

Our first question involves indicators of compromise  
All of the following are examples of  
indicators of compromise except for what?  
Please take a moment look at the answers  
and let's see what you're thinking.

So far,  
it looks like everybody is saying that  
A, an incorrect login attempt, is  
not an indicator of compromise.  
And another vote for a C and another vote for A. So the correct  
answer here is an incorrect login attempt  
and basically an indicator of compromise  
is some kind of element or artifact  
that indicates there's been a security breach so  
excessive bandwidth usage could be one of those  
certainly suspicious emails or Rogue Hardware but  
an incorrect login attempt is not a breach so  
that is the one that is not like the others and  
A is the correct answer for this question.  
An employee suspects that their work email  
account has been compromised because they  
keep getting suspicious email advertisements  
from companies that they did not subscribe to.

What reconnaissance tool should the employee  
use to further investigate this situation?  
Take a moment look at your choices  
and let's see what you're thinking.

Anybody have any suggestions as  
to which is the correct answer?  
We have one response, two.  
So the two responses both are for Choice C.  
Open source intelligence  
Does anybody else have a suggestion?

And we have another response in the chat D. No.  
C is the correct choice, open-source intelligence, so in the question  
you're asked what reconnaissance tool  
should the employees to further investigate  
and I'm thinking and hoping that it's pretty  
obvious that choices A and B are the ones that  
can be the most easily eliminated um I've  
really never heard of academic journals being  
a reconnaissance tool or requests or comments RFCs  
that does leave us with open source intelligence  
and private internet information sharing  
and analysis centers. Private information  
sharing and Analysis centers - so  
with open source intelligence  
easily using open source roasts and  
tools you can easily retrieve information  
about a company that is available publicly

um so information sharing and analysis centers.

Basically we're talking about organizations that provide a central resource for gathering information on cyber threats and in many cases that are the information that is critical to infrastructure as well as allow two-way sharing of information between the private and public sector about root causes incidents threats as well as sharing experience and knowledge and analysis.

So private ISAVCs were created to address U.S. critical infrastructure vulnerabilities and facilitated the sharing of actionable cyber security intelligence among trusted organizations within an industry and between sectors private sector and public sector.

So open source intelligence is the best answer for this question.

Let's go on to the next one.  
I believe this is it:

Threat actor types: When someone is worried about malicious users potentially compromising their servers while remaining undetected for a period of time, this is known as a blank threat. Do you think is the correct answer here?

Let's see what we have in chat - votes for ATT, which is Choice C  
Vote for D, vote for C, vote for C [1] Yeah advanced persistent threat is correct.

We're worried about server compromise and remaining undetected for a period of time. The first choice may not be the most obvious denial of service would probably be the most easily eliminated and denial of services is of course just that there is no really attempt for basic denial of service to remain undetected it happens service is denied.

So "man in the middle" or also known as an on path attack, and this occurs when the attacker sort of sits in the middle between two stations and is able to intercept information and sometimes they cannot just over not only intercept and read or just intercept and have it to work with but they can change the information as well. So this type of attack can occur without anyone knowing uh that someone is sitting for example in the middle of a conversation and

again that's that's why the classic name that I think of uh for this type of attack is man in the Middle. Cyber Espionage is the act of gathering secret or sensitive information for personal gain technological purposes or political reasons. It's not military interaction by intent so really we are left with advanced persistent threat or APTs and here the goal is very clearly to remain Undetected. there have been many such attacks these some of these have gone undetected for months and months.

So the key in this question is remaining undetected for a period of time and advanced persistent threat is the correct answer. All right let's move on.

Which best describes the term Hacktivist?

Take a moment and let's

see what your responses are.

Good we have lots of responses coming in fairly quickly; I think this one is fairly obvious.

So the correct answer is a malicious user attempts to promote a political or ideological stance; a hacker engaged in authorized pen testing or other security consultancy that is not a hacktivist; an inexperienced unskilled attacker that typically uses tools or scripts created by others. What kind of threat actor is that?

A Script Kiddie.

Very good.

An unauthorized hacker operating with malicious intent

What name might we give to that type of threat actor?

Nobody has a suggestion for that?

An unauthorized hacker operating with malicious Intent. We have a response: a cracker.

A black hat hacker that is the the typical moniker given to this type of threat actor. Hacker engagement authorized penetration testing. I mean the the key there is authorized so we're probably almost certainly talking about a white hat.

So activists political or ideological stance

Next question.

One of your organization's employees doesn't think they are getting paid enough. when they notice that the salary database file

is available on the network they try to guess the password a couple of times which of the following choices best describes this type of threat.

