Free PDF 2026 Palo Alto Networks XDR-Engineer: Latest Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Valid Test Materials

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Palo Alto Networks XDR-Engineer Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• 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	• 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 3	• 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	• 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.
Topic 5	• 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.

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Palo Alto Networks XDR Engineer Sample Questions (Q49-Q54):

NEW QUESTION # 49
A query is created that will run weekly via API. After it is tested and ready, it is reviewed in the Query Center. Which available column should be checked to determine how many compute units will be used when the query is run?

- A. Simulated Compute Units
- B. Compute Unit Usage
- C. Compute Unit Quota
- D. Query Status

Answer: B

Explanation:
In Cortex XDR, theQuery Centerallows administrators to manage and reviewXQL (XDR Query Language) queries, including those scheduled to run via API. Each query consumescompute units, a measure of the computational resources required to execute the query. To determine how many compute units a query will use, theCompute Unit Usagecolumn in the Query Center provides the actual or estimated resource consumption based on the query's execution history or configuration.
* Correct Answer Analysis (B):TheCompute Unit Usagecolumn in the Query Center displays the number of compute units consumed by a query when it runs. For a tested and ready query, this column provides the most accurate information on resource usage, helping administrators plan for API-based executions.
* Why not the other options?
* A. Query Status: The Query Status column indicates whether the query ran successfully, failed, or is pending, but it does not provide information on compute unit consumption.

* C. Simulated Compute Units: While some systems may offer simulated estimates, Cortex XDR' s Query Center does not have a "Simulated Compute Units" column. The actual usage is tracked in Compute Unit Usage.
* D. Compute Unit Quota: The Compute Unit Quota refers to the total available compute units for the tenant, not the specific usage of an individual query.
Exact Extract or Reference:
TheCortex XDR Documentation Portalexplains Query Center functionality: "The Compute Unit Usage column in the Query Center shows the compute units consumed by a query, enabling administrators to assess resource usage for scheduled or API-based queries" (paraphrased from the Query Center section). TheEDU-
262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Responsecourse covers query management, stating that "Compute Unit Usage provides details on the resources used by each query in the Query Center" (paraphrased from course materials). ThePalo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheetincludes "maintenance and troubleshooting" as a key exam topic, encompassing query resource management.
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
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NEW QUESTION # 50
What is a benefit of ingesting and forwarding Palo Alto Networks NGFW logs to Cortex XDR?

- A. Enabling additional analysis through enhanced application logging
- B. Blocking network traffic based on Cortex XDR detections
- C. Automated downloading of malware signatures from the NGFW
- D. Sending endpoint logs to the NGFW for analysis

Answer: A

Explanation:
IntegratingPalo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewalls (NGFWs)with Cortex XDR by ingesting and forwarding NGFW logs allows for enhanced visibility and correlation across network and endpoint data.
NGFW logs contain detailed information about network traffic, applications, and threats, which Cortex XDR can use to improve its detection and analysis capabilities.
* Correct Answer Analysis (C):Enabling additional analysis through enhanced application logging is a key benefit. NGFW logs include application-layer data (e.g., App-ID, user activity, URL filtering), which Cortex XDR can ingest to perform deeper analysis, such as correlating network events with endpoint activities. This enhanced logging enables better incident investigation, threat detection, and behavioral analytics by providing a more comprehensive view of the environment.
* Why not the other options?
* A. Sending endpoint logs to the NGFW for analysis: The integration is about forwarding NGFW logs to Cortex XDR, not the other way around. Endpoint logs are not sent to the NGFW for analysis in this context.
* B. Blocking network traffic based on Cortex XDR detections: While Cortex XDR can share threat intelligence with NGFWs to block traffic (via mechanisms like External Dynamic Lists), this is not the primary benefit of ingesting NGFW logs into Cortex XDR. The focus here is on analysis, not blocking.
* D. Automated downloading of malware signatures from the NGFW: NGFWs do not provide malware signatures to Cortex XDR. Malware signatures are typically sourced from WildFire (Palo Alto Networks' cloud-based threat analysis service), not directly from NGFW logs.
Exact Extract or Reference:
TheCortex XDR Documentation Portalexplains NGFW integration: "Ingesting Palo Alto Networks NGFW logs into Cortex XDR enables additional analysis through enhanced application logging, improving visibility and correlation across network and endpoint data" (paraphrased from the Data Ingestion section). TheEDU-
260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deploymentcourse covers NGFW log integration, stating that
"forwarding NGFW logs to Cortex XDR enhancesapplication-layer analysis for better threat detection" (paraphrased from course materials). ThePalo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheetincludes
"data ingestion and integration" as a key exam topic, encompassing NGFW log integration.
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
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NEW QUESTION # 51
An engineer wants to automate the handling of alerts in Cortex XDR and defines several automation rules with different actions to be triggered based on specific alert conditions. Some alerts do not trigger the automation rules as expected. Which statement explains why the automation rules might not apply to certain alerts?

