

# Exam Palo Alto Networks XDR-Engineer Simulations | XDR-Engineer Test Review

TEST (08/12/2025)

## PART 1: LANGUAGE KNOWLEDGE

I. Match the words/ phrases with their correct definitions. Write your answers on the Answer sheet. (1pt)

data centre	command interpreter	graphical interface
backbone	cache	

1. Facility for storing large amounts of information **data centre**
2. The part of an operating system that allows the user to interact with a computer using graphic images and a cursor. -> **graphical interface**
3. The part of an operating system that processes commands that are part of a program or are input using a keyboard. -> **command interpreter**
4. It provides extremely fast access for sections of a program and its data. -> **cache**
5. The main transmission path handling the major data traffic connecting different LAN together -> **backbone**

II. Fill in the numbered blanks with the correct words/ phrases given in the box. Write your answers on the Answer sheet. (2pts)

software	devices	component	project
design	handles	core	roots
operating	program	commercial	computer

Linux has its **roots** .. (1) in a student project. In 1992, an undergraduate called Linus Torvalds was studying computer science in Helsinki, Finland. Like most computer science courses, a big **component** (2) of it was taught on (and about) Unix. Unix was the wonder operating system of the 1970s and 1980s: both a textbook example of the principles of operating system **design** (3), and sufficiently robust to be the standard OS in engineering and scientific computing. But Unix was a **commercial** (4) product (licensed by AT&T to a number of resellers), and cost more than a student could pay. Annoyed by the shortcomings of Minix (a compact Unix clone written as a teaching aid by Professor Andy Tannenbaum) Linus set out to write his own 'kernel' - the **core** (5) of an operating system that **handles** (6) memory allocation, talks to hardware **devices** (7), and makes sure everything keeps running. He used the GNU programming tools developed by Richard Stallman's Free Software Foundation, an organisation of volunteers dedicated to fulfilling Stallman's ideal of making good **software** (8) that anyone could use without paying. When he'd written a basic kernel, he released the source code to the Linux kernel on the Internet.

## PART 2: LANGUAGE USE

I. Read the following passage and answer the questions briefly. Write your answers on the Answer sheet. (2.5pts)

Barcodes in the packaging of groceries will soon be replaced with radio-frequency tags that can be read at a distance and with greater reliability. As well as indicating what the product is, the data in the tags will include additional information such as the 'best before' date and even nutritional data. Now, imagine that a fridge could read these tags and keep track of the items placed there. If an item is about to exceed its 'use by' date, the fridge tells you, and you can either use it or throw it out. Fancy something different for dinner? No problem, ask the fridge to suggest some menus based on the ingredients it knows you have in stock. Or tell the fridge the menu you require and it will provide you with a shopping list of the items you don't have or order the items via email. This is the Screenfridge from Electrolux. But why 'Screenfridge'? On the door is a touch-sensitive panel or screen that provides a means of communicating with the users. For many households, life revolves around the kitchen. This is the assumption Electrolux made in designing the Screenfridge. The same screen is a messaging centre. Since the fridge is equipped with a microphone, speaker

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## Palo Alto Networks XDR-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>
Topic 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>
Topic 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>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.</li></ul>

## Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Sample Questions (Q10-Q15):

### NEW QUESTION # 10

What are two possible actions that can be triggered by a dashboard drilldown? (Choose two.)

- A. Initiate automated response actions
- B. Send alerts to console users
- C. Navigate to a different dashboard
- D. Link to an XQL query

**Answer: C,D**

Explanation:

In Cortex XDR, dashboard drilldowns allow users to interact with widgets (e.g., charts or tables) by clicking on elements to access additional details or perform actions. Drilldowns enhance the investigative capabilities of dashboards by linking to related data or views.

\* Correct Answer Analysis (A, C):

\* A. Navigate to a different dashboard: A drilldown can be configured to navigate to another dashboard, providing a more detailed view or related metrics. For example, clicking on an alert count in a widget might open a dashboard focused on alert details.

\* C. Link to an XQL query: Drilldowns often link to an XQL query that filters data based on the clicked element (e.g., an alert name or source). This allows users to view raw events or detailed records in the Query Builder or Investigation view.

\* Why not the other options?

\* B. Initiate automated response actions: Drilldowns are primarily for navigation and data exploration, not for triggering automated

response actions. Response actions (e.g., isolating an endpoint) are typically initiated from the Incident or Alert views, not dashboards.

\* D. Send alerts to console users: Drilldowns do not send alerts to users. Alerts are generated by correlation rules or BIOCs, and dashboards are used for visualization, not alert distribution.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes drilldown functionality: "Dashboard drilldowns can navigate to another dashboard or link to an XQL query to display detailed data based on the selected widget element" (paraphrased from the Dashboards and Widgets section). The EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response course covers dashboards, stating that "drilldowns enable navigation to other dashboards or XQL queries for deeper analysis" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "dashboards and reporting" as a key exam topic, encompassing drilldown configuration.

