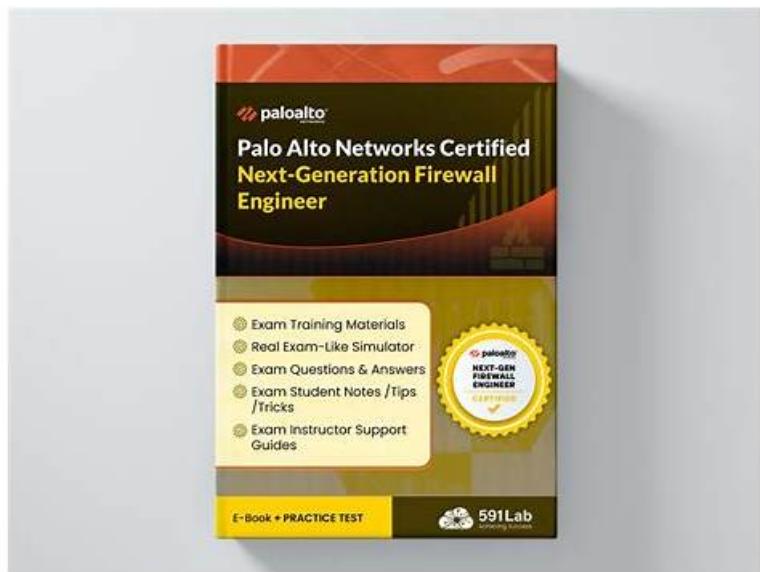


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Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Sample Questions (Q38-Q43):

NEW QUESTION # 38

An XDR engineer is creating a correlation rule to monitor login activity on specific systems. When the activity is identified, an alert is created. The alerts are being generated properly but are missing the username when viewed. How can the username information be included in the alerts?

- A. Add a drill-down query to the alert which pulls the username field
- B. Update the query in the correlation rule to include the username field

- C. Add a mapping for the username field in the alert fields mapping
- D. Select "Initial Access" in the MITRE ATT&CK mapping to include the username

Answer: C

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, correlation rules are used to detect specific patterns or behaviors (e.g., login activity) by analyzing ingested data and generating alerts when conditions are met. For an alert to include specific fields like `username`, the field must be explicitly mapped in the `alert fields mapping` configuration of the correlation rule. This mapping determines which fields from the underlying dataset are included in the generated alert's details.

In this scenario, the correlation rule is correctly generating alerts for login activity, but the `username` field is missing. This indicates that the correlation rule's query may be identifying the relevant events, but the `username` field is not included in the alert's output fields. To resolve this, the engineer must update the `alert fields mapping` in the correlation rule to explicitly include the `username` field, ensuring it appears in the alert details when viewed.

* Correct Answer Analysis (C): Adding a mapping for the `username` field in the `alert fields mapping` ensures that the field is extracted from the dataset and included in the alert's metadata. This is done in the correlation rule configuration, where administrators can specify which fields to include in the alert output.

* Why not the other options?

* A. Select "Initial Access" in the MITRE ATT&CK mapping to include the username:

Mapping to a MITRE ATT&CK technique like "Initial Access" defines the type of attack or behavior, not specific fields like `username`. This does not address the missing field issue.

* B. Update the query in the correlation rule to include the `username` field: While the correlation rule's query must reference the `username` field to detect relevant events, including it in the query alone does not ensure it appears in the alert's output. The `alert fields mapping` is still required.

* D. Add a drill-down query to the alert which pulls the `username` field: Drill-down queries are used for additional investigation after an alert is generated, not for including fields in the alert itself. This does not solve the issue of missing `username` in the alert details.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes correlation rule configuration: "To include specific fields in generated alerts, configure the alert fields mapping in the correlation rule to map dataset fields, such as `username`, to the alert output" (paraphrased from the Correlation Rules section). The EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response course covers detection engineering, stating that "alert fields mapping determines which data fields are included in alerts generated by correlation rules" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "detection engineering" as a key exam topic, encompassing correlation rule configuration.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/> EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response Course Objectives Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer

Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/certification/xdr-engineer>

NEW QUESTION # 39

Which action is being taken with the query below?

```
dataset = xdr_data
| fields agent_hostname, _time, _product
| comp latest as latest_time by agent_hostname, _product
| join type=inner (dataset = endpoints
| fields endpoint_name, endpoint_status, endpoint_type) as lookup lookup.endpoint_name = agent_hostname
| filter endpoint_status = ENUM.CONNECTED
| fields agent_hostname, endpoint_status, latest_time, _product
```

- A. Monitoring the latest activity of endpoints
- B. Monitoring the latest activity of connected firewall endpoints
- C. Identifying endpoints that have disconnected from the network
- D. Checking for endpoints with outdated agent versions

Answer: A

Explanation:

The provided XQL (XDR Query Language) query in Cortex XDR retrieves and processes data to provide insights into endpoint activity. Let's break down the query to understand its purpose:

* `dataset = xdr_data | fields agent_hostname, _time, _product`: Selects the `xdr_data` dataset (general event data) and retrieves fields

for the agent hostname, timestamp, and product (e.g., agent type or component).

