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## Appian ACD301 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details

Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Extending Appian: This section of the exam measures skills of Integration Specialists and covers building and troubleshooting advanced integrations using connected systems and APIs. Candidates are expected to work with authentication, evaluate plug-ins, develop custom solutions when needed, and utilize document generation options to extend the platform's capabilities.</li> </ul>

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## Appian Lead Developer Sample Questions (Q21-Q26):

### NEW QUESTION # 21

You are tasked to build a large-scale acquisition application for a prominent customer. The acquisition process tracks the time it takes to fulfill a purchase request with an award.

The customer has structured the contract so that there are multiple application development teams.

How should you design for multiple processes and forms, while minimizing repeated code?

- A. Create duplicate processes and forms as needed.
- B. Create a Scrum of Scrums sprint meeting for the team leads.
- C. Create a common objects application.
- D. Create a Center of Excellence (CoE).

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:As an Appian Lead Developer, designing a large-scale acquisition application with multiple development teams requires a strategy to manage processes, forms, and code reuse effectively. The goal is to minimize repeated code (e.g., duplicate interfaces, process models) while ensuring scalability and maintainability across teams. Let's evaluate each option:

\* A. Create a Center of Excellence (CoE):A Center of Excellence is an organizational structure or team focused on standardizing practices, training, and governance across projects. While beneficial for long- term consistency, it doesn't directly address the

technical design of minimizing repeated code for processes and forms. It's a strategic initiative, not a design solution, and doesn't solve the immediate need for code reuse. Appian's documentation mentions CoEs for governance but not as a primary design approach, making this less relevant here.

\* B. Create a common objects application: This is the best recommendation. In Appian, a "common objects application" (or shared application) is used to store reusable components like expression rules, interfaces, process models, constants, and data types (e.g., CDTs). For a large-scale acquisition application with multiple teams, centralizing shared objects (e.g., rule!CommonForm, pm!CommonProcess) ensures consistency, reduces duplication, and simplifies maintenance. Teams can reference these objects in their applications, adhering to Appian's design best practices for scalability.

This approach minimizes repeated code while allowing team-specific customizations, aligning with Lead Developer standards for large projects.

\* C. Create a Scrum of Scrums sprint meeting for the team leads: A Scrum of Scrums meeting is a coordination mechanism for Agile teams, focusing on aligning sprint goals and resolving cross-team dependencies. While useful for collaboration, it doesn't address the technical design of minimizing repeated code—it's a process, not a solution for code reuse. Appian's Agile methodologies support such meetings, but they don't directly reduce duplication in processes and forms, making this less applicable.

\* D. Create duplicate processes and forms as needed: Duplicating processes and forms (e.g., copying interface!PurchaseForm for each team) leads to redundancy, increased maintenance effort, and potential inconsistencies (e.g., divergent logic). This contradicts the goal of minimizing repeated code and violates Appian's design principles for reusability and efficiency. Appian's documentation strongly discourages duplication, favoring shared objects instead, making this the least effective option.

Conclusion: Creating a common objects application (B) is the recommended design. It centralizes reusable processes, forms, and other components, minimizing code duplication across teams while ensuring consistency and scalability for the large-scale acquisition application. This leverages Appian's application architecture for shared resources, aligning with Lead Developer best practices for multi-team projects.

References:

\* Appian Documentation: "Designing Large-Scale Applications" (Common Application for Reusable Objects).

\* Appian Lead Developer Certification: Application Design Module (Minimizing Code Duplication).

\* Appian Best Practices: "Managing Multi-Team Development" (Shared Objects Strategy).

To build a large scale acquisition application for a prominent customer, you should design for multiple processes and forms, while minimizing repeated code. One way to do this is to create a common objects application, which is a shared application that contains reusable components, such as rules, constants, interfaces, integrations, or data types, that can be used by multiple applications. This way, you can avoid duplication and inconsistency of code, and make it easier to maintain and update your applications. You can also use the common objects application to define common standards and best practices for your application development teams, such as naming conventions, coding styles, or documentation guidelines. Verified References: [Appian Best Practices], [Appian Design Guidance]

## NEW QUESTION # 22

You are on a call with a new client, and their program lead is concerned about how their legacy systems will integrate with Appian. The lead wants to know what authentication methods are supported by Appian. Which three authentication methods are supported?

- A. API Keys
- B. SAML
- C. Active Directory
- D. CAC
- E. Biometrics
- F. OAuth

**Answer: B,C,F**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation: As an Appian Lead Developer, addressing a client's concerns about integrating legacy systems with Appian requires accurately identifying supported authentication methods for system-to-system communication or user access. The question focuses on Appian's integration capabilities, likely for both user authentication (e.g., SSO) and API authentication, as legacy system integration often involves both. Appian's documentation outlines supported methods in its Connected Systems and security configurations. Let's evaluate each option:

\* A. API Keys: API Key authentication involves a static key sent in requests (e.g., via headers). Appian supports this for outbound integrations in Connected Systems (e.g., HTTP Authentication with an API key), allowing legacy systems to authenticate Appian calls. However, it's not a user authentication method for Appian's platform login—it's for system-to-system integration. While supported, it's less common for legacy system SSO or enterprise use cases compared to other options, making it a lower-priority choice here.

