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## **Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate Exam Sample Questions (Q43-Q48):**

**NEW QUESTION # 43**

How can you send metrics from your Prometheus setup to a remote system, e.g., for long-term storage?

- A. With "remote write"
- B. With "federation"
- C. With "scraping"
- D. With S3 Buckets

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

Prometheus provides a feature called Remote Write to transmit scraped and processed metrics to an external system for long-term storage, aggregation, or advanced analytics. When configured, Prometheus continuously pushes time series data to the remote endpoint defined in the `remote_write` section of the configuration file.

This mechanism is often used to integrate with long-term data storage backends such as Cortex, Thanos, Mimir, or InfluxDB, enabling durable retention and global query capabilities beyond Prometheus's local time series database limits.

In contrast, "scraping" refers to data collection from targets, while "federation" allows hierarchical Prometheus setups (pulling metrics from other Prometheus instances) but does not serve as long-term storage. Using "S3 Buckets" directly is also unsupported in native Prometheus configurations.

Reference:

Extracted and verified from Prometheus documentation - Remote Write/Read APIs and Long-Term Storage Integrations sections.

#### NEW QUESTION # 44

Which PromQL expression computes the rate of API Server requests across the different cloud providers from the following metrics?

```
apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver", instance="192.168.1.220:6443", cloud="aws"} 1
apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver", instance="192.168.1.121:6443", cloud="gcloud"} 5
```

- A. `sum by (cloud)(rate(apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver"}[5m]))`
- B. `sum by (cloud) (apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver"})`
- C. `rate(apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver"}[5m]) by (cloud)`
- D. `rate(sum by (cloud)(apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver"}))[5m])`

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The `rate()` function computes the per-second increase of a counter metric over a specified range, while `sum by (label)` aggregates those rates across dimensions - in this case, the cloud label.

The correct query is:

`sum by (cloud)(rate(apiserver_request_total{job="kube-apiserver"}[5m]))` This expression:

Calculates the rate of increase in API requests per second for each instance.

Groups and sums those rates by cloud, giving the total request rate per cloud provider.

Option A incorrectly places `by (cloud)` after `rate()`, which is not valid syntax.

Option B returns raw counter totals (not rates).

Option D incorrectly applies `rate()` after aggregation, which distorts the calculation since `rate()` must operate on individual time series before aggregation.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - `rate()` Function, Aggregation Operators, and Querying Counters Across Labels sections.

#### NEW QUESTION # 45

What is the maximum number of Alertmanagers that can be added to a Prometheus instance?

- A. 0
- B. 1
- C. 2
- D. More than 3

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

Prometheus supports integration with multiple Alertmanager instances for redundancy and high availability. The alerting section of the Prometheus configuration file (prometheus.yml) allows specifying a list of Alertmanager targets, enabling Prometheus to send alerts to several Alertmanager nodes simultaneously.

There is no hard-coded limit on the number of Alertmanagers that can be added. The typical best practice is to run a minimum of three Alertmanagers in a clustered setup to achieve fault tolerance and ensure reliable alert delivery, but Prometheus can be configured with more than three if desired.

Each Alertmanager node in the cluster communicates state information (active, silenced, inhibited alerts) with its peers to maintain consistency.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Alertmanager Integration, High Availability Setup, and Prometheus Configuration - alerting Section.

#### NEW QUESTION # 46

Given the metric `prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds`, how do you know in which month the lowest timestamp of your Prometheus TSDB belongs?

- A. `month(prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds)`
- B. `(time() - prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds) / 86400`
- C. `prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds % month`
- D. `format_date(prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds, "%M")`

Answer: B

Explanation:

The metric `prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds` provides the oldest stored sample timestamp in Prometheus's local TSDB (in Unix epoch seconds). To determine the age or approximate date of this timestamp, you compare it with the current time (using `time()` in PromQL).

The expression:

`(time() - prometheus_tsdb_lowest_timestamp_seconds) / 86400`

converts the difference between the current time and the oldest timestamp from seconds into days (1 day = 86,400 seconds). This gives the number of days since the earliest sample was stored, allowing you to infer the time range and approximate month manually. The other options are invalid because PromQL does not support direct date formatting (`format_date`) or month() extraction functions.

Reference:

Extracted and verified from Prometheus documentation - TSDB Internal Metrics, Time Functions in PromQL, and Using `time()` for Relative Calculations.

#### NEW QUESTION # 47

Which Prometheus component handles service discovery?

- A. Node Exporter
- B. Alertmanager
- C. Pushgateway
- D. Prometheus Server

Answer: D

Explanation:

The Prometheus Server is responsible for service discovery, which identifies the list of targets to scrape. It integrates with multiple service discovery mechanisms such as Kubernetes, Consul, EC2, and static configurations.

This allows Prometheus to automatically adapt to dynamic environments without manual reconfiguration.

#### NEW QUESTION # 48

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