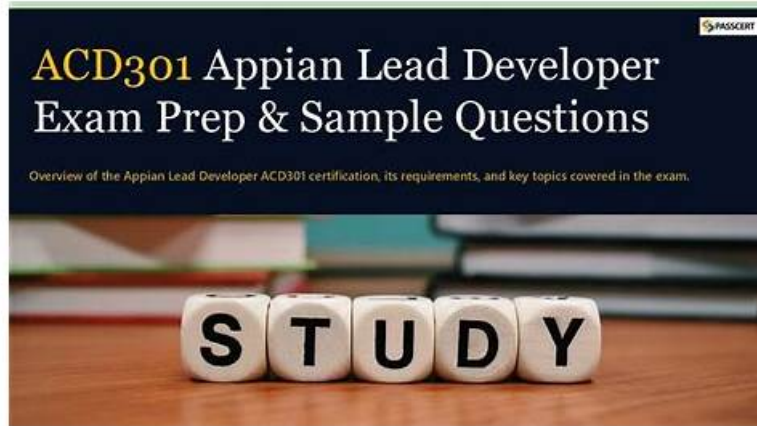


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Appian ACD301 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application Design and Development: This section of the exam measures skills of Lead Appian Developers and covers the design and development of applications that meet user needs using Appian functionality. It includes designing for consistency, reusability, and collaboration across teams. Emphasis is placed on applying best practices for building multiple, scalable applications in complex environments.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Platform Management: This section of the exam measures skills of Appian System Administrators and covers the ability to manage platform operations such as deploying applications across environments, troubleshooting platform-level issues, configuring environment settings, and understanding platform architecture. Candidates are also expected to know when to involve Appian Support and how to adjust admin console configurations to maintain stability and performance.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Project and Resource Management: This section of the exam measures skills of Agile Project Leads and covers interpreting business requirements, recommending design options, and leading Agile teams through technical delivery. It also involves governance, and process standardization.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data Management: This section of the exam measures skills of Data Architects and covers analyzing, designing, and securing data models. Candidates must demonstrate an understanding of how to use Appian's data fabric and manage data migrations. The focus is on ensuring performance in high-volume data environments, solving data-related issues, and implementing advanced database features effectively.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proactively Design for Scalability and Performance: This section of the exam measures skills of Application Performance Engineers and covers building scalable applications and optimizing Appian components for performance. It includes planning load testing, diagnosing performance issues at the application level, and designing systems that can grow efficiently without sacrificing reliability.

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Appian Lead Developer Sample Questions (Q40-Q45):

NEW QUESTION # 40

Your Agile Scrum project requires you to manage two teams, with three developers per team. Both teams are to work on the same application in parallel. How should the work be divided between the teams, avoiding issues caused by cross-dependency?

- A. Group epics and stories by technical difficulty, and allocate one team the more challenging stories.
- B. Have each team choose the stories they would like to work on based on personal preference.
- C. Allocate stories to each team based on the cumulative years of experience of the team members.
- **D. Group epics and stories by feature, and allocate work between each team by feature.**

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:

In an Agile Scrum environment with two teams working on the same application in parallel, effective work division is critical to avoid cross-dependency, which can lead to delays, conflicts, and inefficiencies. Appian's Agile Development Best Practices emphasize team autonomy and minimizing dependencies to ensure smooth progress.

Option B (Group epics and stories by feature, and allocate work between each team by feature):

This is the recommended approach. By dividing the application's functionality into distinct features (e.g., Team 1 handles customer management, Team 2 handles campaign tracking), each team can work independently on a specific domain. This reduces cross-dependency because teams are not reliant on each other's deliverables within a sprint. Appian's guidance on multi-team projects suggests feature-based partitioning as a best practice, allowing teams to own their backlog items, design, and testing without frequent coordination. For example, Team 1 can develop and test customer-related interfaces while Team 2 works on campaign processes, merging their work during integration phases.

Option A (Group epics and stories by technical difficulty, and allocate one team the more challenging stories):

This creates an imbalance, potentially overloading one team and underutilizing the other, which can lead to morale issues and uneven progress. It also doesn't address cross-dependency, as challenging stories might still require input from both teams (e.g., shared data models), increasing coordination needs.

Option C (Allocate stories to each team based on the cumulative years of experience of the team members):

Experience-based allocation ignores the project's functional structure and can result in mismatched skills for specific features. It also risks dependencies if experienced team members are needed across teams, complicating parallel work.

