Power BI - lesson 19

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

- **Power BI Desktop** is a free Windows application used for data modeling, creating reports, and preparing visuals.

- **Power BI Online Service** (app.powerbi.com) is a cloud-based platform where reports and dashboards are shared, refreshed, and collaborated on.

- Desktop = authoring tool. Service = sharing, collaboration, governance.

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

- Open the report in **Power BI Desktop**, click **Publish → My Workspace or another workspace**, sign in with your Power BI account, and the report is uploaded to the Service.

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

- A **workspace** is a shared environment in Power BI Service for storing reports, datasets, dashboards, and apps.

- Types:

  - **My Workspace**: private, only visible to the creator.

  - **Workspaces (shared)**: collaborative areas where teams work together, with different roles (Admin, Member, Contributor, Viewer).

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

- **Workspace** = development and collaboration area.

- **App** = packaged, read-only, polished version of reports/dashboards published from a workspace for broader distribution.

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

- **Free**: Only personal use in My Workspace, can't share content.

- **Pro**: Required for sharing, collaboration, publishing apps, and peer-to-peer sharing.

- **Premium Per User (PPU)**: Advanced features (paginated reports, AI, larger datasets, etc.) without needing full Premium capacity.

- **Premium (Capacity-based)**: Enterprise-level capacity with dedicated resources; users without Pro can view shared content.

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

- Use **Power BI Premium capacity**. Reports hosted in Premium workspaces can be viewed by free license users.

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

- A **semantic model (dataset)** is the processed and structured data model (tables, measures, relationships) behind reports.

- It is stored in the **Power BI Service workspace** where the report was published.

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

- You configure a **refresh schedule** (daily/weekly times).

- The Service connects to your data sources, updates the dataset, and keeps visuals/reports up to date.

- Requires gateway for on-premises data.

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

- **Dataset**: Data model used by reports, built in Desktop and uploaded to Service.

- **Dataflow**: ETL process in the Service that prepares and stores data in the cloud (Power Query in the Service).

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

- Use **dataflows** when multiple reports need the same cleaned/prepared data.

- Benefit: centralized data prep, reusability, consistency, and reduced duplication across datasets.

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

- **Dashboard**: Single-page, customizable canvas combining visuals from multiple reports/datasets.

- **Reports**: Multi-page, interactive, tied to one dataset.

- Dashboards = high-level overview; Reports = detailed analysis.

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

- In Power BI Service, open the report → hover over the visual → click **Pin Visual** → choose a dashboard to pin it to.

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

- **Mobile view** allows adjusting report layout for phone screens.

- Useful for executives and field staff who need quick insights on the go.

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

- **Paginated reports** are pixel-perfect, print-friendly reports (like invoices, forms, detailed lists).

- Used when exporting to PDF or printing is critical.

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

- Yes. Open the report in Service → **Export → PDF / PowerPoint**.

- Exports current visuals, filters, and pages.

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

- **Live Connection**: The report connects directly to an external source (e.g., Analysis Services, another dataset) without importing data.

- Queries are sent to the source in real time.

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

- **RLS** restricts data access at the row level based on user roles.

- Applied by defining roles/filters in Desktop → publishing → assigning users to roles in Service.

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

- In Service: Open dataset → **Security** → select role → **Test as role**.

- Lets you view the report as if you were in that role.

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

- **App** = packaged content (dashboards + reports + datasets) from a workspace, shared with users.

- Publish: Go to workspace → click **Publish app** → configure navigation, permissions → distribute to users/groups.

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

- Centralized collaboration and sharing.

- Scalability with Premium capacity.

- Scheduled refresh and dataflows.

- RLS and governance for security.

- Apps and dashboards for executives.

- Mobile access for real-time decision-making.