Before we begin…

Here are some key facts about this program:

* You are working as a Data Analyst at Accenture.
* You work within a larger team, where each member has a different role and level of responsibility.
* Your team has been assigned a new project for a client called **Social Buzz.**
* You’re hoping for a promotion at work, and this is an exciting opportunity for you to showcase your data analysis and visualization skills.

Key roles and responsibilities of a Data Analyst

A data analyst sits between the **business** and the **data.**

What do we mean by that?

* **The Business** refers to the client and your internal team members who won’t be involved in detailed data analysis.
  + They rely on your analysis to make strategic business decisions.
  + Importantly, not everyone will have a strong understanding of data. Your job is to communicate your data findings simply and clearly for everyone to understand.
* **The Data** refers to the relevant data sources that you will clean, process, and use to generate interesting insights for the business.

As a Data Analyst at Accenture, you’ll get to work across a range of different clients and projects. This keeps things interesting, as there are always new problems to solve and new topics to learn about.

However, our clients often want accurate results in a tight timeframe. The pace of work is fast and you’ll need to get up to speed on new projects as quickly as possible.

Now you know a bit more about the role, let’s get back to the project with Social Buzz.

Read the brief from Social Buzz

**Your first task is to read the brief from Social Buzz and complete a short knowledge check before the call.**

One of Accenture’s Managing Directors, Mae Mulligan, is the client lead for Social Buzz.

She has reviewed the brief provided by Social Buzz and has assembled a diverse team of Accenture experts to deliver the project.

Mae has scheduled a project kick off call with the internal Accenture project team for tomorrow morning.

Ahead of the call, Mae has shared the project brief so you can get up to speed on what Social Buzz need help with.

Read the brief to:

* Understand the client and business problem at hand.
* Identify the requirements that need to be delivered for this project.
* Identify which tasks you should focus on as a Data Analyst.

Client name: Social Buzz Client industry: Social media & content creation Year established: 2010 Location of HQ: San Francisco Number of employees: 250 Client background: Social Buzz was founded by two former engineers from a large social media conglomerate, one from London and the other from San Francisco. They left in 2008 and both met in San Francisco to start their business. They started Social Buzz because they saw an opportunity to build on the foundation that their previous company started by creating a new platform where content took center stage. Social Buzz emphasizes content by keeping all users anonymous, only tracking user reactions on every piece of content. There are over 100 ways that users can react to content, spanning beyond the traditional reactions of likes, dislikes, and comments. This ensures that trending content, as opposed to individual users, is at the forefront of user feeds. Over the past 5 years, Social Buzz has reached over 500 million active users each month. They have scaled quicker than anticipated and need the help of an advisory firm to oversee their scaling process effectively. Due to their rapid growth and digital nature of their core product, the amount of data that they create, collect and must analyze is huge. Every day over 100,000 pieces of content, ranging from text, images, videos and GIFs are posted. All of this data is highly unstructured and requires extremely sophisticated and expensive technology to manage and maintain. Out of the 250 people working at Social Buzz, 200 of them are technical staff working on maintaining this highly complex technology. Up until this point, they have not relied on any third party firms to help them get to where they are. However there are 3 main reasons why they are now looking at bringing in external expertise: 1) They are looking to complete an IPO by the end of next year and need guidance to ensure that this goes smoothly. 2) They are still a small company and do not have the resources to manage the scale that they are currently at. They could hire more people, but they want an experienced practice to help instead. 3) They want to learn data best practices from a large corporation. Due to the nature of their business, they have a massive amount of data so they are keen on understanding how the world's biggest companies manage the challenges of big data. To start our engagement with Social Buzz, we are running a 3 month initial project in order to prove to them that we are the best firm to work with. They are expecting the following: - An audit of their big data practice - Recommendations for a successful IPO - An analysis of their content categories that highlights the top 5 categories with the largest aggregate popularity Tasks to be delegated: - Creation of an up-to-date big data best practices presentation - Extraction of sample data sets using SQL - On-site audit of their data-center - Merging of sample data set tables - Virtual session with Social Buzz team to present previous client success stories relevant to them - Preparation of best practice document for IPO - Loading of sample data sets into Accenture sandbox database - Technology architecture workshop with Social Buzz Data Team to understand their technology landscape - Stress testing of their technology to identify weak spots - Communication with previous IPO companies within our client base for reference stories - Analysis of sample data sets with visualizations - Full documentation of the process that we can guide them through for IPO

