

VMware Infrastructure Lead Interview Questions and Sample Answers

1. Tell me about your VMware experience.

I have over 11 years of IT infrastructure experience with VMware vSphere, Windows Server, Hyper-V, Azure, PowerShell automation, ESXi, vCenter, migrations, upgrades, troubleshooting, HA, DRS, backup integration, and enterprise datacenter operations.

2. What is VMware Cloud Foundation (VCF)?

VCF is VMware's integrated Software Defined Data Center platform combining ESXi, vCenter, vSAN, NSX, and SDDC Manager for automated deployment and lifecycle management.

3. What is SDDC Manager?

The management component of VCF used for deployment, lifecycle management, upgrades, certificate management, password management, and workload domain administration.

4. Explain VCF architecture.

VCF consists of a Management Domain hosting SDDC Manager, vCenter and NSX, and one or more Workload Domains for production workloads.

5. How do you perform a VCF upgrade?

Review compatibility, verify backups, run prechecks, upgrade SDDC Manager, NSX, vCenter, ESXi, vSAN, then validate workloads.

6. Explain vSAN.

VMware hyperconverged storage that aggregates local disks into a distributed datastore using storage policies.

7. Difference between HA and DRS.

HA restarts VMs after host failure. DRS balances workloads using vMotion.

8. Explain NSX-T.

Software-defined networking platform providing overlays, routing, firewalling, load balancing, NAT and micro-segmentation.

9. What is micro-segmentation?

Applying firewall policies directly at the VM level to limit lateral movement.

10. Explain Lifecycle Manager.

Manages ESXi images, firmware, drivers and compliance.

11. What is vMotion?

Live migration of a running VM between hosts without downtime.

12. What is Storage vMotion?

Moves VM disks between datastores while the VM remains online.

13. What backup solution have you used?

Veeam Backup & Replication with application-aware backups, backup copy jobs and restore validation.

14. What is Changed Block Tracking?

Tracks modified disk blocks so backups copy only changed data.

15. How do you troubleshoot vMotion failures?

Check DNS, networking, VMkernel adapters, shared storage, CPU compatibility, licensing and firewall.

16. What is EVC?

Enhanced vMotion Compatibility masks CPU features to allow migrations across CPU generations.

17. How do you perform RCA?

Collect logs, build a timeline, identify the root cause, document corrective and preventive actions.

18. Explain change management.

Prepare implementation plan, CAB approval, backups, maintenance execution, validation and documentation.

19. Why should we hire you?

My enterprise VMware experience, automation skills, troubleshooting ability and leadership align well with this role.

20. Questions to ask interviewer.

Ask about current VCF version, number of hosts, workload domains, backup platform, automation practices and upgrade roadmap.