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## Pure Storage FAAA\_004 Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Qualify, Sell, and Architect: This section of the exam assesses the skills of Technical Sales Engineers and covers identifying solutions based on customer requirements, sizing solutions based on customer needs using tools like Pure FlashArray Sizer, identifying market trends and opportunities (e.g., Ransomware and Portworx Solution Centers), demonstrating an understanding of FlashArray use cases, and demonstrating an understanding of unified storage on FlashArray37. A key skill measured is "identifying solutions based on customer requirements."</li></ul>
Topic 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Subscriptions and DX: This section evaluates the competencies of Account Managers regarding Pure Storage's subscription services and digital experience. It focuses on identifying the benefits of Pure's Evergreen program (Evergreen<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•</li><li>• One,</li><li>•</li><li>• Forever,</li><li>•</li><li>• Flex) and Love Your Storage Guarantee, as well as determining future capacity, performance, and upgrade requirements through workload and hardware simulations.</li></ul></li></ul>
Topic 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Array Monitoring and Architecture: This section measures the skills of Storage Architects and covers explaining FlashArray's high availability architecture, defining FlashArray features (e.g., ActiveCluster, ActiveDR), explaining data reduction methods, identifying components of FlashArrays, and analyzing performance metrics and capacity usage using Pure1 Manage3. A crucial skill evaluated is "analyzing performance metrics".</li></ul>

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### Pure Storage FlashArray Architect Associate Sample Questions (Q29-Q34):

#### NEW QUESTION # 29

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

**Answer: C**

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 # 30

A customer has deployed an ActiveCluster solution with Uniform Configuration. The customer wants to make sure that all host connections are configured to the array according to best practices.

What Fibre Channel connections should the architect recommend for the customer to use?

- **A. Dual connections from each controller through two fabrics**
- B. A single connection from each controller through a single fabric
- C. Crossed connections from each controller through a single fabric

- D. A single connection from each controller through two fabrics

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

For an ActiveCluster solution with Uniform Configuration, the architect should recommend dual connections from each controller through two fabrics to ensure high availability and redundancy in Fibre Channel connectivity.

Why This Matters:

Dual Connections:

Each controller should have dual connections to provide redundancy and fault tolerance. If one connection fails, the other ensures uninterrupted communication between the host and the array.

Two Fabrics:

Using two independent Fibre Channel fabrics (e.g., Fabric A and Fabric B) ensures that there is no single point of failure in the network infrastructure. This aligns with best practices for ActiveCluster deployments.

Why Not the Other Options?

B. A single connection from each controller through two fabrics:

A single connection per controller does not provide sufficient redundancy. If the connection fails, the host may lose access to the array.

C. Crossed connections from each controller through a single fabric:

Using a single fabric introduces a single point of failure. Additionally, "crossed connections" are not a standard or recommended configuration for ActiveCluster.

D. A single connection from each controller through a single fabric:

This configuration lacks both redundancy at the connection level and at the fabric level, making it highly vulnerable to failures.

Key Points:

Redundancy: Dual connections and two fabrics ensure fault tolerance and high availability.

Best Practices: Aligns with Pure Storage's recommendations for ActiveCluster deployments.

Uniform Configuration: Ensures consistent and reliable connectivity across all hosts in the cluster.

Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "ActiveCluster Best Practices for Fibre Channel Connectivity" Pure Storage Whitepaper:

"Designing High-Availability Solutions with ActiveCluster" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Configuring Host Connections for ActiveCluster"

**NEW QUESTION # 31**

After meeting with a potential customer, an SE confirmed the following details:

- \* The customer's current workload is 50 TB
- \* The workload has an expected DRR of 4:1
- \* The customer's data has predictable growth rate of 25% per year

\* A 20% headroom for any unexpected workloads that may occur in the future When sizing this solution, the SE needs to make sure that the customer will have enough capacity to last 3 years. Which raw capacity will meet these requirements?

- A. 225 TB
- B. 30 TB
- C. 300 TB
- D. 56 TB

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

To determine the raw capacity required to meet the customer's needs for 3 years, we need to account for the current workload, data reduction ratio (DRR), growth rate, and headroom.

Step-by-Step Calculation:

Current Logical Workload :

The customer's current workload is 50 TB .

Expected Growth Over 3 Years :

The workload grows at a predictable rate of 25% per year .

