

Actual Palo Alto Networks XSIAM-Engineer Test Answers - New XSIAM-Engineer Test Cost



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Palo Alto Networks XSIAM-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Content Optimization: This section of the exam measures skills of Detection Engineers and focuses on refining XSIAM content and detection logic. It includes deploying parsing and data modeling rules for normalization, managing detection rules based on correlation, IOCs, BIOCs, and attack surface management, and optimizing incident and alert layouts. Candidates must also demonstrate proficiency in creating custom dashboards and reporting templates to support operational visibility.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Planning and Installation: This section of the exam measures skills of XSIAM Engineers and covers the planning, evaluation, and installation of Palo Alto Networks Cortex XSIAM components. It focuses on assessing existing IT infrastructure, defining deployment requirements for hardware, software, and integrations, and establishing communication needs for XSIAM architecture. Candidates must also configure agents, Broker VMs, and engines, along with managing user roles, permissions, and access controls.

Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Integration and Automation: This section of the exam measures skills of SIEM Engineers and focuses on data onboarding and automation setup in XSIAM. It covers integrating diverse data sources such as endpoint, network, cloud, and identity, configuring automation feeds like messaging, authentication, and threat intelligence, and implementing Marketplace content packs. It also evaluates the ability to plan, create, customize, and debug playbooks for efficient workflow automation.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintenance and Troubleshooting: This section of the exam measures skills of Security Operations Engineers and covers post-deployment maintenance and troubleshooting of XSIAM components. It includes managing exception configurations, updating software components such as XDR agents and Broker VMs, and diagnosing data ingestion, normalization, and parsing issues. Candidates must also troubleshoot integrations, automation playbooks, and system performance to ensure operational reliability.

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Palo Alto Networks XSIAM Engineer Sample Questions (Q96-Q101):

NEW QUESTION # 96

A global enterprise has mandated that all incident response playbooks in XSIAM must include a step to log key actions and their outcomes to an external, immutable audit logging service (e.g., Splunk). This includes actions taken by XSIAM's built-in commands (e.g., 'isolate endpoint') and custom commands. The logging must occur regardless of whether the action succeeds or fails. How can an XSIAM engineer efficiently implement this requirement across numerous playbooks while minimizing redundant code and ensuring comprehensive logging?

- A. Leverage XSIAM's native audit logs export feature to send all playbook execution details to Splunk, then parse the relevant action outcomes.
- B. Manually add a 'Send to Splunk' custom command after every critical action in each playbook, with conditional logic for success/failure.
- C. Create a 'Sub-playbook' that encapsulates the 'Send to Splunk' logic and call this sub-playbook after every action in the main playbooks, passing the action's status as an input.
- D. Develop a 'Custom Automation' (e.g., a Pre-Process or Post-Process rule) that monitors all playbook actions and forwards the details to Splunk without explicit calls in the playbook.
- E. Modify the source code of XSIAM's built-in commands to include Splunk logging functionality directly.

Answer: A,C

Explanation:

This question allows for multiple correct answers depending on the interpretation of 'efficiently' and 'comprehensive'. Option B (Sub-playbook): This is highly efficient for targeted logging of specific actions within playbooks. By creating a reusable sub-playbook, you centralize the logging logic. You pass the action's name, status, and any relevant data as inputs to this sub-playbook, and it handles the Splunk integration. This minimizes redundant code within each main playbook and ensures consistency in what's logged for specific actions. Option D (XSIAM's native audit logs export): XSIAM generates extensive audit logs for all platform activities, including playbook executions, command invocations (built-in and custom), and their success/failure status. Exporting these native audit logs to Splunk (via a data connector or API) is the most comprehensive way to capture all actions taken by XSIAM's automation engine without needing to modify individual playbooks. The challenge here is parsing and correlating the relevant action outcomes from the verbose audit log, but it provides a holistic view. This is usually preferred for a 'mandated' enterprise-wide requirement. Option A is highly inefficient and prone to errors. Option C (Custom Automation rules) are more for enforcing pre/post conditions on incidents or alerts, not directly for logging arbitrary playbook command executions. Option E is impossible as XSIAM commands are not open-source or meant for modification in this manner.

NEW QUESTION # 97

A financial institution uses XSIAM and has a critical requirement to detect potential ransomware activities with high fidelity. They've observed that existing rules often trigger on legitimate large file operations or backup processes. The CISO demands a robust correlation rule that identifies suspicious file encryption attempts, specifically looking for rapid encryption of multiple unique file types by a process not on a whitelist, followed by an attempt to contact a known C2 server. Which of the following XSIAM rule configurations (or combination of configurations) best meets this requirement?

- A. Option E
- B. Option C
- C. Option B
- D. Option D
- E. Option A

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option C is the most comprehensive and effective approach. While A and B are good individual rules, a multi-stage correlation is superior for complex, sequential threat chains like ransomware. A ransomware attack typically involves initial activity (like encryption) followed by C2 communication, or vice versa (C2 communication to download payload, then encryption). Using XSIAM's capability to correlate 'alert' events (from an initial detection rule) with subsequent events or alerts from another rule allows for a highly granular and high-fidelity detection of the entire attack kill chain. Option D is not how XSIAM correlation rules are structured for sequential events across different log types. Option E is a valid long-term strategy but doesn't directly answer how to implement a specific, high-fidelity correlation rule with traditional methods, which is what the question asks for.

NEW QUESTION # 98

While using the playbook debugger, an engineer attaches the context of an alert as test data.

What happens with respect to the interactions with the list objects via tasks in this scenario?

