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A lot of progress is being made in the Appian sector today. Many companies offer job opportunities to qualified candidates, but they have specific ACD301 certification criteria to select qualified candidates. Thus, they can filter out effective and qualified candidates from the population. Appian Lead Developer (ACD301) must be taken and passed to become a certified individual.

Appian ACD301 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• Platform Management: This section of the exam measures skills of Appian System Administrators and covers the ability to manage platform operations such as deploying applications across environments, troubleshooting platform-level issues, configuring environment settings, and understanding platform architecture. Candidates are also expected to know when to involve Appian Support and how to adjust admin console configurations to maintain stability and performance.
Topic 2	• Extending Appian: This section of the exam measures skills of Integration Specialists and covers building and troubleshooting advanced integrations using connected systems and APIs. Candidates are expected to work with authentication, evaluate plug-ins, develop custom solutions when needed, and utilize document generation options to extend the platform's capabilities.

Topic 3	• Data Management: This section of the exam measures skills of Data Architects and covers analyzing, designing, and securing data models. Candidates must demonstrate an understanding of how to use Appian's data fabric and manage data migrations. The focus is on ensuring performance in high-volume data environments, solving data-related issues, and implementing advanced database features effectively.
Topic 4	• Application Design and Development: This section of the exam measures skills of Lead Appian Developers and covers the design and development of applications that meet user needs using Appian functionality. It includes designing for consistency, reusability, and collaboration across teams. Emphasis is placed on applying best practices for building multiple, scalable applications in complex environments.
Topic 5	• Proactively Design for Scalability and Performance: This section of the exam measures skills of Application Performance Engineers and covers building scalable applications and optimizing Appian components for performance. It includes planning load testing, diagnosing performance issues at the application level, and designing systems that can grow efficiently without sacrificing reliability.

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Appian Lead Developer Sample Questions (Q23-Q28):

NEW QUESTION # 23
You are running an inspection as part of the first deployment process from TEST to PROD. You receive a notice that one of your objects will not deploy because it is dependent on an object from an application owned by a separate team.
What should be your next step?

- A. Check the dependencies of the necessary object. Deploy to PROD if there are few dependencies and it is low risk.
- B. Push a functionally viable package to PROD without the dependencies, and plan the rest of the deployment accordingly with the other team's constraints.
- C. Halt the production deployment and contact the other team for guidance on promoting the object to PROD.
- D. Create your own object with the same code base, replace the dependent object in the application, and deploy to PROD.

Answer: C

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:
As an Appian Lead Developer, managing a deployment from TEST to PROD requires careful handling of dependencies, especially when objects from another team's application are involved. The scenario describes a dependency issue during deployment, signaling a need for collaboration and governance. Let's evaluate each option:
A . Create your own object with the same code base, replace the dependent object in the application, and deploy to PROD:
This approach involves duplicating the object, which introduces redundancy, maintenance risks, and potential version control issues. It violates Appian's governance principles, as objects should be owned and managed by their respective teams to ensure consistency and avoid conflicts. Appian's deployment best practices discourage duplicating objects unless absolutely necessary, making this an unsustainable and risky solution.
B . Halt the production deployment and contact the other team for guidance on promoting the object to PROD:
This is the correct step. When an object from another application (owned by a separate team) is a dependency, Appian's deployment process requires coordination to ensure both applications' objects are deployed in sync. Halting the deployment prevents partial deployments that could break functionality, and contacting the other team aligns with Appian's collaboration and governance guidelines. The other team can provide the necessary object version, adjust their deployment timeline, or resolve the dependency, ensuring a stable PROD environment.
C . Check the dependencies of the necessary object. Deploy to PROD if there are few dependencies and it is low risk:
This approach risks deploying an incomplete or unstable application if the dependency isn't fully resolved. Even with "few

dependencies" and "low risk," deploying without the other team's object could lead to runtime errors or broken functionality in PROD. Appian's documentation emphasizes thorough dependency management during deployment, requiring all objects (including those from other applications) to be promoted together, making this risky and not recommended.

D . Push a functionally viable package to PROD without the dependencies, and plan the rest of the deployment accordingly with the other team's constraints:

Deploying without dependencies creates an incomplete solution, potentially leaving the application non-functional or unstable in PROD. Appian's deployment process ensures all dependencies are included to maintain application integrity, and partial deployments are discouraged unless explicitly planned (e.g., phased rollouts). This option delays resolution and increases risk, contradicting Appian's best practices for Production stability.

Conclusion: Halting the production deployment and contacting the other team for guidance (B) is the next step. It ensures proper collaboration, aligns with Appian's governance model, and prevents deployment errors, providing a safe and effective resolution.