Option D (Have each team choose the stories they would like to work on based on personal preference):

This lacks structure and could lead to overlap, duplication, or neglect of critical features. It increases the risk of cross-dependency as teams might select interdependent stories without coordination, undermining parallel development.

Feature-based division aligns with Scrum principles of self-organization and minimizes dependencies, making it the most effective strategy for this scenario.

NEW QUESTION # 41

The business database for a large, complex Appian application is to undergo a migration between database technologies, as well as interface and process changes. The project manager asks you to recommend a test strategy. Given the changes, which two items should be included in the test strategy?

- A. Tests that ensure users can still successfully log into the platform
- B. Internationalization testing of the Appian platform
- **C. Tests for each of the interfaces and process changes**

- D. A regression test of all existing system functionality
- E. Penetration testing of the Appian platform

Answer: C,D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:

As an Appian Lead Developer, recommending a test strategy for a large, complex application undergoing a database migration (e.g., from Oracle to PostgreSQL) and interface/process changes requires focusing on ensuring system stability, functionality, and the specific updates. The strategy must address risks tied to the scope-database technology shift, interface modifications, and process updates-while aligning with Appian's testing best practices. Let's evaluate each option:

A . Internationalization testing of the Appian platform:

Internationalization testing verifies that the application supports multiple languages, locales, and formats (e.g., date formats). While valuable for global applications, the scenario doesn't indicate a change in localization requirements tied to the database migration, interfaces, or processes. Appian's platform handles internationalization natively (e.g., via locale settings), and this isn't impacted by database technology or UI/process changes unless explicitly stated. This is out of scope for the given context and not a priority.

B . A regression test of all existing system functionality:

This is a critical inclusion. A database migration between technologies can affect data integrity, queries (e.g., a!queryEntity), and performance due to differences in SQL dialects, indexing, or drivers. Regression testing ensures that all existing functionality-records, reports, processes, and integrations-works as expected post-migration. Appian Lead Developer documentation mandates regression testing for significant infrastructure changes like this, as unmapped edge cases (e.g., datatype mismatches) could break the application. Given the "large, complex" nature, full-system validation is essential to catch unintended impacts.

C . Penetration testing of the Appian platform:

Penetration testing assesses security vulnerabilities (e.g., injection attacks). While security is important, the changes described-database migration, interface, and process updates-don't inherently alter Appian's security model (e.g., authentication, encryption), which is managed at the platform level. Appian's cloud or on-premise security isn't directly tied to database technology unless new vulnerabilities are introduced (not indicated here). This is a periodic concern, not specific to this migration, making it less relevant than functional validation.

D . Tests for each of the interfaces and process changes:

This is also essential. The project includes explicit "interface and process changes" alongside the migration. Interface updates (e.g., SAIL forms) might rely on new data structures or queries, while process changes (e.g., modified process models) could involve updated nodes or logic. Testing each change ensures these components function correctly with the new database and meet business requirements. Appian's testing guidelines emphasize targeted validation of modified components to confirm they integrate with the migrated data layer, making this a primary focus of the strategy.

E . Tests that ensure users can still successfully log into the platform:

Login testing verifies authentication (e.g., SSO, LDAP), typically managed by Appian's security layer, not the business database. A database migration affects application data, not user authentication, unless the database stores user credentials (uncommon in Appian, which uses separate identity management). While a quick sanity check, it's narrow and subsumed by broader regression testing (B), making it redundant as a standalone item.

Conclusion: The two key items are B (regression test of all existing system functionality) and D (tests for each of the interfaces and process changes). Regression testing (B) ensures the database migration doesn't disrupt the entire application, while targeted testing (D) validates the specific interface and process updates. Together, they cover the full scope-existing stability and new functionality-aligning with Appian's recommended approach for complex migrations and modifications.

Reference:

Appian Documentation: "Testing Best Practices" (Regression and Component Testing).

Appian Lead Developer Certification: Application Maintenance Module (Database Migration Strategies).

Appian Best Practices: "Managing Large-Scale Changes in Appian" (Test Planning).

NEW QUESTION # 42

As part of an upcoming release of an application, a new nullable field is added to a table that contains customer data. The new field is used by a report in the upcoming release and is calculated using data from another table.

Which two actions should you consider when creating the script to add the new field?

