



Exam SY0-501



#1 Threats, Attacks and Vulnerabilities

1.1. Given a scenario, analyze indicators of compromise and determine the type of malware.

- Viruses
- Worm
- Trojan
- Crypto-Malware
- Ransomware
- Rootkit
- Keylogger
- Adware
- Spyware
- Bots (Botnets)
- RAT (Remote Access Trojan)
- Logic Bomb
- Backdoor

Viruses vs Worms vs Trojans

- Common 1
- Common 2
- Common 3

- Common 1
- Common 2
- Common 3

- Common 1
- Common 2
- Common 3

- Diff 1
- Diff 2
- Diff 3

- Diff 1
- Diff 2
- Diff 3

- Diff 1
- Diff 2
- Diff 3

<https://techdifferences.com/difference-between-virus-worm-and-trojan-horse.html>



1.2. Compare and contrast types of attacks.

Social Engineering

- Phishing
 - Spear Phishing
 - Whaling
 - Vishing
 - Tailgating
 - Impersonation
 - Dumpster diving
 - Shoulder surfing
- Hoax
 - Watering hole attack
 - Principles (reasons)
 - Authority
 - Intimidation
 - Consensus
 - Scarcity
 - Familiarity
 - Trust
 - Urgency

1.2. Compare and contrast types of attacks.

Application / Service Attacks

- DoS
- DDoS
- Man-In-The-Middle
- Buffer Overflow
- Injection
- IP Spoofing
- MAC Spoofing
- Cross-site Scripting (XSS)
- Cross-site request forgery
- ARP Poisoning
- Amplification
- DNS Poisoning
- Domain Hijacking
- Man-In-The-Browser
- Zero-Day
- Replay
- Pass the hash
- Hijacking and related attacks
 - Clickjacking
 - Session Hijacking
 - URL Hijacking
 - Typo Hijacking
- Driver manipulation
 - Shimming
 - Refactoring

1.2. Compare and contrast types of attacks.

Wireless Attacking

- Replay
 - IV
 - Evil Twin
 - Rogue AP
 - Jamming
 - WPS
 - Bluejacking
 - Bluesnarfing
- RFID
 - NFC
 - Disassociation

1.2. Compare and contrast types of attacks.

Cryptographic Attacks

- Birthday
 - Known Plain Text / Cipher Text
 - Rainbow Tables
 - Dictionary
 - Brute Force
 - Online vs Offline
 - Collision
 - Downgrade
- Replay
 - Weak Implementations

1.3. Explain threat actor types and attributes.

Type of actors

- Script Kiddies
- Hacktivist
- Organized Crime
- Nation States / APT
- Insiders
- Competitors

Attribute of Actors

- Internal / External
- Level of sophistication
- Resources / Founding
- Intent / Motivation

Use of open-source engineering

1.4. Explain penetration testing concepts.

- Active reconnaissance
- Passive reconnaissance
- Pivot
- Initial Exploitation
- Persistence
- Privilege Escalation
- Black Box
- White Box
- Gray Box
- Penetration Testing vs Vulnerability Scanning

1.5. Explain vulnerability scanning concepts.

- Passively test security controls
- Identify Vulnerability
- Identify lack of security controls
- Identify common misconfigurations
- Intrusive vs non-intrusive
- Credentialed vs non-credentialed
- False positive

1.6. Explain the impact associated with types of vulnerabilities.

- Race conditions
- Vulnerabilities due to:
 - End-of-life systems
 - Embedded systems
 - Lack of vendor support
- Improper input handling
- Improper error handling
- Misconfigurations / weak configuration
- Default configuration
- Resource Exhaustion
- Untrained users
- Improper configured accounts
- Vulnerable business process
- Weak cipher suites and implementations
- Memory / Buffer Vulnerabilities
 - Memory leak
 - Integer overflow
 - Buffer Overflow
 - Pointer Dereference
 - DLL Injection
- System sprawl / Undocumented Assets



#2 Technologies and Tools

2.1. Install and configure network components, both hardware- and software-based, to support organizational security.

- Firewall
 - ACL
 - Application-based vs Network-based
 - Stateful vs stateless
 - Implicit deny
- VPN concentrator
 - Remote access vs. site-to-site
 - IPSec
 - Tunnel mode
 - Transport mode
 - AH
 - ESP
- NIPS / NIDS
 - Signature-based
 - Heuristic / behavioral
 - Anomaly
 - Inline vs passive
 - In-band vs out-of-band
 - Rules
 - Analytics
 - False positive
 - False negative
- Router
 - ACLs
 - Antispoofing

