

# 2026 Linux Foundation KCSA: Marvelous Reliable Linux Foundation Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate Exam Book



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## Linux Foundation KCSA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details

Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kubernetes Cluster Component Security:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of a Kubernetes Administrator and focuses on securing the core components that make up a Kubernetes cluster. It encompasses the security configuration and potential vulnerabilities of essential parts such as the API server, etcd, kubelet, container runtime, and networking elements, ensuring each component is hardened against attacks.</li> </ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kubernetes Security Fundamentals:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of a Kubernetes Administrator and covers the primary security mechanisms within Kubernetes. This includes implementing pod security standards and admissions, configuring robust authentication and authorization systems like RBAC, managing secrets properly, and using network policies and audit logging to enforce isolation and monitor cluster activity.</li> </ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Platform Security:</b> This section of the exam measures the skills of a Cloud Security Architect and encompasses broader platform-wide security concerns. This includes securing the software supply chain from image development to deployment, implementing observability and service meshes, managing Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), controlling network connectivity, and using admission controllers to enforce security policies.</li> </ul>

## Linux Foundation Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate Sample Questions (Q26-Q31):

### NEW QUESTION # 26

Why might NetworkPolicy resources have no effect in a Kubernetes cluster?

- A. NetworkPolicy resources are only enforced if the Kubernetes scheduler supports them.
- B. NetworkPolicy resources are only enforced for unprivileged Pods.
- **C. NetworkPolicy resources are only enforced if the networking plugin supports them.**
- D. NetworkPolicy resources are only enforced if the user has the right RBAC permissions.

**Answer: C**

Explanation:

\* NetworkPolicies define how Pods can communicate with each other and external endpoints.

\* However, Kubernetes itself does not enforce NetworkPolicy. Enforcement depends on the CNI plugin used (e.g., Calico, Cilium, Kube-Router, Weave Net).

\* If a cluster is using a network plugin that does not support NetworkPolicies, then creating NetworkPolicy objects has no effect.

References:

Kubernetes Documentation - Network Policies

CNCF Security Whitepaper - Platform security section: notes that security enforcement relies on CNI capabilities.

### NEW QUESTION # 27

What kind of organization would need to be compliant with PCI DSS?

- A. Retail stores that only accept cash payments.
- **B. Merchants that process credit card payments.**
- C. Non-profit organizations that handle sensitive customer data.
- D. Government agencies that collect personally identifiable information.

**Answer: B**

Explanation:

\* PCI DSS (Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard) applies to any entity that stores, processes, or transmits cardholder data.

\* Exact extract (PCI DSS official summary):

\* "PCI DSS applies to all entities that store, process or transmit cardholder data (CHD) and/or sensitive authentication data (SAD)."

\* Therefore, merchants who process credit card payments must comply.

- \* Why others are wrong:
- \* A: No card payments, so no PCI scope.
- \* B: This falls under FISMA / NIST 800-53, not PCI DSS.
- \* C: Non-profits may handle sensitive data, but PCI only applies if they process credit cards.

References:

PCI Security Standards Council - PCI DSS Summary: [https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/pci\\_security/](https://www.pcisecuritystandards.org/pci_security/)

### NEW QUESTION # 28

A cluster administrator wants to enforce the use of a different container runtime depending on the application a workload belongs to.

- A. By manually modifying the container runtime for each workload after it has been created.
- B. By configuring a validating admission controller webhook that verifies the container runtime based on the application label and rejects requests that do not comply.
- C. By modifying the kube-apiserver configuration file to specify the desired container runtime for each application.
- **D. By configuring a mutating admission controller webhook that intercepts new workload creation requests and modifies the container runtime based on the application label.**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

- \* Kubernetes supports workload-specific runtimes via `RuntimeClass`.
- \* A mutating admission controller can enforce this automatically by:
- \* Intercepting workload creation requests.
- \* Modifying the Pod spec to set `runtimeClassName` based on labels or policies.
- \* Incorrect options:
- \* (A) Manual modification is not scalable or secure.
- \* (B) kube-apiserver cannot enforce per-application runtime policies.
- \* (C) A validating webhook can only reject, not modify, the runtime.

References:

Kubernetes Documentation - `RuntimeClass`

CNCF Security Whitepaper - Admission controllers for enforcing runtime policies.

### NEW QUESTION # 29

In the event that kube-proxy is in a `CrashLoopBackOff` state, what impact does it have on the Pods running on the same worker node?

- A. The Pod cannot mount persistent volumes through CSI drivers.
- B. The Pod's security context restrictions cannot be enforced.
- C. The Pod's resource utilization increases significantly.
- **D. The Pods cannot communicate with other Pods in the cluster.**

**Answer: D**

Explanation:

- \* kube-proxy manages cluster network routing rules (via iptables or IPVS). It enables Pods to communicate with Services and Pods across nodes.
  - \* If kube-proxy fails (`CrashLoopBackOff`), service IP routing and cluster-wide pod-to-pod networking breaks. Local Pod-to-Pod communication within the same node may still work, but cross-node communication fails.
  - \* Exact extract (Kubernetes Docs - kube-proxy):
  - \* "kube-proxy maintains network rules on nodes. These rules allow network communication to Pods from network sessions inside or outside of the cluster." References:
- Kubernetes Docs - kube-proxy: <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/command-line-tools-reference/kube-proxy/>

### NEW QUESTION # 30

Which of the following statements regarding a container run with `privileged: true` is correct?

- A. A container run with `privileged: true` on a node can access all Secrets used on that node.

- Answer: B**

CNCF Security Whitepaper - Pod security context and privileged container risks.

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