Q1. Explain why publishing and sharing reports is considered more important than just building dashboards in Power BI Desktop.

From an enterprise and interview perspective, building dashboards in Power BI Desktop is only the **first step** in the analytics lifecycle. The real value of Power BI is achieved **when insights are delivered to decision-makers**.

Publishing and sharing reports ensure that insights reach the right audience at the right time. Power BI Desktop is primarily a **development tool**, whereas business users operate in the **Power BI Service**. Without publishing, reports remain isolated on a developer's local machine and cannot support collaboration, governance, or decision-making.

Additionally, publishing enables:

- Centralized access to data

- Controlled security and permissions

- Scheduled refreshes

- Collaboration across teams

Hence, in real-world business scenarios, **publishing and sharing reports is more critical than just report creation**, because insights that are not shared do not drive business value.

Q2. Define Power BI Service and explain its role in comparison to Power BI Desktop in the reporting lifecycle.

Power BI Service is a cloud-based SaaS platform where reports and dashboards are published, shared, and consumed by users.

Comparison in Reporting Lifecycle:

Aspect	Power BI Desktop	Power BI Service
Purpose	Report creation & modeling	Report consumption & sharing
Users	Developers / Analysts	Business users / Stakeholders
Data Refresh	Manual	Scheduled / Automatic

Collaboration	Limited	High
Security	Local	Role-based & enterprise-level

Power BI Desktop is the **build phase**, while Power BI Service represents the **deployment, collaboration, and governance phase** of analytics.

Q3. What does publishing a report mean in Power BI? List any two outcomes that occur after a report is published.

Publishing a report in Power BI means **uploading a report from Power BI Desktop to Power BI Service**, making it available online.

Two Key Outcomes:

1. The report becomes accessible in a **workspace** within Power BI Service.

2. The associated **dataset is created**, enabling data refresh, sharing, and security configuration.

This step bridges development and enterprise usage.

Q4. List and explain the steps involved in publishing a report from Power BI Desktop to Power BI Service.

Correct Sequence:

1. **Login** to Power BI Desktop using an organizational account.

2. **Complete report development** (data model, visuals, measures).

3. Click **Publish** from the Home ribbon.

4. Select the **target workspace**.

5. Power BI uploads the **report and dataset** to Power BI Service.

6. Verify the report in **app.powerbi.com**.

This process ensures controlled deployment and collaboration.

Q5. Differentiate between Report and Dashboard in Power BI based on structure and usage.

Feature	Report	Dashboard
Pages	Multiple pages	Single page
Data Source	Single dataset	Multiple datasets
Interactivity	High (filters, drill)	Limited
Creation Tool	Power BI Desktop	Power BI Service
Use Case	Detailed analysis	High-level KPIs

Reports are described as **analytical tools**, dashboards as **monitoring tools**.

Q6. Explain the difference between the following three sharing methods in Power BI Service and mention one use case for each.

1. Direct Report Sharing

- Share a report with specific users.

- Limited scalability and governance.

- **Use case:** Small team collaboration.

2. Workspace Access

- Users get access based on workspace roles.

- Suitable for development teams.

- **Use case:** BI team collaboration.

3. Power BI Apps

- Packaged and read-only distribution.

- Highly secure and scalable.

- **Use case:** Organization-wide report distribution.

Q7. Describe the four workspace roles available in Power BI and explain access control.

Workspace Roles:

1. **Admin** – Full control including access and settings.

2. **Member** – Can create and publish content.

3. **Contributor** – Can edit but not manage access.

4. **Viewer** – Read-only access.

Access control is managed through **role-based permissions**, ensuring users only perform authorized actions.

Q8. Why are Power BI Apps considered more secure and scalable than direct sharing?

From an enterprise governance perspective:

- Apps provide **centralized content management**

- Users get **read-only access**, preventing accidental changes

- Updates are pushed automatically without resharing

- Security is controlled at the app level

This makes Apps ideal for **large-scale deployments**, reducing security risks and administrative overhead.

Q9. Explain Row-Level Security (RLS) in Power BI. How does it ensure different users see different data?

Row-Level Security (RLS) restricts data visibility **at the row level** based on user identity.

How it works:

- Security roles are defined using DAX filters.

- Users are assigned to roles in Power BI Service.

- When a user opens the report, Power BI applies filters dynamically.

Example: A sales manager sees only their region's data while using the same report.

Q10. Risks of sharing reports without Apps, workspace roles, or RLS, and how best practices prevent them.

Risks:

1. **Data leakage** – Sensitive data visible to unauthorized users.

2. **Lack of governance** – No control over report modifications.

3. **Inconsistent reporting** – Multiple versions shared manually.

Prevention using Best Practices:

- Use **Power BI Apps** for controlled distribution.

- Assign **workspace roles** appropriately.

- Implement **Row-Level Security** for data protection.

These practices ensure secure, compliant, and scalable analytics.