

# Isaca

## Exam Questions CISA

Isaca CISA



### NEW QUESTION 1

- (Topic 3)

A review of Internet security disclosed that users have individual user accounts with Internet service providers (ISPs) and use these accounts for downloading business data. The organization wants to ensure that only the corporate network is used. The organization should FIRST:

- A. use a proxy server to filter out Internet sites that should not be accessed.
- B. keep a manual log of Internet access.
- C. monitor remote access activities.
- D. include a statement in its security policy about Internet use.

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

The first step that the organization should take to ensure that only the corporate network is used for downloading business data is to include a statement in its security policy about Internet use. A security policy is a document that defines the rules, expectations, and overall approach that an organization uses to maintain the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of its data<sup>1</sup>. A security policy should clearly state the acceptable and unacceptable use of Internet resources, such as personal accounts with ISPs, and the consequences of violating the policy. A security policy also helps to guide the implementation of technical controls, such as proxy servers, firewalls, or monitoring tools, that can enforce the policy and prevent or detect unauthorized Internet access.

The other options are not the first step that the organization should take, but rather subsequent or complementary steps that depend on the security policy. Using a proxy server to filter out Internet sites that should not be accessed is a technical control that can help implement the security policy, but it does not address the root cause of why users are using personal accounts with ISPs. Keeping a manual log of Internet access is a monitoring technique that can help audit the compliance with the security policy, but it does not prevent or deter users from using personal accounts with ISPs. Monitoring remote access activities is another monitoring technique that can help detect unauthorized Internet access, but it does not specify what constitutes unauthorized access or how to respond to it.

References:

? ISACA CISA Review Manual 27th Edition (2019), page 247

? What is a Security Policy? Definition, Elements, and Examples - Varonis<sup>1</sup>

### NEW QUESTION 2

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following should an IS auditor ensure is classified at the HIGHEST level of sensitivity?

- A. Server room access history
- B. Emergency change records
- C. IT security incidents
- D. Penetration test results

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

The IS auditor should ensure that penetration test results are classified at the highest level of sensitivity, because they contain detailed information about the vulnerabilities and weaknesses of the IT systems and networks, as well as the methods and tools used by the testers to exploit them. Penetration test results can be used by malicious actors to launch cyberattacks or cause damage to the organization if they are disclosed or accessed without authorization. Therefore, they should be protected with the highest level of confidentiality, integrity and availability. The other options are not as sensitive as penetration test results, because they either do not reveal as much information about the IT security posture, or they are already known or reported by the organization. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)<sup>1</sup>, Chapter 5, Section 5.2.4

### NEW QUESTION 3

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is MOST important for an IS auditor to look for in a project feasibility study?

- A. An assessment of whether requirements will be fully met
- B. An assessment indicating security controls will operate effectively
- C. An assessment of whether the expected benefits can be achieved
- D. An assessment indicating the benefits will exceed the implement

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The most important thing for an IS auditor to look for in a project feasibility study is an assessment of whether the expected benefits can be achieved. A project feasibility study is a preliminary analysis that evaluates the viability and suitability of a proposed project based on various criteria, such as technical, economic, legal, operational, and social factors. The expected benefits are the positive outcomes and value that the project aims to deliver to the organization and its stakeholders. The IS auditor should verify whether the project feasibility study has clearly defined and quantified the expected benefits, and whether it has assessed the likelihood and feasibility of achieving them within the project scope, budget, schedule, and quality parameters. The other options are also important for an IS auditor to look for in a project feasibility study, but not as important as an assessment of whether the expected benefits can be achieved, because they either focus on specific aspects of the project rather than the overall value proposition, or they assume that the project will be implemented rather than evaluating its viability. References:

CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)<sup>1</sup>, Chapter 4, Section 4.2.1

### NEW QUESTION 4

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the BEST evidence that an organization's IT strategy is aligned to its business objectives?

- A. The IT strategy is modified in response to organizational change.
- B. The IT strategy is approved by executive management.
- C. The IT strategy is based on IT operational best practices.
- D. The IT strategy has significant impact on the business strategy

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

The best evidence that an organization's IT strategy is aligned to its business objectives is that the IT strategy is approved by executive management. This implies that the IT strategy has been reviewed and validated by the senior leaders of the organization, who are responsible for setting and overseeing the business objectives. The IT strategy may be modified in response to organizational change, based on IT operational best practices, or have significant impact on the business strategy, but these are not sufficient indicators of alignment without executive approval. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)<sup>1</sup>, Chapter 1, Section 1.2.1

**NEW QUESTION 5**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following should be of GREATEST concern to an IS auditor reviewing an organization's business continuity plan (BCP)?

- A. The BCP's contact information needs to be updated
- B. The BCP is not version controlled.
- C. The BCP has not been approved by senior management.
- D. The BCP has not been tested since it was first issued.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The greatest concern for an IS auditor reviewing an organization's business continuity plan (BCP) is that the BCP has not been tested since it was first issued. A BCP is a document that describes how an organization will continue its critical business functions in the event of a disruption or disaster. A BCP should include information such as roles and responsibilities, recovery strategies, resources, procedures, communication plans, and backup arrangements<sup>3</sup>. Testing the BCP is a vital step in ensuring its validity, effectiveness, and readiness. Testing the BCP involves simulating various scenarios and executing the BCP to verify whether it meets its objectives and requirements. Testing the BCP can also help to identify and correct any gaps, errors, or weaknesses in the BCP before they become issues during a real incident<sup>4</sup>. Therefore, an IS auditor should be concerned if the BCP has not been tested since it was first issued, as it may indicate that the BCP is outdated, inaccurate, incomplete, or ineffective. The other options are less concerning or incorrect because:

? A. The BCP's contact information needs to be updated is not a great concern for an IS auditor reviewing an organization's BCP, as it is a minor issue that can be easily fixed. Contact information refers to the names, phone numbers, email addresses, or other details of the people involved in the BCP execution or communication. Contact information needs to be updated regularly to reflect any changes in personnel or roles. While having outdated contact information may cause some delays or confusion during a BCP activation, it does not affect the overall validity or effectiveness of the BCP.

? B. The BCP is not version controlled is not a great concern for an IS auditor reviewing an organization's BCP, as it is a moderate issue that can be improved. Version control refers to the process of tracking and managing changes made to the BCP over time. Version control helps to ensure that only authorized changes are made to the BCP and that there is a clear record of who made what changes when and why. Version control also helps to avoid conflicts or inconsistencies among different versions of the BCP. While having no version control may cause some difficulties or risks in maintaining and updating the BCP, it does not affect the overall validity or effectiveness of the BCP.

? C. The BCP has not been approved by senior management is not a great concern for an IS auditor reviewing an organization's BCP, as it is a high-level issue that can be resolved. Approval by senior management refers to the formal endorsement and support of the BCP by the top executives or leaders of the organization. Approval by senior management helps to ensure that the BCP is aligned with the organization's strategy, objectives, and priorities, and that it has sufficient resources and authority to be implemented. Approval by senior management also helps to increase the awareness and commitment of the organization's stakeholders to the BCP. While having no approval by senior management may affect the credibility and acceptance of the BCP, it does not affect the overall validity or effectiveness of the BCP. References: Working Toward a Managed, Mature Business Continuity Plan - ISACA, ISACA Introduces New Audit Programs for Business Continuity/Disaster ..., Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity Preparedness for Cloud-based ...

**NEW QUESTION 6**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following would BEST ensure that a backup copy is available for restoration of mission critical data after a disaster?"

- A. Use an electronic vault for incremental backups
- B. Deploy a fully automated backup maintenance system.
- C. Periodically test backups stored in a remote location
- D. Use both tape and disk backup systems

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The best way to ensure that a backup copy is available for restoration of mission critical data after a disaster is to periodically test backups stored in a remote location. Testing backups is essential to verify that the backup copies are valid, complete, and recoverable. Testing backups also helps to identify any issues or errors that may affect the backup process or the restoration of data. Storing backups in a remote location is important to protect the backup copies from physical damage, theft, or unauthorized access that may occur at the primary site. Using an electronic vault for incremental backups, deploying a fully automated backup maintenance system, or using both tape and disk backup systems are not sufficient to ensure that a backup copy is available for restoration of mission critical data after a disaster, as they do not address the need for testing backups or storing them in a remote location. References: Backup and Recovery of Data: The Essential Guide | Veritas, The Truth About Data Backup for Mission-Critical Environments - DATAVERSITY.

**NEW QUESTION 7**

- (Topic 3)

A company has implemented an IT segregation of duties policy. In a role-based environment, which of the following roles may be assigned to an application developer?

- A. IT operator
- B. System administration
- C. Emergency support
- D. Database administration

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Segregation of duties (SOD) is a core internal control and an essential component of an effective risk management strategy. SOD emphasizes sharing the responsibilities of key business processes by distributing the discrete functions of these processes to multiple people and departments, helping to reduce the risk of possible errors and fraud<sup>1</sup>.

SOD is especially important in IT security, where granting excessive system access to one person or group can lead to harmful consequences, such as data

breaches, identity theft, or bypassing security controls<sup>2</sup>. SOD breaks IT-related tasks into four separate function categories: authorization, custody, recordkeeping, and reconciliation<sup>1</sup>. Ideally, no one person or department holds responsibility in multiple categories.

In a role-based environment, where access privileges are granted based on predefined roles, it is important to ensure that the roles are designed and assigned in a way that supports SOD. For example, the person who develops an application should not also be the one who tests it, deploys it, or maintains it.

Therefore, an application developer should not be assigned the roles of IT operator, system administration, or database administration, as these roles may conflict with their development role and create opportunities for misuse or abuse of the system. The only role that may be assigned to an application developer without violating SOD is emergency support, which is a temporary role that allows the developer to access the system in case of a critical issue that requires immediate resolution<sup>3</sup>. However, even this role should be granted with caution and monitored closely to ensure compliance with SOD policies. References:

- ? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019, page 2824
- ? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription, QID 1066692
- ? Hyperproof Blog, Segregation of Duties: What it is and Why it's Important<sup>1</sup>
- ? Advisera Blog, Segregation of duties in your ISMS according to ISO 27001A.6.1.23

### NEW QUESTION 8

- (Topic 3)

An organization has made a strategic decision to split into separate operating entities to improve profitability. However, the IT infrastructure remains shared between the entities. Which of the following would BEST help to ensure that IS audit still covers key risk areas within the IT environment as part of its annual plan?

- A. Increasing the frequency of risk-based IS audits for each business entity
- B. Developing a risk-based plan considering each entity's business processes
- C. Conducting an audit of newly introduced IT policies and procedures
- D. Revising IS audit plans to focus on IT changes introduced after the split

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

Developing a risk-based plan considering each entity's business processes would best help to ensure that IS audit still covers key risk areas within the IT environment as part of its annual plan. A risk-based plan is a plan that prioritizes the audit activities based on the level of risk associated with each area or process. A risk-based plan can help to allocate the audit resources more efficiently and effectively, and provide more assurance and value to the stakeholders<sup>1</sup>. By considering each entity's business processes, the IS audit can identify and assess the specific risks and controls that affect the IT environment of each entity, and tailor the audit objectives, scope, and procedures accordingly. This can help to address the unique needs and expectations of each entity, and ensure that the IS audit covers the key risk areas that are relevant and significant to each entity's operations, performance, and compliance<sup>2</sup>.