Reference:

Appian Documentation: "Deployment Best Practices" (Managing Dependencies Across Applications).

Appian Lead Developer Certification: Application Management Module (Cross-Team Collaboration).

Appian Best Practices: "Handling Production Deployments" (Dependency Resolution).

NEW QUESTION # 24

You are in a backlog refinement meeting with the development team and the product owner. You review a story for an integration involving a third-party system. A payload will be sent from the Appian system through the integration to the third-party system. The story is 21 points on a Fibonacci scale and requires development from your Appian team as well as technical resources from the third-party system. This item is crucial to your project's success. What are the two recommended steps to ensure this story can be developed effectively?

- A. Break down the item into smaller stories.
- B. Maintain a communication schedule with the third-party resources.
- C. Identify subject matter experts (SMEs) to perform user acceptance testing (UAT).
- D. Acquire testing steps from QA resources.

Answer: A,B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:

This question involves a complex integration story rated at 21 points on the Fibonacci scale, indicating significant complexity and effort. Appian Lead Developer best practices emphasize effective collaboration, risk mitigation, and manageable development scopes for such scenarios. The two most critical steps are:

Option C (Maintain a communication schedule with the third-party resources):

Integrations with third-party systems require close coordination, as Appian developers depend on external teams for endpoint specifications, payload formats, authentication details, and testing support. Establishing a regular communication schedule ensures alignment on requirements, timelines, and issue resolution. Appian's Integration Best Practices documentation highlights the importance of proactive communication with external stakeholders to prevent delays and misunderstandings, especially for critical project components.

Option D (Break down the item into smaller stories):

A 21-point story is considered large by Agile standards (Fibonacci scale typically flags anything above 13 as complex). Appian's Agile Development Guide recommends decomposing large stories into smaller, independently deliverable pieces to reduce risk, improve testability, and enable iterative progress. For example, the integration could be split into tasks like designing the payload structure, building the integration object, and testing the connection-each manageable within a sprint. This approach aligns with the principle of delivering value incrementally while maintaining quality.

Option A (Acquire testing steps from QA resources): While QA involvement is valuable, this step is more relevant during the testing phase rather than backlog refinement or development preparation. It's not a primary step for ensuring effective development of the story.

Option B (Identify SMEs for UAT): User acceptance testing occurs after development, during the validation phase. Identifying SMEs is important but not a key step in ensuring the story is developed effectively during the refinement and coding stages.

By choosing C and D, you address both the external dependency (third-party coordination) and internal complexity (story size), ensuring a smoother development process for this critical integration.

NEW QUESTION # 25

As part of an upcoming release of an application, a new nullable field is added to a table that contains customer dat a. The new field is used by a report in the upcoming release and is calculated using data from another table.

Which two actions should you consider when creating the script to add the new field?

- A. Create a rollback script that clears the data from the field.
- B. Create a script that adds the field and leaves it null.
- C. Add a view that joins the customer data to the data used in calculation.
- D. Create a rollback script that removes the field.
- E. Create a script that adds the field and then populates it.

Answer: D,E

Explanation:
Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:
As an Appian Lead Developer, adding a new nullable field to a database table for an upcoming release requires careful planning to ensure data integrity, report functionality, and rollback capability. The field is used in a report and calculated from another table, so the script must handle both deployment and potential reversibility. Let's evaluate each option:
A . Create a script that adds the field and leaves it null:
Adding a nullable field and leaving it null is technically feasible (e.g., using ALTER TABLE ADD COLUMN in SQL), but it doesn't address the report's need for calculated data. Since the field is used in a report and calculated from another table, leaving it null risks incomplete or incorrect reporting until populated, delaying functionality. Appian's data management best practices recommend populating data during deployment for immediate usability, making this insufficient as a standalone action.
B . Create a rollback script that removes the field:
This is a critical action. In Appian, database changes (e.g., adding a field) must be reversible in case of deployment failure or rollback needs (e.g., during testing or PROD issues). A rollback script that removes the field (e.g., ALTER TABLE DROP COLUMN) ensures the database can return to its original state, minimizing risk. Appian's deployment guidelines emphasize rollback scripts for schema changes, making this essential for safe releases.
C . Create a script that adds the field and then populates it:
This is also essential. Since the field is nullable, calculated from another table, and used in a report, populating it during deployment ensures immediate functionality. The script can use SQL (e.g., UPDATE table SET new_field = (SELECT calculated_value FROM other_table WHERE condition)) to populate data, aligning with Appian's data fabric principles for maintaining data consistency. Appian's documentation recommends populating new fields during deployment for reporting accuracy, making this a key action.
D . Create a rollback script that clears the data from the field:
Clearing data (e.g., UPDATE table SET new_field = NULL) is less effective than removing the field entirely. If the deployment fails, the field's existence with null values could confuse reports or processes, requiring additional cleanup. Appian's rollback strategies favor reverting schema changes completely (removing the field) rather than leaving it with nulls, making this less reliable and unnecessary compared to B.
E . Add a view that joins the customer data to the data used in calculation:
Creating a view (e.g., CREATE VIEW customer_report AS SELECT ... FROM customer_table JOIN other_table ON ...) is useful for reporting but isn't a prerequisite for adding the field. The scenario focuses on the field addition and population, not reporting structure. While a view could optimize queries, it's a secondary step, not a primary action for the script itself. Appian's data modeling best practices suggest views as post-deployment optimizations, not script requirements.
Conclusion: The two actions to consider are B (create a rollback script that removes the field) and C (create a script that adds the field and then populates it). These ensure the field is added with data for immediate report usability and provide a safe rollback option, aligning with Appian's deployment and data management standards for schema changes.
Reference:
Appian Documentation: "Database Schema Changes" (Adding Fields and Rollback Scripts).
Appian Lead Developer Certification: Data Management Module (Schema Deployment Strategies).
Appian Best Practices: "Managing Data Changes in Production" (Populating and Rolling Back Fields).

