

Business intelligence Job Interview Questions And Answers



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Business intelligence Interview Questions And Answers Guide.

Question - 1:

What is the purpose of reporting?

Ans:

That is more self-explanatory than previous questions. Ability to view or create report by users is the short answer but usually reporting tools like SSRS are much more powerful and they allow to set up subscriptions, provide reports in different usable for users format, secure reports and so on.

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Question - 2:

What is the purpose of ETL (Extract Transform Load)?

Ans:

ETL (Extract Transform Load) is used to extract data from various sources. Transform the data which means applying business rules and performing data cleaning (the latter being often overlooked that causes issues) and Load the clean data into data warehouse. Sometimes in ETL there is also master data management element so it can extract data, perform transformation and it may use proper tools to perform data cleansing and check business rules. In recent versions of SQL Server (including 2012) we can have Master Data Services (MDS) and Data Quality Services (DQS).

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Question - 3:

Tell me what is the purpose of cubes?

Ans:

Cubes allow to store large amounts (usually track history) of data and get very good performance. Security is very detailed and it can be applied on "member level" which is an individual value in a column. Cubes usually track history so user get access to "point in time" data and accurate data. My favorite example is top 1 customer that moves its location from London to Bristol with cubes (or more data warehouses) historic data will not move to Bristol and it will remain in London which is very often not the case in providing reporting information from operational systems.

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Question - 4:

What are the main areas (or tools) that represent Business Intelligence?

Ans:

This is an open question and answers will vary but the candidate might say ETL (SSIS), Data Warehouse and Cubes (SSAS) and Reporting (SSRS). This list can be longer and can include data mining, master data management, data profiling, data cleansing, analysis and data gathering also can be added here.

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Question - 5:

What is the meaning of BOMain.Key in business intelligence?

Ans:

A BOMain.key file contains all relevant information about the repository. It contains the address of the repository security domain.

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Question - 6:

Tell me what is object qualification?

Ans:

Object qualification is an attribute of an object that helps to determine how it can be used in multidimensional analysis.

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**Question - 7:**

What is slicing in business objects?

Ans:

Slicing and dicing of business objects is used for a detailed analysis of the data. It allows changing the position of data by interchanging rows and columns.

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Question - 8:

Do you know what is SAS?

Ans:

SAS BI provides the information about an enterprise when needed. It provides this information in customized format. SAS BI integrates data across the enterprise and delivers the self-service reporting and analysis. This consumes less time for responding requests and for business uses to view the information. An integrated, flexible and robust presentation layer for SAS Analytics with full breadth is also offered by SAS BI. All these are integrated within the context of business for better and faster decision making.

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Question - 9:

Explain business intelligence Dashboard?

Ans:

Dashboard in business intelligence is used for rapid prototyping, cloning and deployment for all databases, operational applications or spread sheets through an organization.

A dashboard in BI allows an enterprise's status/position, heading to, by using graphs, maps and chars. The drill-down and roll-over capabilities allows organizing things without revealing important information. It is fully customizable, including free-form design options. Dashboard consolidates vital statistics of business into an easy-to-read page.

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Question - 10:

Tell me what is batch processing in business objects?

Ans:

Batch processing can be used to schedule reports. Objects can be also be used for batch processing. Batch processing can be used to also select the objects to be processed.

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Question - 11:

Do you know what is security domain in Business Objects?

Ans:

Security domain in business objects is a domain containing all security information like log-in credentials etc. It checks for users and their privileges.

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Question - 12:

What is universe in business intelligence?

Ans:

A universe connects the client to the data warehouse. It is a file defining relationships amongst the tables in the warehouse, classes and objects, database connection details.

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Question - 13:

What is broad cast agent in business intelligence?

Ans:

A broadcast agent allows automation of emails to be distributed. It allows reports to be sent to different business objects. It also users to choose the report format and send via SMS, fax, pagers etc. broadcast agents allows the flexibility to the users to receive reports periodically or not. They help to manage and schedule the documents.

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Question - 14:

List the SQL Server 2005 Business Intelligence components?

Ans:

- * SQL Server Integration Services:- Used for data transformation and creation. Used in data acquisition form a source system.
- * SQL Server Analysis Services: Allows data discovery using data mining. Using business logic it supports data enhancement.
- * SQL Server Reporting Services:- Used for Data presentation and distribution access.

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Question - 15:

What is SAS business intelligence?

