

SAP CDS Views - Interview Questions Cheat Sheet

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Basic to Intermediate CDS View Questions

1. What is a CDS view?
 - Core Data Services (CDS) views are SAP's next-gen data modeling infrastructure.
 - They allow defining semantic layers directly on top of database tables.
2. Difference between SE11 views and CDS views?
 - SE11 views are limited to classic features.
 - CDS views allow annotations, associations, and better integration with Fiori and OData.
3. Syntax of a CDS View:

```
@AbapCatalog.sqlViewName: 'ZDEMO_VIEW'
define view ZDEMO_View as select from sflight {
  carrid,
  connid,
  price
}
```
4. Difference: define view vs define view entity?
 - define view: Generates a SQL view in DB.
 - define view entity: No SQL view generated, used in RAP with strict naming rules.
5. Expose a CDS view as OData?

```
@OData.publish: true
define view ZDEMO_OData as select from sflight { ... }
```

Associations and Joins

6. What are Associations?
 - Like joins but defined semantically. Example:

```
association [0..1] to I_Customer as _Customer
on $projection.CustomerID = _Customer.CustomerID
```
7. Use association in SELECT:

```
_Customer.Name as CustomerName
```
8. Difference: Association vs Join?
 - Associations are lazy (used only when called).
 - Joins are eager (always processed).

Advanced CDS Concepts

9. Analytical CDS Views:
 - Used for reporting, built with annotations like `@Analytics.query: true`
10. `@UI`, `@Search`, `@Consumption` annotations:
 - Enhance Fiori UIs and provide metadata for consumption layers.
11. What is a Custom Entity?

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- A CDS entity with no DB table underneath.
- Data must be filled using a behavior implementation class.

12. What is a Projection View in RAP?

- Wraps interface views to expose selected elements/actions to UI layer.

13. @ObjectModel Annotations?

- Define semantic behavior, e.g., composition, transactional capability, etc.

CDS Extensibility & Enhancement

14. How to extend a CDS view?

- Using extend view:

```
extend view ZI_SalesOrder with ZEXT_SalesOrder {  
  cust_field1,  
  cust_field2  
}
```

15. @Metadata.allowExtensions: true

- Enables extension of CDS view later.

Performance and Usage

16. Are CDS views buffered?

- No. They read from the DB every time.

17. Client-dependent or independent?

- Depends on base table. Use @ClientHandling.algorithm to control behavior.

18. Handling too many associations?

- Avoid using too many; use views in layers and consume only needed associations.

Conceptual & Scenario Questions

19. CDS vs AMDP?

- CDS: Declarative, DB-level execution.
- AMDP: Imperative, native SQL in ABAP methods.

20. Use CDS view in ABAP:

```
SELECT * FROM ZI_SalesOrder INTO TABLE @DATA(result).
```

21. Use of CDS in Fiori Elements:

- Provides metadata + annotations to auto-generate UI.

22. Difference between Interface View and Consumption View?

- Interface: Technical, reusable logic.
- Consumption: Final view exposed to UI/service.

Example Scenario

Design a CDS view to show orders > 1000 with customer name

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```
@AbapCatalog.sqlViewName: 'ZORDER_VIEW'
@AccessControl.authorizationCheck: #NOT_REQUIRED
@EndUserText.label: 'Orders > 1000'
define view ZI_OrderAmount
  as select from zorder
  association [0..1] to I_Customer as _Customer
    on $projection.customer_id = _Customer.CustomerID
{
  key order_id,
  customer_id,
  amount,
  _Customer.Name as customer_name
}
where amount > 1000
```