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Linux Foundation CNPA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• IDPs and Developer Experience: This section of the exam measures the skills of Supplier Management Consultants and focuses on improving developer experience. It covers simplified access to platform capabilities, API-driven service catalogs, developer portals for platform adoption, and the role of AI • ML in platform automation.
Topic 2	• Platform APIs and Provisioning Infrastructure: This part of the exam evaluates Procurement Specialists on the use of Kubernetes reconciliation loops, APIs for self-service platforms, and infrastructure provisioning with Kubernetes. It also assesses knowledge of the Kubernetes operator pattern for integration and platform scalability.

Topic 3	• Measuring your Platform: This part of the exam assesses Procurement Specialists on how to measure platform efficiency and team productivity. It includes knowledge of applying DORA metrics for platform initiatives and monitoring outcomes to align with organizational goals.

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Linux Foundation Certified Cloud Native Platform Engineering Associate Sample Questions (Q62-Q67):

NEW QUESTION # 62
In what way does an internal platform impact developers' cognitive load?

- A. It increases cognitive load by requiring knowledge of all the underlying tools involved.
- B. It has no impact on the mental effort required from developers, ensuring their cognitive load remains unchanged.
- C. It reduces cognitive load by hiding complex infrastructure details and providing simple interfaces.
- D. It shifts all operational complexity onto developers, making them fully responsible for managing the process.

Answer: C

Explanation:
The primary role of an Internal Developer Platform (IDP) is to reduce cognitive load for developers by abstracting away infrastructure complexity and providing simple, self-service interfaces. Option B is correct because platforms deliver curated golden paths, service catalogs, and APIs that allow developers to focus on application logic instead of learning every underlying infrastructure tool.
Option A is incorrect-platforms are specifically designed to reduce mental overhead. Option C contradicts the platform engineering principle of shifting complexity away from developers. Option D also misrepresents the intent of platforms, which aim to unify and simplify rather than complicate.
By lowering cognitive load, platforms improve productivity, enable faster onboarding, and reduce the likelihood of errors. This aligns with the "platform as a product" model, where developers are treated as customers and the platform is designed to optimize their experience.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Team Topologies (Cognitive Load Principle)- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 63
In designing a cloud native platform, which architectural feature is essential for allowing the integration of new capabilities like self-service delivery and observability without specialist intervention?

- A. Static architecture with rigid components.
- B. Monolithic architecture with no APIs.
- C. Centralized integration through specialist API gateways.
- D. Extensible architecture with modular components.

Answer: D

Explanation:
An extensible architecture with modular components is crucial for modern platform engineering. Option C is correct because modularity allows new capabilities (e.g., self-service delivery, observability, or security features) to be added or replaced without disrupting the whole system. This approach promotes agility, scalability, and maintainability.
Option A (monolithic architecture) restricts flexibility and slows innovation. Option B (centralized API gateways) may help

integration but still creates bottlenecks if every addition requires specialist intervention.
Option D (static architecture) locks the platform into rigid patterns, preventing adaptation to evolving needs.
Extensible, modular design is a hallmark of cloud native platforms. It enables composability, where services (like service mesh, logging, monitoring, or provisioning APIs) can be plugged in as needed. This architecture supports golden paths and self-service abstractions, reducing developer friction while keeping governance intact.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- CNCF Platform Engineering Maturity Model- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 64
Which tool is commonly used to automate environment provisioning?

- A. Docker
- B. Prometheus
- C. Kubernetes
- D. OpenTofu

Answer: D

Explanation:
OpenTofu (the open-source fork of Terraform) is one of the most widely used tools for automating environment provisioning. Option D is correct because OpenTofu allows teams to define infrastructure as code, supporting multiple cloud providers and services. It enables declarative, reusable, and version- controlled provisioning workflows, ensuring consistency across environments.
Option A (Kubernetes) orchestrates containers and workloads but does not provision infrastructure outside its cluster scope. Option B (Prometheus) is an observability tool, not an IaC tool. Option C (Docker) manages containers but does not provision full environments or infrastructure.
By using tools like OpenTofu/Terraform, platform engineers ensure scalable, repeatable environment provisioning integrated into CI/CD or GitOps workflows. This aligns with platform engineering's goals of reducing toil and enabling self-service with compliance.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Infrastructure as Code Best Practices- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 65
During a CI/CD pipeline review, the team discusses methods to prevent insecure code from being introduced into production. Which practice is most effective for this purpose?

- A. Using caching strategies to control secure content delivery.
- B. Performing load balancing controls to manage traffic during deployments.
- C. Conducting A/B testing to validate secure code changes.
- D. Implementing security gates at key stages of the pipeline.

Answer: D

Explanation:
The most effective way to prevent insecure code from reaching production is to integrate security gates directly into the CI/CD pipeline. Option A is correct because security gates involve automated scanning of dependencies, SBOM generation, code analysis, and policy enforcement during build and test phases. This ensures that vulnerabilities or policy violations are caught early in the development lifecycle.
Option B (load balancing) improves availability but is unrelated to code security. Option C (A/B testing) validates functionality, not security. Option D (caching strategies) affects performance, not code safety.
By embedding automated checks into CI/CD pipelines, teams adopt a shift-left security approach, ensuring compliance and minimizing risks of supply chain attacks. This practice directly supports platform engineering goals of combining security with speed and reducing developer friction through automation.
References:- CNCF Supply Chain Security Whitepaper- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 66
In a scenario where an Internal Developer Platform (IDP) is being used to enable developers to self-service provision products and capabilities such as Namespace-as-a-Service, which answer best describes who is responsible for resolving application-related incidents?

- A. Platform teams are responsible for investigating and resolving underlying infrastructure problems whilst application teams are responsible for investigating and resolving application-related problems.
- B. Platform teams delegate appropriate permissions to the application teams to allow them to self-manage and resolve any underlying infrastructure and application-related problems.
- C. Platform teams are responsible for investigating and resolving all problems related to the platform, including application ones, before the app teams notice.
- D. A separate team is created which includes people previously from the platform and application teams to solve all problems for the organization.

Answer: A

Explanation:
Platform engineering clearly separates responsibilities between platform teams and application teams. Option C is correct because platform teams manage the platform and infrastructure layer, ensuring stability, compliance, and availability, while application teams own their applications, including troubleshooting application-specific issues.
Option A (creating a single merged team) introduces inefficiency and removes specialization. Option B incorrectly suggests application teams should also solve infrastructure issues, which conflicts with platform- as-a-product principles. Option D places all responsibilities on platform teams, which creates bottlenecks and undermines application team ownership.
By splitting responsibilities, IDPs empower developers with self-service provisioning while maintaining clear boundaries. This ensures both agility and accountability: platform teams focus on enabling and securing the platform, while application teams take ownership of their code and services.
References:- CNCF Platforms Whitepaper- Team Topologies (Platform as a Product Model)- Cloud Native Platform Engineering Study Guide

NEW QUESTION # 67
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