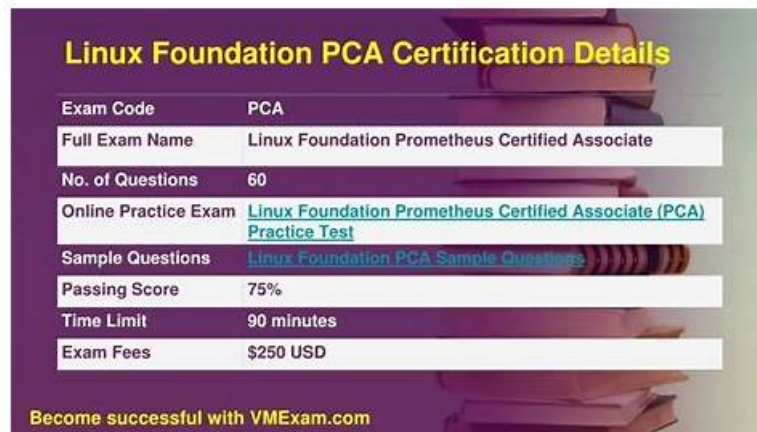


Web-Based Linux Foundation PCA Practice Exam



Linux Foundation PCA Certification Details	
Exam Code	PCA
Full Exam Name	Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate
No. of Questions	60
Online Practice Exam	Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate (PCA) Practice Test
Sample Questions	Linux Foundation PCA Sample Questions
Passing Score	75%
Time Limit	90 minutes
Exam Fees	\$250 USD

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Linux Foundation Prometheus Certified Associate Exam Sample Questions (Q58-Q63):

NEW QUESTION # 58

What is considered the best practice when working with alerting notifications?

- A. Have as few alerts as possible by alerting only when symptoms might become externally visible.
- B. Have as many alerts as possible to catch minor problems before they become outages.
- C. Minor alerts are as important as major alerts and should be treated with equal care.
- D. Make sure to generate alerts on every metric of every component of the stack.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The Prometheus alerting philosophy emphasizes signal over noise - meaning alerts should focus only on actionable and user-impacting issues. The best practice is to alert on symptoms that indicate potential or actual user-visible problems, not on every internal metric anomaly.

This approach reduces alert fatigue, avoids desensitizing operators, and ensures high-priority alerts get the attention they deserve. For example, alerting on "service unavailable" or "latency exceeding SLO" is more effective than alerting on "CPU above 80%" or "disk usage increasing," which may not directly affect users.

Option B correctly reflects this principle: keep alerts meaningful, few, and symptom-based. The other options contradict core best practices by promoting excessive or equal-weight alerting, which can overwhelm operations teams.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Alerting Best Practices, Alertmanager Design Philosophy, and Prometheus Monitoring and Reliability Engineering Principles.

NEW QUESTION # 59

Which PromQL statement returns the sum of all values of the metric `node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes` from 10 minutes ago?

- A. `sum(node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes) offset 10m`
- B. `sum(node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes) setoff 10m`
- C. `offset sum(node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes[10m])`
- D. `sum(node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes offset 10m)`

Answer: D

Explanation:

In PromQL, the `offset` modifier allows you to query metrics as they were at a past time relative to the current evaluation. To retrieve the value of `node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes` as it was 10 minutes ago, you place the `offset` keyword inside the aggregation function's argument, not after it.

The correct query is:

```
sum(node_memory_MemAvailable_bytes offset 10m)
```

This computes the total available memory across all instances, based on data from exactly 10 minutes in the past.

Placing `offset` after the aggregation (as in option B) is syntactically invalid because modifiers apply to instant and range vector selectors, not to complete expressions.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - PromQL Evaluation Modifiers: `offset`, Aggregation Operators, and Temporal Query Examples.

NEW QUESTION # 60

Given the following Histogram metric data, how many requests took less than or equal to 0.1 seconds?

```
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_bucket{job="kube-apiserver", le="+Inf"} 3
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_bucket{job="kube-apiserver", le="0.05"} 0
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_bucket{job="kube-apiserver", le="0.1"} 1
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_bucket{job="kube-apiserver", le="1"} 3
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_count{job="kube-apiserver"} 3
apiserver_request_duration_seconds_sum{job="kube-apiserver"} 0.554003785
```

- A. 0
- B. 0.554003785
- C. 1
- D. 2

Answer: A

Explanation:

In Prometheus, histogram metrics use cumulative buckets to record the count of observations that fall within specific duration thresholds. Each bucket has a label `le` ("less than or equal to"), representing the upper bound of that bucket.

In the given metric, the bucket labeled `le="0.1"` has a value of 1, meaning exactly one request took less than or equal to 0.1 seconds.

Buckets are cumulative, so:

`le="0.05"` → 0 requests ≤ 0.05 seconds

`le="0.1"` → 1 request ≤ 0.1 seconds

`le="1"` → 3 requests ≤ 1 second

`le="+Inf"` → all 3 requests total

The `_sum` and `_count` values represent total duration and request count respectively, but the number of requests below a given threshold is read directly from the bucket's `le` value.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Understanding Histograms and Summaries, Bucket Semantics, and Histogram Query Examples sections.

NEW QUESTION # 61

You'd like to monitor a short-lived batch job. What Prometheus component would you use?

- A. PushGateway
- B. PullProxy
- C. PullGateway
- D. PushProxy

Answer: A

Explanation:

Prometheus normally operates on a pull-based model, where it scrapes metrics from long-running targets. However, short-lived batch jobs (such as cron jobs or data processing tasks) often finish before Prometheus can scrape them. To handle this scenario, Prometheus provides the Pushgateway component.

The Pushgateway allows ephemeral jobs to push their metrics to an intermediary gateway. Prometheus then scrapes these metrics from the Pushgateway like any other target. This ensures short-lived jobs have their metrics preserved even after completion.

The Pushgateway should not be used for continuously running applications because it breaks Prometheus's usual target lifecycle semantics. Instead, it is intended solely for transient job metrics, like backups or CI/CD tasks.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Pushing Metrics - The Pushgateway and Use Cases for Short-Lived Jobs sections.

NEW QUESTION # 62

What is the name of the official *nix OS kernel metrics exporter?

- A. metrics_exporter
- B. os_exporter
- C. node_exporter
- D. Prometheus_exporter

Answer: C

Explanation:

The official Prometheus exporter for collecting system-level and kernel-related metrics from Linux and other UNIX-like operating systems is the Node Exporter.

The Node Exporter exposes hardware and OS metrics including CPU load, memory usage, disk I/O, network traffic, and kernel statistics. It is designed to provide host-level observability and serves data at the default endpoint :9100/metrics in the standard Prometheus exposition text format.

This exporter is part of the official Prometheus ecosystem and is widely deployed for infrastructure monitoring. None of the other listed options (Prometheus_exporter, metrics_exporter, or os_exporter) are official components of the Prometheus project.

Reference:

Verified from Prometheus documentation - Node Exporter Overview, System Metrics Collection, and Official Exporters List.

NEW QUESTION # 63

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