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PALO ALTO XDR-ANALYST CERTIFICATION STUDY GUIDE

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Palo Alto Networks XDR Analyst Sample Questions (Q59-Q64):

NEW QUESTION # 59

Which module provides the best visibility to view vulnerabilities?

- A. Device Control Violations module
- B. Forensics module
- **C. Host Insights module**
- D. Live Terminal module

Answer: C

Explanation:

The Host Insights module provides the best visibility to view vulnerabilities on your endpoints. The Host Insights module is an add-on feature for Cortex XDR that combines vulnerability management, application and system visibility, and a Search and Destroy feature to help you identify and contain threats. The vulnerability management feature allows you to scan your Windows endpoints for known vulnerabilities and missing patches, and view the results in the Cortex XDR console. You can also filter and sort the vulnerabilities by severity, CVSS score, CVE ID, or patch availability. The Host Insights module helps you reduce your exposure to threats and improve your security posture. Reference:

[Host Insights](#)

[Vulnerability Management](#)

NEW QUESTION # 60

What is by far the most common tactic used by ransomware to shut down a victim's operation?

- A. denying traffic out of the victim's network until payment is received
- **B. encrypting certain files to prevent access by the victim**
- C. restricting access to administrative accounts to the victim
- D. preventing the victim from being able to access APIs to cripple infrastructure

Answer: B

Explanation:

Ransomware is a type of malicious software, or malware, that encrypts certain files or data on the victim's system or network and prevents them from accessing their data until they pay a ransom. This is by far the most common tactic used by ransomware to shut down a victim's operation, as it can cause costly disruptions, data loss, and reputational damage. Ransomware can affect individual users, businesses, and organizations of all kinds. Ransomware can spread through various methods, such as phishing emails, malicious attachments, compromised websites, or network vulnerabilities. Some ransomware variants can also self-propagate and infect other devices or networks. Ransomware authors typically demand payment in cryptocurrency or other untraceable methods, and may threaten to delete or expose the encrypted data if the ransom is not paid within a certain time frame. However, paying the ransom does not guarantee that the files will be decrypted or that the attackers will not target the victim again. Therefore, the best way to protect against ransomware is to prevent infection in the first place, and to have a backup of the data in case of an attack. Reference:

[What is Ransomware? | How to Protect Against Ransomware in 2023](#)

[Ransomware - Wikipedia](#)

[What is ransomware? | Ransomware meaning | Cloudflare](#)

[\[What Is Ransomware? | Ransomware.org\]](#)

[\[Ransomware - FBI\]](#)

NEW QUESTION # 61

What license would be required for ingesting external logs from various vendors?

- A. Cortex XDR Pro per Endpoint
- B. Cortex XDR Cloud per Host
- C. Cortex XDR Vendor Agnostic Pro
- **D. Cortex XDR Pro per TB**

Answer: D

Explanation:

To ingest external logs from various vendors, you need a Cortex XDR Pro per TB license. This license allows you to collect and analyze logs from Palo Alto Networks and third-party sources, such as firewalls, proxies, endpoints, cloud services, and more. You can use the Log Forwarding app to forward logs from the Logging Service to an external syslog receiver. The Cortex XDR Pro per Endpoint license only supports logs from Cortex XDR agents installed on endpoints. The Cortex XDR Vendor Agnostic Pro and Cortex XDR Cloud per Host licenses do not exist. Reference:

Features by Cortex XDR License Type

Log Forwarding App for Cortex XDR Analytics

SaaS Log Collection

NEW QUESTION # 62

As a Malware Analyst working with Cortex XDR you notice an alert suggesting that there was a prevented attempt to open a malicious Word document. You learn from the WildFire report and AutoFocus that this document is known to have been used in Phishing campaigns since 2018. What steps can you take to ensure that the same document is not opened by other users in your organization protected by the Cortex XDR agent?

- A. No step is required because Cortex shares IOCs with our fellow Cyber Threat Alliance members.
- B. Enable DLL Protection on all endpoints but there might be some false positives.
- **C. Create Behavioral Threat Protection (BTP) rules to recognize and prevent the activity.**
- D. No step is required because the malicious document is already stopped.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The correct answer is B, create Behavioral Threat Protection (BTP) rules to recognize and prevent the activity. BTP rules are a powerful feature of Cortex XDR that allow you to define custom rules to detect and block malicious behaviors on endpoints. You can use BTP rules to create indicators of compromise (IOCs) based on file attributes, registry keys, processes, network connections, and other criteria. By creating BTP rules, you can prevent the same malicious Word document from being opened by other users in your organization, even if the document has a different name or hash value. BTP rules are updated through content updates and can be managed from the Cortex XDR console.

The other options are incorrect for the following reasons:

A is incorrect because enabling DLL Protection on all endpoints is not a specific or effective way to prevent the malicious Word document. DLL Protection is a feature of Cortex XDR that prevents the loading of unsigned or untrusted DLLs by protected processes. However, this feature does not apply to Word documents or macros, and may cause false positives or compatibility issues with legitimate applications.

C is incorrect because relying on Cortex to share IOCs with the Cyber Threat Alliance members is not a proactive or sufficient way to prevent the malicious Word document. The Cyber Threat Alliance is a group of cybersecurity vendors that share threat intelligence and best practices to improve their products and services. However, not all vendors are members of the alliance, and not all IOCs are shared or updated in a timely manner. Therefore, you cannot assume that other users in your organization are protected by the same IOCs as Cortex XDR.

D is incorrect because doing nothing is not a responsible or secure way to prevent the malicious Word document. Even though Cortex XDR agent prevented the attempt to open the document on one endpoint, it does not mean that the document is no longer a threat. The document may still be circulating in your network or email system, and may be opened by other users who have different agent profiles or policies. Therefore, you should take steps to identify and block the document across your organization.

Reference:

Cortex XDR Agent Administrator Guide: Behavioral Threat Protection

Cortex XDR Agent Administrator Guide: DLL Protection

Palo Alto Networks: Cyber Threat Alliance

NEW QUESTION # 63

A file is identified as malware by the Local Analysis module whereas WildFire verdict is Benign. Assuming WildFire is accurate. Which statement is correct for the incident?

- A. It is a false negative.
- B. It is true negative.
- C. It is true positive.
- **D. It is false positive.**

Answer: D

Explanation:

A false positive is a situation where a file or activity is incorrectly identified as malicious by a security tool, when in fact it is benign or harmless. A false positive can cause unnecessary alerts, disruptions, or remediation actions, and reduce the confidence and efficiency of the security system. In this question, a file is identified as malware by the Local Analysis module, whereas WildFire verdict is Benign, assuming WildFire is accurate. This means that the Local Analysis module has made a mistake and flagged a legitimate file as malicious, while WildFire has correctly determined that the file is safe. Therefore, this is an example of a false positive. The Local Analysis module is a feature of the Cortex XDR agent that uses a static set of pattern-matching rules and a statistical model to determine if an unknown file is likely to be malware. The Local Analysis module can provide a fast and offline verdict for files that are not yet analyzed by WildFire, but it is not as accurate or comprehensive as WildFire, which uses dynamic analysis and machine learning to examine the behavior and characteristics of files in a sandbox environment. WildFire verdicts are considered more reliable and authoritative than Local Analysis verdicts, and can override them in case of a discrepancy. Therefore, if a file is identified as malware by the Local Analysis module, but as Benign by WildFire, the WildFire verdict should be trusted and the Local Analysis verdict should be disregarded.

123 Reference: False positive (security) - Wikipedia

Local Analysis

WildFire Overview

NEW QUESTION # 64

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