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Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Sample Questions (Q14-Q19):

NEW QUESTION # 14

Which step is required to configure a proxy for an XDR Collector?

- A. Edit the YAML configuration file with the new proxy information
- B. Restart the XDR Collector after configuring the proxy settings
- C. Connect the XDR Collector to the Pathfinder
- D. Configure the proxy settings on the Cortex XDR tenant

Answer: A

Explanation:

The XDR Collector in Cortex XDR is a lightweight tool for collecting logs and events from servers and endpoints. When a proxy is required for the XDR Collector to communicate with the Cortex XDR cloud, the proxy settings must be configured in the collector's configuration file. Specifically, the YAML configuration file (e.g., config.yaml) must be edited to include the proxy details, such as the proxy server's address, port, and authentication credentials (if required).

* Correct Answer Analysis (A): To configure a proxy for the XDR Collector, the engineer must edit the YAML configuration file with

the new proxy information. This involves adding or updating the proxy settings in the file, which the collector uses to route its traffic through the specified proxy server.

* Why not the other options?

* B. Restart the XDR Collector after configuring the proxy settings: While restarting the collector may be necessary to apply changes, it is not the primary step required to configure the proxy. The YAML file must be edited first.

* C. Connect the XDR Collector to the Pathfinder: The Pathfinder is a Cortex XDR feature for discovering endpoints, not for configuring proxy settings for the XDR Collector.

* D. Configure the proxy settings on the Cortex XDR tenant: Proxy settings for the XDR Collector are configured locally on the collector, not in the Cortex XDR tenant's web interface.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains XDR Collector configuration: "To configure a proxy for the XDR Collector, edit the YAML configuration file to include the proxy server details, such as address and port" (paraphrased from the XDR Collector Configuration section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers XDR Collector setup, stating that "proxy settings are configured by editing the collector's YAML file" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "data ingestion and integration" as a key exam topic, encompassing XDR Collector configuration.

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

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

NEW QUESTION # 15

When onboarding a Palo Alto Networks NGFW to Cortex XDR, what must be done to confirm that logs are being ingested successfully after a device is selected and verified?

- A. Wait for an incident that involves the NGFW to populate
- B. Retrieve device certificate from NGFW dashboard
- C. Confirm that the selected device has a valid certificate
- D. Conduct an XQL query for NGFW log data

Answer: D

Explanation:

When onboarding a Palo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW) to Cortex XDR, the process involves selecting and verifying the device to ensure it can send logs to Cortex XDR. After this step, confirming successful log ingestion is critical to validate the integration. The most direct and reliable method to confirm ingestion is to query the ingested logs using XQL (XDR Query Language), which allows the engineer to search for NGFW log data in Cortex XDR.

* Correct Answer Analysis (A): Conduct an XQL query for NGFW log data is the correct action.

After onboarding, the engineer can run an XQL query such as dataset = panw_ngfw_logs | limit 10 to check if NGFW logs are present in Cortex XDR. This confirms that logs are being successfully ingested and stored in the appropriate dataset, ensuring the integration is working as expected.

* Why not the other options?

* B. Wait for an incident that involves the NGFW to populate: Waiting for an incident is not a reliable or proactive method to confirm log ingestion. Incidents depend on detection rules and may not occur immediately, even if logs are being ingested.

* C. Confirm that the selected device has a valid certificate: While a valid certificate is necessary during the onboarding process (e.g., for secure communication), this step is part of the verification process, not a method to confirm log ingestion after verification.

* D. Retrieve device certificate from NGFW dashboard: Retrieving the device certificate from the NGFW dashboard is unrelated to confirming log ingestion in Cortex XDR. Certificates are managed during setup, not for post-onboarding validation.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains NGFW log ingestion validation: "To confirm successful ingestion of Palo Alto Networks NGFW logs, run an XQL query (e.g., dataset = panw_ngfw_logs) to verify that log data is present in Cortex XDR" (paraphrased from the Data Ingestion section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers NGFW integration, stating that "XQL queries are used to validate that NGFW logs are being ingested after onboarding" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "data ingestion and integration" as a key exam topic, encompassing log ingestion validation.

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

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

NEW QUESTION # 16

Which components may be included in a Cortex XDR content update?

- A. Device control profiles, agent versions, and kernel support
- B. Antivirus definitions and agent versions
- C. Behavioral Threat Protection (BTP) rules and local analysis logic
- D. Firewall rules and antivirus definitions

Answer: C

Explanation:

Cortex XDR content updates deliver enhancements to the platform's detection and prevention capabilities, including updates to rules, logic, and other components that improve threat detection without requiring a full agent upgrade. These updates are distinct from agent software updates (which change the agent version) or firewall configurations.

