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Exam : XDR Engineer

Title : Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer

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Palo Alto Networks XDR-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintenance and Troubleshooting: This section of the exam measures skills of the XDR engineer and covers managing software component updates for Cortex XDR, such as content, agents, Collectors, and Broker VM. It also includes troubleshooting data management issues like data ingestion and parsing, as well as resolving issues with Cortex XDR components to ensure ongoing system reliability and performance.
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cortex XDR Agent Configuration: This section of the exam measures skills of the XDR engineer and covers configuring endpoint prevention profiles and policies, setting up endpoint extension profiles, and managing endpoint groups. The focus is on ensuring endpoints are properly protected and policies are consistently applied across the organization.
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ingestion and Automation: This section of the exam measures skills of the security engineer and covers onboarding various data sources including NGFW, network, cloud, and identity systems. It also includes managing simple automation rules, configuring Broker VM applets and clusters, setting up XDR Collectors, and creating parsing rules for data normalization and automation within the Cortex XDR environment.
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Detection and Reporting: This section of the exam measures skills of the detection engineer and covers creating detection rules to meet security requirements, including correlation, custom prevention rules, and the use of behavioral indicators of compromise (BIOCs) and indicators of compromise (IOCs). It also assesses configuring exceptions and exclusions, as well as building custom dashboards and reporting templates for effective threat detection and reporting.
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Planning and Installation: This section of the exam measures skills of the security engineer and covers the deployment process, objectives, and required resources such as hardware, software, data sources, and integrations for Cortex XDR. It also includes understanding and explaining the deployment and functionality of components like the XDR agent, Broker VM, XDR Collector, and Cloud Identity Engine. Additionally, it assesses the ability to configure user roles, permissions, and access controls, as well as knowledge of data retention and compute unit considerations.

Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Sample Questions (Q16-Q21):

NEW QUESTION # 16

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

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

Answer: B

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/certification#xdr-engineer>

NEW QUESTION # 17

After deploying Cortex XDR agents to a large group of endpoints, some of the endpoints have a partially protected status. In which two places can insights into what is contributing to this status be located? (Choose two.)

- A. All Endpoints page
- B. Asset Inventory
- C. Management Audit Logs
- D. XQL query of the endpoints dataset

Answer: A,D

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, a partially protected status for an endpoint indicates that some agent components or protection modules (e.g., malware protection, exploit prevention) are not fully operational, possibly due to compatibility issues, missing prerequisites, or configuration errors. To troubleshoot this status, engineers need to identify the specific components or issues affecting the endpoint, which can be done by examining detailed endpoint data and status information.

* Correct Answer Analysis (B, C):

* B. XQL query of the endpoints dataset: An XQL (XDR Query Language) query against the endpoints dataset (e.g., dataset = endpoints | filter endpoint_status =

"PARTIALLY_PROTECTED" | fields endpoint_name, protection_status_details) provides detailed insights into the reasons for the partially protected status. The endpoints dataset includes fields like protection_status_details, which specify which modules are not functioning and why.

* C. All Endpoints page: The All Endpoints page in the Cortex XDR console displays a list of all endpoints with their statuses, including those that are partially protected. Clicking into an endpoint's details reveals specific information about the protection status, such as which modules are disabled or encountering issues, helping identify the cause of the status.

* Why not the other options?

* A. Management Audit Logs: Management Audit Logs track administrative actions (e.g., policy changes, agent installations), but they do not provide detailed insights into the endpoint's protection status or the reasons for partial protection.

* D. Asset Inventory: Asset Inventory provides an overview of assets (e.g., hardware, software) but does not specifically detail the protection status of Cortex XDR agents or the reasons for partial protection.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains troubleshooting partially protected endpoints: "Use the All Endpoints page to view detailed protection status, and run an XQL query against the endpoints dataset to identify specific issues contributing to a partially protected status" (paraphrased from the Endpoint Management section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers endpoint troubleshooting, stating that "the All Endpoints page and XQL queries of the endpoints dataset provide insights into partial protection issues" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "maintenance and troubleshooting" as a key exam topic, encompassing endpoint status investigation.

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 # 18

The most recent Cortex XDR agents are being installed at a newly acquired company. A list with endpoint types (i.e., OS, hardware, software) is provided to the engineer. What should be cross-referenced for the Linux systems listed regarding the OS types and OS versions supported?

- A. Kernel Module Version Support
- B. Content Compatibility Matrix
- C. Agent Installer Certificate
- D. End-of-Life Summary

Answer: A

Explanation:

When installing Cortex XDR agents on Linux systems, ensuring compatibility with the operating system (OS) type and version is critical, especially for the most recent agent versions. Linux systems require specific kernel module support because the Cortex XDR agent relies on kernel modules for core functionality, such as process monitoring, file system protection, and network filtering. The Kernel Module Version Support documentation provides detailed information on which Linux distributions (e.g., Ubuntu, CentOS, RHEL) and kernel versions are supported by the Cortex XDR agent, ensuring the agent can operate effectively on the target systems.

* Correct Answer Analysis (B): The Kernel Module Version Support should be cross-referenced for Linux systems to verify that the OS types (e.g., Ubuntu, CentOS) and specific kernel versions listed are supported by the Cortex XDR agent. This ensures that the agent's kernel modules, which are essential for protection features, are compatible with the Linux endpoints at the newly acquired company.

* Why not the other options?