\* B. Biometrics: Biometrics (e.g., fingerprint, facial recognition) isn't natively supported by Appian for platform authentication or integration. Appian relies on standard enterprise methods (e.g., username

/password, SSO), and biometric authentication would require external identity providers or custom clients, not Appian itself. Documentation confirms no direct biometric support, ruling this out as an Appian-supported method.

- \* C. SAML:Security Assertion Markup Language (SAML) is fully supported by Appian for user authentication via Single Sign-On (SSO). Appian integrates with SAML 2.0 identity providers (e.g., Okta, PingFederate), allowing users to log in using credentials from legacy systems that support SAML-based SSO. This is a key enterprise method, widely used for integrating with existing identity management systems, and explicitly listed in Appian's security configuration options-making it a top choice.

- \* D. CAC:Common Access Card (CAC) authentication, often used in government contexts with smart cards, isn't natively supported by Appian as a standalone method. While Appian can integrate with CAC via SAML or PKI (Public Key Infrastructure) through an identity provider, it's not a direct Appian authentication option. Documentation mentions smart card support indirectly via SSO configurations, but CAC itself isn't explicitly listed, making it less definitive than other methods.

- \* E. OAuth:OAuth (specifically OAuth 2.0) is supported by Appian for both outbound integrations (e.g., Authorization Code Grant, Client Credentials) and inbound API authentication (e.g., securing Appian Web APIs). For legacy system integration, Appian can use OAuth to authenticate with APIs (e.g., Google, Salesforce) or allow legacy systems to call Appian services securely. Appian's Connected System framework includes OAuth configuration, making it a versatile, standards-based method highly relevant to the client's needs.

- \* F. Active Directory:Active Directory (AD) integration via LDAP (Lightweight Directory Access Protocol) is supported for user authentication in Appian. It allows synchronization of users and groups from AD, enabling SSO or direct login with AD credentials. For legacy systems using AD as an identity store, this is a seamless integration method. Appian's documentation confirms LDAP/AD as a core authentication option, widely adopted in enterprise environments-making it a strong fit.

Conclusion: The three supported authentication methods are C (SAML), E (OAuth), and F (Active Directory).

These align with Appian's enterprise-grade capabilities for legacy system integration: SAML for SSO, OAuth for API security, and AD for user management. API Keys (A) are supported but less prominent for user authentication, CAC (D) is indirect, and Biometrics (B) isn't supported natively. This selection reassures the client of Appian's flexibility with common legacy authentication standards.

References:

- \* Appian Documentation: "Authentication for Connected Systems" (OAuth, API Keys).

- \* Appian Documentation: "Configuring Authentication" (SAML, LDAP/Active Directory).

- \* Appian Lead Developer Certification: Integration Module (Authentication Methods).

## NEW QUESTION # 23

You are deciding the appropriate process model data management strategy.

For each requirement, match the appropriate strategies to implement. Each strategy will be used once.

Note: To change your responses, you may deselect your response by clicking the blank space at the top of the selection list.

Archive processes 2 days after completion or cancellation.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.  
Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Use system default (currently: auto-archive processes 7 days after completion or cancellation).

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.  
Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Delete processes 2 days after completion or cancellation.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.  
Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Do not automatically clean-up processes.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.  
Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.  
Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

**Answer:**

**Explanation:**



Archive processes 2 days after completion or cancellation.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Use system default (currently: auto-archive processes 7 days after completion or cancellation).

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Delete processes 2 days after completion or cancellation.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Do not automatically clean-up processes.

Select a match:

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.

Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.

Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Explanation:

- \* Archive processes 2 days after completion or cancellation. # Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible.
- \* Use system default (currently: auto-archive processes 7 days after completion or cancellation). # Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.
- \* Delete processes 2 days after completion or cancellation. # Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible.
- \* Do not automatically clean-up processes. # Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive.

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation: Appian provides process model data management strategies to manage the lifecycle of completed or canceled processes, balancing storage efficiency and accessibility. These strategies-archiving, using system defaults, deleting, and not cleaning up-are configured via the Appian Administration Console or process model settings. The Appian Process Management Guide outlines their purposes, enabling accurate matching.

- \* Archive processes 2 days after completion or cancellation # Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which are no longer required nor accessible:

Archiving moves processes to a compressed, off-line state after a specified period, freeing up active resources. The description "available for 2 days, then no longer required nor accessible" matches this strategy, as archived processes are stored but not immediately accessible without unarchiving, aligning with the intent to retain data briefly before purging accessibility.

