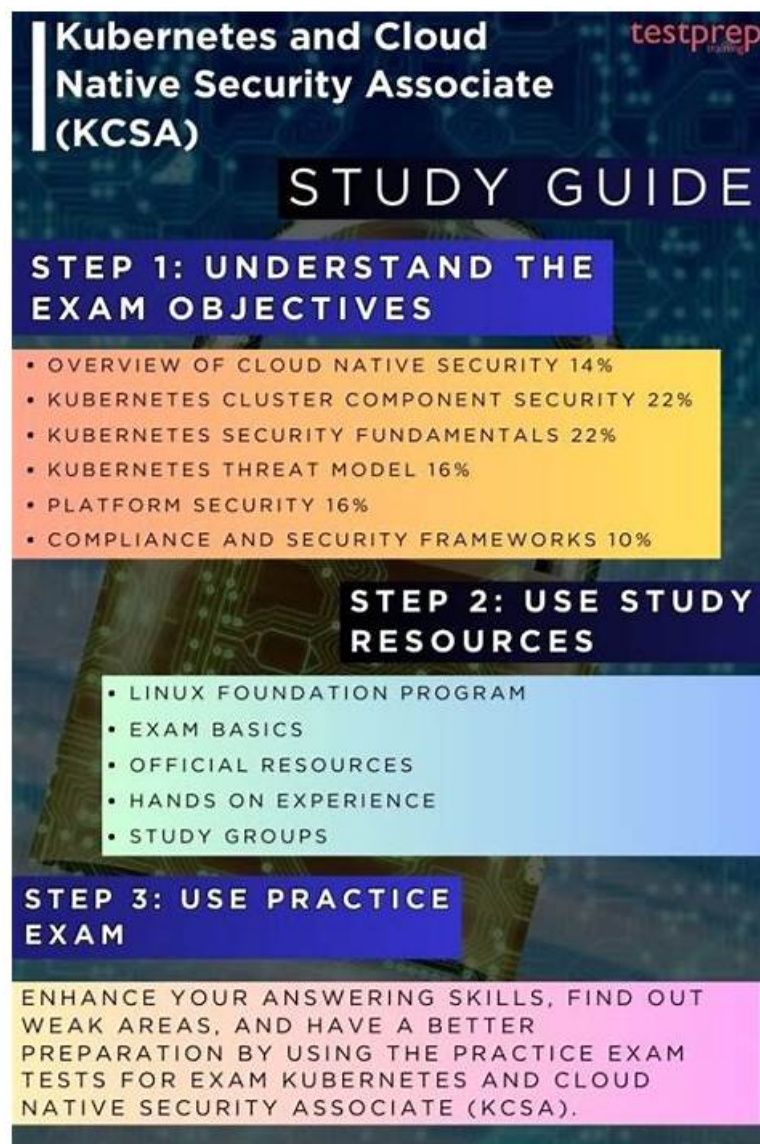


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Linux Foundation KCSA Exam Syllabus Topics:

Topic	Details
Topic 1	• Overview of Cloud Native Security: This section of the exam measures the skills of a Cloud Security Architect and covers the foundational security principles of cloud-native environments. It includes an understanding of the 4Cs security model, the shared responsibility model for cloud infrastructure, common security controls and compliance frameworks, and techniques for isolating resources and securing artifacts like container images and application code.

Topic 2	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 3	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.

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Linux Foundation Kubernetes and Cloud Native Security Associate Sample Questions (Q10-Q15):

NEW QUESTION # 10

Is it possible to restrict permissions so that a controller can only change the image of a deployment (without changing anything else about it, e.g., environment variables, commands, replicas, secrets)?

- **A. Not with RBAC, but it is possible with an admission webhook.**
- B. No, because granting access to the spec.containers.image field always grants access to the rest of the spec object.
- C. Yes, by granting permission to the /image subresource.
- D. Yes, with a 'managed fields' annotation.

Answer: A

Explanation:

* RBAC in Kubernetes is coarse-grained: it controls verbs (get, update, patch, delete) on resources (e.g., deployments), but not individual fields within a resource.