References:

Palo Alto Networks Cortex XDR Documentation Portal: <https://docs-cortex.paloaltonetworks.com/>  
EDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Response Course Objectives  
Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer  
Datasheet: <https://www.paloaltonetworks.com/services/education/certification/xdr-engineer>

## NEW QUESTION # 11

Log events from a previously deployed Windows XDR Collector agent are no longer being observed in the console after an OS upgrade. Which aspect of the log events is the probable cause of this behavior?

- A. They are greater than 5MB
- B. They are in Winlogbeat format
- C. They are in Filebeat format
- D. They are less than 1MB

Answer: A

Explanation:

The XDR Collector on a Windows endpoint collects logs (e.g., Windows Event Logs) and forwards them to the Cortex XDR console for analysis. An OS upgrade can impact the collector's functionality, particularly if it affects log formats, sizes, or compatibility. If log events are no longer observed after the upgrade, the issue likely relates to a change in how logs are processed or transmitted. Cortex XDR imposes limits on log event sizes to ensure efficient ingestion and processing.

\* Correct Answer Analysis (A): The probable cause is that the log events are greater than 5MB. Cortex XDR has a size limit for individual log events, typically around 5MB, to prevent performance issues during ingestion. An OS upgrade may change the way logs are generated (e.g., increasing verbosity or adding metadata), causing events to exceed this limit. If log events are larger than 5MB, the XDR Collector will drop them, resulting in no logs being observed in the console.

\* Why not the other options?

- \* B. They are in Winlogbeat format: Winlogbeat is a supported log shipper for collecting Windows Event Logs, and the XDR Collector is compatible with this format. The format itself is not the issue unless misconfigured, which is not indicated.
- \* C. They are in Filebeat format: Filebeat is also supported by the XDR Collector for file-based logs. The format is not the likely cause unless the OS upgrade changed the log source, which is not specified.
- \* D. They are less than 1MB: There is no minimum size limit for log events in Cortex XDR, so being less than 1MB would not cause logs to stop appearing.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal explains log ingestion limits: "Individual log events larger than 5MB are dropped by the XDR Collector to prevent ingestion issues, which may occur after changes like an OS upgrade" (paraphrased from the XDR Collector Troubleshooting section). The EDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course covers log collection issues, stating that "log events exceeding 5MB are not ingested, a common issue after OS upgrades that increase log size" (paraphrased from course materials).

The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "maintenance and troubleshooting" as a key exam topic, encompassing log ingestion issues.

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 # 12

How can a customer ingest additional events from a Windows DHCP server into Cortex XDR with minimal configuration?

- A. Install the Cortex XDR agent
- B. Enable HTTP collector integration
- C. Activate Windows Event Collector (WEC)
- D. **Install the XDR Collector**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

To ingest additional events from a Windows DHCP server into Cortex XDR with minimal configuration, the recommended approach is to use the Cortex XDR Collector. The XDR Collector is a lightweight component designed to collect and forward logs and events from various sources, including Windows servers, to Cortex XDR for analysis and correlation. It is specifically optimized for scenarios where full Cortex XDR agent deployment is not required, and it minimizes configuration overhead by automating much of the data collection process.

For a Windows DHCP server, the XDR Collector can be installed on the server to collect DHCP logs (e.g., lease assignments, renewals, or errors) from the Windows Event Log or other relevant sources. Once installed, the collector forwards these events to the Cortex XDR tenant with minimal setup, requiring only basic configuration such as specifying the target data types and ensuring network connectivity to the Cortex XDR cloud. This approach is more straightforward than alternatives like setting up a full agent or configuring external integrations like Windows Event Collector (WEC) or HTTP collectors, which require additional infrastructure or manual configuration.

\* Why not the other options?

\* A. Activate Windows Event Collector (WEC): While WEC can collect events from Windows servers, it requires significant configuration, including setting up a WEC server, configuring subscriptions, and integrating with Cortex XDR via a separate ingestion mechanism. This is not minimal configuration.

\* C. Enable HTTP collector integration: HTTP collector integration is used for ingesting data via HTTP/HTTPS APIs, which is not applicable for Windows DHCP server events, as DHCP logs are typically stored in the Windows Event Log, not exposed via HTTP.

\* D. Install the Cortex XDR agent: The Cortex XDR agent is a full-featured endpoint protection and detection solution that includes prevention, detection, and response capabilities. While it can collect some event data, it is overkill for the specific task of ingesting DHCP server events and requires more configuration than the XDR Collector.

Exact Extract or Reference:

The Cortex XDR Documentation Portal describes the XDR Collector as a tool for "collecting logs and events from servers and endpoints with minimal setup" (paraphrased from the Data Ingestion section). The EDU-260:

Cortex XDR Prevention and Deployment course emphasizes that "XDR Collectors are ideal for ingesting server logs, such as those from Windows DHCP servers, with streamlined configuration" (paraphrased from course materials). The Palo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet lists "data source onboarding and integration configuration" as a key skill, which includes configuring XDR Collectors for log ingestion.

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 # 13

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. XQL query of the endpoints dataset
- D. Management Audit Logs

**Answer: A,C**

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 # 14

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

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

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 # 15

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