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IBM Cognos Analytics Administrator V1

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Topic Break Down

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QUESTION NO: 1

An administrator is reviewing the security policy applied to a report that is stored in a secured folder.

Which statements are true? (Choose two.)

A. A report can acquire security policies from its parent folder.

B. An administrator can apply an explicit policy directly to the report.

C. A report cannot have permissions if it is stored in a folder.

D. Only the owner of a report can assign a security policy to it.

E. Folder policies apply only to report output and never to report specifications.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

A report can acquire security policies from its parent folder is correct. Acquired policies enable administrators to define common access rules at a folder level and apply them consistently to child content.

An administrator can apply an explicit policy directly to the report is also correct. An explicit policy on an entry can be used when the report requires security treatment that differs from the inherited folder policy.

Permissions are evaluated using the applicable policies and the user's effective memberships in users, groups, roles, and namespaces. See IBM Cognos Analytics securing access to entries documentation.

QUESTION NO: 2

An administrator wants to record Cognos Analytics request information in an audit database.

Which actions are required? (Choose two.)

A. Configure the logging database connection.

B. Enable audit logging for the applicable services.

C. Set all Cognos services to Trace logging.

D. Publish the Audit package before enabling audit logging.

E. Create an email distribution list for each audited user.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Configuring the logging database connection is required because Cognos Analytics needs a connection to the relational database where audit records will be stored. The database must be available and prepared for the Cognos logging schema.

Audit logging must also be enabled for the applicable Cognos services. Enabling the database connection alone does not cause all service activity to be written as audit records. The services that generate the required events must be configured to record audit information.

Publishing an audit package can be required later to report on the collected information, but it does not enable audit event collection. See IBM Cognos Analytics audit logging documentation.

QUESTION NO: 3

An administrator is monitoring report activity from the Manage area.

Which actions can be performed for current activities? (Choose two.)

A. View the details of a running activity.

B. Cancel a queued or running activity.

C. Modify the report specification of a running activity.

D. Change the owner of a running activity.

E. Replace the data source used by a running activity.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Viewing the details of a current activity and canceling an activity are correct. The current-activities view provides operational information about requests that are queued or running. An administrator can inspect activity details to identify the user, entry, status, and execution information associated with a request.

When an activity is no longer required or is consuming excessive resources, an authorized administrator can cancel it. Canceling an activity does not modify the report specification or delete its schedule; it stops the current execution request. See Managing current, past, and upcoming activities.

QUESTION NO: 4

An administrator is implementing security by modifying access to the secured functions and secured features.

Which statement is true?

A. A hyperlink on the Capabilities page represents a secures function that contains secured features.

B. Granting execute permission on a secured function automatically grants execute permission to all secured features.

C. As part of the initial security implementation, an administrator must grant access to secured functions and features to the predefined roles.

D. To view a list of the second functions and features available to them, a user must contact their administrator because only the administrator can perform this function.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

Granting execute permission on a secured function automatically grants execute permission to all secured features. In Cognos Analytics, secured functions represent high-level capabilities or areas of product functionality, while secured features are the individual actions available within those functions. This parent-and-child relationship allows an administrator to manage access efficiently: granting a user, group, role, or namespace execute permission on the function enables the features that belong to that function without requiring separate execute grants for each feature.

This behavior is important during security design because it supports consistent capability assignment and reduces the amount of permission maintenance required. Administrators can use the Capabilities administration area to grant, deny, or remove execute permissions for authenticated users, specific users, groups, and roles. The effective permissions applied to the secured function determine whether its associated functionality is available in the Cognos Analytics user interface and services. IBM documents this model as part of capability security administration and describes the relationship between secured functions and their secured features. See IBM Cognos Analytics documentation on securing functions and features and IBM Cognos Analytics documentation on capabilities.

QUESTION NO: 5

An administrator is configuring settings for the Cognos Analytics Mobile app.

Which settings can be managed?

A. To store the user credentials in the IBM Cognos Mobile app.

B. The maximum number of minutes to store cached credentials.

C. Allow the user to create an image (screenshot) of the Active Report.

D. The maximum number of Active Reports to store locally on the mobile device.

ANSWER: B

Explanation:

The maximum number of minutes to store cached credentials can be managed through the Cognos Analytics Mobile app's global configuration policy settings. This setting governs the credential-cache duration on a mobile device after a user authenticates. Setting an appropriate duration lets an administrator balance user convenience with organizational security requirements: a shorter cache period requires users to authenticate again sooner, while a longer period can reduce repeated sign-ins for authorized users. Because mobile devices can be lost, shared, or used outside the corporate network, centrally applying this policy helps ensure that cached authentication information is retained only for the time permitted by the organization's mobile-security policy.

IBM documents mobile global configuration settings as administrator-managed policies that control delivery and behavior of Cognos Analytics content in supported mobile applications. The credential cache time is therefore an administrative policy value, expressed in minutes, rather than a preference that must be independently determined by each mobile user. See IBM's Cognos Analytics Mobile global configuration settings documentation and the IBM Cognos Analytics documentation portal.

QUESTION NO: 6

IBM Cognos Analytics is installed on a non-Windows platform. An administrator receives the following error after setting up a datasource connection:

"XQE-DS-0014 Unable to logon to the data source. An unexpected error from the JDBC driver "com.microsoft.sqlserver.jdbc.SQLServerDriver":

"java.lang.UnsupportedOperationException: Java Runtime Environment (JRE) version 1.8 is not supported by this driver. Use the sqljdbc4.jar class library, which provides support for JDBC 4.0."