- A. Add a view that joins the customer data to the data used in calculation.
- B. Create a script that adds the field and leaves it null.
- C. Create a script that adds the field and then populates it.
- D. Create a rollback script that clears the data from the field.
- E. Create a rollback script that removes the field.

Answer: C,E

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:

As an Appian Lead Developer, adding a new nullable field to a database table for an upcoming release requires careful planning to ensure data integrity, report functionality, and rollback capability. The field is used in a report and calculated from another table, so the script must handle both deployment and potential reversibility. Let's evaluate each option:

A . Create a script that adds the field and leaves it null:

Adding a nullable field and leaving it null is technically feasible (e.g., using ALTER TABLE ADD COLUMN in SQL), but it doesn't address the report's need for calculated data. Since the field is used in a report and calculated from another table, leaving it null risks incomplete or incorrect reporting until populated, delaying functionality. Appian's data management best practices recommend populating data during deployment for immediate usability, making this insufficient as a standalone action.

B . Create a rollback script that removes the field:

This is a critical action. In Appian, database changes (e.g., adding a field) must be reversible in case of deployment failure or rollback needs (e.g., during testing or PROD issues). A rollback script that removes the field (e.g., ALTER TABLE DROP COLUMN) ensures the database can return to its original state, minimizing risk. Appian's deployment guidelines emphasize rollback scripts for schema changes, making this essential for safe releases.

C . Create a script that adds the field and then populates it:

This is also essential. Since the field is nullable, calculated from another table, and used in a report, populating it during deployment ensures immediate functionality. The script can use SQL (e.g., UPDATE table SET new_field = (SELECT calculated_value FROM other_table WHERE condition)) to populate data, aligning with Appian's data fabric principles for maintaining data consistency. Appian's documentation recommends populating new fields during deployment for reporting accuracy, making this a key action.

D . Create a rollback script that clears the data from the field:

Clearing data (e.g., UPDATE table SET new_field = NULL) is less effective than removing the field entirely. If the deployment fails, the field's existence with null values could confuse reports or processes, requiring additional cleanup. Appian's rollback strategies favor reverting schema changes completely (removing the field) rather than leaving it with nulls, making this less reliable and unnecessary compared to B.

E . Add a view that joins the customer data to the data used in calculation:

Creating a view (e.g., CREATE VIEW customer_report AS SELECT ... FROM customer_table JOIN other_table ON ...) is useful for reporting but isn't a prerequisite for adding the field. The scenario focuses on the field addition and population, not reporting structure. While a view could optimize queries, it's a secondary step, not a primary action for the script itself. Appian's data modeling best practices suggest views as post-deployment optimizations, not script requirements.

Conclusion: The two actions to consider are B (create a rollback script that removes the field) and C (create a script that adds the field and then populates it). These ensure the field is added with data for immediate report usability and provide a safe rollback option, aligning with Appian's deployment and data management standards for schema changes.

Reference:

Appian Documentation: "Database Schema Changes" (Adding Fields and Rollback Scripts).

Appian Lead Developer Certification: Data Management Module (Schema Deployment Strategies).

Appian Best Practices: "Managing Data Changes in Production" (Populating and Rolling Back Fields).

NEW QUESTION # 43

You are running an inspection as part of the first deployment process from TEST to PROD. You receive a notice that one of your objects will not deploy because it is dependent on an object from an application owned by a separate team.

What should be your next step?

- A. Push a functionally viable package to PROD without the dependencies, and plan the rest of the deployment accordingly with the other team's constraints.
- **B. Halt the production deployment and contact the other team for guidance on promoting the object to PROD.**
- C. Create your own object with the same code base, replace the dependent object in the application, and deploy to PROD.
- D. Check the dependencies of the necessary object. Deploy to PROD if there are few dependencies and it is low risk.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:

As an Appian Lead Developer, managing a deployment from TEST to PROD requires careful handling of dependencies, especially when objects from another team's application are involved. The scenario describes a dependency issue during deployment, signaling a need for collaboration and governance. Let's evaluate each option:

A . Create your own object with the same code base, replace the dependent object in the application, and deploy to PROD:

This approach involves duplicating the object, which introduces redundancy, maintenance risks, and potential version control issues. It violates Appian's governance principles, as objects should be owned and managed by their respective teams to ensure consistency and avoid conflicts. Appian's deployment best practices discourage duplicating objects unless absolutely necessary, making this an

unsustainable and risky solution.