* `comp latest as latest_time by agent_hostname, _product`: Computes the latest timestamp (`_time`) for each combination of `agent_hostname` and `_product`, naming the result `latest_time`. This identifies the most recent activity for each endpoint and product.

* `join type=inner (dataset = endpoints | fields endpoint_name, endpoint_status, endpoint_type) as lookup` `lookup.endpoint_name = agent_hostname`: Performs an inner join with the `endpoints` dataset, matching `endpoint_name` (from the `endpoints` dataset) with `agent_hostname` (from `xdr_data`), and retrieves fields like `endpoint_status` and `endpoint_type`.

* `filter endpoint_status = ENUM.CONNECTED`: Filters the results to include only endpoints with a status of `CONNECTED`.

* `fields agent_hostname, endpoint_status, latest_time, _product`: Outputs the final fields: `hostname`, `status`, `latest activity time`, and `product`.

* **Correct Answer Analysis (A):** The query is monitoring the latest activity of endpoints. It calculates the most recent activity (`latest_time`) for each connected endpoint (`agent_hostname`) by joining event data (`xdr_data`) with endpoint metadata (`endpoints`) and filtering for connected endpoints. This provides a view of the latest activity for active endpoints, useful for monitoring their status and recent events.

* **Why not the other options?**

* **B.** Identifying endpoints that have disconnected from the network: The query filters for `endpoint_status = ENUM.CONNECTED`, so it only includes connected endpoints, not disconnected ones.

* **C.** Monitoring the latest activity of connected firewall endpoints: The query does not filter for firewall endpoints (e.g., using `endpoint_type` or `_product` to specify firewalls). It applies to all connected endpoints, not just firewalls.

* **D.** Checking for endpoints with outdated agent versions: The query does not retrieve or compare agent version information (e.g., `agent_version` field); it focuses on the latest activity time.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains XQL queries: "Queries using `comp latest` and joins with the `endpoints` dataset can monitor the latest activity of connected endpoints by calculating the most recent event timestamps" (paraphrased from the XQL Reference Guide). The EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response course covers XQL for monitoring, stating that "combining `xdr_data` and `endpoints` datasets with a `latest` computation monitors recent endpoint activity" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "dashboards and reporting" as a key exam topic, encompassing XQL queries for monitoring.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/>

EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response Course Objectives

Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education>

/certification#xdr-engineer

NEW QUESTION # 40

A query is created that will run weekly via API. After it is tested and ready, it is reviewed in the Query Center. Which available column should be checked to determine how many compute units will be used when the query is run?

- A. Query Status
- B. Compute Unit Quota
- C. Simulated Compute Units
- **D. Compute Unit Usage**

Answer: D

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, the Query Center allows administrators to manage and review XQL (XDR Query Language) queries, including those scheduled to run via API. Each query consumes compute units, a measure of the computational resources required to execute the query. To determine how many compute units a query will use, the `Compute Unit Usage` column in the Query Center provides the actual or estimated resource consumption based on the query's execution history or configuration.

* **Correct Answer Analysis (B):** The `Compute Unit Usage` column in the Query Center displays the number of compute units consumed by a query when it runs. For a tested and ready query, this column provides the most accurate information on resource usage, helping administrators plan for API-based executions.

* **Why not the other options?**

* **A. Query Status:** The `Query Status` column indicates whether the query ran successfully, failed, or is pending, but it does not provide information on compute unit consumption.

* **C. Simulated Compute Units:** While some systems may offer simulated estimates, Cortex XDR's Query Center does not have a "Simulated Compute Units" column. The actual usage is tracked in `Compute Unit Usage`.