2.1. Install and configure network components, both hardware- and software-based, to support organizational security.

- Switch

- Port security
- Layer 2 vs. Layer 3
- Loop prevention
- Flood Guard

- Load balancer

- Scheduling
 - Affinity
 - Round-robin
- Active-Passive
- Active-Active
- Virtual IP

- Proxy

- Forward and reverse proxy
- Transparent
- Application / Multipurpose

- Access Point

- SSID
- MAC filtering
- Signal strength
- Band selection/width
- Antenna types and placement
- Fat vs. thin
- Controller-based vs. standalone

2.1. Install and configure network components, both hardware- and software-based, to support organizational security.

- SIEM
 - Aggregation
 - Correlation
 - Automated alerting and triggers
 - Time synchronization
 - Event deduplication
 - Logs / WORM
- DLP
 - USB blocking
 - Cloud-based
 - Email
- Bridge
- NAC
 - Dissolvable vs permanent
 - Host health checks
 - Agent vs agentless
- Mail gateway
 - Spam filter
 - DLP
 - Encryption
- SSL/TLS accelerators
- SSL descriptors
- Media gateway
- Hardware security module

2.2. Given a scenario, use appropriate software tools to assess the security posture of an organization.

- Protocol analyzer
- Network scanners
 - Rogue system detection
 - Network mapping
- Wireless scanners/cracker
- Password cracker
- Vulnerability scanner
- Configuration compliance scanner
- Exploitation frameworks
- Data sanitization tools
- Steganography tools
- Honeypot
- Backup utilities
- Banner grabbing
- Passive vs active
- Command tools
 - ping
 - netstat
 - tracer
 - nslookup/dig
 - arp
 - ipconfig/ip/ifconfig
 - tcpdump
 - nmap
 - netcat

2.3. Given a scenario, troubleshoot common security issues.

- Unencrypted credentials/clear text
- Logs and events anomalies
- Permission issues
- Access violations
- Certificate issues
- Data exfiltration
- Misconfigured devices
 - Firewall
 - Content filter
 - Access points
- Weak security configurations
- Personnel issues
 - Policy violation
 - Insider threat
 - Social engineering
 - Social media
 - Personal email
- Unauthorized software
- Baseline deviation
- License compliance violation (Availability/integrity)
- Asset management
- Authentication issues

2.4. Given a scenario, analyze and interpret output from security technologies.

- HIDS / HIPS
- Antivirus
- File security check
- Host-based firewall
- Application whitelisting
- Removable media control
- Advanced malware tools
- Patch management tools
- UTM
- DLP
- Data execution prevention
- Web application firewall

2.5. Given a scenario, deploy mobile devices securely.

- Connection methods

- Cellular
- WiFi
- SATCOM
- Bluetooth
- NFC
- ANT
- Infrared
- USB

- Mobile device management concepts

- Application management
- Content management
- Remote wipe
- Geofencing
- Geolocation
- Screen locks
- Push notification services
- Passwords and pins
- Biometrics
- Context-aware authentication
- Containerization
- Storage segmentation
- Full device encryption

2.5. Given a scenario, deploy mobile devices securely.

- Enforcement and monitoring for:

- Third-party app stores
- Rooting / jailbreaking
- sideloading
- Custom firmware
- Carrier unlocking
- Firmware OTA updates
- Camera use
- SMS/MMS
- External media
- USB OTG
- Recording microphone
- GPS tagging
- WiFi direct / ad hoc
- Tathering
- Payment methods

- Deployment models

- BYOD
- COPE
- CYOD
- Corporate-owned
- VDI

2.6. Given a scenario, implement secure protocols.

- Protocols

- DNSSEC
- SSH
- S/MIME
- SRTP
- LDAPS
- FTPS
- SFTP
- SNMPv3
- SSL/TLS
- HTTPS
- Secure POP.IMAP

- Use cases

- Voice and video
- Time synchronization
- Email and web
- File transfer
- Directory services
- Remote access
- Domain name resolution
- Routing and switching
- Network address allocation
- Subscription services

FTPS vs SFTP



#3 Architecture and Design

3.1. Explain use cases and purpose for frameworks, best practices and secure configuration guides.

- Industry standard frameworks and reference architectures.
 - Regulatory
 - Non-regulatory
 - National vs International
 - Industry specific frameworks
- Defense in depth / Layered security
 - Vendor diversity
 - Control diversity
 - Administrative
 - Technical
 - User training
- Benchmarks / secure configuration guides
 - Platform/vendor specific guides
 - Web Servers
 - Operating system
 - Application Server
 - Network infrastructure devices