* There is no /image subresource for deployments (there is one for pods but only for ephemeral containers).

* Therefore, RBAC cannot restrict changes only to the image field.

* Admission Webhooks (mutating/validating) can enforce fine-grained policies (e.g., deny updates that change anything other than spec.containers[*].image).

* Exact extract (Kubernetes Docs - Admission Webhooks):

* "Admission webhooks can be used to enforce custom policies on objects being admitted." References:

Kubernetes Docs - RBAC: <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/access-authn-authz/rbac/> Kubernetes Docs - Admission

Webhooks: <https://kubernetes.io/docs/reference/access-authn-authz/extensible-admission-controllers/>

NEW QUESTION # 11

What is the difference between gVisor and Firecracker?

- A. gVisor and Firecracker are both container runtimes that can be used interchangeably.

- B. gVisor and Firecracker are two names for the same technology, which provides isolation and security for containers.
- C. gVisor is a user-space kernel that provides isolation and security for containers. At the same time, Firecracker is a lightweight virtualization technology for creating and managing secure, multi-tenant container and function-as-a-service (FaaS) workloads.
- D. gVisor is a lightweight virtualization technology for creating and managing secure, multi-tenant container and function-as-a-service (FaaS) workloads. At the same time, Firecracker is a user-space kernel that provides isolation and security for containers.

Answer: C

Explanation:

* gVisor:

* Google-developed, implemented as a user-space kernel that intercepts and emulates syscalls made by containers.

* Provides strong isolation without requiring a full VM.

* Official docs: "gVisor is a user-space kernel, written in Go, that implements a substantial portion of the Linux system call interface."

* Source: <https://gvisor.dev/docs/>

* Firecracker:

* AWS-developed, lightweight virtualization technology built on KVM, used in AWS Lambda and Fargate.

* Optimized for running secure, multi-tenant microVMs (MicroVMs) for containers and FaaS.

* Official docs: "Firecracker is an open-source virtualization technology that is purpose-built for creating and managing secure, multi-tenant container and function-based services."

* Source: <https://firecracker-microvm.github.io/>

* Key difference: gVisor # syscall interception in userspace kernel (container isolation). Firecracker # lightweight virtualization with microVMs (multi-tenant security).

* Therefore, option A is correct.

References:

gVisor Docs: <https://gvisor.dev/docs/>

Firecracker Docs: <https://firecracker-microvm.github.io/>

NEW QUESTION # 12

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

- A. By configuring a mutating admission controller webhook that intercepts new workload creation requests and modifies the container runtime based on the application label.
- 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 manually modifying the container runtime for each workload after it has been created.
- D. By modifying the kube-apiserver configuration file to specify the desired container runtime for each application.

Answer: A

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 # 13

A container image is trojanized by an attacker by compromising the build server. Based on the STRIDE threat modeling framework, which threat category best defines this threat?

- A. Repudiation

- B. Spoofing
- **C. Tampering**
- D. Denial of Service

Answer: C

Explanation:

* In STRIDE, Tampering is the threat category for unauthorized modification of data or code/artifacts. A trojanized container image is, by definition, an attacker's modification of 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?

* Spoofing is about identity/authentication (e.g., pretending to be someone/something).

* Repudiation is about denying having performed an action without sufficient audit evidence.

* Denial of Service targets availability (exhausting resources or making a service unavailable). The scenario explicitly focuses on an altered image resulting from a compromised build server-this squarely maps to Tampering.

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 security and Securing 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 of tampering and prescribes controls (signing, provenance, policy).

* CNCF TAG Security - Software Supply Chain Security Best Practices- Explicitly covers CI/CD compromise leading to maliciously modified images and recommends SLSA, provenance attestation, and signature verification (policy enforcement via admission controls).

* Microsoft STRIDE (canonical reference)- Defines Tampering as modifying data or code, which directly fits a trojanized image produced by a compromised build system.

NEW QUESTION # 14

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

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 # 15

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