- \* Use system default (currently: auto-archive processes 7 days after completion or cancellation) # Processes that remain available for 7 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible: The system default auto-archives processes after 7 days, as specified. The description

"remain available for 7 days, then remain accessible" fits this, indicating that processes are kept in an active state for 7 days before being archived, after which they can still be accessed (e.g., via unarchiving), matching the default behavior.

- \* Delete processes 2 days after completion or cancellation # Processes that need to be available for 2 days after completion or cancellation, after which remain accessible: Deletion permanently removes processes after the specified period. However, the description "available for 2 days, then remain accessible" seems contradictory since deletion implies no further access. This appears to be a misinterpretation in the options. The closest logical match, given the constraint of using each strategy once, is to assume a typo or intent to mean "no longer accessible" after deletion. However, strictly interpreting the image, no perfect match exists. Based on context, "remain accessible" likely should be

"no longer accessible," but I'll align with the most plausible intent: deletion after 2 days fits the "no longer required" aspect, though accessibility is lost post-deletion.

- \* Do not automatically clean-up processes # Processes that need remain available without the need to unarchive: Not cleaning up processes keeps them in an active state indefinitely, avoiding archiving or deletion. The description "remain available without the need

to unarchive" matches this strategy, as processes stay accessible in the system without additional steps, ideal for long-term retention or audit purposes.

Matching Rationale:

\* Each strategy is used once, as required. The matches are based on Appian's process lifecycle management: archiving for temporary retention with eventual inaccessibility, system default for a 7-day accessible period, deletion for permanent removal (adjusted for intent), and no cleanup for indefinite retention.

\* The mismatch in Option 3's description ("remain accessible" after deletion) suggests a possible error in the question's options, but the assignment follows the most logical interpretation given the constraint.

References: Appian Documentation - Process Management Guide, Appian Administration Console - Process Model Settings, Appian Lead Developer Training - Data Management Strategies.

## NEW QUESTION # 24

You have 5 applications on your Appian platform in Production. Users are now beginning to use multiple applications across the platform, and the client wants to ensure a consistent user experience across all applications.

You notice that some applications use rich text, some use section layouts, and others use box layouts. The result is that each application has a different color and size for the header.

What would you recommend to ensure consistency across the platform?

- A. In each individual application, create a rule that can be used for section headers, and update each application to reference its respective rule.
- B. In the common application, create one rule for each application, and update each application to reference its respective rule.
- C. Create constants for text size and color, and update each section to reference these values.
- **D. In the common application, create a rule that can be used across the platform for section headers, and update each application to reference this new rule.**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation: As an Appian Lead Developer, ensuring a consistent user experience across multiple applications on the Appian platform involves centralizing reusable components and adhering to Appian's design governance principles. The client's concern about inconsistent headers (e.g., different colors, sizes, layouts) across applications using rich text, section layouts, and box layouts requires a scalable, maintainable solution. Let's evaluate each option:

\* A. Create constants for text size and color, and update each section to reference these values: Using constants (e.g., `cons!TEXT_SIZE` and `cons!HEADER_COLOR`) is a good practice for managing values, but it doesn't address layout consistency (e.g., rich text vs. section layouts vs. box layouts).

Constants alone can't enforce uniform header design across applications, as they don't encapsulate layout logic (e.g., `a!sectionLayout()` vs. `a!richTextDisplayField()`). This approach would require manual updates to each application's components, increasing maintenance overhead and still risking inconsistency. Appian's documentation recommends using rules for reusable UI components, not just constants, making this insufficient.

\* B. In the common application, create a rule that can be used across the platform for section headers, and update each application to reference this new rule: This is the best recommendation. Appian supports a

"common application" (often called a shared or utility application) to store reusable objects like expression rules, which can define consistent header designs (e.g., `rule!CommonHeader(size:`

`"LARGE", color: "PRIMARY")`). By creating a single rule for headers and referencing it across all 5 applications, you ensure uniformity in layout, color, and size (e.g., using `a!sectionLayout()` or `a!`

`boxLayout()` consistently). Appian's design best practices emphasize centralizing UI components in a common application to reduce duplication, enforce standards, and simplify maintenance—perfect for achieving a consistent user experience.

\* C. In the common application, create one rule for each application, and update each application to reference its respective rule: This approach creates separate header rules for each application (e.g., `rule!`

`App1Header`, `rule!App2Header`), which contradicts the goal of consistency. While housed in the common application, it introduces variability (e.g., different colors or sizes per rule), defeating the purpose. Appian's governance guidelines advocate for a single, shared rule to maintain uniformity, making this less efficient and unnecessary.

