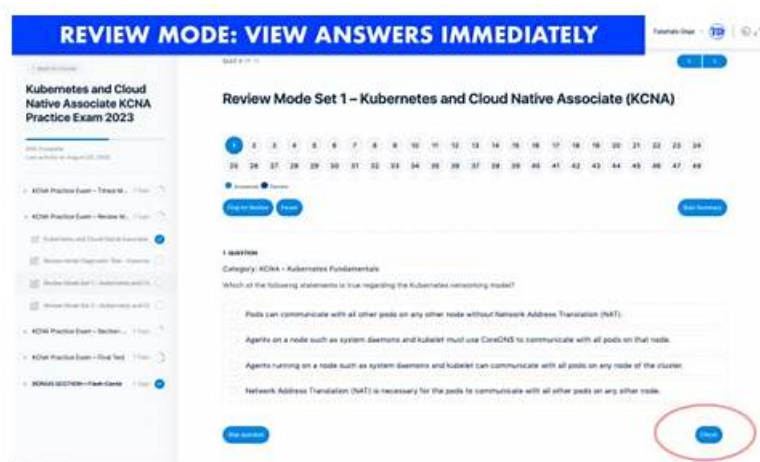


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The KCNA Exam is intended for individuals who have a basic understanding of Linux, containerization, and cloud computing. It is a vendor-neutral certification that covers a wide range of topics, including Kubernetes architecture, deployment, networking, storage, and security. KCNA exam also covers other cloud-native technologies such as Docker, Helm, and Prometheus.

Linux Foundation KCNA (Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate) Exam is a certification program that is designed to provide individuals with the skills and knowledge required to work with Kubernetes and cloud-native technologies. Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate certification is ideal for individuals who are interested in pursuing a career in the field of cloud computing or for those who want to enhance their skills in this area. The program covers various areas such as containerization, orchestration, networking, security, and storage.

Linux Foundation KCNA Exam is an online, proctored exam that consists of 50 multiple-choice questions. KCNA exam is timed and candidates have two hours to complete it. It is important to note that the exam is not designed to test memorization but rather understanding of the concepts and practical application of Kubernetes and other cloud-native technologies.

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Linux Foundation Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate Sample Questions (Q158-Q163):

NEW QUESTION # 158

Which of the following characteristics is associated with container orchestration?

- A. Deploying application JAR files
- B. Virtual machine distribution

- C. Application message distribution
- **D. Dynamic scheduling**

Answer: D

Explanation:

A core capability of container orchestration is dynamic scheduling, so B is correct. Orchestration platforms (like Kubernetes) are responsible for deciding where containers (packaged as Pods in Kubernetes) should run, based on real-time cluster conditions and declared requirements. "Dynamic" means the system makes placement decisions continuously as workloads are created, updated, or fail, and as cluster capacity changes.

In Kubernetes, the scheduler evaluates Pods that have no assigned node, filters nodes that don't meet requirements (resources, taints/tolerations, affinity/anti-affinity, topology constraints), and then scores remaining nodes to pick the best target. This scheduling happens at runtime and adapts to the current state of the cluster. If nodes go down or Pods crash, controllers create replacements and the scheduler places them again-another aspect of dynamic orchestration.

The other options don't define container orchestration: "application message distribution" is more about messaging systems or service communication patterns, not orchestration. "Deploying application JAR files" is a packaging/deployment detail relevant to Java apps but not a defining orchestration capability. "Virtual machine distribution" refers to VM management rather than container orchestration; Kubernetes focuses on containers and Pods (even if those containers sometimes run in lightweight VMs via sandbox runtimes).

So, the defining trait here is that an orchestrator automatically and continuously schedules and reschedules workloads, rather than relying on static placement decisions.

NEW QUESTION # 159

What is the main purpose of a DaemonSet?

- A. A DaemonSet ensures that there are as many pods running as specified in the replicas field.
- B. A DaemonSet ensures that a process (agent) runs on every node.
- **C. A DaemonSet ensures that all (or certain) nodes run a copy of a Pod.**
- D. A DaemonSet ensures that the kubelet is constantly up and running.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The correct answer is A. A DaemonSet is a workload controller whose job is to ensure that a specific Pod runs on all nodes (or on a selected subset of nodes) in the cluster. This is fundamentally different from Deployments/ReplicaSets, which aim to maintain a certain replica count regardless of node count. With a DaemonSet, the number of Pods is implicitly tied to the number of eligible nodes: add a node, and the DaemonSet automatically schedules a Pod there; remove a node, and its Pod goes away.

