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Xsan Administration v1.1 Exam

Apple 9L0-610

Version Demo

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Topic Break Down

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QUESTION NO: 1

An Xsan client has Fibre Channel connectivity to the shared storage, but its Ethernet connection to the metadata controller is unavailable. Which THREE operations are most directly affected? (Choose THREE.)

A. Looking up a file name in a directory

B. Reading file contents from the shared storage

C. Checking a user's access permissions

D. Updating a file's modification date

E. Transferring RAID-controller management traffic

F. Rebuilding a failed disk in an Xserve RAID

ANSWER: A C D

Explanation:

File-name lookup, permission checking, and creation or modification date processing all require metadata communication with the metadata controller over Ethernet. File contents are accessed through the Fibre Channel SAN after the client has obtained the required metadata and file-system access information. Therefore, working Fibre Channel connectivity alone does not allow normal namespace and attribute operations to proceed.

QUESTION NO: 2

When the metadata controller starts up, which TWO things will each fsm register with fsmpm? (Choose TWO.)

A. volume name

B. failover priority

C. port access number

D. metadata MAC address

E. WWNN

ANSWER: A C

Explanation:

Each Xsan File System Manager process must identify the file system it serves and provide the connection information through which the File System Manager Process Manager can reach it. Therefore, the fsm registers its **volume name**, which associates that fsm instance with the applicable Xsan volume, and its **port access number**, which supplies the service endpoint used for communication with fsmpm. This registration lets fsmpm maintain awareness of the FSM processes hosted by the metadata controller and coordinate their availability for the volumes they manage. In an Xsan environment, the metadata controller runs the FSM service for each mounted Xsan volume; correctly identifying both the volume and its FSM communication port is consequently essential at startup and during service monitoring or recovery. Apple’s Xsan documentation describes the metadata-controller role and the centrally managed file-system services used to make volumes available to clients. See the Apple Xsan User Guide and Apple’s metadata controller configuration guidance.

QUESTION NO: 3

In a fabric, FC-IDs are resolved to WWNs by _____.

A. the SFP

B. the switch

C. the N_Ports

D. the metadata controller

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

the switch is correct because a Fibre Channel fabric switch provides the fabric-services function that maintains the relationship between a device's dynamically assigned Fibre Channel address (FC-ID) and its persistent World Wide Name (WWN). When an N_Port logs in to the fabric, the switch assigns or confirms an FC-ID and registers identifying information, including the port WWN, with the fabric Name Server. Initiators and targets can then use Name Server queries to discover devices and obtain the WWN associated with a particular FC-ID, or the FC-ID associated with a WWN, before establishing communication. This distinction matters in SAN administration: an FC-ID identifies a port's current location/address within a particular fabric and can change after fabric events, whereas a WWN is the stable worldwide identifier used to identify the adapter port. In an Xsan deployment, the Fibre Channel switches and their fabric services therefore perform the address-to-name resolution that enables metadata controllers, clients, and storage targets to communicate through the SAN. Fibre Channel naming and discovery behavior is specified through the fabric Name Server service; see the Fibre Channel Fabric Information Model and the Cisco Fibre Channel addressing overview.

QUESTION NO: 4

You need to take the primary metadata controller offline for planned maintenance while minimizing disruption to active Xsan clients. Which TWO actions are appropriate? (Choose TWO.)

A. Verify that the standby controller can reach the metadata network and all volume LUNs.

B. Use `cvadmin` to fail the affected volumes over to the standby controller.

C. Increase the standby controller's priority and restart both controllers.

D. Use `cvlabel` to remove the Xsan labels from the volume LUNs.

E. Unmount the volume from every client and stop the volume permanently.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Before planned maintenance, verify that the standby metadata controller is healthy and has both metadata-network and SAN storage connectivity. Then use `cvadmin` to perform a controlled failover of the affected volumes to that controller before taking the primary offline. Raising a controller priority does not force an immediate takeover, and unlabeling LUNs or stopping all clients is neither required nor appropriate for this planned failover.

QUESTION NO: 5

You are designing an Xsan for several clients performing concurrent high-bandwidth video work. Which TWO design choices help avoid a single shared performance bottleneck? (Choose TWO.)

