

1. What is the difference between Power BI Desktop and Power BI Online Service?

- **Power BI Desktop** → Used for building reports (data modeling, DAX, visuals).
- **Power BI Online (Service)** → Used for sharing, collaboration, dashboards, and scheduled refresh in the cloud.

For example: Desktop = create; Service = share & manage.

2. How do you publish a Power BI report from Desktop to the Online Service?

- In Power BI Desktop, click **Home** → **Publish** → **Select Workspace** in the Service.
- **Report + its semantic model (dataset)** are uploaded to that workspace.

3. What is a workspace in Power BI? What are the types of workspaces available?

- A workspace is a collaborative environment in Power BI Service.
Types:

1. My Workspace – personal workspace for individual use.

2. Shared/Professional Workspace – for teams and collaboration (Pro or Premium).

4. What is the difference between a workspace and an app in Power BI?

- **Workspace** → Development and collaboration area.
- **App** → A *read-only*, packaged version of reports/dashboards shared with users.
For example: workspace = build; app = deliver.

5. Explain the different Power BI license types and their limitations.

License	Features	Limitations
Free	Create reports in Desktop, view own reports in My Workspace	Cannot share or access shared content
Pro	Share, collaborate, publish to app workspaces	Needed for sharing and viewing shared reports
Premium Per User (PPU)	Advanced AI, large models, paginated reports	Individual upgrade cost
Premium Capacity	Enterprise-grade capacity, unlimited viewers	Expensive, org-level resource

6. How can you share a report with someone who doesn't have a Pro license?

- Host report in a Premium Capacity workspace.
- Then Free users can view it without needing Pro licenses.

7. What is a semantic model (dataset) in Power BI, and where is it stored in the service?

- A semantic model (dataset) is the data model (tables, DAX, relationships) created in Desktop.

- Stored in Power BI Service (workspace) after publishing.
It powers all reports connected to it.

8. How does Scheduled Refresh work in Power BI Online Service?

- Power BI connects to your data source on a set schedule to refresh data in the dataset.
- Configure under Dataset → Schedule Refresh (up to 8/day for Pro, 48/day for Premium).

9. What is the difference between a dataset and a dataflow in Power BI?

Feature	Dataset	Dataflow
Purpose	Semantic model for reporting	ETL (data prep and cleansing)
Tool	Built in Desktop	Built in Power BI Service (Power Query online)
Storage	In Power BI model	In Azure Data Lake Gen2
Use Case	Reporting layer	Reusable data preparation layer


10. When and why would you use a dataflow instead of a dataset?

- When you need reusable, standardized data transformations across multiple datasets or reports.
- Example: Centralize customer or date tables used by many teams.

11. What are dashboards in Power BI Online? How are they different from reports?

Feature	Dashboard	Report
Pages	Single page	Multi-page
Data Source	Can pin visuals from multiple reports	Linked to one dataset
Interactivity	Limited	Highly interactive
Use Case	High-level KPIs	Detailed analysis

12. How do you pin a visual to a dashboard from a report?

1. Open report in Service.
2. Hover on visual → Click  Pin Visual.
3. Choose existing or new dashboard.
The visual appears as a live tile on the dashboard.

13. What is the mobile view in Power BI and why is it useful?

- A custom layout optimized for phones/tablets (Report → View → Mobile Layout).
- Ensures visuals fit screen properly → better for field users and executives on mobile.

14. What is a paginated report in Power BI and when would you use it?

- Pixel-perfect, printable report format (built in Power BI Report Builder).
- Used for invoices, statements, and printable forms.
Unlike visuals, it supports page headers/footers and exact formatting.

15. Can you export reports from Power BI Service to PDF or PowerPoint? How?

Yes:

- Open report → File → Export → PDF / PowerPoint.
- You can also export visuals to Excel (limited to 150,000 rows).

16. What does “Live Connection” mean in Power BI Service, and how does it work?

- Live Connection = The report connects directly to a dataset (semantic model) in the Service (no import).
- When the dataset updates, all connected reports update instantly.

17. Explain Row-Level Security (RLS) and how it’s applied in Power BI Online.

- RLS restricts data visibility based on user roles.
- Defined in Power BI Desktop → Modeling → Manage Roles, then publish.
- In Power BI Service, map roles to users or AD groups.

18. How can you test RLS roles in Power BI Service?

- Go to the dataset → Security → View as Role.
- Select the role → Preview data as a user with that role.

19. What are Apps in Power BI and how do you publish one?

- App = Packaged collection of dashboards/reports shared with users.
- Publish from a workspace → Create App → Add Content → Publish.
- Users can access via Power BI Apps portal.

20. What are some key benefits of using the Power BI Online Service in enterprise environments?

- Centralized data management
- Collaboration & version control
- Scheduled refresh automation
- Row-level security & governance
- Integration with Teams, Excel, SharePoint
- Scalable Premium capacities for performance