWS KMS and ACM, protecting secrets, and applying findings from Security Hub, GuardDuty, and Inspector.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reliability and Business Continuity: This section measures the skills of System Administrators and focuses on maintaining scalability, elasticity, and fault tolerance. It includes configuring load balancing, auto scaling, Multi-AZ deployments, implementing backup and restore strategies with AWS Backup and versioning, and ensuring disaster recovery to meet RTO and RPO goals.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring, Logging, Analysis, Remediation, and Performance Optimization: This section of the exam measures skills of CloudOps Engineers and covers implementing AWS monitoring tools such as CloudWatch, CloudTrail, and Prometheus. It evaluates configuring alarms, dashboards, and notifications, analyzing performance metrics, troubleshooting issues using EventBridge and Systems Manager, and applying strategies to optimize compute, storage, and database performance.

Amazon AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate Sample Questions (Q33-Q38):

NEW QUESTION # 33

A company uses hundreds of Amazon EC2 On-Demand Instances and Spot Instances to run production and non-production workloads. The company installs and configures the AWS Systems Manager Agent (SSM Agent) on the EC2 instances. During a recent instance patch operation, some instances were not patched because the instances were either busy or down. The company needs to generate a report that lists the current patch version of all instances. Which solution will meet these requirements in the MOST operationally efficient way?

- A. Use AWS Config to monitor the patch status of the EC2 instances by using output from the SSM Agents. Create a configuration compliance rule to check whether patches are installed. Generate a report of all instances.
- B. Use Systems Manager Inventory to collect patch versions. Generate a report of all instances.**
- C. Use AWS Config to track EC2 instance configuration changes by using output from the SSM Agents. Create a custom rule to check for patch versions. Generate a report of all unpatched instances.
- D. Use Systems Manager Run Command to remotely collect patch version information. Generate a report of all instances.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive Explanation (250-350 words):

AWS Systems Manager Inventory is designed to collect metadata from managed instances, including installed software, applications, and patch information. It works asynchronously and does not require instances to be actively running a command at the time of collection, which is critical when instances may be busy or temporarily unavailable during patch windows.

Inventory data is stored centrally and can be queried to generate reports showing the current patch level or installed patch versions across all managed instances. This makes it well-suited for large fleets that include both On-Demand and Spot Instances and that may scale dynamically.

Option B relies on Run Command, which requires instances to be online and available at execution time. This does not meet the requirement because some instances were already missed during patch operations due to being busy or down. Option C and Option D use AWS Config, which is primarily intended for configuration compliance and drift detection, not detailed patch version reporting. Creating custom or managed rules for patch status introduces unnecessary complexity and overhead compared to Inventory's built-in capability.

Therefore, Systems Manager Inventory provides the most operationally efficient and reliable solution for collecting and reporting patch version data across all EC2 instances.

NEW QUESTION # 34

A company's ecommerce application is running on Amazon EC2 instances that are behind an Application Load Balancer (ALB). The instances are in an Auto Scaling group. Customers report that the website is occasionally down. When the website is down, it returns an HTTP 500 (server error) status code to customer browsers.

The Auto Scaling group's health check is configured for EC2 status checks, and the instances appear healthy. Which solution will resolve the problem?

- A. Replace the ALB with a Network Load Balancer.
- B. Add Elastic Load Balancing (ELB) health checks to the Auto Scaling group.
- C. Install the Amazon CloudWatch agent on all instances. Configure the agent to reboot the instances.
- D. Update the target group configuration on the ALB. Enable session affinity (sticky sessions).

Answer: B

Explanation:

In this scenario, the EC2 instances pass their EC2 status checks, indicating that the operating system is responsive. However, the application hosted on the instance is failing intermittently, returning HTTP 500 errors. This demonstrates a discrepancy between the instance-level health and the application-level health.

According to AWS CloudOps best practices under Monitoring, Logging, Analysis, Remediation and Performance Optimization (SOA-C03 Domain 1), Auto Scaling groups should incorporate Elastic Load Balancing (ELB) health checks instead of relying solely on EC2 status checks. The ELB health check probes the application endpoint (for example, HTTP or HTTPS target group health checks), ensuring that the application itself is functioning correctly.

When an instance fails an ELB health check, Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling will automatically mark the instance as unhealthy and replace it with a new one, ensuring continuous availability and performance optimization.

