Vendor Questions:

1. What do you know about Linux?

I have sysadmin level knowledge in Linux, various flavours like Centos, Redhat, Ubuntu, Solaris etc. I have done a lot of Automation, Shell scripting and automate deployments of various applications in Linux. I have also worked on creating VMs, Networking, Storage services, Security hardening etc

1. What is Ansible?

Ansible is open source Infra config tool, It is SSh and yaml based, I have been using it for Orchestration of Deployments on various servers. We write Playbooks and modules here that would automate various things.

1. What is your role in current project?

Answer based on Resume and look at JD for clues on skills they are looking for.

In my current role, I am acting as DevOps Engineer, Automate Infra provisioning in Cloud, Write Atuomation in Infra Config languages like Chef, Puppet, Deploy/run apps and services in Container Technologies like Docker, Help Automate and day to day support of various things in CI Pipelines for various Apps, Strong knowledge on CI tools like Jenkins, Build Automation tools like maven, gradle etc, Version control systems like Git etc.

1. How comfortable are you with scripting?

I am very proficient with scripting and automation. I have written shell scripts to automate various things, used scripting languages both python and ruby as well to automate, used various gems/ libraries, utilizing and extending APIs in cloud etc

1. Have you used Chef and Puppet ?

I have used both Chef and Puppet.

Chef:

I have written many Cookbooks and Recipes that would do simple things like create files, directories, users and passwords, env variables etc to more advanced things like Deployments and Automation etc. I have thorough understanding of Roles, Envs, Data bags, Encryption with Vault, Chef Client and Server integration, Attributes, ERB templates etc.

Puppet:

I have written many modules and manifests that would do simple things like create files, directories, users and passwords, env variables etc to more advanced things like Deployments and Automation etc. I have thorough understanding of Env’s, Mcollective, Hiera, Factor, PuppetDB etc.

Git:

Expert knowledge in Git, various commands, integrating Git with Jenkins and build tools like maven etc,

Used Git flavours like GitHub, GitLab and Stash etc.

very good implementation experience of various branching strategies, automate various tasks related to release. Know how to use web hooks, wrote pre and post commit hooks etc.

Maven:

Very good knowledge of writing build scripts even from scratch, guiding developers with build issues, integrate maven with other tools like Nexus/Artifactory (Repository managers), CI systems like Jenkins and Git etc.

Jenkins:

Very good understanding and implementation experience of CI/CD, Automation

Programatically creating Jenkins jobs and piprlines, solving various problems with plugins, Architecting Jenkins Clusters for High Availability, familiar with server side things like backups, integrate Jenkins with various tools like Jira, Testing frameworks like Junit, Mockito, SoapUI, Cucumber, Code Quality tools like Sonar, HP Fortify etc.

AWS:

I have very good knowledge of AWS, various PaaS components and Services provided by AWS. Architecting Applications for HA, Security and Best practices in AWS. Experience in migrating various data center applications, services and db’s to cloud. Capacity planning and Auto scaling etc. I have used the boto3 sdk of aws(python based) for writing all this Automation. Various services used include standard services like EC2, S3, EBS, SNS, SQS, Cloud Formation, Cloud Front, RDS, DynamoDB, Cloud Watch, ELB, Auto scaling to more recent services like Lambda and OpsWorks. I have used AWS CLI as well.

What is your experience in DevOps sysadmin or developer?

I am more of a Sys Admin with lot of scripting and Automation experience

In my current role, I am acting as DevOps Engineer, Automate Infra provisioning in Cloud, Write Atuomation in Infra Config languages like Chef, Puppet, Deploy/run apps and services in Container Technologies like Docker, Help Automate and day to day support of various things in CI Pipelines for various Apps, Strong knowledge on CI tools like Jenkins, Build Automation tools like maven, gradle etc, Version control systems like Git etc

Difference between Open Stack and AWS?

Openstack is mostly being used for Private or Hybrid Clouds. It is a Open source Cloud OS.

Answer is here:

<https://devopshero.wordpress.com/2015/11/09/understanding-the-openstack-platform-relative-to-aws/>

How many applications do your team support.

Answer based on JD. Some people look for experience of working in complex and huge envs and some do not.

How you arhitect env of your last project?

Depends on How complex or simple the Application, its type and Architecture is. I have experience automating Deployment and setup of n-tier applications that consist of Load balancers, web servers, caches and databases to simple nodejs applications that run in single docker container

In your opinion, what is main thing about DevOps.

Devops is both a company culture and set of Tools to automate software releases. Main things is to use modern technologies like cloud, infra languages like puppet and chef and make sure to automate all tasks part of a release.

Have you used Docker:

I am very familiar and hands-on with Docker. I installed and configured a private docker registr for our dev teams to push and pull containers. Familiar with all docker commands, wrote dockerfiles to run applications, familiar with other advanced tools like Compose, Swarm, Weave. Container scheduling frameworks like Kubernetes(K8), Mesos etc

Have you used Vagrant:

I have used Vagrant before, wrote vagrant files etc and virtual box. We can create sandbox envs inside VMs running on dev work stations with vagrant.

How Docker is used in Deployments:

Based on Applications their arch and type, we can write dockerfiles to create and run applications in docker containers. I have used Docker Compose/Swarm to create and run Cluster of containers, use Weave to configure Networking between them and deploy a n-tier application on them

Difference between Jenkins and Bamboo ?

Jenkins is Open Source, has more plugins. I have knowledge and experience with it.

Bamboo is licensed by Atlassian, integrates well with other Atlassian products like Jira, Stash, Confluence etc. I have used it in my previous projects too.

Difference between VMWare and Openstack?