A. Place striped storage-pool LUNs on independent RAID controllers.

B. Use a switched Fibre Channel fabric for SAN connectivity.

C. Place all storage-pool LUNs behind one RAID controller.

D. Use a Fibre Channel hub so all devices share one loop.

E. Store Xsan metadata on each client computer's startup disk.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Placing pool LUNs on independent RAID controllers lets the controllers service I/O in parallel, rather than forcing all requests through one controller. A switched Fibre Channel fabric also allows separate device pairs to communicate simultaneously. By contrast, placing all LUNs behind one controller retains that controller as the aggregate throughput limit, and a hub-based loop does not provide the simultaneous switched connections of a fabric.

QUESTION NO: 6

Which tool lets you mount Xsan volumes on a client computer?

A. Finder

B. Disk Utility

C. RAID Admin

D. Xsan Admin

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

Xsan Admin is the administration application used to manage Xsan clients and their access to SAN volumes. After a client has been configured to participate in the Xsan, an administrator uses Xsan Admin to control the client's volume connections, including mounting an available Xsan volume on that client. This is an administrative SAN operation rather than a normal file-browsing or local-disk management task. Mounting makes the shared Xsan volume available to the client operating system so that authorized users and applications can access its files through the SAN filesystem. Xsan Admin also provides the centralized interface for broader Xsan tasks, such as viewing volume status, managing clients, and administering storage-pool and volume configuration. In Apple's Xsan workflow, client computers must be properly connected to the metadata network and SAN fabric, configured as Xsan clients, and granted appropriate volume access before the volume can be mounted. Apple's Xsan documentation describes Xsan Admin as the tool for administering the SAN and managing client access to volumes. See Apple's Xsan User Guide and the Xsan support resources for Xsan administration guidance.

QUESTION NO: 7

Xsan's organization of storage devices into volumes, storage pools, and LUNs is known as _____.

A. distribution

B. attachment

C. virtualization

D. physical storage

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

virtualization is correct because Xsan presents separate physical storage resources through a logical storage structure that administrators configure and clients use as a unified file system. At the physical level, storage is provided as LUNs from RAID systems or other shared storage. Xsan groups those LUNs into storage pools, and storage pools are then assigned to an Xsan volume. The resulting volume is mounted by clients as one shared, scalable file system rather than as a collection of individual LUNs. This abstraction of physical storage into logical resources is storage virtualization. It enables administrators to manage capacity, performance tiers, and allocation policies at the pool and volume level without requiring users or applications to interact directly with the underlying devices. In Xsan terminology, the metadata controller coordinates access to this virtualized storage layout so multiple clients can concurrently access the same volume while maintaining file-

system consistency. Apple's archived Xsan administration documentation describes the relationship among volumes, storage pools, and LUNs in its discussion of planning and configuring Xsan storage: Apple Xsan Administration Guide archive. For Apple's current documentation and support resources, see Apple Support Documentation.

QUESTION NO: 8

Which is NOT a benefit of a storage area network?

A. Allows multiple computers to connect to each RAID array.

B. Provides a central server that reshares RAID arrays to the LAN.

C. Provides for easy expansion of shared storage resources.

D. Provides high-speed connectivity to storage devices.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Provides a central server that reshares RAID arrays to the LAN is the correct choice because that describes a traditional network-attached-storage-style access design, rather than the fundamental value provided by a storage area network. A SAN is a dedicated storage network that presents shared, block-level storage volumes to connected hosts. In an Xsan deployment, clients connect through the SAN fabric to shared storage, while metadata controllers coordinate filesystem metadata and volume access. The metadata controller role is not a general-purpose LAN file server that receives RAID storage and reshares it to users; clients access the Xsan volume through the filesystem client and SAN-connected storage architecture. This distinction matters operationally: SANs are designed to provide direct, high-performance shared storage access for multiple systems, particularly workloads such as media production that need reliable throughput and coordinated concurrent access. Apple's Xsan documentation describes Xsan as a storage-area-network file system and identifies the metadata-controller and client roles used to provide shared-volume access. The Storage Networking Industry Association likewise distinguishes SAN block storage from file-serving approaches. See Apple Xsan User Guide and SNIA: What Is a SAN?.