

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

Power BI Desktop is a free Windows application used for creating, modeling, and designing Power BI reports locally.

Power BI Online Service is the cloud-based platform used for sharing, publishing, and collaboration.

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

Click 'Publish' in Power BI Desktop, sign in, choose the target workspace in the Online Service, and the report will be uploaded.

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

A workspace is a collaborative container for Power BI content. Types: My Workspace (personal), Shared Workspaces (team collaboration).

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

Workspaces are for developing and managing content; Apps are for distributing finalized content to end users in view-only mode.

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

Free: No sharing. Pro: Allows sharing and collaboration. PPU: Adds premium features. Premium Capacity: Org-wide sharing without per-user Pro licenses.

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

Publish it to a Premium workspace. Alternatively, export the report as PDF/PPT.

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

It's a data model created in Desktop. It's stored in the workspace where the report is published.

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

It automatically updates datasets based on a schedule. Requires a gateway for on-premises sources.

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

Dataset: includes modeling and visuals. Dataflow: ETL logic reusable across datasets.

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

Use dataflows to centralize and reuse ETL logic, especially when multiple datasets need the same cleaned data.

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

Dashboards are single-page views combining visuals from multiple reports. Reports are multi-page and fully interactive.

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

In the report, click the 'Pin' icon and choose the dashboard.

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

It's a layout mode for optimizing visual arrangement on mobile devices.

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

Paginated reports are designed for printing and precise layout. Used for invoices or tabular lists.

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

Yes. Use File > Export > PDF or Export to PowerPoint from the service view.

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

It keeps data in the source system and queries it in real-time. No data is imported.

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

RLS restricts data visibility using DAX filters defined in Desktop. Users are assigned to roles in the Service.

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

Go to dataset > Security > Test as Role to simulate user view.

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

Apps are packaged workspace content for distribution. Use 'Publish App' in the workspace to create and share.

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

Central collaboration, automated refreshes, scalable sharing, RLS, Microsoft integration, and audit logging.