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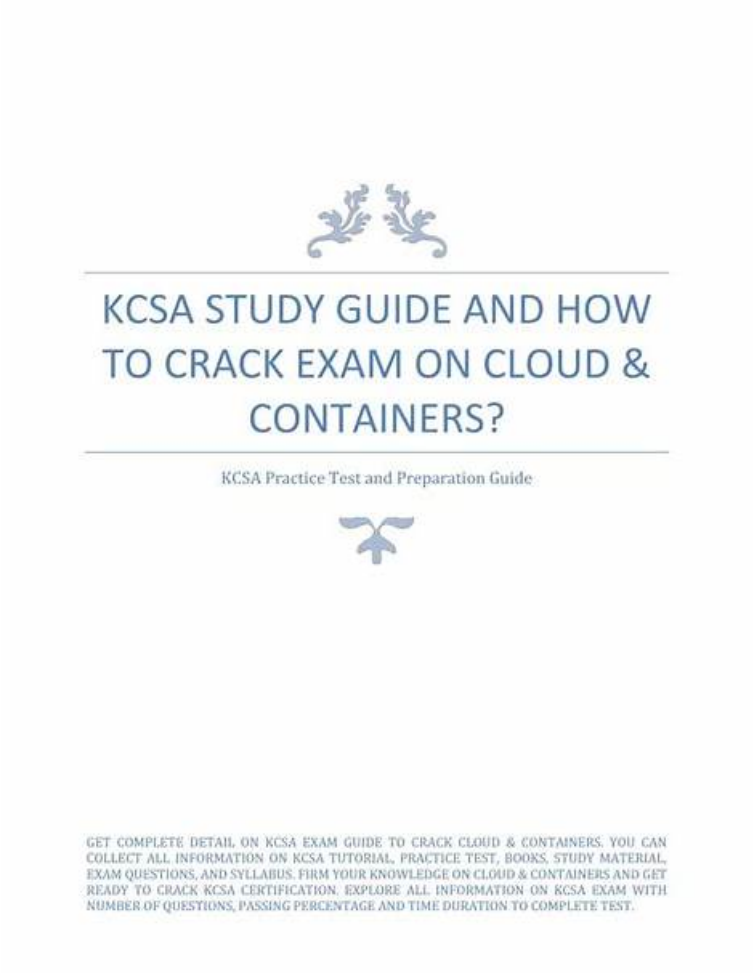

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Linux Foundation KCSA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• Platform Security: 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.
Topic 2	• Compliance and Security Frameworks: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Compliance Officer and focuses on applying formal structures to ensure security and meet regulatory demands. It covers working with industry-standard compliance and threat modeling frameworks, understanding supply chain security requirements, and utilizing automation tools to maintain and prove an organization's security posture.
Topic 3	• Kubernetes Cluster Component Security: 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.
Topic 4	• Kubernetes Security Fundamentals: 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.

Linux Foundation Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate Sample Questions (Q16-Q21):

NEW QUESTION # 16
Which of the following statements on static Pods is true?

- A. The kubelet schedules static Pods local to its node without going through the kube-scheduler, making tracking and managing them difficult.
- B. The kubelet can run a maximum of 5 static Pods on each node.
- C. The kubelet only deploys static Pods when the kube-scheduler is unresponsive.
- D. The kubelet can run static Pods that span multiple nodes, provided that it has the necessary privileges from the API server.

Answer: A

Explanation:
* Static Podsare managed directly by thekubeleton each node.
* They arenot scheduled by the kube-schedulerand always remain bound to the node where they are defined.
* Exact extract (Kubernetes Docs - Static Pods):
* "Static Pods are managed directly by the kubelet daemon on a specific node, without the API server. They do not go through the Kubernetes scheduler."
* Clarifications:
* A: Static Pods do not span multiple nodes.
* B: No hard limit of 5 Pods per node.
* D: They are not a fallback mechanism; kubelet always manages them regardless of scheduler state.
References:
Kubernetes Docs - Static Pods: https://kubernetes.io/docs/tasks/configure-pod-container/static-pod/

NEW QUESTION # 17
What was the name of the precursor to Pod Security Standards?

