📈 Tableau Interview Questions and Answers (1–50)

1. What is Tableau?

Answer: Tableau is a data visualization and business intelligence tool used for converting raw data into interactive and shareable dashboards.

2. What are the different products of Tableau?

Answer: Tableau Desktop, Tableau Server, Tableau Online, Tableau Prep, Tableau Public, Tableau Mobile.

3. What is Tableau Desktop?

Answer: A tool used to create dashboards and visualizations on a personal computer.

4. What is Tableau Public?

Answer: A free version of Tableau where dashboards are saved publicly.

5. What is Tableau Server?

Answer: An enterprise platform to share, distribute, and manage Tableau reports securely.

6. What is the difference between Tableau Server and Tableau Online?

Answer: Tableau Server is on-premise; Tableau Online is cloud-based.

7. What is a Tableau Dashboard?

Answer: A collection of multiple visualizations on a single screen for analysis.

8. What is a worksheet in Tableau?

Answer: A single view or visualization in Tableau (like a bar chart or map).

9. What are Measures and Dimensions?

Answer: Measures are numeric values; Dimensions are categorical fields.

10. What is the difference between discrete and continuous fields?

Answer: Discrete fields create headers and labels; continuous fields create axes.

11. What are shelves in Tableau?

Answer: Areas in Tableau where you drag fields to build views (Rows, Columns, Filters, etc.).

12. What are filters in Tableau?

Answer: Used to restrict data from a view.

13. What is a context filter?

Answer: A filter that acts as a dependency for other filters.

14. What is a quick filter?

Answer: A filter shown on the dashboard for users to interact with.

15. What are parameters in Tableau?

Answer: Dynamic values that can replace a constant in a calculation, filter, or reference line.

16. What is data blending in Tableau?

Answer: Combining data from different sources by linking common fields.

17. What is data joining?

Answer: Combining data from tables in the same data source.

18. What is the difference between join and blend?

Answer: Joins happen at the database level; blending is done within Tableau.

19. What are live and extract connections?

Answer: Live fetches real-time data; Extract saves a snapshot of data.

20. What is a .twb file?

Answer: Tableau Workbook – stores connection info and visualizations (no data included).

21. What is a .twbx file?

Answer: Tableau Packaged Workbook – includes workbook and data in one file.

22. What is Tableau Prep?

Answer: A tool for cleaning, combining, and shaping data for analysis.

23. What is the Show Me panel?

Answer: A panel in Tableau that suggests visualizations based on selected fields.

24. What is aggregation in Tableau?

Answer: Summarizing data values (e.g., SUM, AVG) during visualization.

25. What are LOD expressions?

Answer: Level of Detail expressions – control data granularity in calculations.

26. What are the types of LOD expressions?

Answer: FIXED, INCLUDE, EXCLUDE.

27. What is a calculated field in Tableau?

Answer: A new field created using formulas and logic to transform data.

28. What is Tableau's Order of Operations?

Answer: A sequence that defines how Tableau processes filters and calculations.

29. What is a dual-axis chart?

Answer: A chart with two measures sharing a single axis for comparison.

30. What is a bullet graph?

Answer: A bar chart with reference lines showing performance against targets.

31. How can you optimize performance in Tableau?

Answer: Use extracts, minimize filters, reduce marks, hide unused fields.

32. What is a reference line in Tableau?

Answer: A static line added to a view to compare values visually.

33. What is story in Tableau?

Answer: A sequence of visualizations arranged in a narrative format.

34. What is a heat map?

Answer: A color-coded matrix used to show intensity of values.

35. What is a tree map?

Answer: A chart showing hierarchical data using nested rectangles.

36. How do you create a calculated field?

Answer: Right-click a blank area in the data pane > "Create Calculated Field".

37. What is the difference between dimension filter and measure filter?

Answer: Dimension filters filter categorical data; measure filters apply conditions on numeric values.

38. What is the use of rank function in Tableau?

Answer: It ranks items based on the value of a measure.

39. What is a scatter plot?

Answer: A chart showing relationships between two continuous measures.

40. What is a blend relationship icon (orange link)?

Answer: Indicates the primary and secondary data source link in a blended data view.

41. Can you create a dashboard with data from multiple sources?

Answer: Yes, using data blending or relationships.

42. What is data densification in Tableau?

Answer: A technique where Tableau fills in missing data points.

43. What is Tableau's default sort order?

Answer: Alphabetical for dimensions, ascending for measures.

44. What are table calculations?

Answer: Calculations applied to a result set of a visualization (e.g., Running Total, Percent of Total).

45. What is "Compute Using" in Tableau?

Answer: Determines the direction or scope of a table calculation.

46. What is the Tableau Public Gallery?

Answer: A collection of public dashboards created and shared by Tableau users.

47. How to add filters across multiple sheets?

Answer: Use "Apply to Worksheets" > "All Using This Data Source".

48. Can Tableau handle big data?

Answer: Yes, it integrates with big data sources like Hadoop, Google BigQuery, etc.

49. What is Hyper file in Tableau?

Answer: A high-performance in-memory data engine format for extracts.

50. How to schedule extract refresh in Tableau Server?

Answer: Use Tableau Server's "Tasks" to schedule data refreshes.