* Correct Answer Analysis (B): Cortex XDR content updates typically include Behavioral Threat Protection (BTP) rules and local analysis logic. BTP rules define patterns for detecting advanced threats based on endpoint behavior, while local analysis logic enhances the agent's ability to analyze files and activities locally, improving detection accuracy and performance.

* Why not the other options?

* A. Device control profiles, agent versions, and kernel support: Device control profiles are part of policy configurations, not content updates. Agent versions are updated via software upgrades, not content updates. Kernel support may be included in agent upgrades, not content updates.

* C. Antivirus definitions and agent versions: Antivirus definitions are associated with traditional AV solutions, not Cortex XDR's behavior-based approach. Agent versions are updated separately, not as part of content updates.

* D. Firewall rules and antivirus definitions: Firewall rules are managed by Palo Alto Networks firewalls, not Cortex XDR content updates. Antivirus definitions are not relevant to Cortex XDR's detection mechanisms.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes content updates: "Content updates include Behavioral Threat Protection (BTP) rules and local analysis logic to enhance detection capabilities" (paraphrased from the Content Updates section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers content management, stating that "content updates deliver BTP rules and local analysis enhancements to improve threat detection" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "post-deployment management and configuration" as a key exam topic, encompassing content updates.

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
Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education>

NEW QUESTION # 17

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. Simulated Compute Units
- C. Compute Unit Quota
- 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 Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/certification/xdr-engineer>

NEW QUESTION # 18

A security audit determines that the Windows Cortex XDR host-based firewall is not blocking outbound RDP connections for certain remote workers. The audit report confirms the following:

* All devices are running healthy Cortex XDR agents.

* A single host-based firewall rule to block all outbound RDP is implemented.

* The policy hosting the profile containing the rule applies to all Windows endpoints.

* The logic within the firewall rule is adequate.

* Further testing concludes RDP is successfully being blocked on all devices tested at company HQ.

* Network location configuration in Agent Settings is enabled on all Windows endpoints. What is the likely reason the RDP connections are not being blocked?

- A. The pertinent host-based firewall rule group is only applied to internal rule groups
- B. Report mode is set to Enabled in the report settings under the profile configuration
- C. The profile's default action for outbound traffic is set to Allow
- D. The pertinent host-based firewall rule group is only applied to external rule groups

Answer: A

Explanation:

Cortex XDR's host-based firewall feature allows administrators to define rules to control network traffic on endpoints, such as blocking outbound Remote Desktop Protocol (RDP) connections (typically on TCP port 3389). The firewall rules are organized into rule groups, which can be applied based on the endpoint's network location (e.g., internal or external). The network location configuration in Agent Settings determines whether an endpoint is considered internal (e.g., on the company network at HQ) or external (e.g., remote workers on a public network). The audit confirms that a rule to block outbound RDP exists, the rule logic is correct, and it works at HQ but not for remote workers.

* Correct Answer Analysis (D): The likely reason RDP connections are not being blocked for remote workers is that the pertinent host-based firewall rule group is only applied to internal rule groups.

Since network location configuration is enabled, Cortex XDR distinguishes between internal (e.g., HQ) and external (e.g., remote workers) networks. If the firewall rule group containing the RDP block rule is applied only to internal rule groups, it will only take effect for endpoints at HQ (internal network), as confirmed by the audit. Remote workers, on an external network, would not be subject to this rule group, allowing their outbound RDP connections to proceed.

* Why not the other options?

* A. The profile's default action for outbound traffic is set to Allow: While a default action of Allow could permit traffic not matched by a rule, the audit confirms the RDP block rule's logic is adequate and works at HQ. This suggests the rule is being applied correctly for internal endpoints, but not for external ones, pointing to a rule group scoping issue rather than the default action.

* B. The pertinent host-based firewall rule group is only applied to external rule groups: If the rule group were applied only to external rule groups, remote workers (on external networks) would have RDP blocked, but the audit shows the opposite—RDP is blocked at HQ (internal) but not for remote workers.

* C. Report mode is set to Enabled in the report settings under the profile configuration: If report mode were enabled, the firewall

rule would only log RDP traffic without blocking it, but this would affect all endpoints (both HQ and remote workers). The audit shows RDP is blocked at HQ, so report mode is not enabled.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains host-based firewall configuration: "Firewall rule groups can be applied to internal or external network locations, as determined by the network location configuration in Agent Settings. Rules applied to internal rule groups will not affect endpoints on external networks" (paraphrased from the Host-Based Firewall section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers firewall rules, stating that "network location settings determine whether a rule group applies to internal or external endpoints, impacting rule enforcement" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "Cortex XDR agent configuration" as a key exam topic, encompassing host-based firewall settings.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/>
EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment Course Objectives
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NEW QUESTION # 19

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Because the query is processed by the server where the database engine is XDR-Engineer located and not on the clients' machine, a company can throw money into a powerful server and all the clients will benefit from the extra muscle.

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