The other options are not as effective as developing a risk-based plan considering each entity's business processes in ensuring that IS audit still covers key risk areas within the IT environment as part of its annual plan. Option A, increasing the frequency of risk-based IS audits for each business entity, is not a feasible or efficient solution, as it may increase the audit costs and workload, and create duplication or overlap of audit efforts. Option C, conducting an audit of newly introduced IT policies and procedures, is a limited and narrow approach, as it may not cover all the aspects or dimensions of the IT environment that may have changed or been affected by the split. Option D, revising IS audit plans to focus on IT changes introduced after the split, is a reactive and short-term approach, as it may not reflect the current or future state of the IT environment or the business objectives of each entity.

References:

- ? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019
- ? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription
- ? Risk-Based Audit Planning: A Guide for Internal Audit<sup>1</sup>
- ? Risk-Based Audit Approach: Definition & Example

### NEW QUESTION 9

- (Topic 3)

When reviewing a data classification scheme, it is MOST important for an IS auditor to determine if.

- A. each information asset is to a assigned to a different classification.
- B. the security criteria are clearly documented for each classification
- C. Senior IT managers are identified as information owner.
- D. the information owner is required to approve access to the asset

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

When reviewing a data classification scheme, it is most important for an IS auditor to determine if the security criteria are clearly documented for each classification. This will help the IS auditor to evaluate if the data classification scheme is consistent, comprehensive, and aligned with the organizational objectives and regulatory requirements. The security criteria should define the level of confidentiality, integrity, and availability for each data classification, as well as the corresponding controls such as access control, rights management, and cryptographic protection<sup>1</sup>. The other options are less important or incorrect because:

- ? A. Each information asset is not necessarily assigned to a different classification. Data classification schemes usually have a limited number of categories, such as "Sensitive," "Confidential," and "Public," and multiple information assets can belong to the same category<sup>2</sup>.
- ? C. Senior IT managers are not necessarily identified as information owners. Information owners are typically the business units or functions that create, use, or maintain the information assets, and they may or may not be senior IT managers<sup>3</sup>.
- ? D. The information owner is not required to approve access to the asset. The information owner is responsible for defining the access requirements and rules for the asset, but the actual approval of access requests may be delegated to other roles, such as data custodians or administrators<sup>3</sup>. References: Simplify and Contextualize Your Data Classification Efforts - ISACA, 3.7: Establish and Maintain a Data Classification Scheme, Data Classification and Practices - NIST, CISA Exam Content Outline | CISA Certification | ISACA

### NEW QUESTION 10

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor finds that the process for removing access for terminated employees is not documented What is the MOST significant risk from this observation?

- A. Procedures may not align with best practices
- B. Human resources (HR) records may not match system access.
- C. Unauthorized access cannot be identified.
- D. Access rights may not be removed in a timely manner.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The most significant risk from this observation is that access rights may not be removed in a timely manner. If the process for removing access for terminated employees is not documented, there is no clear guidance or accountability for who, how, when, and what actions should be taken to revoke the access rights of the employees who leave the organization. This could result in delays, inconsistencies, or omissions in removing access rights, which could allow terminated employees to retain unauthorized access to the organization's systems and data. This could compromise the security, confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the information assets. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)

? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

**NEW QUESTION 10**

- (Topic 3)

The PRIMARY benefit of information asset classification is that it:

- A. prevents loss of assets.
- B. helps to align organizational objectives.
- C. facilitates budgeting accuracy.
- D. enables risk management decisions.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The primary benefit of information asset classification is that it enables risk management decisions. Information asset classification helps to identify the value, sensitivity and criticality of information assets, and to determine the appropriate level of protection and controls required for them. This facilitates risk assessment and risk treatment processes, and ensures that information assets are aligned with business objectives and regulatory requirements. Preventing loss of assets, helping to align organizational objectives or facilitating budgeting accuracy are secondary benefits of information asset classification, but not the main purpose. References: ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2018, page 300

**NEW QUESTION 14**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following should be the FIRST step when developing a data loss prevention (DLP) solution for a large organization?

- A. Identify approved data workflows across the enterprise.
- B. Conduct a threat analysis against sensitive data usage.
- C. Create the DLP policies and templates
- D. Conduct a data inventory and classification exercise

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The first step when developing a data loss prevention (DLP) solution for a large organization is to conduct a data inventory and classification exercise. This step is essential to identify the types, locations, owners, and sensitivity levels of the data that need to be protected by the DLP solution. A data inventory and classification exercise helps to define the scope, objectives, and requirements of the DLP solution, as well as to prioritize the data protection efforts based on the business value and risk of the data. A data inventory and classification exercise also enables the organization to comply with relevant laws and regulations regarding data privacy and security.

The other options are not the first step when developing a DLP solution, but rather subsequent steps that depend on the outcome of the data inventory and classification exercise. Identifying approved data workflows across the enterprise is a step that helps to design and implement the DLP policies and controls that match the business processes and data flows. Conducting a threat analysis against sensitive data usage is a step that helps to assess and mitigate the risks associated with data leakage, theft, or misuse. Creating the DLP policies and templates is a step that helps to enforce the data protection rules and standards across the organization.

References:

? ISACA CISA Review Manual 27th Edition (2019), page 247

? Data Loss Prevention—Next Steps - ISACA1

? What is data loss prevention (DLP)? | Microsoft Security

**NEW QUESTION 16**

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor reviewing security incident processes realizes incidents are resolved and closed, but root causes are not investigated. Which of the following should be the MAJOR concern with this situation?

- A. Abuses by employees have not been reported.
- B. Lessons learned have not been properly documented
- C. vulnerabilities have not been properly addressed
- D. Security incident policies are out of date.

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The major concern with the situation where security incidents are resolved and closed, but root causes are not investigated, is that vulnerabilities have not been properly addressed. Vulnerabilities are weaknesses or gaps in the security posture of an organization that can be exploited by threat actors to compromise its systems, data, or operations. If root causes are not investigated, vulnerabilities may remain undetected or unresolved, allowing attackers to exploit them again or use them as entry points for further attacks. This can result in repeated or escalated security incidents that can cause more damage or disruption to the organization.

The other options are not as major as the concern about vulnerabilities, but rather secondary or related issues that may arise from the lack of root cause analysis. Abuses by employees have not been reported is a concern that may indicate a lack of awareness, accountability, or monitoring of insider threats. Lessons learned have not been properly documented is a concern that may indicate a lack of improvement, learning, or feedback from security incidents. Security incident policies are out of date is a concern that may indicate a lack of alignment, review, or update of security incident processes.

References:

? ISACA CISA Review Manual 27th Edition (2019), page 254

? Why Root Cause Analysis is Crucial to Incident Response (IR) - Avertium3

? Root Cause Analysis Steps and How it Helps Incident Response ...

### NEW QUESTION 21

- (Topic 3)

During the planning phase of a data loss prevention (DLP) audit, management expresses a concern about mobile computing. Which of the following should the IS auditor identify as the associated risk?

- A. The use of the cloud negatively impacting IT availability
- B. Increased need for user awareness training
- C. Increased vulnerability due to anytime, anywhere accessibility
- D. Lack of governance and oversight for IT infrastructure and applications

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The associated risk of mobile computing that an IS auditor should identify during the planning phase of a data loss prevention (DLP) audit is increased vulnerability due to anytime, anywhere accessibility. Mobile computing refers to the use of portable devices, such as laptops, tablets, smartphones, or wearable devices, that can access data and applications over wireless networks from any location<sup>6</sup>. Mobile computing enables greater flexibility, productivity, and convenience for users, but also poses significant security challenges for organizations. One of these challenges is increased vulnerability due to anytime, anywhere accessibility. This means that mobile devices are exposed to a higher risk of loss, theft, damage, or unauthorized access than stationary devices<sup>7</sup>. If mobile devices contain or access sensitive data without proper protection, such as encryption or authentication, they could result in data leakage or breach in case of compromise<sup>8</sup>. Therefore, an IS auditor should identify this risk as part of a DLP audit. The other options are less relevant or incorrect because:

? A. The use of cloud negatively impacting IT availability is not an associated risk of mobile computing that an IS auditor should identify during the planning phase of a DLP audit, as it is more related to cloud computing than mobile computing. Cloud computing refers to the delivery of computing services, such as data storage or processing, over the Internet from remote servers. Cloud computing may enable or support mobile computing by providing access to data and applications from any device or location, but it does not necessarily imply mobile computing. The use of cloud may negatively impact IT availability if there are disruptions or outages in the cloud service provider's network or infrastructure, but this is not a direct consequence of mobile computing.

? B. Increased need for user awareness training is not an associated risk of mobile computing that an IS auditor should identify during the planning phase of a DLP audit, as it is more of a control or mitigation measure than a risk. User awareness training refers to educating users about security policies, procedures, and best practices for using mobile devices and protecting data. User awareness training may help to reduce the risk of data loss or breach due to mobile computing by increasing user knowledge and responsibility, but it does not eliminate or prevent the risk.

? D. Lack of governance and oversight for IT infrastructure and applications is not an associated risk of mobile computing that an IS auditor should identify during the planning phase of a DLP audit, as it is more of a general or organizational risk than a specific or technical risk. Governance and oversight refer to the establishment and implementation of policies, standards, and procedures for managing IT resources and aligning them with business objectives. Lack of governance and oversight for IT infrastructure and applications may affect the security and performance of mobile devices and data, but it is not a direct or inherent result of mobile computing. References: Mobile Computing - ISACA, Mobile Computing Device Threats, Vulnerabilities and Risk Factors Are Ubiquitous - ISACA, Data Loss Prevention—Next Steps - ISACA, [Cloud Computing - ISACA], [Cloud Computing Risk Assessment - ISACA], [User Awareness Training - ISACA], [Governance and Oversight - ISACA]

### NEW QUESTION 26

- (Topic 3)

An organization allows its employees to use personal mobile devices for work. Which of the following would BEST maintain information security without compromising employee privacy?

- A. Installing security software on the devices
- B. Partitioning the work environment from personal space on devices
- C. Preventing users from adding applications
- D. Restricting the use of devices for personal purposes during working hours

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

Partitioning the work environment from personal space on devices. This would best maintain information security without compromising employee privacy by creating a separate and secure area on the personal mobile devices for work-related data and applications. This way, the organization can protect its information from unauthorized access, loss, or leakage, while respecting the employees' personal data and preferences on their own devices.