B . Halt the production deployment and contact the other team for guidance on promoting the object to PROD:

This is the correct step. When an object from another application (owned by a separate team) is a dependency, Appian's deployment process requires coordination to ensure both applications' objects are deployed in sync. Halting the deployment prevents partial deployments that could break functionality, and contacting the other team aligns with Appian's collaboration and governance guidelines. The other team can provide the necessary object version, adjust their deployment timeline, or resolve the dependency, ensuring a stable PROD environment.

C . Check the dependencies of the necessary object. Deploy to PROD if there are few dependencies and it is low risk:

This approach risks deploying an incomplete or unstable application if the dependency isn't fully resolved. Even with "few dependencies" and "low risk," deploying without the other team's object could lead to runtime errors or broken functionality in PROD. Appian's documentation emphasizes thorough dependency management during deployment, requiring all objects (including those from other applications) to be promoted together, making this risky and not recommended.

D . Push a functionally viable package to PROD without the dependencies, and plan the rest of the deployment accordingly with the other team's constraints:

Deploying without dependencies creates an incomplete solution, potentially leaving the application non-functional or unstable in PROD. Appian's deployment process ensures all dependencies are included to maintain application integrity, and partial deployments are discouraged unless explicitly planned (e.g., phased rollouts). This option delays resolution and increases risk, contradicting Appian's best practices for Production stability.

Conclusion: Halting the production deployment and contacting the other team for guidance (B) is the next step. It ensures proper collaboration, aligns with Appian's governance model, and prevents deployment errors, providing a safe and effective resolution.

Reference:

Appian Documentation: "Deployment Best Practices" (Managing Dependencies Across Applications).

Appian Lead Developer Certification: Application Management Module (Cross-Team Collaboration).

Appian Best Practices: "Handling Production Deployments" (Dependency Resolution).

NEW QUESTION # 44

You are in a backlog refinement meeting with the development team and the product owner. You review a story for an integration involving a third-party system. A payload will be sent from the Appian system through the integration to the third-party system. The story is 21 points on a Fibonacci scale and requires development from your Appian team as well as technical resources from the third-party system. This item is crucial to your project's success. What are the two recommended steps to ensure this story can be developed effectively?

- A. Maintain a communication schedule with the third-party resources.
- B. Break down the item into smaller stories.
- C. Identify subject matter experts (SMEs) to perform user acceptance testing (UAT).
- D. Acquire testing steps from QA resources.

Answer: A,B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation: This question involves a complex integration story rated at 21 points on the Fibonacci scale, indicating significant complexity and effort. Appian Lead Developer best practices emphasize effective collaboration, risk mitigation, and manageable development scopes for such scenarios. The two most critical steps are:

* Option C (Maintain a communication schedule with the third-party resources): Integrations with third-party systems require close coordination, as Appian developers depend on external teams for endpoint specifications, payload formats, authentication details, and testing support. Establishing a regular communication schedule ensures alignment on requirements, timelines, and issue resolution. Appian's Integration Best Practices documentation highlights the importance of proactive communication with external stakeholders to prevent delays and misunderstandings, especially for critical project components.

* Option D (Break down the item into smaller stories): A 21-point story is considered large by Agile standards (Fibonacci scale typically flags anything above 13 as complex). Appian's Agile Development Guide recommends decomposing large stories into smaller, independently deliverable pieces to reduce risk, improve testability, and enable iterative progress. For example, the integration could be split into tasks like designing the payload structure, building the integration object, and testing the connection—each manageable within a sprint. This approach aligns with the principle of delivering value incrementally while maintaining quality.

* Option A (Acquire testing steps from QA resources): While QA involvement is valuable, this step is more relevant during the testing phase rather than backlog refinement or development preparation. It's not a primary step for ensuring effective development of the story.

* Option B (Identify SMEs for UAT): User acceptance testing occurs after development, during the validation phase. Identifying SMEs is important but not a key step in ensuring the story is developed effectively during the refinement and coding stages.

By choosing C and D, you address both the external dependency (third-party coordination) and internal complexity (story size), ensuring a smoother development process for this critical integration.

References: Appian Lead Developer Training - Integration Best Practices, Appian Agile Development Guide - Story Refinement and Decomposition.

NEW QUESTION # 45

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