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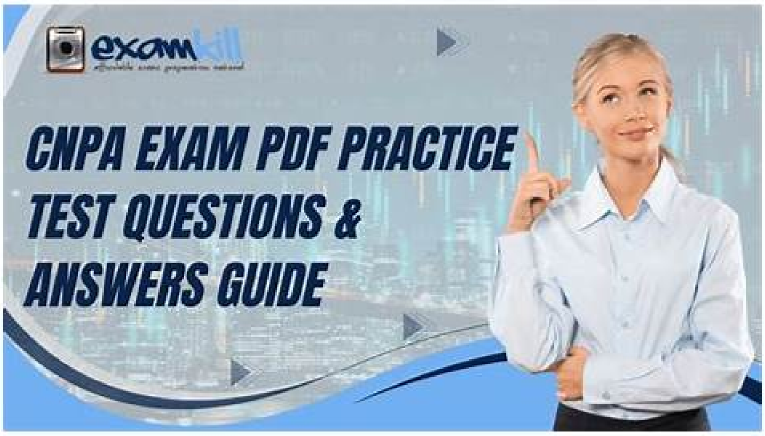

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Linux Foundation CNPA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• Platform APIs and Provisioning Infrastructure: This part of the exam evaluates Procurement Specialists on the use of Kubernetes reconciliation loops, APIs for self-service platforms, and infrastructure provisioning with Kubernetes. It also assesses knowledge of the Kubernetes operator pattern for integration and platform scalability.
Topic 2	• Platform Observability, Security, and Conformance: This part of the exam evaluates Procurement Specialists on key aspects of observability and security. It includes working with traces, metrics, logs, and events while ensuring secure service communication. Policy engines, Kubernetes security essentials, and protection in CI • CD pipelines are also assessed here.
Topic 3	• Measuring your Platform: This part of the exam assesses Procurement Specialists on how to measure platform efficiency and team productivity. It includes knowledge of applying DORA metrics for platform initiatives and monitoring outcomes to align with organizational goals.
Topic 4	• Continuous Delivery & Platform Engineering: This section measures the skills of Supplier Management Consultants and focuses on continuous integration pipelines, the fundamentals of the CI • CD relationship, and GitOps basics. It also includes knowledge of workflows, incident response in platform engineering, and applying GitOps for application environments.

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Free PDF Quiz 2026 Pass-Sure Linux Foundation CNPA: Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate Certification Test Answers

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Linux Foundation Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate Sample Questions (Q58-Q63):

NEW QUESTION # 58
A platform team is deciding whether to invest engineering time into automating cluster autoscaling. Which of the following best justifies making this automation a priority?

- A. Manual upgrade tasks help platform teams stay familiar with system internals.
- B. Automation tools are better than manual processes, regardless of context.
- C. Most engineers prefer doing upgrade tasks manually and prefer to review each one.
- D. Cluster autoscaling is a repetitive task that increases toil when done manually.

Answer: D

Explanation:
Automation in platform engineering is primarily about reducing repetitive manual work, or toil, which consumes engineering capacity and increases the risk of human error. Option A is correct because cluster autoscaling-adjusting resources to meet workload demand-is a repetitive, ongoing task that is better handled through automation. Automating this process ensures scalability, efficiency, and reliability while freeing platform teams to focus on higher-value work.
Option B may provide learning opportunities but is not a sustainable justification. Option C is subjective and inefficient, while Option D is overly broad-automation should be applied thoughtfully to tasks that bring measurable benefits.
Automating autoscaling aligns with cloud native best practices, ensuring workloads can respond elastically to demand changes while maintaining cost efficiency. This reduces manual overhead, improves resiliency, and supports the developer experience by ensuring resource availability.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- SRE Principles on Eliminating Toil- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 59
What is the primary purpose of Kubernetes runtime security?

- A. Manages the access control to the Kubernetes API.
- B. Encrypts the sensitive data stored in etcd.
- C. Scans container images before deployment.
- D. Protects workloads against threats during execution.

