

1. How does Power BI handle large datasets in the Online Service, and what is the role of Premium Capacity in this?

Power BI Online handles large datasets using data compression and incremental refresh. However, Pro users face size and refresh limits. Premium Capacity lifts these limits, allowing up to 400 GB per dataset, more refreshes, faster performance, and advanced features like paginated reports and AI tools.

2. What are the differences between Import mode, DirectQuery, and Live Connection in Power BI Service?

Import: Data is loaded into Power BI, fast but needs refresh.

DirectQuery: Data stays in source, always up-to-date, slower.

Live Connection: Like DirectQuery but uses external models only (e.g., SSAS), no data stored.

3. Explain deployment pipelines in Power BI Online. What stages do they include?

Deployment pipelines in Power BI Online allow structured content release across three stages: Development, Test, and Production. This ensures proper testing, version control, and reliable updates.

4. How can Power BI Service integrate with Microsoft Teams or SharePoint for collaboration?

Power BI Service integrates with Microsoft Teams by adding reports to Teams channels or chats for in-app viewing and discussion.

It integrates with SharePoint by embedding reports in SharePoint Online pages using the Power BI web part, enabling easy sharing and collaboration.

5. What is the XMLA endpoint in Premium and how does it benefit developers or enterprise BI teams?

The XMLA endpoint in Power BI Premium allows direct access to datasets for advanced tasks.

It benefits developers and BI teams by enabling:

- External tools (like SSMS, Tabular Editor) to manage models
- Automation of deployments
- Version control and scripting

6. Describe how usage metrics and audit logs work in Power BI Service.

Usage metrics in Power BI Service show report and dashboard views, helping track user engagement.

Audit logs (in Microsoft 365) provide detailed activity records—like sharing, viewing, or editing—for compliance and monitoring.

7. How do you manage workspace access and permissions for different users?’

Workspace access is managed by assigning roles: Admin, Member, Contributor, or Viewer. Each role has different permissions, controlling who can edit, publish, or only view content within the workspace.

8. How can data governance be enforced in Power BI Service?

Data governance in Power BI Service can be enforced using:

- Row-Level Security (RLS) to restrict data access
- Sensitivity labels for data classification
- Audit logs for monitoring
- Workspace roles to control permissions
- Certified datasets to promote trusted data sources

9. What are the limitations of Row-Level Security when using DirectQuery or Live Connection?

With DirectQuery, Row-Level Security (RLS) may cause performance issues due to frequent queries to the source.

With Live Connection, RLS must be defined in the source model (e.g., SSAS), not in Power BI, limiting control within Power BI Service.

10. Explain how you can refresh a dataset via Power Automate or REST API.

A dataset can be refreshed using:

- Power Automate: Use the “Refresh a dataset” action to trigger refresh on schedule or event.
- REST API: Send a POST request to the dataset’s refresh endpoint with proper authentication.