Sample Interview Questions:

1. What's a heat map?

A heat map is a graphical representation of data that represents values as colors. It helps observers to see basic patterns and trends in a dataset almost instantly.

2. What's a tree map?

A tree map is a visual representation of hierarchical data that uses nested rectangles to represent categories, with the area of each rectangle corresponding to the amount of data inside of it.

3. What's a Bullet graph?

A bullet graph is a variation of a bar graph that includes a distribution showing progress toward a goal behind the bar. It was originally created to replace dashboard gauges and meters.

4. What's a Gantt chart?

A Gantt chart is a bar chart displays a picture of tasks scheduled over time. It's useful for managing projects and planning out their timelines.

5. What's a dual axis?

A dual axis chart creates two independent axes that allow you to plot two separate measures on the same chart.

6. What's a blended axis?

A blended axis is when you have multiple measures on the same axis, as opposed to one on each for a dual axis. You'll usually use a blended axis when you need to represent more than two measures.

7. What are measures and dimensions?

In data analysis, measures contain quantitative values that can be measured and aggregated. Dimensions, on the other hand, contain qualitative values like names and geography that can be used to categorize or segment your data.

8. What are the different Tableau products?

Tableau Desktop
Tableau Server
Tableau Online
Tableau Reader
Tableau Public

9. What are the different data types in Tableau?

Boolean
Date
Date & time
Geographical values
Text/string
Number (decimal)
Number (whole)

10. What are the different types of joins in Tableau?

Left
Right
Inner
Full outer

11. How many maximum tables can you join in Tableau?

You can join at most 32 tables in Tableau.

12. Name all of the types of filters available in Tableau?

Extract filters
Data source filters
Context filters
Dimension filters
Measure filters
Table filters

13. What are the components of a dashboard in Tableau?

Web
Horizontal component
Vertical component
Image extract
Text

14. What are the different connections you can make with your dataset?

You can either connect live to the dataset or extract data onto Tableau

15. How do you create a context filter in Tableau?

Pull your dimension onto Columns

Drag measure A to Rows and measure B to Rows next to A
You'll have SUM(A) next to SUM(B)
Right-click on SUM(B) and choose Dual Axis
The two axes on your chart will have two scales
If you want the axes to be synchronized, right-click on the B axis and select Synchronize Axis

16. Have you ever had a dashboard run too slow, and how did you fix it?

If you have a lot of experience using Tableau, odds are that you've wanted it to run faster at some point. Tell them about the situation, touching on all of the steps you went through troubleshoot it and eventually resolve the issue. Even if you haven't had this experience, you can tell them what you would have done in order to optimize the dashboard's performance, like:

Reduce the scope of data to decrease the volume
Reduce the number of marks in the view
Try to use integer or Boolean calculations over strings where possible
Exclude unused fields from the visualization
Use context filters
Reduce the number of filters
Remove unnecessary calculations and sheets

17. Why should you use Tableau?

Tableau is user-friendly and easy to learn even for non-technical users
It can represent data in a more readable, visually appealing format
It can pull data from public sources and combine it with your own proprietary data to give you new insights
It can easily handle large amounts of data
It can perform calculations quickly
It can simplify processes and save time when updating periodic reports on spreadsheets

18. What are sets?

Sets are custom fields that define a subset of data based on some conditions. A set can be based on a computed condition, for example, a set may contain customers with sales over a certain threshold. Computed sets update as your data changes. Alternatively, a set can be based on specific data point in your view.

19. What are groups?

A group is a combination of dimension members that make higher level categories. For example, if you are working with a view that shows average test scores by major, you may want to group certain majors together to create major categories.

20. What is a Pareto Chart?

A Pareto chart is a dual-axis combination chart in Tableau. On its primary axis, bars are used to show the basic raw quantities for each dimension, usually sorted in descending order and on the secondary axis, a line graph is used to show the cumulative total in a percentage format. Now, while this chart type serves a variety of purposes, it is most known for being a part of the seven basic tools of quality control. So, it is traditionally used to identify the biggest opportunities for improvement.