Lots of responses good and it looks like they're B; this is The Insider Threat. It's not an external threat that's I would think pretty Obvious. An external threat would not be Primitives in organizations employees uh State actor this is not a state actor and it is not a hacktivist. This is again if we're thinking about you know How do you classify threat actors and you know we have a set of nomenclature for doing this of course examples again are useful. Insider threats of course are dangerous because they can be hard to detect especially if they are designed to go undetected for some time um the the common scenario here might be the disgruntled employee or or uh for for whatever reason so they're not getting paid as much as someone else or you know maybe they suspect that they're going to be released from employment for for some reason one common scenario with programmers or software engineers was that it they thought something like this would happen they might plant something like a logic bomb inside companies application product for sale to customers and um if we software wasn't contacted or given some type of code or validating access for a period of time then that would set off the logic bomb and cause whatever damage the disgruntled employee intended. So there's an example of an insider threat right.

Janice has just graduated from college and her first job has her conducting penetration tests; which type of hacker best describes Janice? This is what I expect lots of votes per D - white hat and that is the correct answer.

Obviously not a Script Kiddie let's see conducted penetration tests it does say her first job so we can barely safely assume it's not a black hat threat actor type nor is it a gray hat. That was pretty obvious on the subject of gray hats foreign there is a they are a type of in between sort of threat actor and what I mean by that is that a gray hat could be someone who violates ethical standards or principles but may not have the same malicious intent that a black hat hacker would have or that that we would ascribe to a black hat packet.

They can engage in practices that are you know not exactly above board but sometimes they do these things and operate for the common good. So if we try to classify great hat hackers um there are those that great hats that hack for personal gain and then those who hack for personal gain but also to improve security which you know it's it's hard to say exactly what um those motivations are so as far as classifying threat actor types so sometimes we refer to a white hat with a black heart - so wrong, very figurative speech - but you know again you've kind of got this this individual who is you know part white hat and part black hat you know and and um and that's really what it boils down to it is a controversial practice that sort of fits in between somewhere in between illegal and legal activity so a little unusual again. You know I'm sure that there are many reasons why somewhat would exploit a vulnerability and then after receiving some type of gain for it.

All right let's go on to the next question.

A \_\_\_\_\_ is the type of malicious actor that is most likely to have the most resources and funding since they work with their country's military and security services. This one should be really easy.

I'm judging by the number of responses we are talking about the state actor here and I would like to point out that this even though the question is talking about a malicious factor the real threat here comes from the fact that we aren't talking about just one but a multitude of threat actors and then of course when you know you have the funding and the backing of the state of some countries military or security services or other governmental service you have typically a formidable force to deal with. Resources and funding typically not a problem. Think about it in the sense that you can have hundreds of people who you know go to a job and their job is to sit there and poke at us or some other country or organization and to seek out vulnerabilities and exploit them and that really is a danger here not just that it's one malicious actor.

Let's go on to the next question

Which of the following is not considered a potential insider threat? Take a moment and let's see what you think about this one.

So we have several responses for D and that is the correct choice.

As I I've pointed out before and I will point this out again when you are asked a question but it is not which of the following is not this or that these questions can sometimes be a little confusing or not as obvious you just have to think about it and as always good practice is to read the question twice make sure you understand what you're being asked for so which of the following is not considered a potential Insider Threat. Contractors, business partners all would be involved with an organization at or by request. Infected email file attachments not an Insider threat. It comes from an external source. So all of these are correct. Let's go on.

Which of the following is not true about a TTP?

Take a moment read the answer choices carefully and let's see what you're thinking. So we have a response in the chat or D Choice D Any other suggestions? Which of the following is not true about a TTP clearly one of the things this question hinges on is understanding the acronym TTP and what does it mean?

So a couple more choices - one for C and one for...

I'm confused about this one - understandable So again when faced with questions that are asking you what something is not, it helps to pinpoint what the question is talking about and the question is talking about. TTP - which does stand for tactics techniques and procedures - so which of the following is not true:

TTP stands for tactics techniques and procedures; Well, that is a true statement.

TTP encompasses the mapping out of specific malicious user activity and that is a true statement.

TTP is evidence of an indicator of compromise.

That is not a true statement answer; Choice C is the correct answer. TTP is a generalized statement of adversary behavior and it can be so the tactic is a high level description

of an action a threat actor takes a technique is a more detailed description of a tactic and the procedure provides step-by-step details on how the threat actor would accomplish the behavior. So again the question hinges on understanding what TTP means. tactics techniques and procedures are what it's an acronym for but then understanding the meanings of the terms tactics techniques and procedures and by what I've just told you.

Tactics being sort of the high level description techniques being a more detailed explanation of a tactic or description and then the procedures finally are the step-by-step breakdown so you can see that they sort of follow from one another and so when you get this or you understand that you can see why it is a generalized statement of adversary behavior and compasses mapping out of specific malicious activity and of course stands for tactics techniques and procedures leaving us with only evidence of an indicator or compromise.

