Splunk

Exam Questions SPLK-5001

Splunk Certified Cybersecurity Defense Analyst

NEW QUESTION 1
Which of the following is a correct Splunk search that will return results in the most performant way?

A. index=foo host=i-478619733 | stats range(_time) as duration by src_ip | bin duration span=5min | stats count by duration, host
B. | stats range(_time) as duration by src_ip | index=foo host=i-478619733 | bin duration span=5min | stats count by duration, host
C. index=foo host=i-478619733 | transaction src_ip |stats count by host
D. index=foo | transaction src_ip |stats count by host | search host=i-478619733

Answer: A

Explanation:
The correct Splunk search that returns results in the most performant way is index=foo host=i-478619733 | stats range(_time) as duration by src_ip | bin duration span=5min | stats count by duration, host. This search is optimized by:
? Starting with the most specific search criteria (index and host) to reduce the data set.
? Applying aggregation functions (stats) early, which helps minimize the amount of data processed in subsequent commands.
? Usingbinto group data efficiently before performing further statistical calculations.
? Search Optimization:
? Performance Considerations:
? Splunk Search Documentation:The official Splunk documentation provides guidelines on how to construct efficient searches, including the best practices for usingstats,bin, and indexing.
? Splunk Performance Tuning Guides:These guides offer in-depth advice on optimizing searches for speed and efficiency, with examples of common pitfalls and how to avoid them.

NEW QUESTION 2
Which search command allows an analyst to match whatever is inside the parentheses as a single term in the index, even if it contains characters that are usually recognized as minor breakers such as periods or underscores?

A. CASE()
B. LIKE()
C. FORMAT ()
D. TERM ()

Answer: D

Explanation:
TheTERM()search command in Splunk allows an analyst to match a specific term exactly as it appears, even if it contains characters that are usually considered minor breakers, such as periods or underscores. By usingTERM(), the search engine treats everything inside the parentheses as a single term, which is especially useful for searching log data where certain values (like IP addresses or filenames) should be matched exactly as they appear in the logs.

NEW QUESTION 3
What goal of an Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) group aims to disrupt or damage on behalf of a cause?

A. Hacktivism
B. Cyber espionage
C. Financial gain
D. Prestige

Answer: A

Explanation:
Hacktivismrefers to the use of hacking techniques by an Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) group to promote a political agenda or social cause. Unlike other motivations such as financial gain or espionage, the primary goal of hacktivism is to disrupt, damage, or deface systems to draw attention to a cause or to protest against something the group opposes.
? Hacktivism:
? Incorrect Options:
? Cybersecurity Literature:Books and articles on APT motivations often highlight hacktivism as a distinct category with a focus on ideological or political goals.

NEW QUESTION 4
An analyst is investigating a network alert for suspected lateral movement from one Windows host to another Windows host. According to Splunk CIM documentation, the IP address of the host from which the attacker is moving would be in which field?

A. host
B. dest
C. src_nt_host
D. src_ip

Answer: D

Explanation:
According to Splunk??s Common Information Model (CIM) documentation, when investigating network alerts, the IP address of the host from which an attacker is moving (source) is typically stored in thesrc_ipfield. Thehostfield generally refers to the name of the host that logged the event,destrefers to the destination IP, andsrc_nt_hostrefers to the NetBIOS name of the source host. Thesrc_ipfield is specifically used to denote the source IP address in the context of network communication, which is critical for tracing lateral movement.

NEW QUESTION 5
An analyst is investigating how an attacker successfully performs a brute-force attack to gain a foothold into an organizations systems. In the course of the investigation the analyst determines that the reason no alerts were generated is because the detection searches were configured to run against Windows data only

and excluding any Linux data.
This is an example of what?

A. A True Positive.
B. A True Negative.
C. A False Negative.
D. A False Positive.

Answer: C

Explanation:
This scenario is an example of aFalse Negativebecause the detection mechanisms failed to generate alerts for a brute-force attack due to a misconfiguration—specifically, the exclusion of Linux data from the detection searches. A False Negative occurs when a security control fails to detect an actual malicious activity that it is supposed to catch, leading to undetected attacks and potential breaches.