The other options are not as effective as option B in balancing information security and employee privacy. Option A, installing security software on the devices, is a good practice but may not be sufficient to prevent data breaches or comply with regulatory requirements. Option C, preventing users from adding applications, is too restrictive and may interfere with the employees' personal use of their devices. Option D, restricting the use of devices for personal purposes during working hours, is impractical and difficult to enforce. References:

? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019

? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription

? Personal Cellphone Privacy at Work<sup>1</sup>

? Protecting your personal information and privacy on a company phone<sup>2</sup>

? Mobile Devices and Protected Health Information (PHI)<sup>3</sup>

? Using your personal phone for work? Here's how to separate your apps and data<sup>4</sup>

? 9 Ways to Improve Mobile Security and Privacy in the Age of Remote Work<sup>5</sup>

### NEW QUESTION 30

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor reviewing the threat assessment for a data center would be MOST concerned if:

- A. some of the identified threats are unlikely to occur.
- B. all identified threats relate to external entities.
- C. the exercise was completed by local management.
- D. neighboring organizations operations have been included.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

An IS auditor reviewing the threat assessment for a data center would be most concerned if the exercise was completed by local management, because this could introduce bias, conflict of interest, or lack of expertise in the assessment process. A threat assessment is a systematic method of identifying and evaluating the

potential threats that could affect the availability, integrity, or confidentiality of the data center and its assets. A threat assessment should be conducted by an independent and qualified team that has the necessary skills, knowledge, and experience to perform a comprehensive and objective analysis of the data center's environment, vulnerabilities, and risks<sup>1</sup>.

The other options are not as concerning as option C for an IS auditor reviewing the threat assessment for a data center. Option A, some of the identified threats are unlikely to occur, is not a problem as long as the likelihood and impact of each threat are properly estimated and prioritized. A threat assessment should consider all possible scenarios, even if they have a low probability of occurrence, to ensure that the data center is prepared for any eventuality<sup>2</sup>. Option B, all identified threats relate to external entities, is not a flaw as long as the assessment also considers internal threats, such as human errors, malicious insiders, or equipment failures. External threats are often more visible and severe than internal threats, but they are not the only source of risk for a data center<sup>3</sup>. Option D, neighboring organizations' operations have been included, is not a mistake as long as the assessment also focuses on the data center's own operations. Neighboring organizations' operations may have an impact on the data center's security and availability, especially if they share physical or network infrastructure or resources. A threat assessment should take into account the interdependencies and interactions between the data center and its external environment<sup>4</sup>.

References:

- ? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019
- ? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription
- ? Data Center Threats and Vulnerabilities<sup>1</sup>
- ? Datacenter threat, vulnerability, and risk assessment<sup>2</sup>
- ? Data Centre Risk Assessment<sup>3</sup>

### NEW QUESTION 32

- (Topic 3)

A warehouse employee of a retail company has been able to conceal the theft of inventory items by entering adjustments of either damaged or lost stock items to the inventory system. Which control would have BEST prevented this type of fraud in a retail environment?

- A. Separate authorization for input of transactions
- B. Statistical sampling of adjustment transactions
- C. Unscheduled audits of lost stock lines
- D. An edit check for the validity of the inventory transaction

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

Separate authorization for input of transactions. This control would have best prevented this type of fraud in a retail environment by ensuring that the warehouse employee who handles the inventory items does not have the authority to enter adjustments to the inventory system. This would create a segregation of duties that would reduce the risk of collusion and concealment of theft.

The other options are not as effective as option A in preventing this type of fraud. Option B, statistical sampling of adjustment transactions, is a detective control that may help identify fraudulent transactions after they have occurred, but it does not prevent them from happening in the first place. Option C, unscheduled audits of lost stock lines, is also a detective control that may reveal discrepancies between the physical and recorded inventory, but it does not address the root cause of the fraud. Option D, an edit check for the validity of the inventory transaction, is a preventive control that may help verify the accuracy and completeness of the transaction data, but it does not prevent unauthorized or fraudulent adjustments.

References:

- ? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019
- ? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription
- ? Different Types of Inventory Fraud and How to Prevent Them<sup>1</sup>
- ? 6 Ways to Prevent Inventory Fraud in Your Business<sup>2</sup>

### NEW QUESTION 34

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following will BEST ensure that a proper cutoff has been established to reinstate transactions and records to their condition just prior to a computer system failure?

- A. Rotating backup copies of transaction files offsite
- B. Using a database management system (DBMS) to dynamically back-out partially processed transactions
- C. Maintaining system console logs in electronic format
- D. Ensuring bisynchronous capabilities on all transmission lines

**Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

The best way to ensure that a proper cutoff has been established to reinstate transactions and records to their condition just prior to a computer system failure is to use a database management system (DBMS) to dynamically back-out partially processed transactions. A DBMS is a software system that manages the creation, manipulation, retrieval, and security of data stored in a database. A DBMS can provide features such as transaction management, concurrency control, recovery management, and integrity management. A DBMS can dynamically back-out partially processed transactions by using mechanisms such as rollback segments, undo logs, or write-ahead logs. These mechanisms allow the DBMS to restore the database to a consistent state before the failure occurred.

References:

- ? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)
- ? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

### NEW QUESTION 35

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is MOST important for an IS auditor to confirm when reviewing an organization's plans to implement robotic process automation (RPA) to automate routine business tasks?

- A. The end-to-end process is understood and documented.
- B. Roles and responsibilities are defined for the business processes in scope.
- C. A benchmarking exercise of industry peers who use RPA has been completed.
- D. A request for proposal (RFP) has been issued to qualified vendors.

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

The most important thing for an IS auditor to confirm when reviewing an organization's plans to implement robotic process automation (RPA) to automate routine business tasks is that the end-to-end process is understood and documented. This is because RPA involves the use of software robots or digital workers to mimic human actions and execute predefined rules and workflows. Therefore, it is essential that the IS auditor verifies that the organization has a clear and accurate understanding of the current state of the process, the desired state of the process, the inputs and outputs, the exceptions and errors, the roles and responsibilities, and the performance measures<sup>12</sup>. Without a proper documentation of the end-to-end process, the organization may face challenges in designing, developing, testing, deploying, and monitoring the RPA solution<sup>3</sup>. References:

1: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 4: Information Systems Operations and Business Resilience, Section 4.2: IT Service Delivery and Support, page 211  
2: CISA Online Review Course, Module 4: Information Systems Operations and Business Resilience, Lesson 4.2: IT Service Delivery and Support  
3: ISACA Journal Volume 5, 2019, Article: Robotic Process Automation: Benefits, Risks and Controls

### NEW QUESTION 38

- (Topic 3)

During a follow-up audit, an IS auditor finds that some critical recommendations have the IS auditor's BEST course of action?

- A. Require the auditee to address the recommendations in full.
- B. Adjust the annual risk assessment accordingly.
- C. Evaluate senior management's acceptance of the risk.
- D. Update the audit program based on management's acceptance of risk.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The best course of action for an IS auditor who finds that some critical recommendations have not been implemented is to evaluate senior management's acceptance of the risk. The IS auditor should understand the reasons why the recommendations have not been implemented and the implications for the organization's risk exposure. The IS auditor should also verify that senior management has formally acknowledged and accepted the residual risk and has documented the rationale and justification for their decision. The IS auditor should communicate the findings and the risk acceptance to the audit committee and other relevant stakeholders. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)  
? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

### NEW QUESTION 43

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following BEST describes an audit risk?

- A. The company is being sued for false accusations.
- B. The financial report may contain undetected material errors.
- C. Employees have been misappropriating funds.
- D. Key employees have not taken vacation for 2 years.

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

The best description of an audit risk is that the financial report may contain undetected material errors. Audit risk is the risk that the auditor expresses an inappropriate opinion on the financial report when it contains material misstatements or errors. Audit risk consists of three components: inherent risk, control risk, and detection risk. Inherent risk is the susceptibility of an assertion or a control to a material misstatement or error due to factors such as complexity, volatility, fraud, or human error. Control risk is the risk that a material misstatement or error will not be prevented or detected by the internal controls. Detection risk is the risk that the auditor's procedures will not detect a material misstatement or error that exists in an assertion or a control. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)  
? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

### NEW QUESTION 45

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor is reviewing the installation of a new server. The IS auditor's PRIMARY objective is to ensure that

- A. security parameters are set in accordance with the manufacturer's standards.
- B. a detailed business case was formally approved prior to the purchase.
- C. security parameters are set in accordance with the organization's policies.
- D. the procurement project invited tenders from at least three different suppliers.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The primary objective of an IS auditor when reviewing the installation of a new server is to ensure that security parameters are set in accordance with the organization's policies. Security parameters are settings or options that control the security level and behavior of the server, such as authentication methods, encryption algorithms, access rights, audit logs, firewall rules, or password policies<sup>7</sup>. The organization's policies are documents that define the security goals, requirements, standards, and guidelines for the organization's information systems. An IS auditor should verify that security parameters are set in accordance with the organization's policies to ensure that the new server complies with the organization's security expectations and regulations. The other options are less important or incorrect because:

? A. Security parameters should not be set in accordance with the manufacturer's standards alone, as they may not reflect the organization's specific security needs and environment. The manufacturer's standards are general recommendations or best practices for configuring the server's security parameters based on common scenarios and threats. An IS auditor should compare the manufacturer's standards with the organization's policies and identify any gaps or conflicts that need to be resolved.

? B. A detailed business case should have been formally approved prior to the purchase of a new server rather than during its installation. A business case is a document that justifies the need for a new server based on its expected benefits, costs, risks, and alternatives. A business case should be approved by senior management before initiating a project to acquire a new server.

? D. The procurement project should have invited tenders from at least three different suppliers before purchasing a new server rather than during its installation. A tender is a formal offer or proposal to provide a product or service at a specified price and quality. Inviting tenders from multiple suppliers helps to ensure a fair and competitive procurement process that can result in the best value for money and quality for the organization. References: Server Security - ISACA, [Information Security Policy - ISACA], [Server Hardening - ISACA], [Business Case - ISACA], [Tender - ISACA], [Procurement Management - ISACA]

#### NEW QUESTION 49

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the PRIMARY advantage of using visualization technology for corporate applications?

- A. Improved disaster recovery
- B. Better utilization of resources
- C. Stronger data security
- D. Increased application performance

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

Visualization technology is the use of software and hardware to create graphical representations of data, such as charts, graphs, maps, images, etc. Visualization technology can help users to understand, analyze, and communicate complex and large amounts of data in an intuitive and engaging way<sup>1</sup>.

One of the primary advantages of using visualization technology for corporate applications is that it can improve the utilization of resources, such as time, money, human capital, and physical assets. Some of the ways that visualization technology can achieve this are:

? Visualization technology can help users to quickly and easily explore, filter, and interact with data, reducing the need for manual data processing and analysis<sup>1</sup>. This can save time and effort for both data producers and consumers, and allow them to focus on more value-added tasks.

? Visualization technology can help users to discover patterns, trends, outliers, correlations, and causations in data that may otherwise be hidden or overlooked in traditional reports or tables<sup>1</sup>. This can enable users to make better and faster decisions based on data-driven insights, and optimize their strategies and actions accordingly.

? Visualization technology can help users to communicate and share data more effectively and persuasively with different audiences, such as customers, partners, investors, regulators, etc<sup>1</sup>. This can enhance the reputation and credibility of the organization, and foster collaboration and innovation among stakeholders.

