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## Pure Storage FlashArray Architect Associate Sample Questions (Q28-Q33):

### NEW QUESTION # 28

A Storage Administrator has two //X50R3 FlashArrays. The two FlashArrays are located in different data centers with a network link between them. The ethernet link between data centers has a latency of 35 ms.

Which Purity feature will provide protection against a site failure with the lowest recovery point?

- A. Local snapshots
- B. ActiveCluster
- C. ActiveDR
- D. Snapshot replication

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

Given that the two FlashArrays are located in different data centers with a network link latency of 35 ms, the best Purity feature to provide protection against a site failure with the lowest recovery point is ActiveDR.

Why This Matters:

ActiveDR:

ActiveDR is an asynchronous replication solution designed for disaster recovery scenarios where the secondary site may be geographically distant (e.g., >10 ms latency).

It provides low RPOs (typically seconds to minutes) and supports fast failover and failback capabilities, ensuring minimal data loss and downtime.

With a 35 ms latency between sites, synchronous replication (e.g., ActiveCluster) is not feasible due to the high latency impacting performance.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). ActiveCluster:

ActiveCluster requires synchronous replication, which is only suitable for sites within a low-latency range (<10 ms). At 35 ms latency, ActiveCluster would cause significant performance degradation.

C). Snapshot replication:

Snapshot replication is asynchronous but does not provide the same level of failover and failback capabilities as ActiveDR. It is better suited for backup purposes rather than disaster recovery with low RPOs.

D). Local snapshots:

Local snapshots are useful for point-in-time recovery within a single array but do not protect against site failures.

Key Points:

ActiveDR: Ideal for asynchronous replication with low RPOs and fast failover/failback.

Latency Considerations: ActiveDR supports higher latencies (e.g., 35 ms) compared to synchronous solutions like ActiveCluster.

Disaster Recovery: Ensures protection against site failures with minimal data loss and downtime.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "ActiveDR for Disaster Recovery" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Meeting RPO and RTO Requirements with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Choosing the Right Replication Solution for High Latency"

### NEW QUESTION # 29

What architectural design simplifies controller upgrades from FlashArray//XR2 to //XR3?

- A. Common controller chassis for both models
- B. Re-use of existing HBAs to prevent WWN changes
- C. InfiniBand connectivity between controllers
- D. NVRAM modules in both controllers

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The architectural design that simplifies controller upgrades from FlashArray//XR2 to //XR3 is the use of a common controller chassis for both models. This design allows customers to upgrade their controllers without replacing the entire array chassis, minimizing downtime and complexity during the upgrade process.

Why This Matters:

The common controller chassis ensures that the physical infrastructure (e.g., drive shelves, power supplies, and other components) remains unchanged during the upgrade. Only the controllers themselves need to be swapped out, which significantly reduces the time and effort required for the upgrade.

This approach also eliminates the need for re-cabling or reconfiguring the array, as the chassis and its connections remain consistent between the two models.

Why Not the Other Options?

B). InfiniBand connectivity between controllers: While InfiniBand is used for high-speed communication between controllers in FlashArray systems, it is not directly related to simplifying controller upgrades. It is a feature of the architecture but does not address the ease of upgrading between models.

C). NVRAM modules in both controllers: NVRAM (Non-Volatile RAM) is used to ensure data integrity during power loss, but it is not a factor in simplifying controller upgrades. Both XR2 and XR3 models include NVRAM, so this is not unique to the upgrade process.

D). Re-use of existing HBAs to prevent WWN changes: While reusing HBAs can help avoid changes to World Wide Names (WWNs), this is not a key factor in simplifying the upgrade process. The common controller chassis is the primary design feature that streamlines the upgrade.

Key Points:

Common Controller Chassis: Enables seamless upgrades by allowing the replacement of controllers without changing the rest of the array infrastructure.

Minimized Downtime: Reduces the time and complexity of upgrades, ensuring minimal disruption to operations.

Consistency Across Models: Ensures compatibility and continuity between different generations of FlashArray controllers.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray//X Documentation: "Controller Upgrade Process and Best Practices" Pure Storage

Whitepaper: "Evergreen Architecture and Controller Upgrades" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Upgrading FlashArray Controllers Without Downtime"

### NEW QUESTION # 30

The customer asks if the FlashArray is suitable for a cloud-native application that utilizes containers and Kubernetes. Which response addresses this question?

- A. This is supported via an installable CSI provider specifically for the FlashArray.
- **B. This is supported via Pure's Portworx offering.**
- C. This is supported and Pure uses a software layer that is only compatible with DAS storage in Kubernetes.
- D. This is not supported with FlashArray and this application data will need to be stored on a different array.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

The FlashArray is suitable for cloud-native applications that utilize containers and Kubernetes, but the best way to address this use case is through Pure Storage's Portworx offering.

Why This Matters:

Portworx:

Portworx is a container storage and data management platform specifically designed for Kubernetes and cloud-native applications. It integrates seamlessly with FlashArray to provide persistent storage, data protection, and advanced features like snapshots, replication, and disaster recovery for containerized workloads.

