

General & Problem-Solving Questions

□ Introduce yourself.

A DevOps Engineer with expertise in CI/CD, automation, cloud computing, and container orchestration. Passionate about streamlining deployments, optimizing infrastructure, and enhancing security.

□ Describe a complex situation using the STAR method.

- **Situation:** A production deployment failed due to misconfigured Kubernetes secrets.
- **Task:** Identify and resolve the issue quickly to minimize downtime.
- **Action:** Used `kubectl describe pod` to find the error, updated the secret using `kubectl apply`, and redeployed.
- **Result:** Deployment was restored in 10 minutes, and post-mortem led to implementing automated secret validation in CI/CD.

□ Was this situation completely new, or had it occurred before?

It had occurred before, but a lack of automation prolonged resolution. The experience led to improvements in pipeline security.

Git & Version Control

□ Difference between `git push` and `git fetch` with examples?

- `git push` uploads local changes to the remote repository (`git push origin main`).
- `git fetch` retrieves the latest changes without merging (`git fetch origin main`).
Use `git fetch` when you want to inspect changes before integrating them.

□ Recover deleted changes using Git commands?

- **If unstaged:** `git checkout -- <file>`
- **If committed but not pushed:** `git reset --hard HEAD~1`
- **If pushed:** `git revert <commit>`

□ Useful but often ignored Git commands?

- `git stash`: Save work without committing.
- `git bisect`: Find bugs by binary search.

- `git cherry-pick`: Apply a specific commit.
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CI/CD & Security

□ How do you secure your CI/CD pipeline?

- Use **IAM roles** to restrict access.
- Scan code with **SAST/DAST tools** (SonarQube, Trivy).
- Use **signed container images** (Notary, Sigstore).
- Encrypt secrets with **Vault or AWS Secrets Manager**.

□ Why is open-source preferred for cloud deployment?

- Cost-effective and flexible.
 - Community-driven innovation.
 - Avoids vendor lock-in.
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Containerization & Kubernetes

□ What is containerization?

It is the process of packaging applications with dependencies into lightweight, portable containers (e.g., Docker).

□ Kubernetes architecture & node communication?

- **Control Plane**: Manages the cluster.
- **Worker Nodes**: Run application workloads.
- Nodes communicate via API server using **Kubelet**.

□ Pod lifecycle stages?

Pending → Running → Succeeded/Failed → Terminating

□ Do pods always contain a single container?

No. Pods can have:

- **Single-container pods** (most common).
- **Multi-container pods** (sidecar, init containers).

□ How to write a Dockerfile?

```
FROM python:3.9
WORKDIR /app
```

```
COPY . .  
RUN pip install -r requirements.txt  
CMD ["python", "app.py"]
```

❑ **Secure container images for production?**

- Use **distroless** or minimal base images (Alpine, Ubuntu Core).
 - Regularly **scan images** for vulnerabilities.
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AWS & Infrastructure

❑ **Fault tolerance & disaster recovery in AWS?**

- **Multi-AZ & Multi-Region deployments.**
- **Auto Scaling & Load Balancing.**
- **Backups using AWS Backup & RDS Snapshots.**

❑ **What is a NAT Gateway?**

Allows private subnet instances to access the internet without exposing them directly.

❑ **Why aren't you using WAF?**

WAF protects against web attacks, but alternative security layers (e.g., CloudFront, Shield) may be used.

❑ **Where are your databases hosted?**

Depends on setup:

- **Amazon RDS** (managed relational DBs).
- **DynamoDB** (NoSQL).
- **Self-hosted on EC2** (custom setups).

❑ **Does caching reduce costs?**

Yes, caching reduces database/API calls using **Amazon ElastiCache (Redis/Memcached)** or **CloudFront**.

❑ **Ingress traffic setup for ELB?**

- Security Groups & Network ACLs.
- Restrict IPs, enforce HTTPS.

❑ **Handling large data storage?**

- Use **S3 for object storage**.

- **AWS EMR** for big data processing.

□ **What is a CDN & why use it?**

A **Content Delivery Network (CDN)** caches content at edge locations to reduce latency (e.g., AWS CloudFront).

□ **Still experiencing latency after implementing a CDN?**

Check:

- **Origin server response time.**
 - **Cache expiration settings.**
 - **Network congestion.**
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Networking & Linux

□ **Common HTTP status codes?**

- 200 OK – Success
- 404 Not Found – Resource missing
- 500 Internal Server Error – Server failure
- 502 Bad Gateway – Bad upstream response
- 516 Unknown Error – Custom application error

□ **Replicating an EC2 instance in another VPC?**

- Create an **AMI** and launch in the target VPC.
- Use **AWS DMS or S3 Sync** for data migration.
- **Cross-account AMI sharing** is possible.

□ **Check open ports on Linux?**

```
netstat -tulnp  
ss -tulwn
```

□ **Difference between curl and wget?**

- curl fetches data but doesn't save by default.
- wget downloads files and supports resumption.

□ **Schedule backups using cron?**

```
crontab -e  
0 2 * * * tar -czf /backup/data.tar.gz /var/www
```

(Runs at 2 AM daily)

❑ **EBS volume full—what do you do?**

- Check logs (df -h, du -sh).
- Remove unnecessary files.
- If needed, resize volume via AWS Console.

❑ **Check if a Linux service is running?**

```
systemctl status nginx  
ps aux | grep nginx
```

❑ **Troubleshoot slow applications?**

- **Check CPU/Memory** (top, htop).
- **Analyze logs** (journalctl, dmesg).
- **Monitor network latency** (ping, traceroute).

❑ **What is DNS caching?**

DNS caching stores resolved domain names locally to reduce lookup time, improving performance.

Final Thoughts

Mastering these **DevOps, AWS, and Linux** concepts will boost your expertise and help troubleshoot real-world issues effectively! 🙌

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