

1. The Power of Asking Questions

- **Key Point:** Great thinkers like Socrates and Marie Curie made breakthroughs by asking thoughtful questions.
 - **Description:** As a data professional, asking the right questions helps uncover insights and solve problems effectively.
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2. What Are SMART Questions?

SMART questions follow the **SMART goal methodology** and should be:

- **S – Specific**
Ask for clear details (e.g., “Which teams will use this system?”).
 - **M – Measurable**
Focus on quantifiable goals (e.g., “What are your current sales?”).
 - **A – Action-Oriented**
Encourage responses that lead to action (e.g., “Which benchmarks will you use?” instead of yes/no questions).
 - **R – Relevant**
Ensure questions relate to the project and business goals (e.g., “What problem are you trying to solve?”).
 - **T – Time-Bound**
Define timeframes (e.g., “Should we analyze data from this quarter or last fiscal year?”).
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3. Setting Realistic Expectations

- **Key Point:** Not all stakeholder requests are feasible.
 - **Description:** Use SMART questions to clarify needs and set achievable goals, especially when dashboard space or time is limited.
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4. Final Takeaway

- **Key Point:** SMART questions lead to better insights and outcomes.
- **Description:** They help you understand stakeholder needs, guide project planning, and may even lead to transformative discoveries.