Extract from AWS CloudOps (SOA-C03) Study Guide - Domain 1:

"Implement monitoring and health checks using ALB and EC2 Auto Scaling integration. Application Load Balancer health checks allow Auto Scaling to terminate and replace instances that fail application-level health checks, ensuring consistent application performance." Extract from AWS Auto Scaling Documentation:

"When you enable the ELB health check type for your Auto Scaling group, Amazon EC2 Auto Scaling considers both EC2 status checks and Elastic Load Balancing health checks to determine instance health. If an instance fails the ELB health check, it is automatically replaced." Therefore, the correct answer is B, as it ensures proper application-level monitoring and remediation using ALB-integrated ELB health checks-a core CloudOps operational practice for proactive incident response and availability assurance.

References (AWS CloudOps Verified Source Extracts):

AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate (SOA-C03) Exam Guide: Domain 1 - Monitoring, Logging, and Remediation.

AWS Auto Scaling User Guide: Health checks for Auto Scaling instances (Elastic Load Balancing integration).

AWS Well-Architected Framework - Operational Excellence and Reliability Pillars.

AWS Elastic Load Balancing Developer Guide - Target group health checks and monitoring.

NEW QUESTION # 35

A company maintains a list of 75 approved Amazon Machine Images (AMIs) that can be used across an organization in AWS Organizations. The company's development team has been launching Amazon EC2 instances from unapproved AMIs.

A SysOps administrator must prevent users from launching EC2 instances from unapproved AMIs.

Which solution will meet this requirement?

- A. Use AWS Config with an AWS Lambda function to check for EC2 instances that are launched from unapproved AMIs. Program the Lambda function to send an Amazon Simple Notification Service (Amazon SNS) message to the SysOps administrator to terminate those EC2 instances.
- B. Add a tag to the approved AMIs. Create an IAM policy that includes a tag condition that allows users to launch EC2 instances from only the tagged AMIs.
- C. Create a service-linked role. Attach a policy that denies the ability to launch EC2 instances from a list of unapproved AMIs. Assign the role to users.
- D. Use AWS Trusted Advisor to check for EC2 instances that are launched from unapproved AMIs. Configure Trusted Advisor to invoke an AWS Lambda function to terminate those EC2 instances.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract of AWS CloudOps Documents:

The requirement is preventative: stop users from launching from unapproved AMIs. The most scalable approach with 75 approved AMIs is to tag all approved AMIs (for example, ApprovedAMI=true) and enforce usage through an IAM policy condition that only allows ec2:RunInstances when the ec2:ImageId resource (the AMI) includes the required tag. This avoids maintaining long

allow/deny lists of AMI IDs and supports continuous updates: as new approved AMIs are created, tagging them automatically brings them under the policy without policy rewrites.

Option B is incorrect because service-linked roles are used by AWS services, not assigned to users for interactive authorization enforcement in this way. Option C and D are detective/remedial controls that act after instances are already launched, which does not satisfy "must prevent." They also increase operational overhead and risk disruptions.

References:

IAM User Guide - Tag-based access control using resource tags (aws:ResourceTag) Amazon EC2 User Guide - IAM controls for RunInstances and AMI selection AWS SysOps Administrator Study Guide - Governance and preventative controls

NEW QUESTION # 36

An Amazon EC2 instance is running an application that uses Amazon Simple Queue Service (Amazon SQS) queues. A CloudOps engineer must ensure that the application can read, write, and delete messages from the SQS queues.

Which solution will meet these requirements in the MOST secure manner?

- A. Create and associate an IAM role that allows EC2 instances to call AWS services. Attach an IAM policy to the role that allows sqs:/* permissions to the appropriate queues.
- B. Create an IAM user with an IAM policy that allows the sqs:SendMessage permission, the sqs:ReceiveMessage permission, and the sqs:DeleteMessage permission to the appropriate queues. Embed the IAM user's credentials in the application's configuration.
- C. Create and associate an IAM role that allows EC2 instances to call AWS services. Attach an IAM policy to the role that allows the sqs:SendMessage permission, the sqs:ReceiveMessage permission, and the sqs:DeleteMessage permission to the appropriate queues.
- D. Create an IAM user with an IAM policy that allows the sqs:SendMessage permission, the sqs:ReceiveMessage permission, and the sqs:DeleteMessage permission to the appropriate queues. Export the IAM user's access key and secret access key as environment variables on the EC2 instance.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The most secure pattern is to use an IAM role for Amazon EC2 with the minimum required permissions.