Openstack is mostly being used by companies implementing Private or Hybrid Clouds. It is a Open source Cloud OS.

VMWare used to be more popular way to create and manage VMs in data center traditionally. There are suit of products for doing so: Vcenter, Vmotion, Phy to VM/VM to Phy machine converter etc

I have used and familiar with both tools.

Difference between Svn and Git?

Svn is centralized version control system whereas git is distributed

Git is more powerful and flexible with branching and merging operations etc. There are lot of other important differences too

Where does Docker come in pipeline?

Docker containers can be used to run the applications or services that we are trying to test as part of our CI pipeliene. We write scripts that would create containers on Jenkins slaves, deploy and run the build created during build on them

What is an API Server in OpenStack?

Probably talk about various APIs provided by openstack like Nova, Cinder, Glance etc, using Openstack sdk etc

What is your experience Application Servers?

My experience is mostly around Deployment and running apps in various Application Servers. I have used Web Logic, Web Sphere, JBoss etc. I wrote various scripts using various scripting interfaces like WLST(Web Logic), Jython(Web Sphere) to run applications in standalone or clustered mode. As part of deployment, create more resources like JDBS, JMS, JMX etc for applications etc. I have also used Web Servers like Apache, Tomcat, Nginx etc.

How to migrate SVN to Git

Make svn repos as read only, create new git repositories and move all files to git. There are many issues with git svn plugin etc, so we chose this path.

How can we migrate Ant to Maven?

There is no standard tool to migrate, we have to re-write maven build scripts from scratch.

How can we migrate shell scripts to recipes ?

It is a bad practice to migrate shell scripts in entirety into recipes or manifests.

We have to re-write all logic to use Ruby DSL of Chef or puppet syntax

All cookbooks and manifests are idempotent, meaning, we can re-run them any number of times and they all start from clean state each time. Whereas, shell scripts are not like that.

If the shell creates script files and directories, we have to write the same by taking file and directory resources in our recipes etc

Difference between Chef, Puppet with Ansible.

Chef and Puppet are Server/Client model, whereas, Ansible has no central server

Chef and Puppet have their own custom DSL/syntax whereas Ansible is Yaml and SSH based.

Ansible plays better with shell scripts than Chef and Puppet

Most companies are using Ansible for doing deployments and using Ansible WITH Chef or Puppet.

How to migrate Apps and Services to Clouds like AWS, Rack Space etc

It is very complex and broad question with no single definitive answer. I would answer in a broad, generic way.

I would like at how and from where our cutomers are using our applications and decide which AZ/regions to run our applications

Map existing Network and DNS settings into VPC and Route53

Find out instance types that match HW and storage capabilities of our current servers in AWS

The Architecture of same app in cloud will be slightly different, we have to run the same app in multiple AZ/Regions for HA, identify appropriate storage services for backup and DR., need to configure App to use ELB, Auto scaling etc

We need to know if there are any advantages if we use the PaaS components for eg, instead of running a oracle db in EC2, how about use RDS or DynamoDB ? etc .. .

Can we use Cloud Watch metrics in data center ?

No. We cant. Cloud watch is for AWS cloud alone.

We have to install our own monitoring solutions like Nagios, Splunk etc inside data center.

Are you using same build artifact through out process ?

The same build gets promoted to multiple stages based on its quality. If we build is good, then it deployed from Dev, QA, Stage and then Prod etc. If it is based, developer will check-in fix and a new build gets created and deployed, CD Process repeats.

Difference between Nexus and Artifactory?

Both are Artifact Repository managers. Built by different companies

Nexus by Sonatype and Artifactory by JFrog

Artifactory has better REST Api than Nexus. Open source does not provide REST API. We have to but Enterprise Nexus, then we get REST API and other features like Staged Repositories etc.

Difference between ANT and Maven

Both are build tools

Ant is procedural and Maven is declarative.

Both use xml based build files etc

Maven has automatic Dependency resolution which is manual in ant.

Maven can pull jars from nexus or artifactory etc during a build.

Maven has more plugins to integrate with other tools

How comfortable are you with Marathon and Mesos

They are both container scheduling engines. In order to run more complex apps and services in a scalable and reliable fashion, we use them. I am familiar and love to work more on these technologies.

What did you do in last projecta as Java Developer?

I have written custom plugins in Jenkins and Sonar etc utilizing REST APIs and plugin interfaces. In general, I am familiar with java coding but not strong in it. I have experience doing DevOps, Build, Release of Java based applications.

Difference between Static and Dynamic Web page?

Difference between Forward and Reverse proxy?

If the load balancer or proxy server knows the specific end server to forward the user request to, then it is Forward Proxy.

Else, it is Reverse Proxy.

How is NAT different from proxy server?

NAT is typically used for providing internet access to VMs. It is also used to create virtual network interfaces on the hypervisor to provide access to VMs running on it.

Difference between VMWare, KVM and Xen

VMWare provide licensed tools to create and manage VMs on bare metal servers. KVM and Xen do the same, but, are open source.

More info:

<https://devopshero.wordpress.com/2013/10/17/kvm-as-your-virtualization-provider/>

What do you know about VMotion? Fusion etc?

<https://www.vmware.com/products/vsphere/features/vmotion>

<https://www.vmware.com/products/fusion>

Difference between Vagrant and Docker?

Docker is Linux based technology. Whereas, Vagrant provides command line utilities to create normal VMs. They can be used by Developers to create san box envs in their local, but, technology implementation wise, they are very different.

How many instances can a Load Balancer manage the traffic?

LBs are very scalable and reliable and can scale up to serve 1000’s of servers in backend and millions of user requests.

Give some real time trouble shoot experience you have done.