* **D. Compute Unit Quota:** The `Compute Unit Quota` refers to the total available compute units for the tenant, not the specific usage of an individual query.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains Query Center functionality: "The Compute Unit Usage column in the Query Center shows the compute units consumed by a query, enabling administrators to assess resource usage for scheduled or API-based queries" (paraphrased from the Query Center section). The EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response course covers query management, stating that "Compute Unit Usage provides details on the resources used by each query in the Query Center" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "maintenance and troubleshooting" as a key exam topic, encompassing query resource management.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/>
EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response Course Objectives
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Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/certification/xdr-engineer>

NEW QUESTION # 41

What are two possible actions that can be triggered by a dashboard drilldown? (Choose two.)

- A. Link to an XQL query
- B. Navigate to a different dashboard
- C. Send alerts to console users
- D. Initiate automated response actions

Answer: A,B

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, dashboard drilldowns allow users to interact with widgets (e.g., charts or tables) by clicking on elements to access additional details or perform actions. Drilldowns enhance the investigative capabilities of dashboards by linking to related data or views.

* Correct Answer Analysis (A, C):

- * A. Navigate to a different dashboard: A drilldown can be configured to navigate to another dashboard, providing a more detailed view or related metrics. For example, clicking on an alert count in a widget might open a dashboard focused on alert details.
- * C. Link to an XQL query: Drilldowns often link to an XQL query that filters data based on the clicked element (e.g., an alert name or source). This allows users to view raw events or detailed records in the Query Builder or Investigation view.
- * Why not the other options?
- * B. Initiate automated response actions: Drilldowns are primarily for navigation and data exploration, not for triggering automated response actions. Response actions (e.g., isolating an endpoint) are typically initiated from the Incident or Alert views, not dashboards.
- * D. Send alerts to console users: Drilldowns do not send alerts to users. Alerts are generated by correlation rules or BIOCs, and dashboards are used for visualization, not alert distribution.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes drilldown functionality: "Dashboard drilldowns can navigate to another dashboard or link to an XQL query to display detailed data based on the selected widget element" (paraphrased from the Dashboards and Widgets section). The EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response course covers dashboards, stating that "drilldowns enable navigation to other dashboards or XQL queries for deeper analysis" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "dashboards and reporting" as a key exam topic, encompassing drilldown configuration.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/>
EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response Course Objectives
Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer
Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/certification/xdr-engineer>

NEW QUESTION # 42

What happens when the XDR Collector is uninstalled from an endpoint by using the Cortex XDR console?

- A. The associated configuration data is removed from the Action Center immediately after uninstallation
- B. The machine status remains active until manually removed, and the configuration data is retained for up to seven days
- C. It is uninstalled during the next heartbeat communication, machine status changes to Uninstalled, and the configuration data is retained for 90 days
- D. The files are removed immediately, and the machine is deleted from the system without any retention period

Answer: C

Explanation:

The XDR Collector is a lightweight agent in Cortex XDR used to collect logs and events from endpoints or servers. When uninstalled via the Cortex XDR console, the uninstallation process is initiated remotely, but the actual removal occurs during the endpoint's next communication with the Cortex XDR tenant, known as the heartbeat. The heartbeat interval is typically every few minutes, ensuring timely uninstallation. After uninstallation, the machine's status in the console updates, and associated configuration data is retained for a specific period to support potential reinstallation or auditing.

* Correct Answer Analysis (C): When the XDR Collector is uninstalled using the Cortex XDR console, it is uninstalled during the next heartbeat communication, the machine status changes to Uninstalled, and the configuration data is retained for 90 days. This retention period allows administrators to review historical data or reinstall the collector if needed, after which the data is permanently deleted.

* Why not the other options?

* A. The files are removed immediately, and the machine is deleted from the system without any retention period: Uninstallation is not immediate; it occurs at the next heartbeat.

Additionally, Cortex XDR retains configuration data for a period, not deleting it immediately.

* B. The machine status remains active until manually removed, and the configuration data is retained for up to seven days: The machine status updates to Uninstalled automatically, not requiring manual removal, and the retention period is 90 days, not seven days.

* D. The associated configuration data is removed from the Action Center immediately after uninstallation: Configuration data is retained for 90 days, not removed immediately, and the Action Center is not the primary location for this data.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains XDR Collector uninstallation: "When uninstalled via the console, the XDR Collector is removed at the next heartbeat, the machine status changes to Uninstalled, and configuration data is retained for 90 days" (paraphrased from the XDR Collector Management section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers collector management, stating that

"uninstallation occurs at the next heartbeat, with a 90-day retention period for configuration data" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes

"post-deployment management and configuration" as a key exam topic, encompassing XDR Collector uninstallation.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/> EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment Course Objectives Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer

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NEW QUESTION # 43

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