**Ans:**

SAS business intelligence has analytical capabilities like statistics, reporting, data mining, predictions, forecasting and optimization. They help in getting data in the format desired. It helps in improving quality of data.

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Question - 16:

What is dashboard in business intelligence?

Ans:

A dashboard in business intelligence allows huge data and reports to be read in a single graphical interface. They help in making faster decisions by replying on measurable data seen at a glance. They can also be used to get into details of this data to analyze the root cause of any business performance. It represents the business data and business state at a high level. Dashboards can also be used for cost control. Example of need of a dashboard: Banks run thousands of ATM's. They need to know how much cash is deposited, how much is left etc.

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Question - 17:

What are the standard Business Intelligence tools?

Ans:

The following are the standard Business Intelligence tools in the market:

- * Business object crystal reports
- * Micro strategy
- * MS-Olap services
- * Cognos report net

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Question - 18:

List some of the standard Business Intelligence tools in the market?

Ans:

Business intelligence tools are to report, analyze and present data. Few of the tools available in the market are:

- * Eclipse BIRT Project:- Based on eclipse. Mainly used for web applications and it is open source.
- * JasperSoft:- BI tool used for reporting, ETL etc.
- * Pentaho:- Has data mining, dashboard and workflow capabilities.
- * Openl:- A web application used for OLAP reporting.

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Question - 19:

Can you explain the concepts and capabilities of Business Intelligence?

Ans:

Business Intelligence helps to manage data by applying different skills, technologies, security and quality risks. This also helps in achieving a better understanding of data. Business intelligence can be considered as the collective information. It helps in making predictions of business operations using gathered data in a warehouse. Business intelligence application helps to tackle sales, financial, production etc business data. It helps in a better decision making and can be also considered as a decision support system.

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Question - 20:

What are the various modules in Business Objects product Suite?

Ans:

Supervisor:

Supervisor is the control center for the administration and security of your entire BusinessObjects deployment.

Designer:

Designer is the tool used to create, manage and distribute universe for BusinessObjects and WebIntelligence Users. A universe is a file that contains connection parameters for one or more database middleware and SQL structure called objects that map to actual SQL structure in the database as columns, tables and database.

BusinessObjects Full client Reporting tool:

Helps to create businessobjects reports based on the universe and also from the other data sources.

BusinessObjects Thin client Reporting tool:

Helps to query and analysis on the universe and also share the report among other users. It doesn't require any software, just need a web browser and the system connected to the businessobjects server.

Auditor:

Tool is used for monitor and analysis user and system activity.

Application Foundation:

This module covers a set of products which is used for Enterprise Performance Management (EPM). The tools are

- * Dashboard manager
- * Scorecard
- * Performance Management Applications

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Question - 21:

Explain the Name of some standard Business Intelligence tools in the market?

Ans:



Some of the standard Business Intelligence tools in the market According to there performance

- 1)MICROSTRATEGY
- 2)BUSINESS OBJECTS,CRYSTAL REPORTS
- 3)COGNOS REPORT NET
- 4)MS-OLAP SERVICES

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Question - 22:

How to connect GDE to Co Operating system in Abinitio?

Ans:

We can connect Ab Initio GDE with Co>operating system using Run->Settings.In there u can specify the host IP address and the connection type .Refer Ab Initio help for further details.

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Question - 23:

what is hierarchy relationship in a dimension.
whether it is:

1. 1:1
2. 1:m
3. m:m

Ans:

1:M

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Question - 24:

Why we ca not create an aggregate on an ODS Object?

Ans:

- * Operational Data Store has very low data latency. Data moved to ODS mostly on event based rather than time based ETL to Data Warehouse/Data Mart.
- * ODS is more closer to OLTP system. We don't normally prefer to store aggregated data in OLTP. So it is with ODS.
- * Unlike data warehouse where data is HISTORICAL, ODS is near real time(NRT). So data aggregation is less important is ODS as data keeps changing.

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Question - 25:

How do we Tune the BO Reports for Performance Improvement?

Ans:

We can tune the report by using index awareness in universe

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Question - 26:

Explain about Auditing in BO XI R2? What is the use of it?

Ans:

Auditor is used by the business objects administrators to know the complete information of the business intelligence system.

- * it monitors entire BIsystem at a glance.
- * Analyzes usage and change impact
- * optimises the BI deployment

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Question - 27:

What are dashboards?

Ans:

A management reporting tool to gauge how well the organization company is performing. It normally uses "traffic-lights" or "smiley faces" to determine the status.

