

Pure Storage FlashArray Architect Associate Sample Questions (Q54-Q59):

NEW QUESTION # 54

A customer running FlashArray//X70R3 in production just purchased a FlashArray//C60R3 Array for a secondary site. The customer wants to have the lowest RPO (Recovery Point Objective) possible for the data. Which FlashArray feature will meet the requirements?

- A. ActiveDR
- B. ActiveCluster
- C. Async Replication

Answer: A

Explanation:

The customer wants to achieve the lowest RPO (Recovery Point Objective) possible for their data when replicating between a FlashArray//X70R3 in production and a FlashArray//C60R3 at a secondary site. The best feature to meet this requirement is ActiveDR.

Why This Matters:

ActiveDR:

ActiveDR is an asynchronous replication solution designed for disaster recovery scenarios. It provides low RPOs, typically in the range of seconds to minutes, depending on network conditions and workload characteristics.

While it is asynchronous, ActiveDR achieves much lower RPOs compared to traditional async replication methods like snapshot replication.

It also supports fast failover and failback, ensuring minimal downtime during a disaster recovery event.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). ActiveCluster:

ActiveCluster provides synchronous replication with zero RPO and near-zero RTO. However, it requires both sites to be within a low-latency range (typically <10 ms). Since the customer has not specified that the secondary site is within synchronous distance, ActiveCluster is not feasible in this scenario.

C). Async Replication:

Traditional asynchronous replication (e.g., snapshot replication) typically results in higher RPOs compared to ActiveDR. It does not provide the same level of optimization for low RPOs as ActiveDR.

Key Points:

ActiveDR: Provides the lowest RPO possible for asynchronous replication, making it ideal for geographically distant secondary sites.

Network Latency: ActiveDR is designed to work efficiently over longer distances and higher latencies compared to synchronous solutions like ActiveCluster.

Disaster Recovery: Ensures protection against site failures with minimal data loss and downtime.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "ActiveDR for Disaster Recovery" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Meeting RPO and RTO Requirements with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Choosing the Right Replication Solution for High Latency"

NEW QUESTION # 55

A customer wants to have more insight into and control of their Pure Storage FlashArray and VMware environment from a single user interface.

What does the customer need to do to enable this capability in their environment?

- A. Ensure all VMware API for Array Integration (VAAI) primitives are enabled
- B. Configure FlashArray Management Pack for vRealize Operations Manager
- C. Install Pure Storage SRA for VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM)
- D. Log in to the FlashArray GUI and install the plugin for vSphere Client

Answer: B

Explanation:

To gain more insight and control over their Pure Storage FlashArray and VMware environment from a single user interface, the customer should configure the FlashArray Management Pack for vRealize Operations Manager (vROps).

Here's why:

Analysis of Options:

A). Ensure all VMware API for Array Integration (VAAI) primitives are enabled:

VAAI is a set of APIs that offloads storage tasks from the ESXi host to the storage array, improving performance and efficiency.

However, it does not provide a unified interface for managing both FlashArray and VMware environments.

B). Log in to the FlashArray GUI and install the plugin for vSphere Client:

While the FlashArray plugin for vSphere Client provides some integration, such as provisioning and monitoring FlashArray volumes directly from the vSphere Client, it does not offer comprehensive visibility and control over both environments from a single interface.

C). Configure FlashArray Management Pack for vRealize Operations Manager:

The FlashArray Management Pack for vROps integrates Pure Storage FlashArray with VMware vRealize Operations Manager, enabling centralized monitoring, analytics, and management of both environments from a single pane of glass.

This solution provides deep insights into storage performance, capacity utilization, and health metrics, making it the ideal choice for the customer's requirement.

D). Install Pure Storage SRA for VMware Site Recovery Manager (SRM):

The Pure Storage Storage Replication Adapter (SRA) is used for disaster recovery orchestration with VMware SRM. It does not provide a unified interface for managing FlashArray and VMware environments.

Recommendation:

The correct answer is C. Configure FlashArray Management Pack for vRealize Operations Manager, as it fulfills the customer's need for a single user interface to manage both FlashArray and VMware environments.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Management Pack for vROps Documentation:

FlashArray Management Pack for vROps

Explains how to integrate FlashArray with vROps for unified monitoring and management.

Pure Storage VMware Integration Overview:

Pure Storage VMware Integration

Provides an overview of Pure Storage's VMware integration solutions.

NEW QUESTION # 56

A customer wishes to reduce the amount they spend on cloud storage from Azure public cloud. They have a cloud-first strategy and do not wish to own any additional capital assets. The applications data mainly consists of 100 TB of Database data.

Which product satisfies this requirement?

- A. Evergreen/Flex
- B. Evergreen/Forever
- **C. Cloud Block Store**
- D. Portworx DBaaS

Answer: C

Explanation:

The customer has a cloud-first strategy and does not wish to own additional capital assets, meaning they are looking for a solution that operates entirely within the public cloud without requiring on-premises hardware. Additionally, their primary goal is to reduce cloud storage costs while managing a large volume of database data (100 TB).