NEW QUESTION # 26
You are asked to design a case management system for a client. In addition to storing some basic metadata about a case, one of the client's requirements is the ability for users to update a case. The client would like any user in their organization of 500 people to be able to make these updates. The users are all based in the company's headquarters, and there will be frequent cases where users are attempting to edit the same case.
The client wants to ensure no information is lost when these edits occur and does not want the solution to burden their process administrators with any additional effort. Which data locking approach should you recommend?

- A. Design a process report and query to determine who opened the edit form first.
- B. Use the database to implement low-level pessimistic locking.
- C. Allow edits without locking the case CDI.
- D. Add an @Version annotation to the case CDT to manage the locking.

Answer: D

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:The requirement involves a case management system where 500 users may simultaneously edit the same case, with a need to prevent data loss and minimize administrative overhead. Appian's data management and concurrency control strategies are critical here, especially when integrating with an underlying database.

* Option C (Add an @Version annotation to the case CDT to manage the locking):This is the recommended approach. In Appian, the @Version annotation on a Custom Data Type (CDT) enables optimistic locking, a lightweight concurrency control mechanism. When a user updates a case, Appian checks the version number of the CDT instance. If another user hasmodified it in the meantime, the update fails, prompting the user to refresh and reapply changes. This prevents data loss without requiring manual intervention by process administrators. Appian's Data Design Guide recommends

@Version for scenarios with high concurrency (e.g., 500 users) and frequent edits, as it leverages the database's native versioning (e.g., in MySQL or PostgreSQL) and integrates seamlessly with Appian's process models. This aligns with the client's no-burden requirement.

* Option A (Allow edits without locking the case CDI):This is risky. Without locking, simultaneous edits could overwrite each other, leading to data loss-a direct violation of the client's requirement.

Appian does not recommend this for collaborative environments.

* Option B (Use the database to implement low-level pessimistic locking):Pessimistic locking (e.g., using SELECT ... FOR UPDATE in MySQL) locks the record during the edit process, preventing other users from modifying it until the lock is released. While effective, it can lead to deadlocks or performance bottlenecks with 500 users, especially if edits are frequent. Additionally, managing this at the database level requires custom SQL and increases administrative effort (e.g., monitoring locks), which the client wants to avoid. Appian prefers higher-level solutions like @Version over low-level database locking.

* Option D (Design a process report and query to determine who opened the edit form first):This is impractical and inefficient. Building a custom report and query to track form opens adds complexity and administrative overhead. It doesn't inherently prevent data loss and relies on manual resolution, conflicting with the client's requirements.

The @Version annotation provides a robust, Appian-native solution that balances concurrency, data integrity, and ease of maintenance, making it the best fit.

References:Appian Documentation - Data Types and Concurrency Control, Appian Data Design Guide - Optimistic Locking with @Version, Appian Lead Developer Training - Case Management Design.

NEW QUESTION # 27

You have an active development team (Team A) building enhancements for an application (App X) and are currently using the TEST environment for User Acceptance Testing (UAT).

A separate operations team (Team B) discovers a critical error in the Production instance of App X that they must remediate. However, Team B does not have a hotfix stream for which to accomplish this. The available environments are DEV, TEST, and PROD.