\* D. In each individual application, create a rule that can be used for section headers, and update each application to reference its respective rule: Creating separate rules in each application (e.g., `rule!`

`App1Header` in App 1, `rule!App2Header` in App 2) leads to duplication and inconsistency, as each rule could differ in design. This approach increases maintenance effort and risks diverging styles, violating the client's requirement for a "consistent user experience." Appian's best practices discourage duplicating UI logic, favoring centralized rules in a common application instead.

Conclusion: Creating a rule in the common application for section headers and referencing it across the platform (B) ensures consistency in header design (color, size, layout) while minimizing duplication and maintenance. This leverages Appian's application

architecture for shared objects, aligning with Lead Developer standards for UI governance.

References:

- \* Appian Documentation: "Designing for Consistency Across Applications" (Common Application Best Practices).
- \* Appian Lead Developer Certification: UI Design Module (Reusable Components and Rules).
- \* Appian Best Practices: "Maintaining User Experience Consistency" (Centralized UI Rules).

The best way to ensure consistency across the platform is to create a rule that can be used across the platform for section headers. This rule can be created in the common application, and then each application can be updated to reference this rule. This will ensure that all of the applications use the same color and size for the header, which will provide a consistent user experience.

The other options are not as effective. Option A, creating constants for text size and color, and updating each section to reference these values, would require updating each section in each application. This would be a lot of work, and it would be easy to make mistakes. Option C, creating one rule for each application, would also require updating each application. This would be less work than option A, but it would still be a lot of work, and it would be easy to make mistakes. Option D, creating a rule in each individual application, would not ensure consistency across the platform. Each application would have its own rule, and the rules could be different. This would not provide a consistent user experience.

Best Practices:

- \* When designing a platform, it is important to consider the user experience. A consistent user experience will make it easier for users to learn and use the platform.
- \* When creating rules, it is important to use them consistently across the platform. This will ensure that the platform has a consistent look and feel.
- \* When updating the platform, it is important to test the changes to ensure that they do not break the user experience.

## NEW QUESTION # 25

You are just starting with a new team that has been working together on an application for months. They ask you to review some of their views that have been degrading in performance. The views are highly complex with hundreds of lines of SQL. What is the first step in troubleshooting the degradation?

- A. Go through all of the tables one by one to identify which of the grouped by, ordered by, or joined keys are currently indexed.
- B. Go through the entire database structure to obtain an overview, ensure you understand the business needs, and then normalize the tables to optimize performance.
- **C. Run an explain statement on the views, identify critical areas of improvement that can be remediated without business knowledge.**
- D. Browse through the tables, note any tables that contain a large volume of null values, and work with your team to plan for table restructure.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation: Troubleshooting performance degradation in complex SQL views within an Appian application requires a systematic approach. The views, described as having hundreds of lines of SQL, suggest potential issues with query execution, indexing, or join efficiency. As a new team member, the first step should focus on quickly identifying the root cause without overhauling the system prematurely. Appian's Performance Troubleshooting Guide and database optimization best practices provide the framework for this process.

\* Option B (Run an explain statement on the views, identify critical areas of improvement that can be remediated without business knowledge): This is the recommended first step. Running an EXPLAIN statement (or equivalent, such as EXPLAIN PLAN in some databases) analyzes the query execution plan, revealing details like full table scans, missing indices, or inefficient joins. This technical analysis can identify immediate optimization opportunities (e.g., adding indices or rewriting subqueries) without requiring business input, allowing you to address low-hanging fruit quickly. Appian encourages using database tools to diagnose performance issues before involving stakeholders, making this a practical starting point as you familiarize yourself with the application.

\* Option A (Go through the entire database structure to obtain an overview, ensure you understand the business needs, and then normalize the tables to optimize performance): This is too broad and time-consuming as a first step. Understanding business needs and normalizing tables are valuable but require collaboration with the team and stakeholders, delaying action. It's better suited for a later phase after initial technical analysis.

\* Option C (Go through all of the tables one by one to identify which of the grouped by, ordered by, or joined keys are currently indexed): Manually checking indices is useful but inefficient without first knowing which queries are problematic. The EXPLAIN statement provides targeted insights into index usage, making it a more direct initial step than a manual table-by-table review.

\* Option D (Browse through the tables, note any tables that contain a large volume of null values, and work with your team to plan for table restructure): Identifying null values and planning restructures is a long-term optimization strategy, not a first step. It requires team input and may not address the immediate performance degradation, which is better tackled with query-level diagnostics. Starting with an EXPLAIN statement allows you to gather data-driven insights, align with Appian's performance troubleshooting



References: Appian Documentation - Performance Troubleshooting Guide, Appian Lead Developer Training - Database Optimization, MySQL/PostgreSQL Documentation - EXPLAIN Statement.

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