Here are 20 technical interview questions and answers for a business analyst role:

**1. What are the core competencies of a business analyst?**

**Answer:** Core competencies include requirements analysis, data analysis, stakeholder management, communication skills, understanding of business processes, problem-solving skills, knowledge of software development life cycle (SDLC), and proficiency in tools like SQL, Excel, and business intelligence software.

**2. What is a Use Case, and why is it important?**

**Answer:** A Use Case is a detailed description of a user's interaction with a system to achieve a specific goal. It is important because it helps define functional requirements, guides the design and development of the system, and ensures all user needs are captured and understood.

**3. Explain the term "Gap Analysis."**

**Answer:** Gap Analysis is the process of comparing the current state of a business process or system with the desired future state. The gaps between the two states are identified to determine what changes are necessary to achieve the target outcome.

**4. What is the difference between functional and non-functional requirements?**

**Answer:** Functional requirements specify what a system should do, including tasks, features, and functions. Non-functional requirements define the system's quality attributes, such as performance, security, usability, and scalability.

**5. What techniques do you use to gather requirements?**

**Answer:** Techniques include interviews, workshops, surveys, questionnaires, document analysis, observation, brainstorming sessions, use case analysis, prototyping, and Joint Application Development (JAD) sessions.

**6. How do you handle conflicting requirements from stakeholders?**

**Answer:** Conflicting requirements can be handled by prioritizing requirements based on business value, impact analysis, facilitating discussions among stakeholders, seeking compromise, and using decision-making frameworks such as MoSCoW (Must have, Should have, Could have, Won’t have).

**7. Explain the concept of Business Process Modeling.**

**Answer:** Business Process Modeling is the graphical representation of a company's processes or workflows. It helps visualize how processes work, identify areas for improvement, and standardize procedures to enhance efficiency.

**8. What tools do you use for business process modeling and why?**

**Answer:** Common tools include Microsoft Visio, Lucidchart, Bizagi, IBM Blueworks Live, and ARIS. These tools help create flowcharts, process maps, and diagrams to visualize and analyze business processes clearly.

**9. What is the importance of a feasibility study in a project?**

**Answer:** A feasibility study assesses the viability of a project by evaluating technical, financial, operational, and legal factors. It helps determine whether the project is worth pursuing and what the risks and potential rewards are.

**10. How do you validate a set of requirements?**

**Answer:** Requirements validation is done by reviewing requirements with stakeholders, ensuring they are clear, complete, consistent, testable, and aligned with business objectives. Techniques like requirement walkthroughs, inspections, and prototyping can be used.

**11. What is SWOT analysis, and when would you use it?**

**Answer:** SWOT analysis stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats. It is used to evaluate these aspects of a business or project to inform strategic planning and decision-making.

**12. Explain the Agile methodology and its importance for a business analyst.**

**Answer:** Agile is an iterative approach to software development and project management that emphasizes flexibility, collaboration, and customer feedback. For a business analyst, Agile is important as it involves continuous requirements gathering, validation, and adaptation to changing business needs.

**13. What is the role of a business analyst in a software development life cycle (SDLC)?**

**Answer:** A business analyst plays a crucial role in the SDLC by gathering and documenting requirements, communicating with stakeholders, ensuring the solution meets business needs, facilitating testing, and providing support during implementation.

**14. How do you ensure that a delivered solution meets business needs?**

**Answer:** This is ensured by thoroughly understanding business requirements, validating requirements with stakeholders, maintaining clear communication throughout the project, conducting user acceptance testing (UAT), and obtaining sign-offs.

**15. What is the difference between a business requirement document (BRD) and a functional requirement document (FRD)?**

**Answer:** A BRD focuses on the high-level business needs and objectives of a project, while an FRD details the specific functionalities, features, and operations of the solution required to meet those business needs.

**16. How do you perform a cost-benefit analysis?**

**Answer:** A cost-benefit analysis involves listing all the potential costs and benefits of a project, assigning a monetary value to them, and calculating the net benefit (benefits minus costs). It helps in decision-making by showing the project's return on investment (ROI).

**17. What is data mapping, and why is it important?**

**Answer:** Data mapping involves defining how data from one source (such as a legacy system) will be transformed and transferred to another system (like a new application). It is important for ensuring data integrity, consistency, and accurate migration between systems.

**18. Explain what a requirement traceability matrix (RTM) is.**

**Answer:** An RTM is a document that maps and traces user requirements with test cases to ensure that all requirements are covered by the testing process. It helps in tracking the progress of requirements through the project lifecycle.

**19. What is BPMN, and how is it used?**

**Answer:** BPMN (Business Process Model and Notation) is a graphical representation method used to model business processes. It uses standardized symbols to depict different activities, events, and decision points, providing a clear visualization of process workflows.

**20. How do you approach creating a data-driven report for stakeholders?**

**Answer:** I start by understanding the stakeholders' needs and objectives, gather and analyze relevant data, choose appropriate visualization techniques (charts, graphs, dashboards), use tools like Excel, Power BI, or Tableau to create the report, and ensure it communicates the insights clearly and concisely.