* A. Content Compatibility Matrix: A Content Compatibility Matrix typically details compatibility between content updates (e.g., Behavioral Threat Protection rules) and agent versions, not OS or kernel compatibility for Linux systems.

* C. End-of-Life Summary: The End-of-Life Summary provides information on agent versions or OS versions that are no longer supported by Palo Alto Networks, but it is not the primary resource for checking current OS and kernel compatibility.

* D. Agent Installer Certificate: The Agent Installer Certificate relates to the cryptographic verification of the agent installer package, not to OS or kernel compatibility.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains Linux agent requirements: "For Linux systems, cross- reference the Kernel Module Version Support to ensure compatibility with supported OS types and kernel versions" (paraphrased from the Linux Agent Deployment section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers Linux agent installation, stating that "Kernel Module Version Support lists compatible Linux distributions and kernel versions for Cortex XDR agents" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "planning and installation" as a key exam topic, encompassing Linux agent compatibility checks.

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 # 19

In addition to using valid authentication credentials, what is required to enable the setup of the Database Collector applet on the Broker VM to ingest database activity?

- A. Valid SQL query targeting the desired data
- B. Database schema exported in the correct format
- C. Access to the database audit log
- D. Access to the database transaction log

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Database Collector applet on the Broker VM in Cortex XDR is used to ingest database activity logs by querying the database directly. To set up the applet, valid authentication credentials (e.g., username and password) are required to connect to the database. Additionally, a valid SQL query must be provided to specify the data to be collected, such as specific tables, columns, or events (e.g., login activity or data modifications).

* Correct Answer Analysis (A): A valid SQL query targeting the desired data is required to configure the Database Collector applet. The query defines which database records or events are retrieved and sent to Cortex XDR for analysis. This ensures the applet collects only the relevant data, optimizing ingestion and analysis.

* Why not the other options?

* B. Access to the database audit log: While audit logs may contain relevant activity, the Database Collector applet queries the database directly using SQL, not by accessing audit logs.

Audit logs are typically ingested via other methods, such as Filebeat or syslog.

* C. Database schema exported in the correct format: The Database Collector does not require an exported schema. The SQL query defines the data structure implicitly, and Cortex XDR maps the queried data to its schema during ingestion.

* D. Access to the database transaction log: Transaction logs are used for database recovery or replication, not for direct data collection by the Database Collector applet, which relies on SQL queries.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes the Database Collector applet: "To configure the Database Collector, provide valid authentication credentials and a valid SQL query to retrieve the desired database activity" (paraphrased from the Broker VM Applets section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers data ingestion, stating that "the Database Collector applet requires a SQL query to specify the data to ingest from the database" (paraphrased from course materials).

The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "data ingestion and integration" as a key exam topic, encompassing Database 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 # 20

What will enable a custom prevention rule to block specific behavior?

- A. A correlation rule added to a Malware profile
- B. A custom behavioral indicator of compromise (BIOC) added to a Restriction profile
- C. A correlation rule added to an Agent Blocking profile
- D. A custom behavioral indicator of compromise (BIOC) added to an Exploit profile

Answer: B

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, custom prevention rules are used to block specific behaviors or activities on endpoints by leveraging Behavioral Indicators of Compromise (BIOCs). BIOCs define patterns of behavior (e.g., specific process executions, file modifications, or network activities) that, when detected, can trigger preventive actions, such as blocking a process or isolating an endpoint. These BIOC are typically associated with a Restriction profile, which enforces blocking actions for matched behaviors.

* Correct Answer Analysis (C): A custom behavioral indicator of compromise (BIOC) added to a Restriction profile enables a custom prevention rule to block specific behavior. The BIOC defines the behavior to detect (e.g., a process accessing a sensitive file), and the Restriction profile specifies the preventive action (e.g., block the process). This configuration ensures that the identified behavior is blocked on endpoints where the profile is applied.

* Why not the other options?

* A. A correlation rule added to an Agent Blocking profile: Correlation rules are used to generate alerts by correlating events across datasets, not to block behaviors directly. There is no "Agent Blocking profile" in Cortex XDR; this is a misnomer.

* B. A custom behavioral indicator of compromise (BIOC) added to an Exploit profile:

Exploit profiles are used to detect and prevent exploit-based attacks (e.g., memory corruption), not general behavioral patterns defined by BIOC. BIOC are associated with Restriction profiles for blocking behaviors.

* D. A correlation rule added to a Malware profile: Correlation rules do not directly block behaviors; they generate alerts. Malware profiles focus on file-based threats (e.g., executables analyzed by WildFire), not behavioral blocking via BIOC.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains BIOC and Restriction profiles: "Custom BIOC can be added to Restriction profiles to block specific behaviors on endpoints, enabling tailored prevention rules" (paraphrased from the BIOC and Restriction Profile sections). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers prevention rules, stating that "BIOCs in Restriction profiles enable blocking of specific endpoint behaviors" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "detection engineering" as a key exam topic, encompassing BIOC and prevention rule 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 # 21

Our XDR-Engineer preparation exam have assembled a team of professional experts incorporating domestic and overseas experts and scholars to research and design related exam bank, committing great efforts to help the candidates to pass the XDR-Engineer exam. Most of the experts have been studying in the professional field for many years and have accumulated much experience in our XDR-Engineer Practice Questions. Our company is considerably cautious in the selection of talent and always hires employees with store of specialized knowledge and skills to help you get the dreaming XDR-Engineer certification.

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