# Delta Live Tables (DLT) Interview Questions & Answers

### *Q: What is Delta Live Tables?*

**A:** A declarative framework in Databricks to build reliable, maintainable, and automated data pipelines using SQL or Python APIs.

### *Q: What are Live and Streaming Tables?*

**A:** Live tables are batch tables updated periodically. Streaming tables continuously ingest data from streaming sources like Kafka or Event Hubs.

### *Q: How does DLT handle data quality?*

**A:** Through expectations that define constraints. For example: 'EXPECT(col IS NOT NULL)' will fail records that don't meet this rule.

### *Q: How does DLT integrate with Delta Lake?*

**A:** DLT uses Delta Lake as the underlying storage for ACID transactions, schema evolution, and time travel.

### *Q: What are advantages of DLT over traditional ETL?*

**A:** Automatic lineage tracking, simplified deployment, and reduced manual orchestration.

### *Q: Explain 'expectations' in DLT.*

**A:** They define data quality rules. You can set them as 'expectations' or 'expect_or_drop' to handle invalid rows.

### *Q: How to schedule a DLT pipeline?*

**A:** DLT pipelines can be scheduled via Databricks Workflows or triggered programmatically using the REST API.

### *Q: Can DLT handle incremental loads?*

**A:** Yes, using the Delta change data feed (CDF) or incremental streaming logic.

### *Q: What is the difference between a materialized view and a DLT table?*

**A:** Materialized views cache query results, while DLT tables represent managed pipeline transformations with dependency tracking.

### *Q: How to debug DLT pipeline failures?*

**A:** Through event logs and lineage graph in Databricks UI or by querying system tables under the DLT schema.