NEW QUESTION 6
There are many resources for assisting with SPL and configuration questions. Which of the following resources feature community-sourced answers?

A. Splunk Answers
B. Splunk Lantern
C. Splunk Guidebook
D. Splunk Documentation

Answer: A

Explanation:
Splunk Answersis a community-driven Q&A platform where users can ask questions and share knowledge about Splunk. It is known for providing community-sourced answers to a wide rangeof questions, including SPL (Search Processing Language) queries, configuration issues, and general best practices. Users can contribute by answering questions based on their own experiences, making it a valuable resource for troubleshooting and learning.
? B. Splunk Lantern:This is a resource for best practices, how-tos, and use case guides, but it??s not a community-sourced Q&A platform.
? C. Splunk Guidebook:This is not a known resource in the context of community- sourced answers.
? D. Splunk Documentation:While highly detailed and official, it is not community- sourced but rather maintained by Splunk's own teams.
? Splunk Answers Platform:Splunk Answers
Incorrect Options:References:

NEW QUESTION 7
A threat hunter executed a hunt based on the following hypothesis:
As an actor, I want to plant rundll32 for proxy execution of malicious code and leverage Cobalt Strike for Command and Control.
Relevant logs and artifacts such as Sysmon, netflow, IDS alerts, and EDR logs were searched, and the hunter is confident in the conclusion that Cobalt Strike is not present in the company??s environment.
Which of the following best describes the outcome of this threat hunt?

A. The threat hunt was successful because the hypothesis was not proven.
B. The threat hunt failed because the hypothesis was not proven.
C. The threat hunt failed because no malicious activity was identified.
D. The threat hunt was successful in providing strong evidence that the tactic and tool is not present in the environment.

Answer: D

Explanation:
A threat hunt is an iterative process where a hypothesis is developed and tested against data in an environment to detect the presence of threats or adversarial tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs).
? Understanding the Hypothesis:
? Search and Analysis:
? Evaluation of the Hypothesis:
? Successful Threat Hunt:
? MITRE ATT&CK Framework:Understanding how threat actors utilize tactics like Cobalt Strike for C2 can be aligned with TTPs in the framework, helping to build effective hypotheses.
? Threat Hunting Resources:Books like "The Threat Hunter's Handbook" often describe scenarios where proving a negative (i.e., the absence of a threat) is a valid and successful outcome of a hunt.
Outcome of the Threat Hunt:References:

NEW QUESTION 8
The United States Department of Defense (DoD) requires all government contractors to provide adequate security safeguards referenced in National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) 800-171. All DoD contractors must continually reassess, monitor, and track compliance to be able to do business with the US government.
Which feature of Splunk Enterprise Security provides an analyst context for the correlation search mapping to the specific NIST guidelines?

A. Comments
B. Moles
C. Annotations
D. Framework mapping

Answer: D

Explanation:
Splunk Enterprise Security provides a feature calledFramework Mappingthat allows correlation searches to be mapped to specific cybersecurity frameworks, including NIST 800-171, which is crucial for DoD contractors. This mapping provides context to the analyst by showing how particular searches align with compliance requirements, aiding in continuous monitoring and reassessment as mandated by the DoD. This feature is integral for organizations that need to demonstrate compliance with NIST guidelines and other security frameworks.

NEW QUESTION 9
Which of the following data sources can be used to discover unusual communication within an organization??s network?

