

# ■ SnowPro Core & Advanced – Exam Aligned Q&A; 100 Snowflake Interview & Certification Questions

Answer style strictly aligned to SnowPro Core & Advanced exam expectations (concise, precise, terminology-focused, elimination-friendly).

## **Q1. What type of architecture does Snowflake use?**

Answer: Snowflake uses a multi-cluster shared data architecture that separates compute from storage.

## **Q2. Which layer manages authentication and query optimization in Snowflake?**

Answer: The Cloud Services layer manages authentication, metadata, query parsing, and optimization.

## **Q3. How does Snowflake store data internally?**

Answer: Snowflake stores data in compressed, columnar micro-partitions managed automatically.

## **Q4. What is a virtual warehouse?**

Answer: A virtual warehouse is a compute resource that executes SQL queries independently of storage.

## **Q5. Which feature allows independent scaling of compute and storage?**

Answer: Separation of compute and storage allows independent scaling.

## **Q6. Does Snowflake require indexes?**

Answer: No. Snowflake uses micro-partition metadata for pruning instead of indexes.

## **Q7. What determines query cost in Snowflake?**

Answer: Query cost is determined by warehouse size and execution time.

## **Q8. What is Time Travel used for?**

Answer: Time Travel enables access to historical data for recovery and auditing.

## **Q9. What is the maximum Fail-safe retention?**

Answer: Fail-safe retention is 7 days.

## **Q10. Which cache stores results of previously executed queries?**

Answer: The result cache stores results of previously executed queries.

## **Q11. How is data loaded into Snowflake?**

Answer: Data is loaded using COPY INTO, Snowpipe, or partner tools.

## **Q12. Which command is used to unload data?**

Answer: COPY INTO is used to unload data.

## **Q13. Which object stores staged files?**

Answer: Stages store files for loading and unloading.

**Q14. What data type stores semi-structured data?**

Answer: VARIANT data type stores semi-structured data.

**Q15. Which function expands nested arrays?**

Answer: FLATTEN expands nested arrays.

**Q16. What feature tracks CDC changes?**

Answer: Streams track CDC changes.

**Q17. What executes automated SQL jobs?**

Answer: Tasks execute scheduled SQL jobs.

**Q18. What enables near real-time ingestion?**

Answer: Snowpipe enables near real-time ingestion.

**Q19. Which feature improves large-table filtering?**

Answer: Clustering improves filtering on large tables.

**Q20. What policy masks sensitive columns?**

Answer: Masking policies mask sensitive columns.

**Q21. What policy restricts row visibility?**

Answer: Row Access Policies restrict row-level access.

**Q22. What enables live data sharing?**

Answer: Secure Data Sharing enables live data sharing.

**Q23. Which role is assigned directly to users?**

Answer: Users are assigned roles, not privileges.

**Q24. Which feature enables multi-language pipelines?**

Answer: Snowpark enables multi-language pipelines.

**Q25. Which service provides built-in AI functions?**

Answer: Snowflake Cortex provides built-in AI functions.

**Q26. Which UI is used for monitoring and analysis?**

Answer: Snowsight is used for monitoring and analysis.

**Q27. Which warehouse feature handles concurrency spikes?**

Answer: Multi-cluster warehouses handle concurrency spikes.

**Q28. What setting controls automatic suspension?**

Answer: AUTO\_SUSPEND controls automatic suspension.

**Q29. What reduces compute cost when idle?**

Answer: Auto-suspend reduces compute cost when idle.

**Q30. Which history view tracks query performance?**

Answer: QUERY\_HISTORY tracks query performance.

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