So again C is the correct answer - TTP is evidence of an IOC that is not true and again uh and I just want to add this as well that when we talk about indicators of compromise we are talking about elements found on or in a system that indicate that there has been a security breach that's what an indicator of compromise is.

All right let's move on to the next question:

Which of the following is true regarding gray hat hackers and white hat hackers? So please take a moment read through the answer choices and cast your vote for the correct one.

We've got responses in the chat.

And let's see so D votes, D vote, B vote, A and D.

A gray hat hacker and a white hat hacker both do not have malicious intent so this question sort of again shows us how you really have to read the choices carefully and if we start with say the first answer a gray hat hacker has malicious intent.

As soon as we read that if you you understand how gray hats work and perhaps what their motivation is that is not necessarily true so we can eliminate that choice a white hat hacker does

not have malicious intent that we know but the gray hat has malicious intent not guaranteed.

A gray hat hacker and a white hat hacker both have authorization. Well we can say that a white hat does and be confident in that a gray hat again may not have authorization. A gray hat hacker and by the way typically does not have authorization.

A gray hat hacker does not have malicious intent while a white hat hacker has malicious intent in that second phrase clearly rules out answer Choice C so the correct answer a great hat hacker and a white hat both do not have malicious intent is the best answer for this question. The best answer.

Let's see what we have here...  
That one is confusing  
Because neither I feel like  
neither a or D are definites because  
s it not possible for gray hat  
hackers to um have a malicious intent is it  
is that impossible to rule out is that an absolute  
that a gray hat does not have malicious intent.  
I'm asking could could it be that they  
do have malicious intent it could be  
I mean and again it kind of sort of depends on  
your your interpretation of malicious intent  
So if a gray hat compromises the  
system and for some personal gain  
and it stops right there so the the system the  
network the resources compromised the gray hat  
gets something out of it and that's the end  
of it I mean do you think that's malicious  
because I mean I would consider that  
somewhat malicious.  
I would too.

If a gray hat compromises some resource that  
they clearly are not authorized to access

and they do it anyway but then they publicize the  
vulnerability that they were to exploit or that  
they did exploit and made it available here again  
you have to ask so they found a vulnerability, exploited but then they  
made it available the  
real sort of balance point here or the point  
that's going to throw it out of balance  
is who did they make it available to you.

For example if you compromise you know maybe  
Acme bank for example right and then you know



you called up Acme headquarters and go hey guess what I was able to get in your system that's different than I compromised you and then I made it publicly available. If you make it publicly available who's to say that another bad actor would not read about your your information about a vulnerability found and exploited and then go in and do the same thing. Do you see what I'm saying. Yes that's what makes it confusing it does make it confusing because because the answers are the are the answers are written as absolutes sorry go ahead I was just saying trying to do deductive reasoning just from even this this tonight's training because you you spoke about this just a little while ago and about how sometimes gray hat hackers may have a malicious intent mm-hmm yeah so so going with that reasoning and then trying to answer this question it's just confusing a little bit

So it's safe to assume when we see a question like this that we're not going to think that the gray hat hacker has malicious intent so I'm not sure I would say that or make that statement um let's let's take the other comment and then come come back around with us so someone else was saying something yeah I was going to say that this question seemed it's like it's based off a probability and if that a gray hat hacker goes one way A is the answer and the other way D is the answer. So, here again this is the problem with this so-called gray area right I mean you know so a white hat hacker is one extreme and a black hat hacker is another extreme and then there's this gray area the problem can easily be your definition or their definition the test creators definition of malicious intent the other sort of bit of information that I want to throw out at you is that these questions were developed based on the text that I believe you will have access to and so in order to avoid any kind of problems with copyright um for lack of a better way to put it these questions are paraphrases of the information so I'm not sure that it would be this confusing um based on what I've seen um Certification testing not just you know SEC Plus or CompTIA or whatever agency you want to choose. Cisco for example um they do tend to have some anchorable information that is some information that when you discover it and if you understand

it that you know it would take some of the  
either confusion out or give you a basis to reason  
on to choose or to then choose a correct answer.  
But the way this is worded it's it's a little  
confusing and again it really does  
hinge on this whole phrase about malicious intent  
Let's see we have some more comments in the chat.

Gray hat is a computer hacker computer  
security expert who may sometimes violate the law or typical ethical  
standards but usually does not have malicious intent typical of black hat  
black hat hackers sole focus is to sow chaos  
gray hats may do it but as a byproduct of  
their actions motivated by personal gain  
and this is someone's interpretation.  
Gray hat might not have had and the white  
hat has no malicious intent again so  
it's the use of the phrase malicious intent and  
your interpretation because again and even if, well let's go back again  
to the example of the  
Acme Bank this this fictional bank that  
we're making up and if you are doing whatever  
maybe you're a student and a researcher or  
or some some situation such as that and  
you find the vulnerability and exploited  
you do so without permission so right  
away that takes you out of the realm  
of the quote white hat hacker or pen tester  
because you never do something like this without  
full knowledge and disclosure and permission  
and and that's that's just how it is  
so again the question becomes is that malicious  
intent and you cannot say necessarily that it is.  
you know maybe uh someone does this  
and who knows maybe it's their bank  
right and they feel like they have a  
stake in it because they have a mortgage  
with this bank and checking accounts  
and savings accounts and they're like  
and I just found a vulnerability and when I  
was trying to exploit it I was able to do so.