A. EDS
B. Net Flow
C. Email
D. IAM

Answer: B

Explanation:
NetFlow data is a powerful data source for monitoring and analyzing network traffic patterns within an organization. It provides detailed information about the flow of data between devices on a network, including source and destination IP addresses, ports, and protocols. By analyzing NetFlow data, security analysts can detect unusual communication patterns that may indicate malicious activity, such as lateral movement, data exfiltration, or communication with command and control servers. Other options like EDS (Endpoint Detection Systems), Email, and IAM (Identity and Access Management) are also valuable, but NetFlow is specifically designed for network traffic analysis.
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NEW QUESTION 10
According to David Bianco's Pyramid of Pain, which indicator type is least effective when used in continuous monitoring?

A. Domain names
B. TTPs
C. NetworM-lost artifacts
D. Hash values

Answer: D

Explanation:
? Pyramid of Pain Overview:The Pyramid of Pain categorizes indicators based on how difficult they are for attackers to alter:
? Why Hash Values Are Least Effective:
? David Bianco's Pyramid of Pain Blog Post:Bianco??s original post and related materials provide a deep dive into why hash values are the least effective and why focusing on higher-level indicators is more impactful for security operations.
? Threat Intelligence Reports:Many reports emphasize the importance of focusing on TTPs over simpler indicators like hash values to build a more resilient detection and response strategy.

NEW QUESTION 10
Which field is automatically added to search results when assets are properly defined and enabled in Splunk Enterprise Security?

A. asset_category
B. src_ip
C. src_category
D. user

Answer: C

Explanation:
In Splunk Enterprise Security, when assets are properly defined and enabled, the fieldsrc_categoryis automatically added to search results. This field categorizes the source IP addresses according to their asset classification, which helps in analyzing and filtering search results based on the type of assets involved in an event. Proper asset and identity management within Splunk ES enhances the ability to contextualize and prioritize security incidents.

NEW QUESTION 13
An analyst notices that one of their servers is sending an unusually large amount of traffic, gigabytes more than normal, to a single system on the Internet. There doesn??t seem to be any associated increase in incoming traffic.
What type of threat actor activity might this represent?

A. Data exfiltration
B. Network reconnaissance
C. Data infiltration
D. Lateral movement

Answer: A

Explanation:
? Unusual Traffic Patterns:
? Possible Threat Activities:
Scenario Analysis:Conclusion:Given the evidence of large data transfers to a single external system without corresponding inbound traffic,data exfiltrationis the most likely scenario. This suggests that an adversary has compromised the server and is extracting valuable or sensitive data from the organization.
? Data Exfiltration Techniques:Techniques such as those documented in the MITRE
ATT&CK framework (e.g.,T1041 - Exfiltration Over C2 Channel) detail how attackers move data out of a network.
? Incident Response Playbooks:Many incident response frameworks emphasize monitoring for unusual outbound traffic as a primary indicator of data exfiltration.

NEW QUESTION 17
Which stage of continuous monitoring involves adding data, creating detections, and building drilldowns?

A. Implement and Collect
B. Establish and Architect
C. Respond and Review

D. Analyze and Report

Answer: A

Explanation:
In the context of continuous monitoring, theImplement and Collectstage involves adding data sources, creating detections, and building drilldowns. This stage is focused on the practical setup and configuration necessary to ensure that monitoring systems are properly gathering the necessary data and that the relevant detection mechanisms are in place to identify potential threats. Other stages, such asAnalyze and Report, are more focused on the interpretation and presentation of this data after collection.

NEW QUESTION 20
How are Notable Events configured in Splunk Enterprise Security?

A. During an investigation.
B. As part of an audit.
C. Via an Adaptive Response Action in a regular search.
D. Via an Adaptive Response Action in a correlation search.

Answer: D

Explanation:
Notable Events in Splunk Enterprise Security are configured as part of a correlation search, where an Adaptive Response Action can be set to create a Notable Event when certain conditions are met. These correlation searches are pre-defined or custom searches that look for specific patterns of interest, such as security incidents or anomalies. The use of Adaptive Response Actions within these searches allows for the automated creation of Notable Events, which can then be investigated by security analysts. This configuration is a crucial part of Splunk's security operations capabilities.