- A. Kubernetes Security Context

- B. Container Security Standards
- C. Container Runtime Security
- D. Pod Security Policy

Answer: D

Explanation:
* Kubernetes originally had a feature calledPodSecurityPolicy (PSP), which provided controls to restrict pod behavior.
* Official docs:
* "PodSecurityPolicy was deprecated in Kubernetes v1.21 and removed in v1.25."
* "Pod Security Standards (PSS) replace PodSecurityPolicy (PSP) with a simpler, policy- driven approach."
* PSP was often complex and hard to manage, so it was replaced by Pod Security Admission (PSA) which enforcesPod Security Standards.
References:
Kubernetes Docs - PodSecurityPolicy (deprecated): https://kubernetes.io/docs/concepts/security/pod- security-policy/ Kubernetes Blog - PodSecurityPolicy Deprecation: https://kubernetes.io/blog/2021/04/06/podsecuritypolicy- deprecation-past-present-and-future/

NEW QUESTION # 18
A container image istrojanizedby an attacker by compromising the build server. Based on the STRIDE threat modeling framework, which threat category best defines this threat?

- A. Repudiation
- B. Tampering
- C. Spoofing
- D. Denial of Service

Answer: B

Explanation:
* In STRIDE,Tamperingis the threat category forunauthorized modification of data or code/artifacts. A trojanized container image is, by definition, an attacker'smodificationof the build output (the image) after compromising the CI/build system-i.e., tampering with the artifact in the software supply chain.
* Why not the others?
* Spoofingis about identity/authentication (e.g., pretending to be someone/something).
* Repudiationis about denying having performed an action without sufficient audit evidence.
* Denial of Servicetargets availability (exhausting resources or making a service unavailable).The scenario explicitly focuses on analtered imageresulting from a compromised build server-this squarely maps toTampering.
Authoritative references (for verification and deeper reading):
* Kubernetes (official docs)- Supply Chain Security (discusses risks such as compromised CI/CD pipelines leading to modified/poisoned images and emphasizes verifying image integrity/signatures).
* Kubernetes Docs#Security#Supply chain securityandSecuring a cluster(sections on image provenance, signing, and verifying artifacts).
* CNCF TAG Security - Cloud Native Security Whitepaper (v2)- Threat modeling in cloud-native and software supply chain risks; describes attackers modifying build outputs (images/artifacts) via CI
/CD compromise as a form oftamperingand prescribes controls (signing, provenance, policy).
* CNCF TAG Security - Software Supply Chain Security Best Practices- Explicitly covers CI/CD compromise leading tomaliciously modified imagesand recommends SLSA, provenance attestation, and signature verification (policy enforcement via admission controls).
* Microsoft STRIDE (canonical reference)- DefinesTamperingasmodifying data or code, which directly fits a trojanized image produced by a compromised build system.

NEW QUESTION # 19
Which step would give an attacker a foothold in a cluster butno long-term persistence?

- A. Starting a process in a running container.
- B. Modify Kubernetes objects stored within etcd.
- C. Modify file on host filesystem.
- D. Create restarting container on host using Docker.

Answer: A

Explanation:
* Starting a process in a running containerprovides an attacker withtemporary execution (foothold) inside the cluster, but once the container is stopped or restarted, that malicious process is lost. This means the attacker has nolong-term persistence.
* Incorrect options:
* (A) Modifying objects inetcdgrants persistent access since cluster state is stored in etcd.
* (B) Modifying files on thehost filesystemcan create persistence across reboots or container restarts.
* (D) Creating a restarting container directly on the host via Docker bypasses Kubernetes but persists across pod restarts if Docker restarts it.
References:
CNCF Security Whitepaper - Threat Modeling section: Describes howephemeral processes inside containersprovide attackers short-term control but not durable persistence.
Kubernetes Documentation - Cluster Threat Model emphasizes ephemeral vs. persistent attacker footholds.

NEW QUESTION # 20
Which of the following is a valid security risk caused by having no egress controls in a Kubernetes cluster?

- A. Increased attack surface
- B. Data exfiltration
- C. Unauthorized access to external resources
- D. Denial of Service

Answer: B

Explanation:
* Egress NetworkPoliciesrestrict outbound traffic from Pods.
* Without egress restrictions, a compromised Pod could exfiltrate sensitive data (secrets, logs, customer data) to an attacker-controlled server.
* Exact extract (Kubernetes Docs - Network Policies):
* "Egress rules control outbound connections from Pods. Without such restrictions, compromised workloads can connect freely to external endpoints."
* Other options clarified:
* A: DoS is more about flooding, not egress absence.
* C: "Increased attack surface" is vague but not the main risk.
* D: True in a sense, but the precise and most common risk isdata exfiltration.
References:
Kubernetes Docs - Network Policies: https://kubernetes.io/docs/concepts/services-networking/network- policies/

NEW QUESTION # 21
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