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Question - 28:

How do we enhance the functionality of the reports in BO?

Ans:

You can format the BO Reports by using various features available. You can turn the table reports into a 2-Dimensional or 3-Dimensional charts. You can apply an Alert to show some data in a different format , based on some business rule. You can also create some prompts, which will asks user to give some input values before seeing the reports, this way they will see only filtered data. There are many similar exciting options available to enhance the reports.

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Question - 29:

Name some of the standard Business Intelligence tools in the Market?

Ans:



Some of the standard Business Intelligence tools in the market According to their performance

- * MICROSTRATEGY
- * BUSINESS OBJECTS, CRYSTAL REPORTS
- * COGNOS REPORT NET
- * MS-OLAP SERVICES

Or

- * Seagate Crystal report
- * SAS
- * Business objects
- * Microstrategy
- * Cognos
- * Microsoft OLAP

7. Hyperion

8. Microsoft integrated services

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Question - 30:

What is BAS? What is the function?

Ans:

The Business Application Support (BAS) functional area at SLAC provides administrative computing services to the Business Services Division and Human Resources Department. We are responsible for software development and maintenance of the PeopleSoft? Applications and consultation to customers with their computer-related tasks.

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Question - 31:

Why an infocube has maximum of 16 dimensions?

Ans:

It depends upon the Database limits provided to define the Foreign key constraint, e.g. in Sql Server 2005, the recommended max limit for foreign keys is 253, but you can define more.

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Question - 32:

What is OLAP, MOLAP, ROLAP, DOLAP, HOLAP? Explain with Examples?

Ans:

OLAP - On-Line Analytical Processing.

Designates a category of applications and technologies that allow the collection, storage, manipulation and reproduction of multidimensional data, with the goal of analysis.

MOLAP - Multidimensional OLAP.

This term designates a cartesian data structure more specifically. In effect, MOLAP contrasts with ROLAP. In the former, joins between tables are already suitable, which enhances performances. In the latter, joins are computed during the request.

Targeted at groups of users because it's a shared environment. Data is stored in an exclusive server-based format. It performs more complex analysis of data.

DOLAP - Desktop OLAP.

Small OLAP products for local multidimensional analysis Desktop OLAP. There can be a mini multidimensional database (using Personal Express), or extraction of a datacube (using Business Objects).

Designed for low-end, single, departmental user. Data is stored in cubes on the desktop. It's like having your own spreadsheet. Since the data is local, end users don't have to worry about performance hits against the server.

ROLAP - Relational OLAP.

Designates one or several star schemas stored in relational databases. This technology permits multidimensional analysis with data stored in relational databases.

Used for large departments or groups because it supports large amounts of data and users.

HOLAP: Hybridization of OLAP, which can include any of the above.

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Question - 33:

What are the various modules in Business Objects product?

Ans:

- * Business Objects Reporter
- * Reporting & Analyzing tool
- * Designer
- * Universe creation
- * database interaction
- * connectivity

Supervisor - For Administrative purposes

Webintelligence - Access of report data through internet

BroadCast Agent - For scheduling the reports

Data Integrator - The ETL tool of Business Objects, designed to handle huge amounts of data

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Question - 34:

What is OLAP in Business Intelligence?

Ans:

Online Analytical Processing, a category of software tools that provides analysis of data stored in a database. OLAP tools enable users to analyze different



dimensions of multidimensional data. For example, it provides time series and trend analysis views. The chief component of OLAP is the OLAP server, which sits between a client and a database management systems (DBMS). The OLAP server understands how data is organized in the database and has special functions analyzing the data.

A good OLAP interface has writes an efficient sql and reads an accurate data from db.To design and architect having good knowledge on DB understanding the report requirements.

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Question - 35:

What is a Universe in Business Intelligence?

Ans:

A "universe" is a "Business object" terminology. Business objects also happens to be the name of the company. The universe is the interfacing layer between the client and the datawarehouse . The universe defines the relationship among the various tables in the datawarehouse.

Or

Universe is a semantic layer between the database and the user interface (reports).

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Question - 36:

What is Business Intelligence?

Ans:

Business Intelligence is a process for increasing the competitive advantage of a business by intelligent use of available data in decision making.

The five key stages of Business Intelligence:

- * Data Sourcing
- * Data Analysis
- * Situation Awareness
- * Risk Assessment
- * Decision Support

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