NEW QUESTION 25
When searching in Splunk, which of the following SPL commands can be used to run a subsearch across every field in a wildcard field list?

A. foreach
B. rex
C. makeresults
D. transaction

Answer: A

Explanation:
Theforeachcommand in Splunk is used to iterate over a list of fields that match a wildcard expression and apply a subsearch or function to each of them. This is particularly useful when you need to perform an operation across multiple fields dynamically identified by a wildcard pattern. None of the other options (rex,makeresults, ortransaction) are designed for this specific purpose. Theforeachcommand allows for flexible and efficient processing of multiple fields without having to explicitly name them all.

NEW QUESTION 28
An analyst is investigating the number of failed login attempts by IP address. Which SPL command can be used to create a temporary table containing the number of failed login attempts by IP address over a specific time period?

A. index=security_logs eventtype=failed_login | eval count as failed_attempts by src_ip | sort -failed_attempts
B. index=security_logs eventtype=failed_login | transaction count as failed_attempts by src_ip | sort -failed_attempts
C. index=security_logs eventtype=failed_login | stats count as failed_attempts by src_ip | sort -failed_attempts
D. index=security_logs eventtype=failed_login | sum count as failed_attempts by src_ip |sort -failed_attempts

Answer: C

Explanation:
Thestatscommand is used to generate statistics, such as counts, over specific fields. In this case, the commandindex=security_logs eventtype=failed_login | stats count as failed_attempts by src_ip | sort -failed_attemptscreates a temporary table that counts the number of failed login attempts (failed_attempts) for each source IP (src_ip). Thesort -failed_attemptsensures the results are ordered by the number of failed attempts in descending order, making it easier for an analyst to identify problematic IPs.

NEW QUESTION 30
An analyst is not sure that all of the potential data sources at her company are being correctly or completely utilized by Splunk and Enterprise Security. Which of the following might she suggest using, in order to perform an analysis of the data types available and some of their potential security uses?

A. Splunk ITSI
B. Security Essentials
C. SOAR
D. Splunk Intelligence Management

Answer: B

Explanation:
Splunk Security Essentials is a powerful tool that an analyst can use to analyze the data types available and understand their potential security uses. It provides a framework for exploring how different data sources can be leveraged within Splunk to enhance security monitoring and detection capabilities.
? Splunk Security Essentials:This app is designed to help users maximize the value
of their data by providing examples of security use cases, detection searches, and best practices tailored to the available data sources. It offers a comprehensive overview of how various types of data can be used within Splunk, making it easier for analysts to identify gaps in data utilization.
? Data Source Analysis:Through Splunk Security Essentials, an analyst can:
? Why Security Essentials:This tool is particularly useful for organizations looking to ensure that they are fully utilizing their available data within Splunk Enterprise

Security. It provides actionable insights and examples that can help analysts fine- tune their security operations and improve threat detection.
? Splunk Security Essentials Documentation:The official documentation provides detailed instructions on how to use the app to analyze data sources and implement best practices for security monitoring.
? User Community Discussions:Many Splunk users share their experiences and strategies for using Security Essentials to optimize their security posture in forums and blogs.

NEW QUESTION 31
A Risk Notable Event has been triggered in Splunk Enterprise Security, an analyst investigates the alert, and determines it is a false positive. What metric would be used to define the time between alert creation and close of the event?

A. MTTR (Mean Time to Respond)
B. MTBF (Mean Time Between Failures)
C. MTTA (Mean Time to Acknowledge)
D. MTTD (Mean Time to Detect)

Answer: A

Explanation:
In incident response and cybersecurity operations, Mean Time to Respond (MTTR) is a key metric. It measures the average time it takes from when an alert is created to when it is resolved or closed. In the scenario, an analyst identifies a Risk Notable Event as a false positive and closes it; the time taken from the alert's creation to its closure is what MTTR measures. This metric is crucial in understanding how efficiently a security team responds to alerts and incidents, thus contributing to overall security posture improvement.

NEW QUESTION 35
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