Which risk mitigation effort should both teams employ to ensure Team A's capital project is only minorly interrupted, and Team B's critical fix can be completed and deployed quickly to end users?

- A. Team B must address changes in the TEST environment. These changes can then be tested and deployed directly to PROD. Once the deployment is complete, Team B can then communicate their changes to Team A to ensure they are incorporated as part of the next release.
- B. Team B must communicate to Team A which component will be addressed in the hotfix to avoid overlap of changes. If overlap exists, the component must be versioned to its PROD state before being remediated and deployed, and then versioned back to its latest development state. If overlap does not exist, the component may be remediated and deployed without any version changes.
- C. Team B must address the changes directly in PROD. As there is no hotfix stream, and DEV and TEST are being utilized for active development, it is best to avoid a conflict of components. Once Team A has completed their enhancements work, Team B can update DEV and TEST accordingly.
- D. Team A must analyze their current codebase in DEV to merge the hotfix changes into their latest enhancements. Team B is then required to wait for the hotfix to follow regular deployment protocols from DEV to the PROD environment.

Answer: B

Explanation:

Comprehensive and Detailed In-Depth Explanation:As an Appian Lead Developer, managing concurrent development and operations (hotfix) activities across limited environments (DEV, TEST, PROD) requires minimizing disruption to Team A's enhancements while ensuring Team B's critical fix reaches PROD quickly. The scenario highlights nohotfix stream, active UAT in TEST, and a critical PROD issue, necessitating a strategic approach. Let's evaluate each option:

* A. Team B must communicate to Team A which component will be addressed in the hotfix to avoid overlap of changes. If overlap

exists, the component must be versioned to its PROD state before being remediated and deployed, and then versioned back to its latest development state. If overlap does not exist, the component may be remediated and deployed without any version changes:This is the best approach. It ensures collaboration between teams to prevent conflicts, leveraging Appian's version control (e.g., object versioning in Appian Designer). Team B identifies the critical component, checks for overlap with Team A's work, and uses versioning to isolate changes. If no overlap exists, the hotfix deploys directly; if overlap occurs, versioning preserves Team A's work, allowing the hotfix to deploy and then reverting the component for Team A's continuation. This minimizes interruption to Team A's UAT, enables rapid PROD deployment, and aligns with Appian's change management best practices.

* B. Team A must analyze their current codebase in DEV to merge the hotfix changes into their latest enhancements. Team B is then required to wait for the hotfix to follow regular deployment protocols from DEV to the PROD environment:This delays Team B's critical fix, as regular deployment (DEV # TEST # PROD) could take weeks, violating the need for "quick deployment to end users." It also risks introducing Team A's untested enhancements into the hotfix, potentially destabilizing PROD. Appian's documentation discourages mixing development and hotfix workflows, favoring isolated changes for urgent fixes, making this inefficient and risky.

* C. Team B must address changes in the TEST environment. These changes can then be tested and deployed directly to PROD. Once the deployment is complete, Team B can then communicate their changes to Team A to ensure they are incorporated as part of the next release:Using TEST for hotfix development disrupts Team A's UAT, as TEST is already in use for their enhancements. Direct deployment from TEST to PROD skips DEV validation, increasing risk, and doesn't address overlap with Team A's work. Appian's deployment guidelines emphasize separate streams (e.g., hotfix streams) to avoid such conflicts, making this disruptive and unsafe.

* D. Team B must address the changes directly in PROD. As there is no hotfix stream, and DEV and TEST are being utilized for active development, it is best to avoid a conflict of components. Once Team A has completed their enhancements work, Team B can update DEV and TEST accordingly:Making changes directly in PROD is highly discouraged in Appian due to lack of testing, version control, and rollback capabilities, risking further instability. This violates Appian's Production governance and security policies, and delays Team B's updates until Team A finishes, contradicting the need for a
"quick deployment." Appian's best practices mandate using lower environments for changes, ruling this out.

Conclusion: Team B communicating with Team A, versioning components if needed, and deploying the hotfix (A) is the risk mitigation effort. It ensures minimal interruption to Team A's work, rapid PROD deployment for Team B's fix, and leverages Appian's versioning for safe, controlled changes-aligning with Lead Developer standards for multi-team coordination.
References:
* Appian Documentation: "Managing Production Hotfixes" (Versioning and Change Management).
* Appian Lead Developer Certification: Application Management Module (Hotfix Strategies).
* Appian Best Practices: "Concurrent Development and Operations" (Minimizing Risk in Limited Environments).

NEW QUESTION # 28

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