1. **What is a temporal table?**

A temporal table is a table that provides the ability for SQL to maintain and manage history of data automatically.

1. **Under what circumstances would you use a temporal table? Temporal tables are in widespread use in certain kinds of businesses.**

You would use a temporal table when the information you need is critical. You would have it as a backup or for auditing purposes.

1. **What are the semantics of a temporal table? There are seven of them.**

A Primary Key, two columns defined by date time, a start column, an end column, a designation period, table option for system versioning, and a linked history table.

1. **How do you search a history table?**

You search a history table with a SELECT statement, or browse the object tree in Object Explorer in SQL Server Management Studio (SSMS).

1. **How do you modify a history table?**

You modify only the current table with INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE, and MERGE statements.

1. **How do you delete date from a history table? Why would you want to delete data from a history table?**

You need to turn system versioning off before you delete history from the table. You might want to delete data from a history table to hide the evidence.

1. **How do you search a history table?**

SELECT statement uses the FOR SYSTEM\_TIME FROM TO clause to retrieve all active rows within the time range specified by the @StartTime and @EndTime values.

1. **How do you query all data from both a history file and the current data?**

If you want to query the current state of the data, you simply query the current table as you would query a normal table. If you want to query a past state of the data, you still query the current table, but you add a clause called FOR SYSTEM\_TIME and a sub clause that indicates the validity point or period of time you’re interested in.

1. **How do you drop a temporal table?**

SYSTEM\_VERSIONING OFF, DROP TABLE IF EXISTS.