🔥 TOP 50 Scenario-Based DevOps Interview Questions

🟢 Git

1. A wrong commit went to main and prod broke. What do you do?

2. Secrets were pushed to GitHub. How do you fix it?

3. Two PRs conflict during release. How do you handle it?

4. A rollback commit also breaks things. What next?

5. How do you manage Git branching for multiple environments?

🟢 Linux / System

6. Server disk is full and app stopped. Step-by-step approach?

7. CPU is 100% but logs look fine. What do you check?

8. Memory usage keeps increasing. How do you detect a leak?

9. A service keeps restarting. How do you debug?

10. System is slow but CPU & memory look normal. What else?

🟢 Docker

11. Container exits immediately after start. How do you debug?

12. Docker image is very large. How do you reduce size?

13. App works locally but fails in Docker. Why?

14. Container is getting OOMKilled. Fix?

15. How do you manage secrets in Docker?

🟢 CI/CD

16. Pipeline is green but app is broken. Why?

17. CI build suddenly became very slow. How do you debug?

18. Tests pass locally but fail in CI. Reason?

19. How do you design rollback in CI/CD?

20. How do you stop bad code from reaching prod?

🟢 Deployment / Release

21. Deployment failed during peak traffic. Immediate action?

22. Blue-green vs canary — when & why?

23. How do you deploy without downtime?

24. Rollback also failed. What now?

25. How do you validate a release before full rollout?

🟢 Kubernetes

26. Pod is in CrashLoopBackOff. How do you debug?

27. Service is running but not accessible. What do you check?

28. Pods are restarting due to OOMKilled. Fix?

29. One node is overloaded. How do you handle it?

30. Config change needed without redeploying pods. How?

🟢 Terraform / IaC

31. Terraform apply failed halfway. What do you do?

32. Terraform state file got corrupted. Recovery?

33. How do you manage multiple environments?

34. How do you detect infra drift?

35. Secrets exposed in Terraform state. Fix?

🟢 Helm

36. Helm release failed. Debug steps?

37. Values changed but app didn't update. Why?

38. How do you rollback a Helm release?

39. How do you manage Helm values per environment?

40. When should you NOT use Helm?

🟢 Performance / Memory / Disk

41. Disk I/O is high but CPU is low. What does it mean?

42. App slows down over time. How do you debug?

43. Logs are filling disk space. Long-term fix?

44. How do you set alerts without alert fatigue?

45. How do you monitor memory usage effectively?

🟢 Security / Cloud / Reliability

46. Secrets leaked in logs. Incident response?

47. How do you secure CI/CD pipelines?

48. Cloud bill suddenly spikes. How do you investigate?

49. One cloud region goes down. What's your strategy?

50. How do you balance security with developer speed?