- A. The original content of the list and the original context are altered, because Cortex XSIAM tasks interact directly with the objects, even within debug mode.
- B. The original content of the list and the original context are not altered, because Cortex XSIAM is running inside debug mode.
- C. The original content of the list is altered, but the original context is not, because Cortex XSIAM commands interact directly with the original list objects within debug mode.
- D. The original content of the list is not altered, but the original context is, because XSIAM commands are running within debug mode.

Answer: B

Explanation:

When running the playbook debugger with attached test data, Cortex XSIAM operates entirely in debug mode, meaning neither the original list objects nor the original context are altered. All interactions happen in an isolated debug environment to avoid impacting production data.

NEW QUESTION # 99

An administrator is attempting to perform a factory reset of a Broker VM to redeploy it in a different environment. After logging into the Broker VM's console, they execute the factory-reset command. The command appears to run successfully, but upon reboot, the Broker VM still retains its previous network configuration and XSIAM registration. What is the most probable cause of this issue, and what step was likely missed or incorrectly assumed?

- A. The Broker VM requires a network connection to the XSIAM cloud during the factory reset process to de-register itself properly.
- B. The factory-reset command requires a specific parameter, such as --full-reset, to wipe network and registration details.
- C. The factory-reset command only clears log data and not system configuration; a fresh OVA deployment is required for a full reset.
- D. The Broker VM's disk image was corrupted, preventing the factory reset operation from writing the new configuration.
- E. The administrator did not confirm the reset prompt with a specific confirmation phrase or action, leading to a 'dry run' of the command.

the command.

Answer: E

Explanation:

The command on the Broker VM typically requires an explicit confirmation, often a specific phrase or a series of factory-reset confirmations, to prevent accidental resets. If this confirmation is not provided correctly, the command might appear to execute but essentially performs a 'dry run' or aborts without applying changes. Therefore, the most probable cause is that the administrator missed or incorrectly handled the confirmation prompt (C). Option A is incorrect; it is designed to reset the configuration. Option B is unlikely without other factory-reset symptoms. Option D is incorrect; de-registration happens after the reset on the next successful connection. Option E is plausible for some CLI tools but not the documented behavior for Broker VM's factory reset, which typically uses a clear confirmation prompt.

NEW QUESTION # 100

An XSIAM engineer discovers that a large number of 'Alert' events are being generated with duplicate or near-duplicate 'description' fields, making it difficult for analysts to triage effectively. For example, 'Suspicious login from new country' and 'Suspicious login from previously unseen country' are considered duplicates for practical purposes. To optimize content by normalizing these descriptions and potentially reducing alert fatigue, which combination of XSIAM data modeling rules and techniques would be most effective and resilient?

- A. Configure an 'XSIAM playbook' to automatically close duplicate alerts based on string similarity of their 'description' field every hour. For the remaining alerts, an 'alert grouping rule' should be set up to group alerts with identical 'description' values.
- B. Manually create a comprehensive 'lookup table' mapping all known duplicate 'description' variants to a single 'master_description'. Deploy an 'ingestion mapping rule' to transform the 'description' field using this lookup table. For remaining variations, create a 'post-ingestion aggregation rule' that groups alerts by a 'hash' of the transformed description.
- C. Implement a 'regex extraction rule' on the 'description' field to capture key phrases and use these phrases to generate a 'normalized_alert_type' field. Subsequently, configure 'alert deduplication rules' based on this 'normalized_alert_type' and a defined time window.
- D. Leverage XSIAM's 'Anomaly Detection Engine' to identify patterns in the 'description' field. Train a custom model to cluster similar descriptions together and then define an 'alert promotion rule' that only promotes one alert per cluster to the analyst queue.
- E. Utilize XSIAM's 'Content Enrichment' framework to create a Python script that employs Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques (e.g., stemming, lemmatization, semantic similarity algorithms) to generate a 'canonical_description' and store it. Then, use this new field for alert aggregation.

Answer: B,C

Explanation:

This question seeks a resilient and effective method to normalize near-duplicate alert descriptions and reduce fatigue. Option A is the most practical, scalable, and resilient approach within typical XSIAM content optimization capabilities: 1. Regex Extraction Rule : This is a core content optimization capability. Using regex to capture key phrases ('Suspicious login', 'new country') from variable descriptions allows for a programmatic way to derive a 'normalized_alert_type' field. This field becomes a consistent, structured representation of the alert's core meaning, even if the raw description varies slightly. 2. Alert Deduplication Rules : XSIAM has built-in alert deduplication capabilities. By applying these rules on the newly created 'normalized_alert_type' field (along with other contextual fields like 'username', 'source_ip', and a time window), you can effectively prevent multiple alerts with functionally identical meanings from reaching the analyst, reducing fatigue. This is a standard and robust method. Why other options are less optimal or practical: - B (NLP via Python script) : While semantically powerful, integrating custom NLP Python scripts for every incoming alert description at scale can be computationally expensive and difficult to maintain within the high-performance ingestion pipeline required by XSIAM. It's often overkill for common variations and might introduce latency. - C (Manual Lookup Table + Hashing) : Manually creating a comprehensive lookup table for all possible near-duplicates is not resilient or scalable. New variations would require constant manual updates. Hashing exact matches doesn't solve 'near-duplicate' problems. - D (Playbook to close duplicates) : This is a post-generation remediation step, not a content optimization step that normalizes the data itself to prevent the initial duplicates. Relying on playbooks to 'close' duplicates after they've been generated still means they've consumed resources and potentially caused initial noise. - E (Anomaly Detection Engine for Clustering) : While XSIAM has anomaly detection, using it for clustering alert descriptions specifically to then promote only one is not its primary design. Training and maintaining such a model for evolving text descriptions can be complex and resource-intensive, and the solution might be too abstract for the specific problem of 'near-duplicate descriptions'.

NEW QUESTION # 101

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