So now I'm going to contact this Bank and  
make it known to them. is that malicious intent?

No I don't think it is but it's  
certainly illegal yeah right  
I mean so again interpretation of malicious intent but  
that's like also what certain people do for  
like work they go around and exploit vulnerability  
not vulnerabilities and try to get paid from it.

They're not necessarily trying to do anything bad  
to the companies but they're trying to show them

that they're vulnerable and then hopefully also get paid in the process and and this is why though We have codes and laws that we follow and and procedures and and things such as you know full

disclosure and and not even trying to do something like this um because you know it's it's not your property it is not a system or a resource that is under your authority or direct control so therefore if you've found a vulnerability that does not give you the right to exploit it and if you found a vulnerability you must be poking at this system or resource so having rules procedures what we would call legal action versus illegal action is how we stay out of this mess, how we keep it from being what it is.

Could be depends on the individuals and default otherwise they would be a black hat. So the argument here is that gray hat does not have malicious intent by default otherwise we would classify them as a black hat hacker if they change their intent after the fact that's different that's a very interesting point of view yes sir I guess I could unmute my mic for that that's how I look at it like if you initially have malicious intent you're a black cat hacker but if you go into something without trying to have personal gain but then change your mind in the process and decide that you could get away with it it might be worth it then you're the gray hat hacker.

So if we don't have um the intention of let's say uh exfiltrating information the question still has to be asked why are you poking and looking for vulnerabilities without permission? I think by the very nature of the action right that the default sort of response is going to be you're you're doing something that is illegal and I guess then the question becomes do we associate any legal action with malicious intent? This is starting to sound like a very circular conversation. it's the way the question is worded it's asking what is true of both of them in my opinion only two options address that and only one is correct I think they're also an organization not to like drag this topic out but isn't there also an organization that is like built and kind of helps out people who do hack into systems and get in trouble legally like they kind of help ERS who might kind of get caught up in a mess

when their intentions initially weren't to do something bad they were just curious and wanted to see how far they could get. I mean what do you mean by help like someone who comes to their aid or provides legal yeah there's like a group of I remember their name but they provide like legal aid for people who especially like majorities like younger people who are like hacking might not know the legal precautions of what they're doing but they're just doing it or they can get there's like groups that are there for that as well and and there may very well be um I think if it gets to that point for example if we're talking about the high school student and they get caught you know poking at Bank of America for example um you know where that ends up and who makes that decision I think is going to determine what happens after that point so if it goes to some type of court or legal procedure. As far as getting help for that there may very well be organizations that do, I will say that I am not aware of them so I think the best advice is to follow what we what we that means what we generally think of as legal action is to follow those procedures and you know not poke at something that doesn't belong you and that you have no business poking at It's very interesting conversation and I'm glad that we had this time to discuss it a bit

Let's go on to the next question -

What type of hacker has unauthorized access and malicious intent?

This is a description of a black hat hacker.

The last question

When using a Tor web browser the user can be confident of which of the following and you're directed to choose to everybody take a moment and look at the choices. Selections in the chat A and C; A and C; a C A; and C Choice A and C are the correct choices I would point out something and you know obvious or not when you come across a question like this and especially when the answer choices are displayed in this fashion my eye goes right to that first phrase because each answer Choice starts with they remain anonymous so to me

you know it's it might be a little  
bit of noise I ignore it because  
if you're just looking from the point of view of  
I've got to determine which answer is correct and  
maybe I have to do this through the process of  
elimination this phrase they remain anonymous  
does not figure into it. So is it because  
there are multiple layers of encryption;  
is it because their network is  
using ip6; is it because they don't  
authenticate to use Tor or because  
there's one layer of encryption  
so what it boils down to is looking at the second  
phrase of all the answers and in this situation  
the correct choices correctly describe what's  
happening when using the Tor web browsing in other  
words yes there are multiple layers of encryption  
because their network is using ip6 not necessarily  
because they don't authenticate no you don't  
authenticate you are Anonymous and you don't  
have to authenticate kind of you know would  
sort of not work right for remaining anonymous  
and then because there is one layer of encryption  
well that's just not true there are multiple  
layers so again you're looking at the  
second half and you're really looking at which  
of these statements are true concerning to our  
web browsing and that's the last question  
for this evening session. I'd like to thank  
you all for joining us for this review session.