? Visualization technology can help users to monitor and measure the performance and impact of their activities, products, services, or processes<sup>1</sup>. This can help users to identify problems or opportunities for improvement, and adjust their plans or actions accordingly.

? Visualization technology can help users to create engaging and interactive experiences for their customers or end-users<sup>1</sup>. This can increase customer satisfaction and loyalty, and generate more revenue or value for the organization.

Therefore, using visualization technology for corporate applications can help organizations to better utilize their resources and achieve their goals.

References:

? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019

? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription

? TechRadar Blog, Best data visualization tools of 2023<sup>2</sup>

? IBM Blog, What is Data Visualization?<sup>3</sup>

? TDWI Blog, Data Visualization Technology<sup>4</sup>

? Tableau Blog, What are the advantages and disadvantages of data visualization?

#### NEW QUESTION 50

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following provides the BEST providence that outsourced provider services are being properly managed?

- A. The service level agreement (SLA) includes penalties for non-performance.
- B. Adequate action is taken for noncompliance with the service level agreement (SLA).
- C. The vendor provides historical data to demonstrate its performance.
- D. Internal performance standards align with corporate strategy.

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

Adequate action taken for noncompliance with the service level agreement (SLA) provides the best evidence that outsourced provider services are being properly managed. This shows that the organization is monitoring the performance of the provider and enforcing the terms of the SLA.

The other options are not as convincing as evidence of proper management. Option A, the SLA includes penalties for non-performance, is a good practice but does not guarantee that the penalties are actually applied or that the performance is satisfactory. Option C, the vendor provides historical data to demonstrate its performance, is not reliable because the data may be biased or inaccurate. Option D, internal performance standards align with corporate strategy, is irrelevant to the question of outsourced provider management. References:

? ISACA, CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, 2019, page 2821

? ISACA, CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database - 12 Month Subscription, QID 1066692

#### NEW QUESTION 52

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following BEST facilitates the legal process in the event of an incident?

- A. Right to perform e-discovery
- B. Advice from legal counsel
- C. Preserving the chain of custody
- D. Results of a root cause analysis

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The best way to facilitate the legal process in the event of an incident is to preserve the chain of custody of the evidence. The chain of custody is a record of who handled, accessed, or modified the evidence, when, where, how, and why. The chain of custody helps to ensure the integrity, authenticity, and admissibility of the evidence in a court of law. The chain of custody also helps to prevent tampering, alteration, or loss of evidence that could compromise the investigation or the prosecution. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)

? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

#### NEW QUESTION 53

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor assessing the controls within a newly implemented call center would First

- A. gather information from the customers regarding response times and quality of service.
- B. review the manual and automated controls in the call center.
- C. test the technical infrastructure at the call center.
- D. evaluate the operational risk associated with the call center.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The first step in assessing the controls within a newly implemented call center is to evaluate the operational risk associated with the call center. This will help the IS auditor to identify the potential threats, vulnerabilities, and impacts that could affect the call center's objectives, performance, and availability. The evaluation of operational risk will also provide a basis for determining the scope, objectives, and approach of the audit. The other options are possible audit procedures, but they are not the first step in the audit process. References: ISACA Frameworks: Blueprints for Success, CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)

**NEW QUESTION 54**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the BEST way to mitigate the risk associated with unintentional modifications of complex calculations in end-user computing (EUC)?

- A. Have an independent party review the source calculations
- B. Execute copies of EUC programs out of a secure library
- C. implement complex password controls
- D. Verify EUC results through manual calculations

**Answer: B**

**Explanation:**

The best way to mitigate the risk associated with unintentional modifications of complex calculations in end-user computing (EUC) is to execute copies of EUC programs out of a secure library. This will ensure that the original EUC programs are protected from unauthorized changes and that the copies are run in a controlled environment. A secure library is a repository of EUC programs that have been tested, validated, and approved by the appropriate authority. Executing copies of EUC programs out of a secure library can also help with version control, backup, and recovery of EUC programs. Having an independent party review the source calculations, implementing complex password controls, and verifying EUC results through manual calculations are not as effective as executing copies of EUC programs out of a secure library, as they do not prevent or detect unintentional modifications of complex calculations in EUC. References: End-User Computing (EUC) Risks: A Comprehensive Guide, End User Computing (EUC) Risk Management

**NEW QUESTION 59**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the BEST way to enforce the principle of least privilege on a server containing data with different security classifications?

- A. Limiting access to the data files based on frequency of use
- B. Obtaining formal agreement by users to comply with the data classification policy
- C. Applying access controls determined by the data owner
- D. Using scripted access control lists to prevent unauthorized access to the server

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

The best way to enforce the principle of least privilege on a server containing data with different security classifications is to apply access controls determined by the data owner. The principle of least privilege states that users should only have the minimum level of access required to perform their tasks. The data owner is the person who has the authority and responsibility to classify, label, and protect the data according to its sensitivity and value. The data owner can define the access rights and permissions for each user or role based on the data classification policy and the business needs. This will ensure that only authorized and appropriate users can access the data and prevent unauthorized or excessive access that could compromise the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the data. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)

? CISA Questions, Answers & Explanations Database

**NEW QUESTION 61**

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor has completed the fieldwork phase of a network security review and is preparing the initial findings. Which of the following findings should be ranked as the HIGHEST risk?

- A. Network penetration tests are not performed
- B. The network firewall policy has not been approved by the information security officer.
- C. Network firewall rules have not been documented.
- D. The network device inventory is incomplete.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The finding that should be ranked as the highest risk is that network penetration tests are not performed. Network penetration tests are simulated cyberattacks that aim to identify and exploit the vulnerabilities and weaknesses of the network security controls, such as firewalls, routers, switches, servers, and devices. Network penetration tests are essential for assessing the effectiveness and resilience of the network security posture, and for providing recommendations for improvement and remediation. If network penetration tests are not performed, the organization may not be aware of the existing or potential threats and risks to its network, and may not be able to prevent or respond to real cyberattacks, which can result in data breaches, service disruptions, financial losses, reputational damage, and legal or regulatory penalties. The other findings are also important, but not as risky as the lack of network penetration tests, because they either do not directly affect the network security controls, or they can be addressed by documentation or approval processes. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version)1, Chapter 5, Section 5.2.4

**NEW QUESTION 64**

- (Topic 3)

An IS auditor has been asked to advise on measures to improve IT governance within the organization. Which of the following is the BEST recommendation?

- A. Implement key performance indicators (KPIs)
- B. Implement annual third-party audits.
- C. Benchmark organizational performance against industry peers.
- D. Require executive management to draft IT strategy

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

The best recommendation for improving IT governance within the organization is to implement key performance indicators (KPIs). KPIs are measurable values that show how effectively the organization is achieving its key business objectives. KPIs can help the organization to monitor and evaluate the performance, efficiency, and alignment of its IT processes and resources with its business goals and strategies<sup>1</sup>.

The other options are not as effective as implementing KPIs for improving IT governance. Option B, implementing annual third-party audits, is a good practice but may not be sufficient or timely to identify and address the issues or gaps in IT governance. Option C, benchmarking organizational performance against industry peers, is a useful technique but may not reflect the specific needs and expectations of the organization's stakeholders. Option D, requiring executive management to draft IT strategy, is a necessary step but not enough to ensure that IT governance is implemented and monitored throughout the organization.

**NEW QUESTION 66**

- (Topic 3)

A review of an organization's IT portfolio revealed several applications that are not in use. The BEST way to prevent this situation from recurring would be to implement.

- A. A formal request for proposal (RFP) process
- B. Business case development procedures
- C. An information asset acquisition policy
- D. Asset life cycle management.

**Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

Asset life cycle management is a technique of asset management where facility managers maximize the usable life of assets through planning, purchasing, using, maintaining, and disposing of assets<sup>1</sup>. The main aim of asset life cycle management is to reduce costs and increase productivity by optimizing the performance, reliability, and lifespan of assets<sup>2</sup>. Asset life cycle management can help prevent the situation of having unused applications by ensuring that the applications are aligned with the business needs, objectives, and strategies, and that they are regularly reviewed, updated, or retired as necessary<sup>3</sup>.

The other options are not as effective as asset life cycle management for preventing unused applications. A formal request for proposal (RFP) process is a method of soliciting bids from potential vendors or suppliers for a project or service. A RFP process can help select the best application for a specific requirement, but it does not ensure that the application will be used or maintained throughout its lifecycle. Business case development procedures are a set of steps that involve defining the problem, analyzing the alternatives, and proposing a solution for a project or initiative. Business case development procedures can help justify the need and value of an application, but they do not guarantee that the application will be utilized or supported after its implementation. An information asset acquisition policy is a document that outlines the rules and standards for acquiring information assets such as applications. An information asset acquisition policy can help ensure that the applications are acquired in a consistent and compliant manner, but it does not address how the applications will be managed or disposed of after their acquisition.

**NEW QUESTION 69**

- (Topic 3)

Which of the following is the BEST way to ensure that business continuity plans (BCPs) will work effectively in the event of a major disaster?

- A. Prepare detailed plans for each business function.
- B. Involve staff at all levels in periodic paper walk-through exercises.
- C. Regularly update business impact assessments.
- D. Make senior managers responsible for their plan sections.

**Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

The best way to ensure that business continuity plans (BCPs) will work effectively in the event of a major disaster is to involve staff at all levels in periodic paper walk-through exercises. This means that the BCPs are tested and validated by the people who will execute them in a real situation, and any gaps, errors, or inconsistencies can be identified and corrected. Paper walk-through exercises are also a good way to raise awareness and train staff on their roles and responsibilities in a BCP scenario, as well as to evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of the recovery strategies<sup>1</sup>.

The other options are not the best ways to ensure that BCPs will work effectively, because they do not involve testing or validating the plans. Preparing detailed plans for each business function is important, but it does not guarantee that the plans are realistic, practical, or aligned with the overall business objectives and priorities<sup>2</sup>. Regularly updating business impact assessments is also essential, but it does not ensure that the BCPs are aligned with the current business environment and risks<sup>2</sup>. Making senior managers responsible for their plan sections is a good way to assign accountability and authority, but it does not ensure that the plan sections are coordinated and integrated with each other<sup>2</sup>.

References:

- ? Best Practice Guide: Business Continuity Planning (BCP)<sup>3</sup>
- ? Best Practices for Creating a Business Continuity Plan<sup>1</sup>
- ? Business Continuity Plan Best Practices

**NEW QUESTION 73**

- (Topic 2)

An organization was recently notified by its regulatory body of significant discrepancies in its reporting data. A preliminary investigation revealed that the discrepancies were caused by problems with the organization's data quality Management has directed the data quality team to enhance their program. The audit committee has asked internal audit to be advisors to the process. To ensure that management concerns are addressed, which data set should internal audit recommend be reviewed FIRST?