DaemonSets are commonly used for node-level services and background agents: log collectors, node monitoring agents, storage daemons, CNI components, or security agents-anything where you want a presence on each node to interact with node resources. This aligns with option D's phrasing ("agent on every node"), but option A is the canonical definition and is slightly broader because it covers "all or certain nodes" (via node selectors/affinity/taints-tolerations) and the fact that the unit is a Pod.

Why the other options are wrong: DaemonSets do not "keep kubelet running" (B); kubelet is a node service managed by the OS. DaemonSets do not use a replicas field to maintain a specific count (C); that's Deployment/ReplicaSet behavior.

Operationally, DaemonSets matter for cluster operations because they provide consistent node coverage and automatically react to node pool scaling. They also require careful scheduling constraints so they land only where intended (e.g., only Linux nodes, only GPU nodes). But the main purpose remains: ensure a copy of a Pod runs on each relevant node-option A.

NEW QUESTION # 160

Which of the following factors does scheduling take into account when selecting a Node?

- **A. Resource requirements**
- B. Services
- C. How many replicas there are in a Deployment
- D. The number of existing Pods on a Node

Answer: A

Explanation:

Scheduling takes resource requirements into account in the form of resource requests.

NEW QUESTION # 161

Which of the following best describes horizontally scaling an application deployment?

- A. The act of adding/removing application instances of the same application to meet demand.
- B. The act of adding/removing node instances to the cluster to meet demand.
- C. The act of adding/removing applications to meet demand.
- D. The act of adding/removing resources to application instances to meet demand.

Answer: A

Explanation:

Horizontal scaling means changing how many instances of an application are running, not changing how big each instance is. Therefore, the best description is C: adding/removing application instances of the same application to meet demand. In Kubernetes, "instances" typically correspond to Pod replicas managed by a controller like a Deployment. When you scale horizontally, you increase or decrease the replica count, which increases or decreases total throughput and resilience by distributing load across more Pods.

Option A is about cluster/node scaling (adding or removing nodes), which is infrastructure scaling typically handled by a cluster autoscaler in cloud environments. Node scaling can enable more Pods to be scheduled, but it's not the definition of horizontal application scaling itself. Option D describes vertical scaling-adding /removing CPU or memory resources to a given instance (Pod/container) by changing requests/limits or using VPA. Option B is vague and not the standard definition.

Horizontal scaling is a core cloud-native pattern because it improves availability and elasticity. If one Pod fails, other replicas continue serving traffic. In Kubernetes, scaling can be manual (kubectl scale deployment ... --replicas=N) or automatic using the Horizontal Pod Autoscaler (HPA). HPA adjusts replicas based on observed metrics like CPU utilization, memory, or custom/external metrics (for example, request rate or queue length). This creates responsive systems that can handle variable traffic.

From an architecture perspective, designing for horizontal scaling often means ensuring your application is stateless (or manages state externally), uses idempotent request handling, and supports multiple concurrent instances. Stateful workloads can also scale horizontally, but usually with additional constraints (StatefulSets, sharding, quorum membership, stable identity).

So the verified definition and correct choice is C.

NEW QUESTION # 162

Which of the following is a lightweight tool that manages traffic flows between services, enforces access policies, and aggregates telemetry data, all without requiring changes to application code?

- A. NetworkPolicy
- B. Nginx
- C. kube-proxy
- D. Linkerd

Answer: D

Explanation:

Linkerd is a lightweight service mesh that manages service-to-service traffic, security policies, and telemetry without requiring application code changes-so B is correct. A service mesh introduces a dedicated layer for east-west traffic (internal service calls) and typically provides features like mutual TLS (mTLS), retries

/timeouts, traffic shaping, and consistent metrics/tracing signals. Linkerd is known for being simpler and resource-efficient relative to some alternatives, which aligns with the "lightweight tool" phrasing.

Why this matches the description: In a service mesh, workload traffic is intercepted by a proxy layer (often as a sidecar or node-level/ambient proxy) and managed centrally by mesh control components. This allows security and traffic policy to be applied uniformly without modifying each microservice. Telemetry is also generated consistently because the proxies observe traffic directly and emit metrics and traces about request rates, latency, and errors.

The other choices don't fit. NetworkPolicy is a Kubernetes resource that controls allowed network flows (L3 /L4) but does not provide L7 traffic management, retries, identity-based mTLS, or automatic telemetry aggregation. kube-proxy implements Service networking rules (ClusterIP/NodePort forwarding) but does not enforce access policies at the service identity level and is not a telemetry system. Nginx can be used as an ingress controller or reverse proxy, but it is not inherently a full service

In cloud native architecture, service meshes help address cross-cutting concerns—security, observability, and traffic management—without embedding that logic into every application. The question's combination of "traffic flows," "access policies," and "aggregates telemetry" maps directly to a mesh, and the lightweight mesh option provided is Linkerd.

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