Lesson 19 – Publishing and Sharing in Power BI

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

Power BI Desktop is a free Windows application used for building reports and data models. Power BI Online Service (Power BI Service) is a cloud-based platform used to publish, share, and collaborate on reports and dashboards.

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

You click the 'Publish' button in Power BI Desktop and sign into your Power BI account. Then choose the workspace in Power BI Service where you want to publish your report.

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

A workspace is a shared environment for building and managing Power BI content. There are personal 'My Workspace' and collaborative workspaces for teams or projects.

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

A workspace is for building and managing content collaboratively. An app is a packaged version of that content, published from a workspace and shared with users.

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

Power BI Free allows personal report building and viewing in 'My Workspace'. Power BI Pro is needed to share and collaborate. Power BI Premium gives dedicated capacity and supports larger models, paginated reports, and more advanced features.

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

You need to publish the report in a Premium workspace. Users without a Pro license can view content if it's backed by Premium capacity.

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

A semantic model (formerly called a dataset) is the data model used in reports. It's stored in the workspace where the report was published.

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

Scheduled Refresh automatically updates the dataset at defined intervals (daily or hourly), pulling fresh data from the data source into Power BI Service.

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

A dataset is used within a report to model and analyze data. A dataflow is a reusable ETL pipeline that transforms data and can be used across multiple datasets.

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

Use a dataflow when you want to centralize data preparation and reuse it across multiple reports or datasets. It helps reduce duplication and improves manageability.

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

Dashboards are collections of visuals from multiple reports or datasets, pinned to a single canvas. Reports are more detailed and typically based on one dataset.

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

In the report view, hover over a visual and click the pin icon. Choose an existing dashboard or create a new one.

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

Mobile view customizes how reports appear on phones. It ensures readability and usability on smaller screens, which is useful for users accessing dashboards on the go.

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

Paginated reports are designed for pixel-perfect printing and exporting, such as invoices or financial statements. They support large tables and are ideal for formatted, printable reports.

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

Yes. Open the report in Power BI Service, then use 'File > Export' and choose PDF or PowerPoint to download the report in that format.

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

Live Connection means reports connect directly to a dataset or Analysis Services model without importing data. It always shows real-time results from the source.

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

RLS restricts data access for users based on roles. You define roles and filters in Power BI Desktop, then assign users to roles in Power BI Service.

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

After publishing, go to the dataset settings, select 'Security', choose a role, and click 'Test as role' to see how the data looks to that role.

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

Apps are packaged collections of dashboards and reports. To publish an app, go to the workspace, click 'Publish app', configure its content, and share with users.

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

Key benefits include centralized report sharing, automated data refresh, collaboration, row-level security, governance, and integration with Microsoft services like Teams and Excel.