AWS guidance states: "Use roles for applications that run on Amazon EC2 instances" and "grant least privilege by allowing only the actions required to perform a task." By attaching a role to the instance, short-lived credentials are automatically provided through the instance metadata service; this removes the need to create long-term access keys or embed secrets. Granting only sqs:SendMessage, sqs:ReceiveMessage, and sqs:DeleteMessage against the specific SQS queues enforces least privilege and aligns with CloudOps security controls. Options A and B rely on IAM user access keys, which contravene best practices for workloads on EC2 and increase credential-management risk. Option C uses a role but grants sqs:/*, violating least-privilege principles.

Therefore, Option D meets the security requirement with scoped, temporary credentials and precise permissions.

References:^{*} AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate (SOA-C03) Exam Guide - Security & Compliance^{*} IAM Best Practices - "Use roles instead of long-term access keys," "Grant least privilege"^{*} IAM Roles for Amazon EC2 - Temporary credentials for applications on EC2^{*} Amazon SQS - Identity and access management for Amazon SQS

NEW QUESTION # 37

A company runs a high performance computing (HPC) data-processing application on Amazon EC2 instances in one Availability Zone within a development environment. The application uses a dataset that the company stores on an Amazon S3 general purpose bucket in the same AWS Region as the EC2 instances.

A SysOps administrator must improve the application's performance for retrieval of objects from Amazon S3.

Which solution will meet these requirements?

- A. Enable S3 Transfer Acceleration for the S3 bucket. Create an S3 access point for the bucket. Update the application to use the access point.
- B. Create an S3 Lifecycle configuration for the S3 bucket to move all objects to the S3 Express One Zone storage class. Update the application to use an S3 Regional endpoint.
- C. Create an S3 directory bucket in the same Availability Zone. Import objects from the original bucket to the new bucket. Use the S3 Express One Zone storage class to store the objects in the new bucket. Update the application to use an S3 Zonal endpoint.
- D. Create a second general purpose S3 bucket in the same Region. Copy the objects from the original bucket to the new bucket. Use the S3 Express One Zone storage class to store the objects in the new bucket. Update the application to use an S3 Regional endpoint.

Answer: C

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed Explanation From Exact Extract of AWS CloudOps Documents:

The correct answer is D because Amazon S3 Express One Zone with directory buckets and zonal endpoints is specifically designed for single-Availability Zone, high-performance workloads such as HPC, machine learning, and analytics applications running on Amazon EC2. AWS CloudOps documentation states that S3 Express One Zone delivers single-digit millisecond latency and up to 10x higher request performance compared to general purpose S3 buckets when data is accessed from the same Availability Zone. An S3 directory bucket is required to use the S3 Express One Zone storage class. These buckets are explicitly associated with a single Availability Zone and use zonal endpoints, which eliminate cross-AZ network hops and significantly reduce latency. Importing the data from the existing general purpose bucket ensures compatibility while achieving maximum throughput and lowest latency. Option A is incorrect because S3 Transfer Acceleration is optimized for long-distance, internet-based transfers, not for in-Region HPC workloads. Option B is incorrect because lifecycle policies cannot move objects into S3 Express One Zone, and S3 Express One Zone does not use Regional endpoints. Option C is incorrect because general purpose buckets do not support zonal endpoints and therefore cannot achieve the same performance benefits.

AWS CloudOps performance optimization guidance clearly identifies S3 directory buckets with S3 Express One Zone and zonal endpoints as the optimal architecture for high-throughput, low-latency workloads in a single Availability Zone.

References:

Amazon S3 User Guide - S3 Express One Zone and Directory Buckets

AWS SysOps Administrator Study Guide - Storage Performance Optimization AWS Well-Architected Framework - Performance Efficiency Pillar

NEW QUESTION # 38

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Each format has a pool of AWS Certified CloudOps Engineer - Associate (SOA-C03) actual questions which have been compiled under the guidance of thousands of professionals worldwide. Questions in this product will appear in the Amazon SOA-C03 final test. Hence, memorizing them will help you get prepared for the SOA-C03 examination in a short time. The product of Dumpcollection comes in PDF, desktop practice exam software, and SOA-C03 web-based practice test. To give you a complete understanding of these formats, we have discussed their features below.

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