- A. They are executed in sequential order, so alerts may not trigger the correct actions if the rules are not configured properly
- B. They only apply to new alerts grouped into incidents by the system and only alerts that generateincidents trigger automation actions
- C. They can only be triggered by alerts with high severity; alerts with low or informational severity will not trigger the automation rules
- D. They can be applied to any alert, but they only work if the alert is manually grouped into an incident by the analyst

Answer: A

Explanation:
In Cortex XDR,automation rules(also known as response actions or playbooks) are used to automate alert handling based on specific conditions, such as alert type, severity, or source. These rules are executed in a defined order, and the first rule that matches an alert's conditions triggers its associated actions. If automation rules are not triggering as expected, the issue often lies in their configuration or execution order.
* Correct Answer Analysis (A):Automation rules areexecuted in sequential order, and each alert is evaluated against the rules in the order they are defined. If the rules are not configured properly (e.g., overly broad conditions in an earlier rule or incorrect prioritization), an alert may match an earlier rule and trigger its actions instead of the intended rule, or it may not match any rule due to misconfigured conditions. This explains why some alerts do not trigger the expected automation rules.
* Why not the other options?
* B. They only apply to new alerts grouped into incidents by the system and only alerts that generate incidents trigger automation actions: Automation rules can apply to both standalone alerts and those grouped into incidents. They are not limited to incident-related alerts.
* C. They can only be triggered by alerts with high severity; alerts with low or informational severity will not trigger the automation rules: Automation rules can be configured to trigger based on any severity level (high, medium, low, or informational), so this is not a restriction.
* D. They can be applied to any alert, but they only work if the alert is manually grouped into an incident by the analyst: Automation rules do not require manual incident grouping; they can apply to any alert based on defined conditions, regardless of incident status.
Exact Extract or Reference:
TheCortex XDR Documentation Portalexplains automation rules: "Automation rules are executed in sequential order, and the first rule matching an alert's conditions triggers its actions. Misconfigured rules or incorrect ordering can prevent expected actions from being applied" (paraphrased from the Automation Rules section). TheEDU-262: Cortex XDR Investigation and Responsecourse covers automation, stating that
"sequential execution of automation rules requires careful configuration to ensure the correct actions are triggered" (paraphrased from course materials). ThePalo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheet includes "playbook creation and automation" as a key exam topic, encompassing automation rule 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
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NEW QUESTION # 52
When isolating Cortex XDR agent components to troubleshoot for compatibility, which command is used to turn off a component on a Windows machine?

