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QUESTION 1

An analyst is reviewing a report on a company's cloud resource usage. The analyst has noticed many of the cloud instances operate at a fraction of the full processing capacity. Which of the following actions should the analyst consider to

lower costs and improve efficiency?

- A. Consolidating into fewer instances
- B. Using spot instances
- C. Right-sizing compute resource instances
- D. Negotiating better prices on the company's reserved instances

Correct Answer: C

Explanation: Right-sizing compute resource instances is the process of matching instance types and sizes to workload performance and capacity requirements at the lowest possible cost. It's also the process of identifying opportunities to eliminate or downsize instances without compromising capacity or other requirements, which results in lower costs and higher efficiency¹. Right-sizing is a key mechanism for optimizing cloud costs, but it is often ignored or delayed by organizations when they first move to the cloud. They lift and shift their environments and expect to right-size later. Speed and performance are often prioritized over cost, which results in oversized instances and a lot of wasted spend on unused resources². Right-sizing compute resource instances is the best action that the analyst should consider to lower costs and improve efficiency, as it can help reduce the amount of resources and money spent on instances that operate at a fraction of the full processing capacity. Right-sizing can also improve the performance and reliability of the instances by ensuring that they have enough resources to meet the workload demands. Right-sizing is an ongoing process that requires continuous monitoring and analysis of the instance usage and performance metrics, as well as the use of tools and frameworks that can simplify and automate the right-sizing decisions¹. Consolidating into fewer instances, using spot instances, or negotiating better prices on the company's reserved instances are not the best actions that the analyst should consider to lower costs and improve efficiency, as they have some limitations and trade-offs compared to right-sizing. Consolidating into fewer instances can reduce the number of instances, but it does not necessarily optimize the type and size of the instances. Consolidating can also introduce performance and availability issues, such as increased latency, reduced redundancy, or single points of failure³. Using spot instances can reduce the cost of instances, but it also introduces the risk of interruption and termination, as spot instances are subject to fluctuating prices and availability based on the supply and demand of the cloud provider⁴. Negotiating better prices on the company's reserved instances can reduce the cost of instances, but it also requires a long-term commitment and upfront payment, which reduces the flexibility and scalability of the cloud environment⁵. References: Right Sizing - Cloud Computing Services; The 6-Step Guide To Rightsizing Your Instances - CloudZero; Consolidating Cloud Services: How to Do It Right | CloudHealth by VMware; Spot Instances - Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud; Reserved Instances - Amazon Elastic Compute Cloud.

QUESTION 2

An analyst is reviewing a report on a company's cloud resources expenditures. The analyst has noted that a data warehouse team uses a significant amount of high-speed storage for live databases and backups. Which of the following should the analyst recommend for improved cost and efficiency?

- A. Configure the live database for redundant clustering.
- B. Move the backups to slower storage.



- C. Configure geo-redundancy for backups.
- D. Move the backups to another availability zone.

Correct Answer: B

Explanation: High-speed storage, such as solid-state drives (SSDs), is more expensive and faster than slower storage, such as hard disk drives (HDDs). High-speed storage is suitable for live databases that require low latency and high performance, but not for backups that are rarely accessed and do not need fast retrieval. Therefore, the analyst should recommend moving the backups to slower storage, which can reduce the cost and improve the efficiency of the cloud resources expenditures. Moving the backups to slower storage can also free up more space for the live database on the high-speed storage¹. Configuring the live database for redundant clustering, configuring geo-redundancy for backups, or moving the backups to another availability zone are not recommended for improved cost and efficiency, as they would increase the complexity and expense of the cloud resources. Redundant clustering and geo-redundancy are techniques for enhancing the availability and reliability of the data, but they also require more storage and network resources². Moving the backups to another availability zone may improve the fault tolerance and latency of the backups, but it may also incur additional fees for data transfer and storage³. References: Choose between SSD and HDD storage - Google Cloud; Cloud Computing vs. Cloud Storage | Pure Storage; Cloud Storage vs. Local Storage | Enterprise Storage Forum.

QUESTION 3

Which of the following models provides the SMALLEST amount of technical overhead?

- A. SaaS
- B. PaaS
- C. MaaS
- D. IaaS

Correct Answer: A

Explanation: SaaS, or software as a service, is a cloud computing model that provides on-demand access to ready-to-use, cloud-hosted application software. SaaS customers do not need to install, configure, manage, or maintain any hardware or software infrastructure to use the applications. The cloud service provider is responsible for all the technical aspects of the service, such as hosting, security, performance, availability, updates, and backups. SaaS customers only need an internet connection and a web browser or a mobile app to access the applications. SaaS provides the smallest amount of technical overhead for customers, as they do not have to deal with any of the underlying infrastructure or platform components. SaaS customers can focus on using the applications for their business needs, without worrying about the technical details. Some examples of SaaS applications are Gmail, Google Docs, Salesforce, Slack, and Zoom . References: : IaaS vs. PaaS vs. SaaS | IBM : Cloud Service Models Explained: SaaS, IaaS, PaaS, FaaS - Jelvix

QUESTION 4

A cloud administrator for an ISP identified a vulnerability in the software that controls all the firewall rules for a geographic area. To ensure the software upgrade is properly tested, approved, and applied, which of the following processes should the administrator follow?

- A. Configuration management
- B. Incident management



C. Resource management

D. Change management

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Change management is an IT practice that aims to minimize disruptions to IT services while making changes to critical systems and services⁵. Change management involves planning, testing, approving, and implementing changes in a controlled and systematic manner⁶. A change is defined as adding, modifying, or removing anything that could have a direct or indirect effect on services⁵. In this case, the cloud administrator should follow the change management process to ensure that the software upgrade is properly tested, approved, and applied.

References: Change management types, Atlassian Change management vs Configuration management, Virima

QUESTION 5

Which of the following testing techniques provides the BEST isolation for security threats?

A. Load

B. Regression

C. Black box

D. Sandboxing

Correct Answer: D

Explanation: Sandboxing is a testing technique that provides the best isolation for security threats. Sandboxing is a technique that creates a virtual environment that mimics the real system or application, but isolates it from the rest of the network. Sandboxing allows testers to run potentially malicious code or inputs without affecting the actual system or application, or exposing it to external attacks. Sandboxing can help testers to identify and analyze security threats, such as malware, ransomware, or zero-day exploits, without risking the integrity or availability of the real system or application. Sandboxing can also help testers to evaluate the effectiveness of security controls, such as antivirus, firewall, or encryption, in preventing or mitigating security threats. References: CompTIA Cloud Essentials+ CLO- 002 Study Guide, Chapter 3: Cloud Service Operations, Section 3.5: Testing and Development in the Cloud, Page 125.

What is Sandboxing? Definition, Types, Benefits, and Best Practices - Spiceworks¹

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