What should the administrator do to rectify this problem?

A. Elevate the permission of the driver folder.

B. Check the user account for proper logon permission.

C. Copy the sqljdbc4 driver to the install location\drivers directory.

D. Copy the sqljdbc4 driver to the install location\5dataserver\lib directory.

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

Copy the sqljdbc4 driver to the install location\drivers directory. The exception explicitly identifies that the SQL Server JDBC driver currently loaded by Cognos Analytics does not support the Java 8 runtime and requires the `sqljdbc4.jar` library, which supports JDBC 4.0. On non-Windows Cognos Analytics installations, third-party JDBC driver JAR files must be placed in the Cognos Analytics installation `drivers` directory so that the query service can discover and load them when it creates the data-source connection.

After obtaining the appropriate Microsoft SQL Server JDBC driver version, the administrator should copy the required JAR to that directory and ensure obsolete or conflicting SQL Server JDBC JARs are not left there. Cognos Analytics services should

then be restarted so the Java classpath is rebuilt and the new driver is loaded. This directly addresses both parts of the error: the driver class is found, but the currently resolved library is incompatible with the Java runtime. IBM documents JDBC driver placement as part of JDBC data-source configuration, and Microsoft documents the JDBC driver's Java-version compatibility requirements. See IBM Cognos Analytics JDBC data sources and Microsoft JDBC Driver system requirements.

QUESTION NO: 7

In a LifeCycle Manager Project, a user can create either a Benchmark task or a Comparison task.

Which statement is INCORRECT when describing the application of Benchmark tasks?

A. Benchmark tasks can be used as a benchmark test for any LifeCycle Manager Project.

B. Benchmark tasks can be used to create a benchmark test to run Compatible Query Mode (CQM) reports as Dynamic Query (DQ) reports.

C. When creating a Benchmark task, the administrator can choose whether to validate reports before they are run, and whether to run the reports in Dynamic Query Mode (DQM).

D. To use a previously run Benchmark, select a previously created Benchmark task for the benchmark source and the target Cognos server that you want to compare to the benchmark.

ANSWER: A

Explanation:

"Benchmark tasks can be used as a benchmark test for any LifeCycle Manager Project." is incorrect. In IBM Cognos Lifecycle Manager, a benchmark task is created and maintained within a specific LifeCycle Manager project. Its purpose is to run selected reports in the project's defined source environment and save the resulting report output and execution information as the baseline for subsequent comparisons. That baseline is therefore part of the project context, including the selected content, source-server configuration, and task settings; it is not a universally applicable benchmark that can simply be used by any unrelated project.

Benchmark tasks are particularly useful for migration and upgrade validation. For example, an administrator can establish a baseline from reports running in Compatible Query Mode and then compare that baseline with reports run against a target environment, including executions using Dynamic Query Mode where appropriate. Lifecycle Manager also provides task settings for report validation and query-mode execution, allowing the administrator to build an appropriate baseline before running comparisons. IBM's Lifecycle Manager documentation describes the role of benchmark tasks in producing the saved baseline used for report validation and comparison within a project. See IBM Cognos Analytics Lifecycle Manager documentation and IBM documentation on benchmarking reports.

QUESTION NO: 8

An administrator is configuring a data source connection that uses a shared database signon for a reporting group.

Which actions should be taken to secure the shared signon? (Choose two.)

A. Grant access to the signon only to the required users, groups, or roles.

B. Use a database account with only the privileges required by the reports.

C. Embed the database password in every report specification.

D. Grant the Everyone group access to the signon.

E. Assign the database account unrestricted database administrator privileges.

ANSWER: A B

Explanation:

Grant access to the signon only to the required users, groups, or roles is correct. Signon permissions determine which Cognos users can use the stored database credentials when they run content that uses the data source.

Use a database account with only the privileges required by the reports is also correct. Applying least privilege to the stored database account limits the data and operations available through the shared connection.

Embedding database passwords in report specifications is not an appropriate security design, and granting signon access to Everyone would expose the shared database identity more broadly than required. See IBM Cognos Analytics data source signons documentation.

QUESTION NO: 9

An administrator needs to address an environment that is not running optimally and conduct an architecture review.

Which performance attributes should be considered?

A. capacity, scalability, availability

B. gateways, application servers, Content Manager

C. IBM Cognos implementation, capacity, infrastructure

D. infrastructure, gateways, application servers, scalability

ANSWER: C

Explanation:

IBM Cognos implementation, capacity, infrastructure is correct because an architecture review of a poorly performing Cognos environment must assess the complete deployment context, rather than isolate a single service tier or a narrow operational metric. The IBM Cognos implementation includes how the application has been configured and used, such as reporting workloads, security design, data-source connectivity, dispatching, and deployment topology. Capacity addresses whether the environment has sufficient processing, memory, storage, and concurrent-user capability for its actual workload and peak demand. Infrastructure covers the supporting platform on which Cognos depends, including network characteristics, operating systems, web servers, databases, and virtualization resources.

Considering these three areas together enables an administrator to identify architectural constraints and determine whether a performance issue arises from the Cognos design, insufficient resource capacity, or dependencies in the underlying technical environment. This corresponds to IBM's installation-planning guidance, which emphasizes evaluating the deployment environment and component requirements before and during implementation. IBM also documents the distributed Cognos architecture and the roles of its services, which supports reviewing the full implementation and infrastructure as an integrated system. See IBM Cognos Analytics installation planning and IBM Cognos Analytics architecture documentation.