



## Data Analyst interview Questions (2025)

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### ◆ SQL Questions (1–7)

#### 1. Find customers who purchased more than 3 times in the last month.

```
SELECT customer_id, COUNT(*) AS purchase_count  
FROM orders  
WHERE order_date >= DATEADD(month, -1, GETDATE())  
GROUP BY customer_id  
HAVING COUNT(*) > 3;
```

#### 2. Write a query to find the second highest salary.

```
SELECT MAX(salary)  
FROM employees  
WHERE salary < (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM employees);
```

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#### 3. What is the difference between RANK(), DENSE\_RANK(), and ROW\_NUMBER()?

- RANK(): Skips numbers after ties.
- DENSE\_RANK(): No gaps in ranking.
- ROW\_NUMBER(): Unique sequential number regardless of ties.

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#### 4. Find duplicate records in a table.

```
SELECT customer_id, COUNT(*)  
FROM customers
```

```
GROUP BY customer_id  
HAVING COUNT(*) > 1;
```

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**5. What's the difference between WHERE and HAVING?**

- WHERE: Filters before aggregation.
- HAVING: Filters after aggregation.

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**6. Get the average order value for each customer.**

```
SELECT customer_id, AVG(order_amount) AS avg_value  
FROM orders  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

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**7. How do you optimize a slow SQL query?**

- Create indexes
- Avoid SELECT \*
- Use EXPLAIN PLAN
- Limit subqueries
- Partition large tables

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 **Python & Pandas Questions (8–12)**

**8. Drop missing values from a DataFrame.**

```
df.dropna(inplace=True)
```

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**9. Group by and calculate total sales by region.**

```
df.groupby("Region")["Sales"].sum()
```

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**10. Find outliers using the IQR method.**

```
Q1 = df['amount'].quantile(0.25)  
Q3 = df['amount'].quantile(0.75)  
IQR = Q3 - Q1  
outliers = df[(df['amount'] < Q1 - 1.5*IQR) | (df['amount'] > Q3 + 1.5*IQR)]
```

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**11. Merge two DataFrames.**

```
pd.merge(df1, df2, on='customer_id', how='inner')
```

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**12. How do you handle large datasets in Python?**

- Use dask or modin for parallel processing
  - Load data in chunks with `read_csv(chunksize=10000)`
  - Optimize data types (e.g., convert object to category)
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 **Excel/Power BI Questions (13–15)**

**13. What Excel functions do you use in analysis?**

- VLOOKUP, INDEX-MATCH
  - IF, IFS, SUMIFS, COUNTIFS
  - Pivot Tables, Charts, Slicers
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**14. Difference between Calculated Column and Measure in Power BI?**

- Column: Calculated row-by-row and stored.
  - Measure: Calculated at query time (more efficient for aggregations).
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**15. What are slicers and filters in Power BI?**

- Slicers: Visual tools for filtering.
- Filters: Apply filtering at report, page, or visual level.

**☒ Business Case & Product Questions (16–19)****16. What metrics would you track for Amazon delivery performance?**

- On-Time Delivery Rate
- Average Delivery Time
- Return Rate
- Customer Satisfaction Score

**17. Design a dashboard to monitor sales performance.****Metrics:**

- Total Sales, Profit
- Orders by Region/Category
- Top-Selling Products
- Filters: Time, Region, Category

**18. How would you reduce cart abandonment on Amazon?**

- Analyze drop-off steps in checkout funnel
- A/B test different UX changes
- Use ML model to predict high-risk customers

**19. How would you evaluate if a new feature increased sales?**

- Use A/B Testing

- Pre/post analysis of KPIs
  - Control for seasonality and external factors
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#### A/B Testing Questions (20–21)

##### **20. Explain p-value in A/B testing.**

- Probability of seeing the observed difference (or more extreme) under the null hypothesis.
  - A low p-value (e.g. < 0.05) suggests the difference is statistically significant.
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##### **21. How would you calculate statistical significance in Python?**

```
from scipy.stats import ttest_ind  
  
t_stat, p_val = ttest_ind(group_A, group_B)
```

#### Behavioral (Leadership Principles) (22–25)

##### **22. Tell me about a time you used data to solve a business problem.**

In my previous project, I used Power BI to identify why return rates were high in one region. After root-cause analysis, we changed the vendor, reducing returns by 30%.

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##### **23. Describe a time when you had to dive deep.**

I noticed a discrepancy in weekly revenue numbers. I traced it to a duplicate data load and wrote a validation script to catch it before dashboard refresh.

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##### **24. Tell me about a time you took ownership.**

When a data pipeline broke, even though I wasn't the owner, I debugged it and restored the process to avoid dashboard downtime.