- A. Data with customer personal information
- B. Data reported to the regulatory body

- C. Data supporting financial statements
- D. Data impacting business objectives

**Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

To ensure that management concerns are addressed, internal audit should recommend that the data quality team review the data reported to the regulatory body first. This is because this data set is the most relevant and critical to the issue that triggered the enhancement of the data quality program. The data reported to the regulatory body should be accurate, complete, consistent, and timely, as any discrepancies could result in fines, penalties, or reputational damage for the organization. Data with customer personal information is important for data quality, but it is not directly related to the regulatory reporting issue. Data supporting financial statements is important for data quality, but it may not be the same as the data reported to the regulatory body. Data impacting business objectives is important for data quality, but it may not be as urgent or sensitive as the data reported to the regulatory body. References:

? CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, pages 404-4051

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID: 262

**NEW QUESTION 75**

- (Topic 2)

In a RAO model, which of the following roles must be assigned to only one individual?

- A. Responsible
- B. Informed
- C. Consulted
- D. Accountable

**Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

In a RAO model, which stands for Responsible, Accountable, Consulted, and Informed, the accountable role must be assigned to only one individual. The accountable role is the person who has the ultimate authority and responsibility for the outcome of the project or task, and who approves or rejects the work done by the responsible role. The accountable role cannot be delegated or shared, as it is essential to have a clear and single point of accountability for each project or task.

The other roles can be assigned to more than one individual:

? Responsible. This is the person who does the work or performs the task. There can be multiple responsible roles for different aspects or phases of a project or task, as long as they are coordinated and supervised by the accountable role.

? Informed. This is the person who needs to be notified or updated about the progress or results of the project or task. There can be multiple informed roles who have an interest or stake in the project or task, but who do not need to be consulted or involved in the decision-making process.

? Consulted. This is the person who provides input, feedback, or advice on the project or task. There can be multiple consulted roles who have expertise or experience relevant to the project or task, but who do not have the authority or responsibility to approve or reject the work done by the responsible role.

**NEW QUESTION 80**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the BEST reason for an organization to use clustering?

- A. To decrease system response time
- B. To Improve the recovery lime objective (RTO)
- C. To facilitate faster backups
- D. To improve system resiliency

**Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

Clustering is a technique that groups multiple servers or nodes together to act as one system, providing high availability, scalability, and load balancing for applications or services. Clustering can improve system resiliency, which is the ability of a system to withstand or recover from failures or disruptions without compromising its functionality or performance. Clustering can achieve this by providing redundancy and fault tolerance for critical components or processes, enabling automatic failover and recovery in case of node failures, distributing workload among multiple nodes to avoid overloading or bottlenecks, and allowing dynamic addition or removal of nodes to meet changing demand or capacity needs. Clustering may also decrease system response time by improving performance and efficiency through load balancing and parallel processing, but this is not its primary purpose. Clustering may facilitate faster backups by enabling concurrent backup operations across multiple nodes, but this is not its main benefit. Clustering may improve the recovery time objective (RTO), which is the maximum acceptable time for restoring a system or service after a disruption, by reducing the downtime and data loss caused by failures, but this is not the best reason for using clustering, as there may be other factors that affect the RTO, such as backup frequency, recovery procedures, and testing methods.

**NEW QUESTION 84**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following documents should specify roles and responsibilities within an IT audit organization?

- A. Organizational chart
- B. Audit charter
- C. Engagement letter
- D. Annual audit plan

**Answer:** B

**Explanation:**

The audit charter is a document that defines the purpose, scope, authority, and responsibility of an IT audit organization. The audit charter should specify roles and responsibilities within an IT audit organization, such as who is accountable for approving the audit plan, who is responsible for conducting the audits, who is authorized to access the audit evidence, and who is accountable for reporting the audit results. The organizational chart, the engagement letter, and the annual audit plan are also important documents for an IT audit organization, but they do not specify roles and responsibilities as clearly and comprehensively as the audit charter.

#### NEW QUESTION 88

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor is reviewing an organization's primary router access control list. Which of the following should result in a finding?

- A. There are conflicting permit and deny rules for the IT group.
- B. The network security group can change network address translation (NAT).
- C. Individual permissions are overriding group permissions.
- D. There is only one rule per group with access privileges.

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

This should result in a finding because it violates the best practice of setting rules for groups rather than users. According to one of the web search results<sup>1</sup>, using group permissions instead of individual permissions can simplify the management and maintenance of ACLs, reduce the risk of human errors, and ensure consistency and compliance. Individual permissions can create conflicts, confusion, and security gaps in the ACLs. Therefore, the IS auditor should report this as a finding and recommend using group permissions instead.

#### NEW QUESTION 89

- (Topic 2)

An organization has recently implemented a Voice-over IP (VoIP) communication system. Which of the following should be the IS auditor's PRIMARY concern?

- A. A single point of failure for both voice and data communications
- B. Inability to use virtual private networks (VPNs) for internal traffic
- C. Lack of integration of voice and data communications
- D. Voice quality degradation due to packet loss

**Answer: A**

#### Explanation:

The IS auditor's primary concern when an organization has recently implemented a Voice-over IP (VoIP) communication system is a single point of failure for both voice and data communications. VoIP is a technology that allows voice communication over IP networks such as the internet. VoIP can offer benefits such as lower costs, higher flexibility, and better integration with other applications. However, VoIP also introduces risks such as dependency on network availability, performance, and security. If both voice and data communications share the same network infrastructure and devices, then a single point of failure can affect both services simultaneously and cause significant disruption to business operations. Therefore, the IS auditor should evaluate the availability and redundancy of the network components and devices that support VoIP communication. The other options are not as critical as a single point of failure for both voice and data communications, as they do not pose a direct threat to business continuity. References: CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, page 385

#### NEW QUESTION 91

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following BEST protects an organization's proprietary code during a joint-development activity involving a third party?

- A. Statement of work (SOW)
- B. Nondisclosure agreement (NDA)
- C. Service level agreement (SLA)
- D. Privacy agreement

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

A nondisclosure agreement (NDA) is the best way to protect an organization's proprietary code during a joint-development activity involving a third party. An NDA is a legal contract that binds the parties involved in a joint-development activity to keep confidential any information, data or materials that are shared or exchanged during the activity. An NDA specifies what constitutes confidential information, how it can be used, disclosed or protected, how long it remains confidential, what are the exceptions and remedies for breach of confidentiality, and other terms and conditions. An NDA can help to protect an organization's proprietary code from being copied, modified, distributed or exploited by unauthorized parties without its consent or knowledge. The other options are not as effective as option B, as they do not address confidentiality issues specifically. A statement of work (SOW) is a document that defines the scope, objectives, deliverables, tasks, roles, responsibilities, timelines and costs of a joint-development activity, but it does not cover confidentiality issues explicitly. A service level agreement (SLA) is a document that defines the quality, performance and availability standards and metrics for a service provided by one party to another party in a joint-development activity, but it does not cover confidentiality issues explicitly. A privacy agreement is a document that defines how personal information collected from customers or users is collected, used, disclosed and protected by one party or both parties in a joint-development activity, but it does not cover confidentiality issues related to proprietary code. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 3: Information Systems Acquisition, Development & Implementation, Section 3.2: Project Management Practices.

#### NEW QUESTION 95

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the BEST indicator of the effectiveness of an organization's incident response program?

- A. Number of successful penetration tests
- B. Percentage of protected business applications
- C. Financial impact per security event
- D. Number of security vulnerability patches

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The best indicator of the effectiveness of an organization's incident response program is the financial impact per security event. This metric measures the direct and indirect costs associated with security incidents, such as loss of revenue, reputation damage, legal fees, recovery expenses, and fines. By reducing the financial impact per security event, the organization can demonstrate that its incident response program is effective in mitigating the consequences of security breaches and restoring normal operations as quickly as possible. Number of successful penetration tests, percentage of protected business applications, and number of security vulnerability patches are indicators of the security posture of the organization, but they do not reflect the effectiveness of the incident response program. References: ISACA Journal Article: Measuring Incident Response Effectiveness

#### NEW QUESTION 96

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is MOST important to verify when determining the completeness of the vulnerability scanning process?

- A. The organization's systems inventory is kept up to date.
- B. Vulnerability scanning results are reported to the CISO.
- C. The organization is using a cloud-hosted scanning tool for Identification of vulnerabilities
- D. Access to the vulnerability scanning tool is periodically reviewed

**Answer:** A

#### Explanation:

The completeness of the vulnerability scanning process depends on the accuracy and currency of the organization's systems inventory, which is a list of all the hardware and software assets that are owned or used by the organization. A complete and up-to-date systems inventory can help ensure that all the systems are identified and scanned for vulnerabilities, and that no system is missed or overlooked. Vulnerability scanning results are reported to the CISO is a good practice for ensuring accountability and visibility of the vulnerability management process, but it is not the most important thing to verify when determining the completeness of the vulnerability scanning process, as reporting does not guarantee that all the systems are scanned. The organization is using a cloud-hosted scanning tool for identification of vulnerabilities is a possible option for conducting vulnerability scanning, but it is not the most important thing to verify when determining the completeness of the vulnerability scanning process, as the type of scanning tool does not affect the scope or coverage of the scanning. Access to the vulnerability scanning tool is periodically reviewed is a critical control for ensuring the security and integrity of the vulnerability scanning tool, but it is not the most important thing to verify when determining the completeness of the vulnerability scanning process, as access review does not ensure that all the systems are scanned.

#### NEW QUESTION 101

- (Topic 2)

The PRIMARY reason for an IS auditor to use data analytics techniques is to reduce which type of audit risk?

- A. Technology risk
- B. Detection risk
- C. Control risk
- D. Inherent risk

**Answer:** B

#### Explanation:

The primary reason for an IS auditor to use data analytics techniques is to reduce detection risk. Detection risk is the risk that an IS auditor will fail to detect material errors or irregularities in the information systems environment. By using data analytics techniques, such as data extraction, analysis, visualization, and reporting, an IS auditor can enhance the audit scope, coverage, efficiency, and effectiveness. Data analytics techniques can help an IS auditor to identify anomalies, patterns, trends, correlations, and outliers in large volumes of data that may indicate potential issues or risks. Technology risk, control risk, and inherent risk are types of audit risk that are not directly affected by the use of data analytics techniques by an IS auditor. References: [ISACA Journal Article: Data Analytics for Auditors]

#### NEW QUESTION 103

- (Topic 2)

Due to limited storage capacity, an organization has decided to reduce the actual retention period for media containing completed low-value transactions. Which of the following is MOST important for the organization to ensure?

- A. The policy includes a strong risk-based approach.
- B. The retention period allows for review during the year-end audit.
- C. The retention period complies with data owner responsibilities.
- D. The total transaction amount has no impact on financial reporting

**Answer:** C

#### Explanation:

The most important factor for the organization to ensure when reducing the retention period for media containing completed low-value transactions is that the retention period complies with data owner responsibilities. Data owners are accountable for defining the retention and disposal requirements for the data under their custody, based on business, legal, regulatory, and contractual obligations. The policy should reflect the data owner's decisions and obtain their approval. The policy should also include a risk-based approach, but this is not as important as complying with data owner responsibilities. The retention period should allow for review during the year-end audit, but this may not be necessary for low-value transactions that have minimal impact on financial reporting. The total transaction amount may have some impact on financial reporting, but this is not a direct consequence of reducing the retention period. References:

? CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, pages 414-4151

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID: 255

#### NEW QUESTION 104

- (Topic 2)

The PRIMARY focus of a post-implementation review is to verify that:

- A. enterprise architecture (EA) has been complied with.
- B. user requirements have been met.
- C. acceptance testing has been properly executed.
- D. user access controls have been adequately designed.

