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Cisco 700-701

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Topic Break Down

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QUESTION NO: 1

How many APICs are recommended by Cisco for a Cisco ACI fabric?

A. 6

B. 5

C. 4

D. 3

E. 2

F. 1

ANSWER: D

Explanation:

3 is correct because Cisco recommends deploying the Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller as a three-controller cluster for a production Cisco ACI fabric. The APICs operate as a clustered controller system and maintain replicated configuration and operational state. Using three controllers provides the required quorum model: the cluster can continue operating when one controller is unavailable, because a majority of the members remains available. This design supplies controller redundancy while avoiding a split decision between an even number of members.

APIC cluster sizing is distinct from the number of leaf or spine switches in the fabric. The APIC cluster delivers centralized policy, automation, and management functions, while the data-plane switches continue forwarding traffic based on the policy that has already been programmed. Cisco documentation describes a three-APIC cluster as the standard deployment and identifies three as the minimum number for a production cluster. A larger odd-numbered cluster can be used in supported designs when scale or resiliency requirements warrant it, but three is the recommended baseline reflected by this question.

See Cisco's Cisco ACI Fundamentals and the Cisco ACI Installation Guide for APIC cluster deployment guidance.

QUESTION NO: 2

Which two statements about the Cisco Nexus 9000 Switch operating system are true? (Choose two.)

A. Operates as a Cisco APIC during a Cisco APIC outage

B. Operates in NXOS mode without Cisco APIC

C. Operates in ACI mode with Cisco APIC

D. Operates in the same mode as the directly connected switch

ANSWER: B C

Explanation:

Cisco Nexus 9000 Series switches support two distinct deployment modes that align with different network architectures. In standalone NX-OS mode, a supported Nexus 9000 switch runs the Cisco NX-OS operating system independently and does not require a Cisco Application Policy Infrastructure Controller (APIC). This model provides conventional switch-based configuration and operations while retaining the Nexus platform's data-center switching capabilities. Cisco documents standalone NX-OS as one of the supported operating modes for the Nexus 9000 family.

In Application Centric Infrastructure mode, the Nexus 9000 switch operates as an ACI fabric switch under policy and fabric management from a Cisco APIC controller cluster. APIC provides centralized automation, policy definition, and fabric visibility, while the switches forward traffic and enforce the policy deployed to them. Thus, both "Operates in NXOS mode without Cisco APIC" and "Operates in ACI mode with Cisco APIC" accurately describe supported Nexus 9000 operating models. Cisco's Nexus 9000 overview describes support for both NX-OS and ACI deployments: Cisco Nexus 9000 Series Switches. Cisco's ACI documentation further describes APIC as the centralized controller for an ACI fabric: Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure.

QUESTION NO: 3

Which two benefits can customers gain by using Cisco ACI open APIs with automation tools? (Choose two.)

A. Repeatable policy deployment

B. Integration with orchestration workflows

C. Elimination of all network design requirements

D. Manual configuration of every fabric switch

E. Hosting business applications on APIC controllers

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Repeatable policy deployment is a benefit because automated workflows can apply the same defined policy consistently across environments. **Integration with orchestration workflows** is also a benefit because Cisco APIC REST APIs allow external tools to interact with ACI managed objects and operational data. Open APIs do not require every configuration to be entered manually, and they do not turn APIC into an application-hosting platform. Cisco documents APIC programmability in the Cisco APIC REST API Configuration Guide and the Cisco DevNet ACI resources.

QUESTION NO: 4

Which statement describes why ACI planning and deployment services are often considered critical to customer success?

A. Cisco APIC requires a database administrator to manage the device database.

B. ACI fabric is a new approach to networking with integration to external applications.

C. ACI fabric requires custom scripting to operate.

D. ACI fabric is a development framework for customers to build applications.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

ACI planning and deployment services are critical because Cisco ACI represents an application-centric, policy-driven approach to data-center networking rather than simply a conventional network refresh. A successful implementation requires the customer's application requirements, security segmentation, connectivity dependencies, tenant structure, endpoint groups, contracts, and external connectivity to be translated into a coherent fabric policy model. The fabric must also be integrated appropriately with existing physical networks, virtualization platforms, cloud environments, and operational processes. Careful up-front design helps ensure that this policy model aligns with intended business outcomes and that the migration to the new operational model is manageable. Cisco describes ACI as a solution that provides centralized automation and policy-based application profiles across physical and virtual environments, which makes planning the required integrations and policy design especially important. Deployment services therefore help customers establish a sound architecture, validate implementation readiness, and accelerate adoption of the ACI operating model. See Cisco's Application Centric Infrastructure overview and the Cisco ACI Design Guide for further design and deployment guidance.

QUESTION NO: 5

Which Cisco ACI feature gives operations teams a hierarchical view of the condition of fabric and application policy objects?

A. Health scores

B. Line-card slot allocation

C. Hypervisor licensing

D. Optical transceiver calibration

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

Health scores is correct. Cisco APIC provides health information for the fabric and its managed objects, allowing administrators to identify conditions that may require investigation. Health scores, faults, events, and statistics support centralized operational visibility across applications, tenants, and infrastructure components. Cisco documents this capability in the Cisco APIC Operations Guide: Monitoring Health.

QUESTION NO: 6

Which two statements about the Cisco ACI leaf-and-spine fabric are true? (Choose two.)

A. Leaf switches provide endpoint attachment.

B. Spine switches provide connectivity between leaf switches.

C. Spine switches normally provide direct server attachment.

D. APIC controllers replace the leaf-and-spine switching infrastructure.

E. Leaf switches store the controller cluster quorum database.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

In a Cisco ACI leaf-and-spine fabric, **leaf switches provide endpoint attachment** and **spine switches provide connectivity between leaf switches**. This design creates a scalable architecture in which endpoint-facing connectivity is provided at the leaf layer and the spine layer supplies the high-speed fabric transport between leaves.

Spine switches do not normally provide direct server attachment, and APIC controllers do not replace the leaf-and-spine switching infrastructure. Cisco APIC centrally defines and distributes policy, while the Nexus switches provide the distributed data plane for the fabric. See the Cisco Application Centric Infrastructure overview.