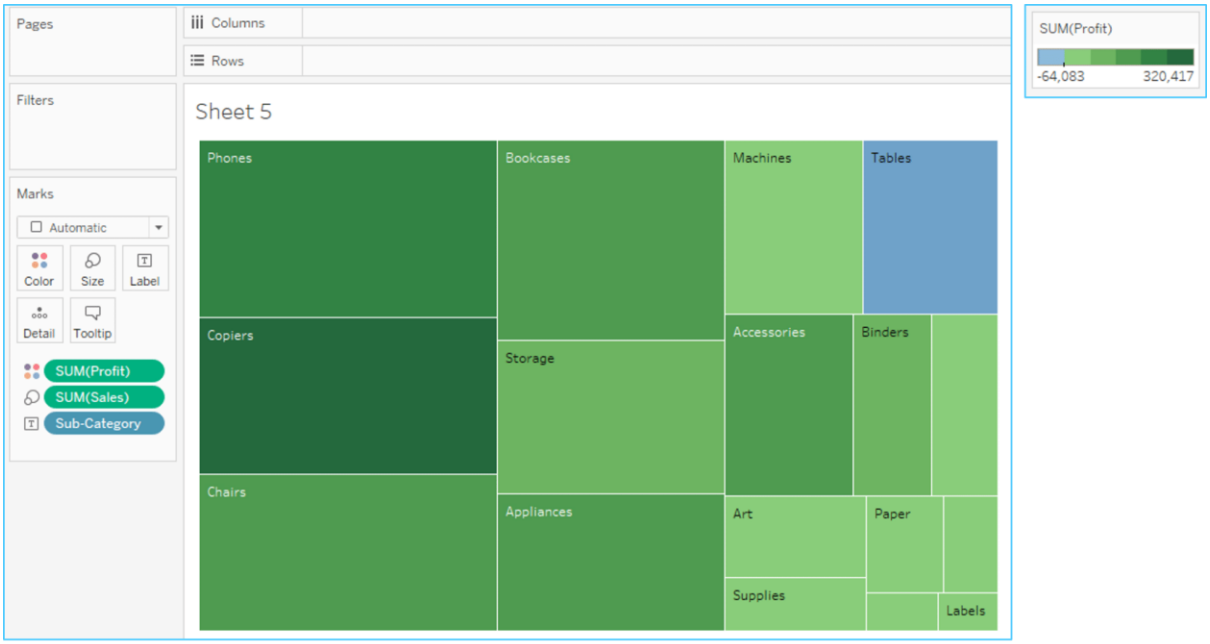
21. What is a dual axis?

Dual Axis is an excellent phenomenon supported by Tableau that helps users view two scales of two measures in the same graph. Many websites like Indeed.com and other make use of dual axis to show the comparison between two measures and their growth rate in a septic set of years. Dual axes let you compare multiple measures at once, having two independent axes layered on top of one another. This is how it looks like:

A heat map can be used for comparing categories with color and size. With heat maps, you can compare two different measures together.

Heat Map

A tree map also does the same except it is considered a very powerful visualization as it can be used for illustrating hierarchical data and part-to-whole relationships.



Tree Map

22. What is disaggregation and aggregation of data?

- The process of viewing numeric values or measures at higher and more summarized levels of the data is called aggregation. When you place a measure on a shelf, Tableau automatically aggregates the data, usually by summing it. You can easily determine the aggregation applied to a field because the function always appears in front of the field's name when it is placed on a shelf. For example, Sales becomes SUM(Sales). You can aggregate measures using Tableau only for relational data sources. Multidimensional data sources contain aggregated data only. In Tableau, multidimensional data sources are supported only in Windows.
- According to Tableau, disaggregating your data allows you to view every row of the data source which can be useful when you are analyzing measures that you may want to use both independently and dependently in the view. For example, you may be analyzing the results from a product satisfaction survey with the Age of participants along one axis. You can aggregate the Age field to determine the average age of participants or disaggregate the data to determine what age participants were most satisfied with the product.

23. What is the difference between joining and blending in Tableau?

Joining term is used when you are combining data from the same source, for example, worksheet in an Excel file or tables in Oracle database

While blending requires two completely defined data sources in your report.

24. What is default Data Blending Join?

Data blending is the ability to bring data from multiple data sources into one Tableau view, without the need for any special coding. A default blend is equivalent to a left outer join. However, by switching which data source is primary, or by filtering nulls, it is possible to emulate left, right and inner joins.

What do you understand by blended axis?

In Tableau, measures can share a single axis so that all the marks are shown in a single pane. Instead of adding rows and columns to the view, when you blend measures there is a single row or column and all of the values for each measure is shown along one continuous axis. We can blend multiple measures by simply dragging one measure or axis and dropping it onto an existing axis.

25. What is the difference between discrete and continuous in Tableau?

There are two types of data roles in Tableau – discrete and continuous dimension.

- Discrete data roles are values that are counted as distinct and separate and can only take individual values within a range. Examples: number of threads in a sheet, customer name or row ID or State. Discrete values are shown as blue pills on the shelves and blue icons in the data window.
- Continuous data roles are used to measure continuous data and can take on any value within a finite or infinite interval. Examples: unit price, time and profit or order quantity. Continuous variables behave in a similar way in that they can take on any value. Continuous values are shown as green pills.

26. What is the maximum no. of rows Tableau can utilize at one time?

Tableau is not restricted by the no. of rows in the table. Customers use Tableau to access petabytes of data because it only retrieves the rows and columns needed to answer your questions.

27. Difference between Grouping and Sets.?

∑ Groups – Combine dimension members into higher level categories.
∑ Sets – Create a custom field based on existing dimensions that can be used to encode the view with multiple dimension members across varying dimension levels.

28. What are the possible reasons for slow performance in Tableau?

More Extracts, filters and depends on data sources