Portworx ensures high performance, scalability, and reliability for stateful applications running in Kubernetes environments.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). This is not supported with FlashArray and this application data will need to be stored on a different array:

This statement is incorrect. FlashArray is fully capable of supporting cloud-native applications when paired with the right tools, such as Portworx.

B). This is supported via an installable CSI provider specifically for the FlashArray:

While FlashArray does support a Container Storage Interface (CSI) driver, it is a basic integration and does not provide the advanced features and capabilities offered by Portworx for Kubernetes environments.

D). This is supported and Pure uses a software layer that is only compatible with DAS storage in Kubernetes:

This statement is incorrect. Pure Storage solutions are compatible with both direct-attached storage (DAS) and external storage arrays like FlashArray.

Key Points:

Portworx: The recommended solution for integrating FlashArray with Kubernetes and containerized applications.

Advanced Features: Provides persistent storage, data protection, and scalability for cloud-native workloads.

Integration: Ensures seamless compatibility between FlashArray and Kubernetes environments.

Reference: Pure Storage Portworx Documentation: "Integrating Portworx with FlashArray" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Cloud-Native Storage Solutions with Portworx" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Best Practices for Kubernetes and FlashArray"

Integration"

### NEW QUESTION # 31

A potential customer has a use case where they need to use a stretched cluster for high availability and also require a third copy of their data in a remote geographic location.

Which replication method should be recommended?

- A. ActiveCluster with asynchronous snapshot replication
- B. CloudSnap to an offload target
- C. ActiveDR with periodic snapshot replication
- D. Fan-out asynchronous snapshot replication

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

The customer requires a storage solution that supports a stretched cluster for high availability and also maintains a third copy of their data in a remote geographic location. The best replication method to recommend is ActiveCluster with asynchronous snapshot replication.

Why This Matters:

ActiveCluster:

ActiveCluster provides synchronous replication between two sites within a stretched cluster, ensuring zero RPO and near-zero RTO for high availability.

It is ideal for scenarios where applications require continuous access to data across two locations.

Asynchronous Snapshot Replication:

Asynchronous replication extends the disaster recovery strategy by replicating snapshots to a third site. This ensures an additional layer of protection against regional failures.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). CloudSnap to an offload target:

CloudSnap is used to offload snapshots to cloud storage (e.g., AWS S3 or Azure Blob). While it satisfies the requirement for a third copy, it does not integrate with ActiveCluster for high availability in a stretched cluster.

B). Fan-out asynchronous snapshot replication:

Fan-out replication involves sending snapshots to multiple targets asynchronously. However, it does not provide the synchronous replication required for a stretched cluster.

C). ActiveDR with periodic snapshot replication:

ActiveDR is designed for asynchronous replication and failover/failback scenarios but does not support synchronous replication for a stretched cluster.

Key Points:

ActiveCluster: Ensures high availability with synchronous replication in a stretched cluster.

Async Replication: Adds a third-site replication target for comprehensive disaster recovery.

Integrated Solution: Combines high availability and disaster recovery into a single architecture.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "ActiveCluster with Async Replication" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Disaster Recovery Strategies with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Using Protection Groups in Stretched Pods"

### NEW QUESTION # 32

A customer is unsatisfied because the level of data reduction on their FlashArray is NOT as high as expected.

What two statements should the SE make to the customer? (Choose two.)

- A. FlashArray data reduction needs to be tuned to increase its effectiveness.
- B. FlashArray's deduplication effectiveness will usually increase as the data quantity grows.
- C. The Right-Size Guarantee means that the customer can work with their SE if necessary.
- D. A FlashArray's compression and deduplication will need to be tuned for data subsets.

**Answer: B,C**

Explanation:

If a customer is unsatisfied with the level of data reduction on their FlashArray, the SE should make the following two statements:

FlashArray's deduplication effectiveness will usually increase as the data quantity grows:

Deduplication relies on identifying and eliminating duplicate data blocks. As more data is written to the array, the likelihood of finding duplicates increases, improving the overall deduplication ratio.

Customers should expect better data reduction results over time as their dataset grows.

The Right-Size Guarantee means that the customer can work with their SE if necessary:

Pure Storage's Right-Size Guarantee ensures that customers receive the expected effective capacity based on their workload's data reduction profile. If the actual data reduction does not meet expectations, the customer can collaborate with their SE to address the issue and potentially adjust their subscription or configuration.

Why Not the Other Options?

A). A FlashArray's compression and deduplication will need to be tuned for data subsets:

FlashArray's data reduction techniques (compression and deduplication) are automatic and do not require manual tuning. This statement is misleading.

C). FlashArray data reduction needs to be tuned to increase its effectiveness:

Similar to Option A, FlashArray's data reduction mechanisms are fully automated and do not require manual intervention.

Key Points:

Data Growth: Deduplication effectiveness improves as more data is written to the array.

Right-Size Guarantee: Provides assurance that customers can work with their SE to address data reduction concerns.

Automatic Optimization: FlashArray's data reduction features are self-optimizing and do not require manual tuning.

Reference: Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "Understanding Data Reduction and Capacity Planning" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Maximizing Data Reduction with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Right-Size Guarantee Terms and Conditions"

### NEW QUESTION # 33

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