1. How does Power BI handle large datasets in the Online Service, and what is the role of Premium Capacity in this?

Power BI Online Service manages large datasets by applying data compression, incremental refresh, and storage optimizations. However, dataset size in shared capacity is limited. Premium Capacity provides higher dataset size limits (up to 400GB per dataset), supports incremental refresh, and ensures dedicated resources for better performance and scalability.

2. What are the differences between Import mode, DirectQuery, and Live Connection in Power BI Service?

Import Mode: Data is imported into Power BI and stored in memory, enabling fast queries but requiring scheduled refresh. DirectQuery: Data remains in the source system, queries are sent live, reducing storage needs but can cause slower performance. Live Connection: Directly connects to Analysis Services or Power BI datasets without importing data, ensuring centralized model management.

3. Explain deployment pipelines in Power BI Online. What stages do they include?

Deployment pipelines help manage the lifecycle of Power BI content (datasets, reports, dashboards). They include three stages: Development (building content), Test (validating and QA), and Production (final release for business users).

4. How can Power BI Service integrate with Microsoft Teams or SharePoint for collaboration?

Power BI integrates with Microsoft Teams by allowing reports and dashboards to be embedded directly into Teams channels and chats. With SharePoint, users can embed Power BI reports into SharePoint Online pages using the Power BI web part, facilitating seamless collaboration.

5. What is the XMLA endpoint in Premium and how does it benefit developers or enterprise BI teams?

XMLA endpoint is an interface provided in Premium or PPU workspaces that allows developers to connect to datasets as if they were Analysis Services models. It benefits teams by enabling advanced scripting, programmatic management, external tool integration (e.g., Tabular Editor, SSMS), and enterprise-scale governance.

6. Describe how usage metrics and audit logs work in Power BI Service.

Usage metrics provide insights into how often reports and dashboards are viewed, helping identify adoption and engagement. Audit logs, available through Microsoft 365 compliance center, capture detailed user actions (sharing, viewing, exporting), supporting governance and compliance.

7. How do you manage workspace access and permissions for different users?

Workspace roles (Admin, Member, Contributor, Viewer) control user access. Admins manage settings and permissions, Members can edit and publish, Contributors can publish but not change settings, and Viewers can only consume content. Permissions can also be assigned at dataset or report levels.

8. How can data governance be enforced in Power BI Service?

Data governance is enforced through sensitivity labels, row-level security, dataset certification, auditing, and centralized access management. Admins can use Microsoft Purview for classification and apply policies to ensure compliance.

9. What are the limitations of Row-Level Security when using DirectQuery or Live Connection?

With DirectQuery or Live Connection, performance may be affected because security filters are pushed to the data source. For Live Connection to Analysis Services, RLS must be managed at the model level, not in Power BI. Dynamic RLS can also introduce query latency.

10. Explain how you can refresh a dataset via Power Automate or REST API.

In Power Automate, you can trigger a dataset refresh using the 'Refresh a dataset' action tied to events or schedules. With the REST API, developers can call endpoints to refresh datasets programmatically, enabling automation and integration with external workflows.