**Answer:** B

#### Explanation:

The primary focus of a post-implementation review is to verify that user requirements have been met. User requirements are specifications that define what users need or expect from a system or service, such as functionality, usability, reliability, etc. User requirements are usually gathered and documented at the beginning of a project, and used as a basis for designing, developing, testing, and implementing a system or service. A post-implementation review is an evaluation that assesses whether a system or service meets its objectives and delivers its expected benefits after it has been implemented. The primary focus of a post-

implementation review is to verify that user requirements have been met, as this can indicate whether the system or service satisfies the user needs and expectations, provides value and quality to the users, and supports the user goals and tasks. Enterprise architecture (EA) has been complied with is a possible focus of a post-implementation review, but it is not the primary one. EA is a framework that defines how an organization's business processes, information systems, and technology infrastructure are aligned and integrated to support its vision and strategy. EA has been complied with, as this can indicate whether the system or service fits with the organization's current and future state, and follows the organization's standards and principles. Acceptance testing has been properly executed is a possible focus of a post-implementation review, but it is not the primary one. Acceptance testing is a process that verifies whether a system or service meets the user requirements and expectations before it is accepted by the users or stakeholders. Acceptance testing has been properly executed, as this can indicate whether the system or service has been tested and validated by the users or stakeholders, and whether any issues or defects have been identified and resolved. User access controls have been adequately designed is a possible focus of a post-implementation review, but it is not the primary one. User access controls are mechanisms that ensure that only authorized users can access or use a system or service, and prevent unauthorized access or use. User access controls have been adequately designed, as this can indicate whether the system or service has appropriate security and privacy measures in place, and whether any risks or threats have been mitigated.

#### NEW QUESTION 109

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the BEST source of information for an IS auditor to use as a baseline to assess the adequacy of an organization's privacy policy?

- A. Historical privacy breaches and related root causes
- B. Globally accepted privacy best practices
- C. Local privacy standards and regulations
- D. Benchmark studies of similar organizations

**Answer:** C

#### Explanation:

The best source of information for an IS auditor to use as a baseline to assess the adequacy of an organization's privacy policy is the local privacy standards and regulations. Privacy standards and regulations are legal requirements that specify how personal data should be collected, processed, stored, shared, and disposed of by organizations. By using local privacy standards and regulations as a baseline, the IS auditor can ensure that the organization's privacy policy complies with the applicable laws and protects the rights and interests of data subjects. Historical privacy breaches and related root causes, globally accepted privacy best practices, and benchmark studies of similar organizations are useful sources of information for improving an organization's privacy policy, but they are not as authoritative and relevant as local privacy standards and regulations. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version): Chapter 2 - Governance and Management of Information Technology

#### NEW QUESTION 111

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the BEST audit procedure to determine whether a firewall is configured in compliance with the organization's security policy?

- A. Reviewing the parameter settings
- B. Reviewing the system log
- C. Interviewing the firewall administrator
- D. Reviewing the actual procedures

**Answer:** A

#### Explanation:

The best audit procedure to determine whether a firewall is configured in compliance with the organization's security policy is reviewing the parameter settings. Parameter settings are values or options that define how a firewall operates and functions, such as rules, filters, ports, protocols, etc. By reviewing the parameter settings of a firewall, an IS auditor can verify whether they match with the organization's security policy, which is a document that outlines the security objectives, requirements, and guidelines for an organization's information systems and resources. Reviewing the system log is a possible audit procedure to determine whether a firewall is configured in compliance with the organization's security policy, but it is not the best one, as a system log records events or activities that occur on a firewall, such as connections, requests, responses, errors, alerts, etc., and may not indicate whether they comply with the organization's security policy. Interviewing the firewall administrator is a possible audit procedure to determine whether a firewall is configured in compliance with the organization's security policy, but it is not the best one, as a firewall administrator may not provide accurate or reliable information about the firewall configuration, and may have conflicts of interest or ulterior motives. Reviewing the actual procedures is a possible audit procedure to determine whether a firewall is configured in compliance with the organization's security policy, but it is not the best one, as actual procedures describe how a firewall is configured and maintained, such as installation, testing, updating, etc., and may not reflect whether they comply with the organization's security policy.

#### NEW QUESTION 115

- (Topic 2)

An internal audit department recently established a quality assurance (QA) program. Which of the following activities is MOST important to include as part of the QA program requirements?

- A. Long-term Internal audit resource planning
- B. Ongoing monitoring of the audit activities
- C. Analysis of user satisfaction reports from business lines
- D. Feedback from Internal audit staff

**Answer:** B

#### Explanation:

Ongoing monitoring of the audit activities is the most important activity to include as part of the quality assurance (QA) program requirements for an internal audit department. An IS auditor should perform regular reviews and evaluations of the audit processes, methods, standards, and outcomes to ensure that they comply with the QA program objectives and criteria. This will help to maintain and improve the quality and consistency of the audit services and deliverables. The other options are less important activities to include as part of the QA program requirements, as they may involve long-term resource planning, user satisfaction reports, or feedback from internal audit staff. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 2, Section 2.61

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 224

#### NEW QUESTION 117

- (Topic 2)

The waterfall life cycle model of software development is BEST suited for which of the following situations?

- A. The project requirements are well understood.
- B. The project is subject to time pressures.
- C. The project intends to apply an object-oriented design approach.
- D. The project will involve the use of new technology.

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

The waterfall life cycle model of software development is best suited for situations where the project requirements are well understood. The waterfall life cycle model is a sequential and linear approach to software development that consists of several phases, such as planning, analysis, design, implementation, testing, and maintenance. Each phase depends on the completion and approval of the previous phase before proceeding to the next phase. The waterfall life cycle model is best suited for situations where the project requirements are well understood, as it assumes that the requirements are clear, stable, and fixed at the beginning of the project, and do not change significantly throughout the project. The project is subject to time pressures is not a situation where the waterfall life cycle model of software development is best suited, as it may not be flexible or agile enough to accommodate changes or adjustments in the project schedule or timeline. The waterfall life cycle model may involve long delays or dependencies between phases, and may not allow for early feedback or delivery of software products. The project intends to apply an object-oriented design approach is not a situation where the waterfall life cycle model of software development is best suited, as it may not be compatible or effective with the object-oriented design approach. The object-oriented design approach is a technique that models software as a collection of interacting objects that have attributes and behaviors. The object-oriented design approach may require iterative and incremental development methods that allow for dynamic and adaptive changes in software design and functionality. The project will involve the use of new technology is not a situation where the waterfall life cycle model of software development is best suited, as it may not be able to cope with the uncertainty or complexity of new technology. The waterfall life cycle model may not allow for sufficient exploration or experimentation with new technology, and may not be able to handle changes or issues that arise from new technology.

**NEW QUESTION 119**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following BEST indicates that an incident management process is effective?

- A. Decreased time for incident resolution
- B. Increased number of incidents reviewed by IT management
- C. Decreased number of calls to the help desk
- D. Increased number of reported critical incidents

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

Decreased time for incident resolution is the best indicator that an incident management process is effective. Incident management is a process that aims to restore normal service operation as quickly as possible after an incident, which is an unplanned interruption or reduction in quality of an IT service. Decreased time for incident resolution means that the incident management process is able to identify, analyze, respond to, and resolve incidents efficiently and effectively. The other indicators do not necessarily reflect the effectiveness of the incident management process, as they may depend on other factors such as the nature, frequency, and severity of incidents. References: CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, page 372

**NEW QUESTION 120**

- (Topic 2)

When auditing the alignment of IT to the business strategy, it is MOST important for the IS auditor to:

- A. compare the organization's strategic plan against industry best practice.
- B. interview senior managers for their opinion of the IT function.
- C. ensure an IT steering committee is appointed to monitor new IT projects.
- D. evaluate deliverables of new IT initiatives against planned business services.

**Answer:** D

**Explanation:**

When auditing the alignment of IT to the business strategy, it is most important for the IS auditor to evaluate deliverables of new IT initiatives against planned business services. This can help the IS auditor to assess whether the IT initiatives are meeting the business needs and expectations, delivering value and benefits, and supporting the business objectives and goals. Comparing the organization's strategic plan against industry best practice is a possible technique for auditing the alignment of IT to the business strategy, but it is not the most important thing for the IS auditor to do, as industry best practice may not be applicable or relevant to the specific context or situation of the organization. Interviewing senior managers for their opinion of the IT function is a possible technique for auditing the alignment of IT to the business strategy, but it is not the most important thing for the IS auditor to do, as senior managers' opinions may be subjective or biased, and may not reflect the actual performance or outcomes of the IT function. Ensuring an IT steering committee is appointed to monitor new IT projects is a possible control for ensuring the alignment of IT to the business strategy, but it is not the most important thing for the IS auditor to do, as an IT steering committee may not be effective or efficient in monitoring new IT projects, and may not have sufficient authority or influence over the IT function.

**NEW QUESTION 123**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is MOST important for an IS auditor to verify when evaluating an organization's firewall?

- A. Logs are being collected in a separate protected host
- B. Automated alerts are being sent when a risk is detected
- C. Insider attacks are being controlled
- D. Access to configuration files is restricted.

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

A firewall is a device or software that monitors and controls the incoming and outgoing network traffic based on predefined rules. A firewall can help protect an organization's network and information systems from unauthorized or malicious access, by filtering or blocking unwanted or harmful packets. The most important

thing for an IS auditor to verify when evaluating an organization's firewall is that the logs are being collected in a separate protected host. Logs are records of events or activities that occur on a system or network, such as connections, requests, responses, errors, and alerts. Logs can provide valuable information for auditing, monitoring, troubleshooting, and investigating security incidents. However, logs can also be tampered with, deleted, or corrupted by attackers or insiders who want to hide their tracks or evidence of their actions. Therefore, it is essential that logs are stored in a separate host that is isolated and secured from the network and the firewall itself, to prevent unauthorized access or modification of the logs. Automated alerts are being sent when a risk is detected is a good practice for enhancing the security and efficiency of a firewall, but it is not the most important thing for an IS auditor to verify, as alerts may not always be accurate, timely, or actionable. Insider attacks are being controlled is a desirable outcome for a firewall, but it is not the most important thing for an IS auditor to verify, as insider attacks may involve other factors or methods that bypass or compromise the firewall, such as social engineering, credential theft, or physical access. Access to configuration files is restricted is a critical control for ensuring the security and integrity of a firewall, but it is not the most important thing for an IS auditor to verify, as configuration files may not reflect the actual state or performance of the firewall.

#### **NEW QUESTION 127**

- (Topic 2)

An organization plans to receive an automated data feed into its enterprise data warehouse from a third-party service provider. Which of the following would be the BEST way to prevent accepting bad data?