Cloud Block Store (CBS) is the ideal solution for this requirement. CBS is a software-defined block storage solution that runs natively in the public cloud (e.g., AWS or Azure). It provides enterprise-grade storage features like deduplication, compression, and thin provisioning, which help optimize storage usage and reduce costs. By leveraging CBS, the customer can efficiently manage their database workloads in the cloud while minimizing storage expenses.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). Evergreen/Flex: This is a subscription-based model for on-premises FlashArray hardware. Since the customer does not want to own any additional capital assets, this option does not align with their cloud-first strategy.

B). Evergreen/Forever: Similar to Evergreen/Flex, this is an on-premises solution that involves hardware ownership, which does not meet the customer's requirements.

D). Portworx DBaaS: While Portworx is a containerized storage solution for databases, it is primarily designed for Kubernetes environments and does not directly address the need to reduce cloud storage costs for traditional database workloads.

Key Points:

Cloud Block Store: A cloud-native block storage solution that reduces storage costs through advanced data reduction techniques.

Cloud-First Strategy: CBS aligns perfectly with the customer's desire to avoid capital expenditures and operate entirely within the public cloud.

Reference: Pure Storage Cloud Block Store Documentation: "Deploying and Managing Cloud Block Store in Azure" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Optimizing Cloud Costs with Cloud Block Store" Pure Storage Best Practices Guide: "Database Workloads in the Public Cloud"

NEW QUESTION # 57

A customer has deployed an ActiveCluster solution with Uniform Configuration. The customer wants to make sure that all host connections are configured to the array according to best practices.

What Fibre Channel connections should the architect recommend for the customer to use?

- A. Crossed connections from each controller through a single fabric
- B. A single connection from each controller through two fabrics
- C. A single connection from each controller through a single fabric
- **D. Dual connections from each controller through two fabrics**

Answer: D

Explanation:

For an ActiveCluster solution with Uniform Configuration, the architect should recommend dual connections from each controller through two fabrics to ensure high availability and redundancy in Fibre Channel connectivity.

Why This Matters:

Dual Connections:

Each controller should have dual connections to provide redundancy and fault tolerance. If one connection fails, the other ensures uninterrupted communication between the host and the array.

Two Fabrics:

Using two independent Fibre Channel fabrics (e.g., Fabric A and Fabric B) ensures that there is no single point of failure in the network infrastructure. This aligns with best practices for ActiveCluster deployments.

Why Not the Other Options?

B). A single connection from each controller through two fabrics:

A single connection per controller does not provide sufficient redundancy. If the connection fails, the host may lose access to the array.

C). Crossed connections from each controller through a single fabric:

Using a single fabric introduces a single point of failure. Additionally, "crossed connections" are not a standard or recommended configuration for ActiveCluster.

D). A single connection from each controller through a single fabric:

This configuration lacks both redundancy at the connection level and at the fabric level, making it highly vulnerable to failures.

Key Points:

Redundancy: Dual connections and two fabrics ensure fault tolerance and high availability. Best Practices: Aligns with Pure Storage's recommendations for ActiveCluster deployments. Uniform Configuration: Ensures consistent and reliable connectivity across all hosts in the cluster.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "ActiveCluster Best Practices for Fibre Channel Connectivity" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Designing High-Availability Solutions with ActiveCluster" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Configuring Host Connections for ActiveCluster"

NEW QUESTION # 58

A healthcare customer who is already leveraging a FlashArray//X50 for VMware datastores has added a radiology department to their facility and requires a file-based storage solution for medical imaging.

* They have 35 usable TB free.

* They anticipate storing 15 TB in images.

* System load is currently 35%.

Which approach will enable this workload?

- **A. They can use FA File on the array as-is.**
- B. Medical imaging always belongs on a FlashBlade.
- C. They must first upgrade the controllers to a //X70 and enable FA File.
- D. They should purchase a FlashArray//C and enable FA File.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The healthcare customer already has a FlashArray//X50 with 35 usable TB free and anticipates storing 15 TB of medical imaging data. Since the system load is currently 35%, they can enable FA File on the array as-is to support the new workload.

Why This Matters:

FA File:

FA File Services enables file-based storage (NFS and SMB) on FlashArray, allowing the array to handle both block and file workloads simultaneously.

With 35 TB of free capacity and only 15 TB required for medical imaging, there is sufficient space to accommodate the new workload.

The current system load of 35% indicates that the array has ample headroom to handle the additional workload without requiring upgrades.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). They must first upgrade the controllers to a //X70 and enable FA File:

Upgrading to a //X70 is unnecessary given the available capacity and low system load. The current //X50 is capable of supporting the workload.

C). Medical imaging always belongs on a FlashBlade:

While FlashBlade is ideal for large-scale, high-performance unstructured data workloads, it is not mandatory for this use case. FA File on FlashArray//X50 is sufficient for 15 TB of medical imaging data.

D). They should purchase a FlashArray//C and enable FA File:

Purchasing a new array is unnecessary given the available resources on the existing FlashArray//X50.

Key Points:

FA File: Enables file-based storage on FlashArray without requiring additional hardware.

Capacity and Load: The array has sufficient free space and performance headroom to handle the new workload.

Cost Efficiency: Avoids unnecessary upgrades or purchases, optimizing costs while meeting requirements.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "FA File Services Overview" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Consolidating Workloads on FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Supporting Multiple Workloads with FlashArray"

NEW QUESTION # 59

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