3.2. Given a scenario, implement secure network architecture concepts.

- Zones / topologies
 - DMZ
 - Extranet
 - Intranet
 - Wireless
 - Guest
 - Honeypots
 - NAT
 - Ad hocs
- Segregation/Segmentation/Isolation
 - Physical
 - Logical (VLAN)
 - Virtualization
 - Air gaps
- Tunneling / VPN
 - Site-to-site
 - Remote access
- SND

3.2. Explain use cases and purpose for frameworks, best practices and secure configuration guides.

- Security device / Technology placement
 - Sensors
 - Collectors
 - Correlation Engines
 - Filters
 - Proxies
 - Firewalls
 - VPN concentrators
 - SSL accelerators
 - Load balancers
 - DDos mitigator
 - Aggregation switches
 - Taps and port mirrors
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3.3. Given a scenario, implement secure systems design.

- Hardware / firmware security

- FDE/SED
- TPM
- HSM
- UEFI / BIOS
- Secure boot and attestation
- Supply chain
- Hardware root of trust
- EMI / EMP

- Peripherals

- Wireless keyboards
- Wireless mice
- Displays
- WiFi-enabled MicroSD cards
- Printers / MFDs
- External Storage Devices
- Digital Cameras

3.3. Given a scenario, implement secure systems design.

- Operating systems

- Types

- Network
 - Server
 - Workstation
 - Appliance
 - Kiosk
 - Mobile OS

- Patch management
 - Disabling unnecessary ports and services
 - Least functionality
 - Secure configurations

- Trusted Operating System
 - Application whitelisting / blacklisting
 - Disable default accounts / passwords

3.4. Explain the importance of secure staging deployment concepts.

- Sandboxing
- Environment
 - Development
 - Test
 - Staging
 - Production
- Secure baseline
- Integrity measurement

3.5. Explain the security implications of embedded systems.

- SCADA / ICS
- Smart Devices / IoT
 - Wearable technology
 - Home automation
- HVAC
- SoC
- RTOS
- Printers / MFDs
- Camera Systems
- Special purpose
 - Medical devices
 - Vehicles
 - Aircraft / UAV

3.6. Summarize secure application development and deployment concepts.

- Development life-cycle models
 - Waterfall vs Agile
- Secure DevOps
 - Security Automation
 - Continuous Integration
 - Baselining
 - Immutable systems
 - Infrastructure as code
- Version control and change management
- Provisioning and deprovisioning
- Secure coding techniques
 - Proper error handling
 - Proper input validation
 - Normalization
 - Stored procedures
 - Code signing
 - Encryption
 - Obfuscation/camouflage
 - Code reuse / dead code
 - Server-side vs client-side
 - Execution and validation
 - Memory management
 - Use of third-party libraries and SDKs
 - Data exposure

3.6. Summarize secure application development and deployment concepts.

- Code quality and testing
 - Static code analysis
 - Dynamic analysis (e.g. fuzzing)
 - Stress testing
 - Sandboxing
 - Model verification
- Compiled vs Runtime code

3.7. Summarize cloud and virtualization concepts.

- Hypervisor
 - Type I
 - Type II
 - Application cells / containers
- VM sprawl avoidance
- VM escape protection
- Cloud storage
- On-premisse vs hosted vs cloud
- VDI / VDE
- Cloud access security broker
- Security as a Service
- Cloud deployment models
 - SaaS
 - PaaS
 - IaaS
 - Private
 - Public
 - Hybrid
 - Community

3.8. Explain how resiliency and automation strategies reduce risk.

- Automation/scripting
 - Automated courses of action
 - continuous monitoring
 - Configuration validation
- Templates
- Master image
- Non-persistence
 - Snapshots
 - Revert to known state
 - Rollback to known configuration
 - Live boot media
- Elasticity
- Distributive allocation
- Redundancy
- Fault tolerance
- High Availability
- RAID

3.9. Explain the importance of physical security controls.

- Lighting
- Signs
- Fencing / gate / cage
- Security guards
- Alarms
- Safe
- Secure cabinets / enclosures
- Protected distributions / protected cabling
- Airgap
- Mantrap
- Faraday cage
- Lock types
- Biometrics
- Barricades / bollards
- Tokens / cards
- Environmental controls
 - HVAC
 - Hot and cold aisles
 - Fire suppression

3.9. Explain the importance of physical security controls.

- Cable locks
- Screen filters
- Cameras
- Motion detection
- Logs
- Infrared detection
- Key management



#4 Identity and Access Management



#5 Risk Management



#6 Cryptography and PKI