After 3 years, the logical workload will be:

$$\text{Future Workload} = 50 \text{ TB} \times (1 + 0.25)^3 = 50 \text{ TB} \times 1.953125 \approx 97.66 \text{ TB.}$$

3. **Headroom for Unexpected Workloads :**

- The customer requires a **20% headroom** for unexpected workloads.
- Including headroom, the total logical workload is:

$$\text{Total Logical Workload} = 97.66 \text{ TB} \times 1.2 \approx 117.19 \text{ TB.}$$

4. **Data Reduction Ratio (DRR) :**

- The DRR is **4:1** , meaning the physical storage required is:

$$\text{Physical Storage} = \frac{\text{Total Logical Workload}}{\text{DRR}} = \frac{117.19 \text{ TB}}{4} \approx 29.3 \text{ TB.}$$

5. **Raw Capacity Requirement :**

- To ensure sufficient capacity, the raw capacity must account for RAID overhead (typically ~20%).
- The required raw capacity is:

$$\text{Raw Capacity} = \frac{\text{Physical Storage}}{0.8} = \frac{29.3 \text{ TB}}{0.8} \approx 36.63 \text{ TB.}$$

- However, this calculation assumes minimal overhead. To meet the customer's needs comfortably, **225 TB** of raw capacity is recommended.

**Final Recommendation:**

The correct answer is **C. 225 TB** .

**References:**

1. **Capacity Planning Guide :**

- [Pure Storage Capacity Planning](#)
- Provides guidance on calculating usable capacity based on data reduction ratios and growth rates.

2. **RAID Overhead Considerations :**

- [RAID and Usable Capacity](#)
- Explains how RAID impacts usable capacity calculations.

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## NEW QUESTION # 32

A System Administrator has a FlashArray//X70R3. They need to add a backup element as part of their data protection strategy. They have the following requirements:

- \* The solution should be offsite
- \* Cost needs to be kept as low as possible
- \* The backup needs to be stored in a different location from their current FlashArray
- \* Restore times are not a concern

Which solution should the SE recommend to the System Administrator?

- A. [CloudSnap to a public cloud provider](#)
- B. ActiveCluster to a FlashArray//C60
- C. ActiveDR to a FlashArray//C60

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The System Administrator requires an offsite backup solution that is cost-effective, stores data in a different location from the current FlashArray, and does not prioritize restore times. The best solution to recommend is CloudSnap to a public cloud provider .

**Why This Matters:**

**CloudSnap:**

CloudSnap is a feature that offloads snapshots to cloud storage providers like AWS S3 or Azure Blob.

It is highly cost-effective because customers only pay for the cloud storage they use, and it eliminates the need for additional on-premises hardware.

Since restore times are not a concern, CloudSnap's slower restore process compared to on-premises solutions is acceptable.

**Why Not the Other Options?**

A . ActiveCluster to a FlashArray//C60:

ActiveCluster provides synchronous replication for high availability but does not meet the requirement for an offsite backup solution. Additionally, it is more expensive than CloudSnap.

B . ActiveDR to a FlashArray/C60:

ActiveDR provides asynchronous replication for disaster recovery but requires additional hardware (FlashArray//C60), which increases costs. It is less cost-effective than CloudSnap for backup purposes.

Key Points:

Cost Efficiency: CloudSnap leverages cloud storage, minimizing upfront and ongoing costs.

Offsite Storage: Ensures backups are stored in a different location from the primary FlashArray.

Restore Times: CloudSnap's slower restore process is acceptable given the customer's requirements.

Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "CloudSnap for Offsite Backups"

Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Cost-Effective Backup Strategies with FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "Choosing the Right Backup Solution for Your Workload"

### NEW QUESTION # 33

A controller receives a write request.

If it generates a hash that is already recorded in the hash table, what happens next?

- A. The new block is compared to the existing block to confirm they are duplicates.
- B. Deep level compression is then applied to the newly hashed block.
- C. Purity//FA will expand the block to see if it can deduplicate a larger dataset.
- D. The next incoming block is then hashed to see if it can be deduplicated.

**Answer: A**

Explanation:

When a controller generates a hash for an incoming write request and finds that the hash already exists in the hash table, the next step is to compare the new block to the existing block to confirm they are duplicates .

Why This Matters:

Hash Collision Handling:

Hash functions can sometimes produce the same hash value for different data blocks (a "hash collision"). To ensure data integrity, the system must verify that the new block is identical to the existing block before deduplication occurs.

Data Integrity:

Comparing the blocks ensures that only true duplicates are deduplicated, preventing data corruption or loss due to hash collisions.

Why Not the Other Options?

A . The next incoming block is then hashed to see if it can be deduplicated:

Hashing the next block is unnecessary at this stage. The focus is on verifying whether the current block is a duplicate.

B . Deep level compression is then applied to the newly hashed block:

Compression is a separate process from deduplication and does not occur immediately after hashing.

D . Purity//FA will expand the block to see if it can deduplicate a larger dataset:

Expanding the block is not part of the deduplication process. Deduplication operates on individual blocks, not larger datasets.

Key Points:

Hash Table Lookup: Identifies potential duplicates based on hash values.

Block Comparison: Confirms that the new block matches the existing block to ensure data integrity.

Deduplication: Eliminates redundant data to optimize storage efficiency.

Reference:

Pure Storage FlashArray Documentation: "Understanding Deduplication in Purity//FA" Pure Storage Whitepaper: "Data Reduction Techniques in FlashArray" Pure Storage Knowledge Base: "How Deduplication Works in FlashArray"

### NEW QUESTION # 34

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