- A. Obtain error codes indicating failed data feeds.
- B. Purchase data cleansing tools from a reputable vendor.
- C. Appoint data quality champions across the organization.
- D. Implement business rules to reject invalid data.

**Answer:** D

#### **Explanation:**

The best way to prevent accepting bad data from a third-party service provider is to implement business rules to reject invalid data. Business rules are logical statements that define the data quality requirements and standards for the organization. By implementing business rules, the organization can ensure that only data that meets the predefined criteria is accepted into the enterprise data warehouse. Obtaining error codes indicating failed data feeds, purchasing data cleansing tools from a reputable vendor, and appointing data quality champions across the organization are useful measures to improve data quality, but they do not prevent accepting bad data in the first place. References: ISACA Journal Article: Data Quality Management

#### **NEW QUESTION 129**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following observations would an IS auditor consider the GREATEST risk when conducting an audit of a virtual server farm for potential software vulnerabilities?

- A. Guest operating systems are updated monthly
- B. The hypervisor is updated quarterly.
- C. A variety of guest operating systems operate on one virtual server
- D. Antivirus software has been implemented on the guest operating system only.

**Answer:** D

#### **Explanation:**

Antivirus software has been implemented on the guest operating system only is the observation that an IS auditor would consider the greatest risk when conducting an audit of a virtual server farm for potential software vulnerabilities. A virtual server farm is a collection of servers that run multiple virtual machines (VMs) on a single physical host using a software layer called a hypervisor. A guest operating system is the operating system installed on each VM. Antivirus software is a software program that detects and removes malicious software from a computer system. If antivirus software has been implemented on the guest operating system only, it means that the hypervisor and the host operating system are not protected from malware attacks, which could compromise the security and availability of all VMs running on the same host. Therefore, antivirus software should be implemented on both the guest and host operating systems as well as on the hypervisor. References: CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, page 378

#### **NEW QUESTION 132**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following activities provides an IS auditor with the MOST insight regarding potential single person dependencies that might exist within the organization?

- A. Reviewing vacation patterns
- B. Reviewing user activity logs
- C. Interviewing senior IT management
- D. Mapping IT processes to roles

**Answer:** D

#### **Explanation:**

Mapping IT processes to roles is an activity that provides an IS auditor with the most insight regarding potential single person dependencies that might exist within the organization. Single person dependencies occur when only one person has the knowledge, skills, or access rights to perform a critical IT function. Mapping IT processes to roles can help to identify such dependencies and assess their impact on the continuity and security of IT operations. The other activities do not provide as much insight into single person dependencies, as they do not show the relationship between IT processes and roles. References: CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, page 94

#### **NEW QUESTION 134**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following findings from an IT governance review should be of GREATEST concern?

- A. The IT budget is not monitored
- B. All IT services are provided by third parties.
- C. IT value analysis has not been completed.
- D. IT supports two different operating systems.

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

IT value analysis has not been completed is a finding from an IT governance review that should be of greatest concern. IT value analysis is a process of measuring and demonstrating the contribution of IT to the organization's goals and objectives. An IS auditor should be concerned about the lack of IT value analysis, as it may indicate that the IT investments and resources are not aligned with the business needs and expectations, or that the IT performance and outcomes are not monitored and evaluated. The other options are less critical findings that may not have a significant impact on the IT governance. References:  
? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 5, Section 5.11  
? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 218

**NEW QUESTION 138**

- (Topic 2)

IT disaster recovery time objectives (RTOs) should be based on the:

- A. maximum tolerable loss of data.
- B. nature of the outage
- C. maximum tolerable downtime (MTD).
- D. business-defined criticality of the systems.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

IT disaster recovery time objectives (RTOs) are the maximum acceptable time that an IT system can be unavailable after a disaster before it causes unacceptable consequences for the business. IT RTOs should be based on the business-defined criticality of the systems, which reflects how important they are for supporting the business processes and functions. The maximum tolerable loss of data, the nature of the outage, and the maximum tolerable downtime (MTD) are also factors that affect the IT RTOs, but they are not the primary basis for determining them.

**NEW QUESTION 142**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following occurs during the issues management process for a system development project?

- A. Contingency planning
- B. Configuration management
- C. Help desk management
- D. Impact assessment

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Impact assessment is an activity that occurs during the issues management process for a system development project. Issues management is a process of identifying, analyzing, resolving, and monitoring issues that may affect the project scope, schedule, budget, or quality. Impact assessment is a technique of evaluating the severity and priority of an issue, as well as its implications for the project objectives and deliverables. The other options are not activities that occur during the issues management process, but rather related to other processes such as contingency planning, configuration management, or help desk management. References:  
? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 4, Section 4.3.31  
? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 217

**NEW QUESTION 143**

- (Topic 2)

To enable the alignment of IT staff development plans with IT strategy, which of the following should be done FIRST?

- A. Review IT staff job descriptions for alignment
- B. Develop quarterly training for each IT staff member.
- C. Identify required IT skill sets that support key business processes
- D. Include strategic objectives in IT staff performance objectives

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Identifying required IT skill sets that support key business processes is the first step to enable the alignment of IT staff development plans with IT strategy. An IT strategy is a plan that defines how IT will support the organization's goals and objectives. Identifying required IT skill sets means determining the knowledge, abilities, and competencies that IT staff need to perform their roles and responsibilities effectively and efficiently. This can help to align IT staff development plans with IT strategy, as well as to identify and address any skill gaps or needs within the IT workforce. The other options are not the first steps to enable alignment, but rather possible subsequent actions that may depend on the required IT skill sets. References:  
? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 5, Section 5.11  
? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 229

**NEW QUESTION 145**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the MOST important activity in the data classification process?

- A. Labeling the data appropriately
- B. Identifying risk associated with the data
- C. Determining accountability of data owners
- D. Determining the adequacy of privacy controls

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Determining accountability of data owners is the most important activity in the data classification process. Data classification is a process that assigns categories or labels to data based on their value, sensitivity, criticality and risk to the organization. Data classification helps to determine the appropriate level of protection, access and retention for data. Determining accountability of data owners is an activity that identifies and assigns roles and responsibilities for data classification, protection and management to individuals or functions within the organization. Data owners are individuals or functions who have authority and responsibility for defining, classifying, protecting and managing data throughout their lifecycle. Determining accountability of data owners is essential for ensuring that data are classified correctly and consistently, and that data classification policies and procedures are followed and enforced. The other options are not as important as option C, as they are dependent on or derived from the accountability of data owners. Labeling the data appropriately is an activity that applies the categories or labels assigned by data owners to data based on their classification criteria. Identifying risk associated with the data is an activity that assesses the potential impact and likelihood of loss, disclosure, modification or destruction of data based on their classification level. Determining the adequacy of privacy controls is an activity that evaluates whether the controls implemented to protect personal or sensitive data are sufficient and effective based on their classification level. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version) , Chapter 5: Protection of Information Assets, Section 5.3: Data Classification.

**NEW QUESTION 149**

- (Topic 2)

Stress testing should ideally be earned out under a:

- A. test environment with production workloads.
- B. production environment with production workloads.
- C. production environment with test data.
- D. test environment with test data.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

Stress testing is a type of performance testing that evaluates the behavior and reliability of a system under extreme conditions, such as high workload, limited resources, or concurrent users. Stress testing should ideally be carried out under a test environment with production workloads, as this would simulate the most realistic and demanding scenario for the system without affecting the actual production environment. A production environment with production workloads is not suitable for stress testing, as it could cause disruption or damage to the system and its users. A production environment with test data is not suitable for stress testing, as it could compromise the integrity and security of the production data. A test environment with test data is not suitable for stress testing, as it could underestimate the potential issues and risks that could occur in the production environment. References:

? CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, pages 471-4721

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID: 261

**NEW QUESTION 152**

- (Topic 2)

The BEST way to determine whether programmers have permission to alter data in the production environment is by reviewing:

- A. the access control system's log settings.
- B. how the latest system changes were implemented.
- C. the access control system's configuration.
- D. the access rights that have been granted.

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

The best way to determine whether programmers have permission to alter data in the production environment is by reviewing the access rights that have been granted. Access rights are permissions or privileges that define what actions or operations a user can perform on an information system or resource. By reviewing the access rights that have been granted to programmers, an IS auditor can verify whether they have been authorized to modify data in the production environment, which is where live data and applications are stored and executed. The access control system's log settings are parameters that define what events or activities are recorded by the access control system, which is a system that enforces the access rights and policies of an information system or resource. The access control system's log settings are not the best way to determine whether programmers have permission to alter data in the production environment, as they do not indicate what permissions or privileges have been granted to programmers. How the latest system changes were implemented is a process that describes how software updates or modifications are deployed to the production environment. How the latest system changes were implemented is not the best way to determine whether programmers have permission to alter data in the production environment, as it does not indicate what permissions or privileges have been granted to programmers. The access control system's configuration is a set of rules or parameters that define how the access control system operates and functions. The access control system's configuration is not the best way to determine whether programmers have permission to alter data in the production environment, as it does not indicate what permissions or privileges have been granted to programmers.

**NEW QUESTION 153**

- (Topic 2)

An IS auditor concludes that an organization has a quality security policy. Which of the following is MOST important to determine next? The policy must be:

- A. well understood by all employees.
- B. based on industry standards.
- C. developed by process owners.
- D. updated frequently.

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

The most important thing to determine next after concluding that an organization has a quality security policy is whether the policy is well understood by all employees. A security policy is a document that defines the objectives, scope, roles, responsibilities, and rules for information security within an organization. A quality security policy is one that is clear, concise, consistent, comprehensive, and aligned with business goals and requirements. However, a quality security policy is useless if it is not well understood by all employees who are expected to comply with it. Therefore, the IS auditor should assess the level of awareness and understanding of the security policy among employees and identify any gaps or issues that need to be addressed. The other options are not as important as ensuring that the security policy is well understood by all employees, as they do not directly affect the implementation and effectiveness of the security policy. References: CISA Review Manual, 27th Edition, page 317

### NEW QUESTION 157

- (Topic 2)

In an online application which of the following would provide the MOST information about the transaction audit trail?

- A. File layouts
- B. Data architecture
- C. System/process flowchart
- D. Source code documentation

**Answer: C**

#### Explanation:

The most information about the transaction audit trail in an online application can be obtained by reviewing the system/process flowchart. A system/process flowchart is a diagram that illustrates the sequence of steps, activities, or events that occur within or affect a system or process. A system/process flowchart can provide the most information about the transaction audit trail in an online application, by showing how transactions are initiated, processed, recorded, and completed, and identifying the inputs, outputs, controls, and dependencies involved in each transaction. File layouts are specifications that define how data are structured or organized on a file or database. File layouts can provide some information about the transaction audit trail in an online application, by showing what data elements are stored or retrieved for each transaction, but they do not provide information about how transactions are executed or tracked. Data architecture is a framework that defines how data are collected, stored, managed, and used within an organization or system. Data architecture can provide some information about the transaction audit trail in an online application, by showing what data sources, models, standards, and policies are used for each transaction, but they do not provide information about how transactions are performed or monitored. Source code documentation is a description or explanation of the source code of a software program or application. Source code documentation can provide some information about the transaction audit trail in an online application, by showing what logic, algorithms, or functions are used for each transaction, but they do not provide information about how transactions are handled or audited.

