

New Linux Foundation PCA Exam Review, PCA Reliable Test Materials



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Linux Foundation PCA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Alerting and Dashboarding: This section of the exam assesses the competencies of Cloud Operations Engineers and focuses on monitoring visualization and alert management. It covers dashboarding basics, alerting rules configuration, and the use of Alertmanager to handle notifications. Candidates also learn the core principles of when, what, and why to trigger alerts, ensuring they can create reliable monitoring dashboards and proactive alerting systems to maintain system stability.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Observability Concepts: This section of the exam measures the skills of Site Reliability Engineers and covers the essential principles of observability used in modern systems. It focuses on understanding metrics, logs, and tracing mechanisms such as spans, as well as the difference between push and pull data collection methods. Candidates also learn about service discovery processes and the fundamentals of defining and maintaining SLOs, SLAs, and SLIs to monitor performance and reliability.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Instrumentation and Exporters: This domain evaluates the abilities of Software Engineers and addresses the methods for integrating Prometheus into applications. It includes the use of client libraries, the process of instrumenting code, and the proper structuring and naming of metrics. The section also introduces exporters that allow Prometheus to collect metrics from various systems, ensuring efficient and standardized monitoring implementation.

Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PromQL: This section of the exam measures the skills of Monitoring Specialists and focuses on Prometheus Query Language (PromQL) concepts. It covers data selection, calculating rates and derivatives, and performing aggregations across time and dimensions. Candidates also study the use of binary operators, histograms, and timestamp metrics to analyze monitoring data effectively, ensuring accurate interpretation of system performance and trends.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prometheus Fundamentals: This domain evaluates the knowledge of DevOps Engineers and emphasizes the core architecture and components of Prometheus. It includes topics such as configuration and scraping techniques, limitations of the Prometheus system, data models and labels, and the exposition format used for data collection. The section ensures a solid grasp of how Prometheus functions as a monitoring and alerting toolkit within distributed environments.

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Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate Exam Sample Questions (Q47-Q52):

NEW QUESTION # 47

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

Answer: D

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 # 48

Which of the following is an invalid `@` modifier expression?

- A. `sum(http_requests_total{method="GET"}) @ 1609746000`
- B. `sum(http_requests_total{method="GET"} @ 1609746000)`
- C. `go_goroutines @ end()`
- D. `go_goroutines @ start()`

Answer: B

Explanation:

The `@` modifier in PromQL allows querying data as it existed at a specific point in time rather than the evaluation time. It can be applied after a selector or an entire expression, but the syntax rules are strict.

- `go_goroutines @ start()` → Valid; queries value at the start of the evaluation range.
- `sum(http_requests_total{method="GET"}) @ 1609746000` → Valid; applies the modifier after the full expression.
- `go_goroutines @ end()` → Valid; queries value at the end of the evaluation range.
- `sum(http_requests_total{method="GET"} @ 1609746000)` → Invalid, because the `@` modifier cannot appear inside the selector braces; it must appear after the selector or aggregation expression.

This invalid placement violates PromQL's syntax grammar for subquery and modifier ordering.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - PromQL `@` Modifier Syntax, Evaluation Modifiers, and PromQL Expression Grammar sections.

NEW QUESTION # 49

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

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

Answer: B

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 # 50

What is the difference between client libraries and exporters?

- A. Exporters expose metrics for scraping. Client libraries push metrics via Remote Write.
- B. Exporters and client libraries mean the same thing.
- C. Exporters are written in Go. Client libraries are written in many languages.
- **D. Exporters run next to the services to monitor, and use client libraries internally.**

Answer: D

Explanation:

The fundamental difference between Prometheus client libraries and exporters lies in how and where they are used.

Client libraries are integrated directly into the application's codebase. They allow developers to instrument their own code to define and expose custom metrics. Prometheus provides official client libraries for multiple languages, including Go, Java, Python, and Ruby.

Exporters, on the other hand, are standalone processes that run alongside the applications or systems they monitor. They use client libraries internally to collect and expose metrics from software that cannot be instrumented directly (e.g., operating systems, databases, or third-party services). Examples include the Node Exporter (for system metrics) and MySQL Exporter (for database metrics).

Thus, exporters are typically used for external systems, while client libraries are used for self-instrumented applications.

Reference:

myportal.utt.edu.tt, myportal.utt.edu.tt, myportal.utt.edu.tt, myportal.utt.edu.tt, Disposable vapes