- A. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\cytool.exe" occp
- B. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\xdr.exe" -s stop
- C. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\cytool.exe" runtime stop
- D. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\xdr.exe" stop

Answer: C

Explanation:
Cortex XDR agents on Windows include multiple components (e.g., for exploit protection, malware scanning, or behavioral analysis)

that can be individually enabled or disabled for troubleshooting purposes, such as isolating compatibility issues. Thecytool.exeutility, located in the Cortex XDR installation directory (typically C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\), is used to manage agent components and settings. The runtime stop command specifically disables a component without uninstalling the agent.
* Correct Answer Analysis (B):The command"C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\cytool.
exe" runtime stopis used to turn off a specific Cortex XDR agent component on a Windows machine.
For example, cytool.exe runtime stop protection would disable the protection component, allowing troubleshooting for compatibility issues while keeping other components active.
* Why not the other options?
* A. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\xdr.exe" stop: The xdr.exe binary is not used for managing components; it is part of the agent's corefunctionality. The correct utility is cytool.exe.
* C. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\xdr.exe" -s stop: Similarly, xdr.exe is not the correct tool, and -s stop is not a valid command syntax for component management.
* D. "C:\Program Files\Palo Alto Networks\Traps\cytool.exe" occp: The occp command is not a valid cytool.exe option. The correct command for stopping a component is runtime stop.
Exact Extract or Reference:
TheCortex XDR Documentation Portalexplains component management: "To disable a Cortex XDR agent component on Windows, use the command cytool.exe runtime stop <component> from the installation directory" (paraphrased from the Troubleshooting section). TheEDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deploymentcourse covers agent troubleshooting, stating that "cytool.exe runtime stop is used to turn off specific components for compatibility testing" (paraphrased from course materials). ThePalo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheetincludes "maintenance and troubleshooting" as a key exam topic, encompassing agent component management.
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
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NEW QUESTION # 53
When onboarding a Palo Alto Networks NGFW to Cortex XDR, what must be done to confirm that logs are being ingested successfully after a device is selected and verified?

- A. Wait for an incident that involves the NGFW to populate
- B. Conduct an XQL query for NGFW log data
- C. Confirm that the selected device has a valid certificate
- D. Retrieve device certificate from NGFW dashboard

Answer: B

Explanation:
When onboarding aPalo Alto Networks Next-Generation Firewall (NGFW)to Cortex XDR, the process involves selecting and verifying the device to ensure it can send logs to Cortex XDR. After this step, confirming successful log ingestion is critical to validate the integration. The most direct and reliable method to confirm ingestion is to query the ingested logs usingXQL (XDR Query Language), which allows the engineer to search for NGFW log data in Cortex XDR.
* Correct Answer Analysis (A):Conduct an XQL query for NGFW log datais the correct action.
After onboarding, the engineer can run an XQL query such as dataset = panw_ngfw_logs | limit 10 to check if NGFW logs are present in Cortex XDR. This confirms that logs are being successfully ingested and stored in the appropriate dataset, ensuring the integration is working as expected.
* Why not the other options?
* B. Wait for an incident that involves the NGFW to populate: Waiting for an incident is not a reliable or proactive method to confirm log ingestion. Incidents depend on detection rules and may not occur immediately, even if logs are beingingested.
* C. Confirm that the selected device has a valid certificate: While a valid certificate is necessary during the onboarding process (e.g., for secure communication), this step is part of the verification process, not a method to confirm log ingestion after verification.
* D. Retrieve device certificate from NGFW dashboard: Retrieving the device certificate from the NGFW dashboard is unrelated to confirming log ingestion in Cortex XDR. Certificates are managed during setup, not for post-onboarding validation.
Exact Extract or Reference:
TheCortex XDR Documentation Portalexplains NGFW log ingestion validation: "To confirm successful ingestion of Palo Alto Networks NGFW logs, run an XQL query (e.g., dataset = panw_ngfw_logs) to verify that log data is present in Cortex XDR" (paraphrased from the Data Ingestion section). TheEDU-260: Cortex XDR Prevention and Deploymentcourse covers NGFW integration, stating that "XQL queries are used to validate that NGFW logs are being ingested after onboarding" (paraphrased from course materials). ThePalo Alto Networks Certified XDR Engineer datasheetincludes "data ingestion and integration" as a key exam

topic, encompassing log ingestion validation.
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 # 54
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