### NEW QUESTION 162

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following would lead an IS auditor to conclude that the evidence collected during a digital forensic investigation would not be admissible in court?

- A. The person who collected the evidence is not qualified to represent the case.
- B. The logs failed to identify the person handling the evidence.
- C. The evidence was collected by the internal forensics team.
- D. The evidence was not fully backed up using a cloud-based solution prior to the trial.

**Answer: B**

#### Explanation:

The evidence collected during a digital forensic investigation would not be admissible in court if the logs failed to identify the person handling the evidence. This would violate the chain of custody principle, which requires that the evidence be properly documented, secured, and tracked throughout the investigation process. The chain of custody ensures that the evidence is authentic, reliable, and trustworthy, and that it has not been tampered with or altered. The person who collected the evidence, whether qualified or not, is not relevant to the admissibility of the evidence, as long as they followed the proper procedures and protocols. The evidence collected by the internal forensics team can be admissible in court, as long as they are independent, objective, and competent. The evidence does not need to be fully backed up using a cloud-based solution prior to the trial, as long as it is preserved and protected from damage or loss. References: ISACA Journal Article: Digital Forensics: Chain of Custody

### NEW QUESTION 165

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following should an IS auditor review FIRST when planning a customer data privacy audit?

- A. Legal and compliance requirements
- B. Customer agreements
- C. Data classification
- D. Organizational policies and procedures

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

The organizational policies and procedures are the first source of guidance for an IS auditor when planning a customer data privacy audit. They provide the framework and objectives for ensuring compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, customer agreements and data classification. The IS auditor should review them first to understand the scope, roles and responsibilities, standards and controls related to customer data privacy in the organization. The other options are also important, but they are secondary sources of information that should be reviewed after the organizational policies and procedures. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version) 1, Chapter 2: Governance and Management of Information Technology, Section 2.5: Privacy Principles and Policies.

### NEW QUESTION 169

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the BEST way for an organization to mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance?

- A. Ensure the third party allocates adequate resources to meet requirements.
- B. Use analytics within the internal audit function
- C. Conduct a capacity planning exercise
- D. Utilize performance monitoring tools to verify service level agreements (SLAs)

**Answer: D**

#### Explanation:

The best way for an organization to mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance is to utilize performance monitoring tools to verify service level agreements (SLAs). Performance monitoring tools are software or hardware devices that measure and report the performance of an application or system, such as speed, availability, reliability, etc. Performance monitoring tools can help mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance, by allowing the organization to verify whether the third-party provider is meeting the SLAs, which are contracts or agreements that define the expected level and quality of service for an application or system. Performance monitoring tools can also help identify and resolve any performance issues or problems that may arise from the

third-party application. Ensuring the third party allocates adequate resources to meet requirements is a possible way to mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance, but it is not the best one, as it may not be feasible or effective depending on the availability, cost, and suitability of the resources. Using analytics within the internal audit function is a possible way to mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance, but it is not the best one, as it may not be timely or relevant depending on the frequency, scope, and quality of the analytics. Conducting a capacity planning exercise is a possible way to mitigate the risk associated with third-party application performance, but it is not the best one, as it may not be accurate or reliable depending on the assumptions, methods, and data used for the capacity planning.

#### **NEW QUESTION 174**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the PRIMARY reason to follow a configuration management process to maintain application?

- A. To optimize system resources
- B. To follow system hardening standards
- C. To optimize asset management workflows
- D. To ensure proper change control

**Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

Following a configuration management process to maintain applications is the primary reason for ensuring proper change control. Configuration management is a process of identifying, documenting, controlling, and verifying the configuration items and their interrelationships within an IT system or environment. Following a configuration management process can help to ensure that any changes to the applications are authorized, tested, documented, and tracked throughout their lifecycle. This will help to prevent unauthorized or improper changes that could affect the functionality, performance, or security of the applications. The other options are not the primary reasons for following a configuration management process, but rather possible benefits or outcomes of doing so. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 4, Section 4.3.31

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 225

#### **NEW QUESTION 176**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following is the MAIN purpose of an information security management system?

- A. To identify and eliminate the root causes of information security incidents
- B. To enhance the impact of reports used to monitor information security incidents
- C. To keep information security policies and procedures up-to-date
- D. To reduce the frequency and impact of information security incidents

**Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

The main purpose of an information security management system (ISMS) is to reduce the frequency and impact of information security incidents. An ISMS is a systematic approach to managing information security risks, policies, procedures, and controls within an organization. An ISMS aims to ensure the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information assets, as well as to comply with relevant laws and regulations. The other options are not the main purpose of an ISMS, but rather some of its possible benefits or components. References:

? CISA Review Manual (Digital Version), Chapter 7, Section 7.11

? CISA Review Questions, Answers & Explanations Database, Question ID 205

#### **NEW QUESTION 177**

- (Topic 2)

Which of the following weaknesses would have the GREATEST impact on the effective operation of a perimeter firewall?

- A. Use of stateful firewalls with default configuration
- B. Ad hoc monitoring of firewall activity
- C. Misconfiguration of the firewall rules
- D. Potential back doors to the firewall software

**Answer: C**

#### **NEW QUESTION 178**

- (Topic 2)

What is the MAIN reason to use incremental backups?

- A. To improve key availability metrics
- B. To reduce costs associated with backups
- C. To increase backup resiliency and redundancy
- D. To minimize the backup time and resources

**Answer: D**

#### **Explanation:**

Incremental backups are backups that only copy the data that has changed since the last backup, whether it was a full or incremental backup. The main reason to use incremental backups is to minimize the backup time and resources, as they require less storage space and network bandwidth than full backups. Incremental backups can also improve key availability metrics, such as recovery point objective (RPO) and recovery time objective (RTO), but that is not their primary purpose. Reducing costs associated with backups and increasing backup resiliency and redundancy are possible benefits of incremental backups, but they depend on other factors, such as the backup frequency, retention policy, and media type. References: CISA Review Manual (Digital Version): Chapter 5 - Information Systems Operations and Business Resilience

#### **NEW QUESTION 182**

- (Topic 2)

The due date of an audit project is approaching, and the audit manager has determined that only 60% of the audit has been completed. Which of the following should the audit manager do FIRST?

- A. Determine where delays have occurred
- B. Assign additional resources to supplement the audit
- C. Escalate to the audit committee
- D. Extend the audit deadline

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

The first thing that the audit manager should do when faced with a situation where only 60% of the audit has been completed and the due date is approaching is to determine where delays have occurred. This can help the audit manager to identify and analyze the root causes of the delays, such as unexpected issues, scope changes, resource constraints, communication problems, etc., and evaluate their impact on the audit objectives, scope, quality, and timeline. Based on this analysis, the audit manager can then decide on the best course of action to address the delays and complete the audit successfully. Assigning additional resources to supplement the audit is a possible option for resolving delays in an audit project, but it is not the first thing that the audit manager should do, as it may not be feasible or effective depending on the availability, cost, and suitability of the additional resources. Escalating to the audit committee is a possible option for communicating delays in an audit project and seeking guidance or support from senior management, but it is not the first thing that the audit manager should do, as it may not be necessary or appropriate depending on the severity and urgency of the delays. Extending the audit deadline is a possible option for accommodating delays in an audit project and ensuring sufficient time for completing the audit tasks and activities, but it is not the first thing that the audit manager should do, as it may not be possible or desirable depending on the contractual obligations, stakeholder expectations, and regulatory requirements.

**NEW QUESTION 186**

- (Topic 2)

A manager identifies active privileged accounts belonging to staff who have left the organization. Which of the following is the threat actor in this scenario?

- A. Terminated staff
- B. Unauthorized access
- C. Deleted log data
- D. Hacktivists

**Answer:** A

**Explanation:**

A threat actor is an entity or individual that poses a potential harm or danger to an organization's information systems or data. Terminated staff are the threat actors in this scenario, as they are former employees who may still have active privileged accounts that grant them access to sensitive or critical information or resources of the organization. Terminated staff may abuse their access privileges or credentials to compromise the confidentiality, integrity, or availability of the information systems or data, either intentionally or unintentionally. Unauthorized access is a threat event or action that occurs when an unauthorized entity or individual gains access to an organization's information systems or data without permission or authorization. Unauthorized access is not a threat actor, but rather a result of a threat actor's activity. Deleted log data is a threat consequence or impact that occurs when log data, which are records of events or activities that occur on an information system or network, are erased or corrupted by a threat actor. Deleted log data can affect the auditability, accountability, and visibility of the information system or network, and prevent detection or investigation of security incidents. Deleted log data is not a threat actor, but rather a result of a threat actor's activity. Hacktivists are threat actors who use hacking techniques to promote a political or social cause or agenda. Hacktivists are not the threat actors in this scenario, as there is no indication that they are involved in this case.

**NEW QUESTION 190**

- (Topic 2)

An organization with many desktop PCs is considering moving to a thin client architecture. Which of the following is the MAJOR advantage?

- A. The security of the desktop PC is enhanced.
- B. Administrative security can be provided for the client.
- C. Desktop application software will never have to be upgraded.
- D. System administration can be better managed

**Answer:** C

**Explanation:**

The major advantage of moving from many desktop PCs to a thin client architecture is that desktop application software will never have to be upgraded. A thin client architecture is a type of client-server architecture that uses lightweight or minimal devices (thin clients) as clients that connect to a central server that provides most of the processing and storage functions. A thin client architecture can offer several benefits over a traditional desktop PC architecture, such as lower cost, higher security, easier maintenance, etc. One of these benefits is that desktop application software will never have to be upgraded on thin clients, as all the applications are installed and updated on the server, and accessed by thin clients through a network connection. This can save time and money for installing and upgrading software on individual devices, and ensure consistency and compatibility among different devices. The security of the desktop PC is enhanced is a possible advantage of moving from many desktop PCs to a thin client architecture, but it is not the major one. A thin client architecture can enhance the security of desktop PCs by reducing the exposure or vulnerability of data and applications on individual devices, and centralizing the security management and control on the server. However, this advantage may depend on other factors such as network security, server security, user authentication, etc. Administrative security can be provided for the client is a possible advantage of moving from many desktop PCs to a thin client architecture, but it is not the major one. A thin client architecture can provide administrative security for clients by allowing administrators to configure and manage client devices remotely from the server, and enforce policies and restrictions on client access or usage. However, this advantage may depend on other factors such as network reliability, server availability, user compliance, etc. System administration can be better managed is a possible advantage of moving from many desktop PCs to a thin client architecture, but it is not the major one. A thin client architecture can improve system administration by simplifying and streamlining the tasks and activities involved in maintaining and supporting client devices, such as backup, recovery, troubleshooting, etc., and consolidating them on the server. However, this advantage may depend on other factors such as network bandwidth, server capacity, user satisfaction

**NEW QUESTION 195**

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