Answer: D

Explanation:
The main purpose of Kubernetes runtime security is to protect workloads during execution. Option B is correct because runtime security focuses on monitoring active Pods, containers, and processes to detect and prevent malicious activity such as privilege escalation, anomalous network connections, or unauthorized file access.
Option A (etcd encryption) addresses data at rest, not runtime. Option C (image scanning) occurs pre- deployment, not during execution. Option D (API access control) is enforced through RBAC and IAM, not runtime security.
Runtime security solutions (e.g., Falco, Cilium, or Kyverno) continuously observe system calls, network traffic, and workload behaviors to enforce policies and detect threats in real time. This ensures compliance, strengthens defenses in zero-trust environments, and provides critical protection for cloud native workloads in production.
References:- CNCF Security TAG Guidance- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 60
A platform engineering team needs to provide comprehensive cost visibility for Kubernetes workloads to optimize infrastructure utilization. Which tool is recommended to achieve this goal?

- A. Cloud provider cost estimation tools with basic Kubernetes integration.
- B. Application performance monitoring tools with limited resource cost tracking.
- C. Kubernetes resource usage metrics paired with cloud provider billing data.

- D. OpenCost for real-time, granular Kubernetes cost allocation and analysis.

Answer: D

Explanation:
OpenCost is the CNCF-supported open-source project designed specifically for Kubernetes cost visibility and optimization. Option B is correct because OpenCost provides granular, real-time allocation of Kubernetes costs across namespaces, workloads, and teams. This allows organizations to understand true cost drivers and optimize resource utilization effectively.
Option A (APM tools) may track performance but usually lack deep integration with Kubernetes cost allocation. Option C provides partial visibility but requires complex manual correlation of resource usage with billing data. Option D (cloud provider estimators) typically offer limited or high-level insights and do not map costs down to Kubernetes workloads.
By adopting OpenCost, platform teams can align financial accountability with engineering usage, a practice known as FinOps. This supports sustainable scaling, cost efficiency, and transparency-critical aspects of measuring platform success.
References:- CNCF OpenCost Project- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 61
Why is centralized configuration management important in a multi-cluster GitOps setup?

- A. It requires all clusters to have the exact same configuration, including secrets and environment variables, to maintain uniformity.
- B. It eliminates the need for automated deployment tools like Argo CD or Flux since configurations are already stored centrally.
- C. It ensures consistent and auditable management of configurations and policies across clusters from a single Git repository or set of coordinated repositories.
- D. It makes it impossible for different teams to customize configurations for specific clusters, reducing flexibility.

Answer: C

Explanation:
In a GitOps-driven multi-cluster environment, centralized configuration management ensures that platform teams can maintain consistency, governance, and security across multiple clusters, all while leveraging Git as the single source of truth. Option B is correct because centralization allows teams to enforce policies, apply configurations, and audit changes across environments in a traceable and reproducible way. This supports compliance, as every change is version-controlled, peer-reviewed, and automatically reconciled by tools like Argo CD or Flux.
Option A is misleading-centralized management does not mean clusters must have identical configurations; it enables consistent patterns while still allowing environment-specific overlays or customizations (e.g., dev vs. prod). Option C is incorrect because GitOps tools remain essential for continuous reconciliation between desired and actual state. Option D is also incorrect because centralized management does not remove flexibility-it supports parameterization and customization per cluster.
By combining centralization with declarative configuration and GitOps automation, organizations gain operational efficiency, faster recovery from drift, and improved auditability in multi-cluster scenarios.
References:- CNCF GitOps Principles for Platforms- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 62
What is the primary purpose of using multiple environments (e.g., development, staging, production) in a cloud native platform?

- A. Ensures all applications use the same infrastructure.
- B. Increases application performance by distributing traffic.
- C. Reduces cloud costs by running applications in different locations.
- D. Isolates different stages of application development and deployment

Answer: D

Explanation:
The primary reason for implementing multiple environments in cloud native platforms is to isolate the different phases of the software development lifecycle. Option A is correct because environments such as development, staging, and production enable testing and validation at each stage without impacting end users. Development environments allow rapid iteration, staging environments simulate production for integration and performance testing, and production environments serve real users.
Option B (reducing costs) may be a side effect but is not the main purpose. Option C (distributing traffic) relates more to load

balancing and high availability, not environment separation. Option D is the opposite of the goal-different environments often require tailored infrastructure to meet their distinct purposes.
Isolation through multiple environments is fundamental to reducing risk, supporting continuous delivery, and ensuring stability. This practice also allows for compliance checks, automated testing, and user acceptance validation before changes reach production.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Team Topologies & Platform Engineering Guidance- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 63
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