Microsoft
PL-300
Microsoft Power BI Data Analyst

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Topic 1, Litware, Inc.

Overview

This is a case study. Case studies are not timed separately. You can use as much exam time as you would like to complete each case. However, there may be additional case studies and sections on this exam. You must manage your time to ensure that you are able to complete all questions included on this exam in the time provided.

To answer the questions included in a case study, you will need to reference information that is provided in the case study. Case studies might contain exhibits and other resources that provide more information about the scenario that is described in the case study. Each question is independent of the other questions in this case study.

At the end of this case study, a review screen will appear. This screen allows you to review your answers and to make changes before you move to the next section of the exam. After you begin a new section, you cannot return to this section.

To start the case study

To display the first question in this case study, click the Next button. Use the buttons in the left pane to explore the content of the case study before you answer the questions. Clicking these buttons displays information such as business requirements, existing environment and problem statements. If the case study has an All Information tab, note that the information displayed is identical to the information displayed on the subsequent tabs. When you are ready to answer a question, click the Question button to return to the question.

Overview

Litware, Inc. is an online retailer that uses Microsoft Power BI dashboards and reports. The company plans to leverage data from Microsoft SQL Server databases, Microsoft Excel files, text files, and several other data sources.

Litware uses Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) to authenticate users.

- Existing Environment

Sales Data

Litware has online sales data that has the SQL schema shown in the following table.

Table name	Column name	Data type
Sales_Region	region_id	Integer
	name	Varchar
Region_Manager	region_id	Integer
	manager_id	Integer
Sales_Manager	sales_manager_id	Integer
	name	Varchar
	username	Varchar
Sales	sales_id	Integer
	sales_date_id	Integer
	sales_amount	Floating
	customer_id	Integer
	sales_ship_date_id	Integer
	region_id	Varchar
Customer_Date	customer_id	Integer
	first_name	Varchar
	last_name	Varchar
Date	date_id	Integer
	date	Date
	month	Integer
	week	Integer
	year	Integer
Weekly_Returns	week_id	Integer
	total_returns	Floating
	sales_region_id	Varchar
Targets	target_id	Integer
	sales_target	Decimal
	date_id	Integer
	region_id	Integer

In the Date table, the dateid column has a format of yyyymmdd and the month column has a format of yyyymm. The week column in the Date table and the weekid column in the Weekly_Returns table have a format of yyyyww. The regionid column can be managed by only one sales manager.

Data Concerns

You are concerned with the quality and completeness of the sales data. You plan to verify the sales data for negative sales amounts.

Reporting Requirements

Litware identifies the following technical requirements:

• Executives require a visual that shows sales by region.
• Regional managers require a visual to analyze weekly sales and returns.
• Sales managers must be able to see the sales data of their respective region only.
• The sales managers require a visual to analyze sales performance versus sales targets.
• The sale department requires reports that contain the number of sales transactions.
• Users must be able to see the month in reports as shown in the following example: Feb 2020.
• The customer service department requires a visual that can be filtered by both sales month and ship month independently.

Question: 1

You need to address the data concerns before creating the data model. What should you do in Power Query Editor?

A. Select Column distribution.
B. Select the sales_amount column and apply a number filter.
C. Select Column profile, and then select the sales_amount column.
D. Transform the sales_amount column to replace negative values with 0.

Answer: C

Explanation:
The correct answer is C (Select Column profile, and then select the sales_amount column). The key constraint is to address the data concerns before creating the data model. Column profile and column distribution expose value frequency, distinct and unique counts, errors, empty values, and statistics for the selected field. Those diagnostics answer a data-quality question without changing the source values. This directly matches the current study-guide objective "Evaluate data, including data statistics and column properties". A transformation that replaces, removes, or filters values would change the data before the analyst has quantified the problem; profiling is the diagnostic step. This keeps the query output reproducible at refresh and leaves the semantic model with the grain and schema required by the report.
Microsoft Learn https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-query/data-profiling-tools | PL-300 objective: "Evaluate data, including data statistics and column properties" | Study guide: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/credentials/certifications/resources/study-guides/pl-300

Question: 2

You need to create a calculated column to display the month based on the reporting requirements. Which DAX expression should you use?

A. FORMAT('Date'[date], "MMM YYYY")
B. FORMAT('Date' [date], "M YY")
C. FORMAT('Date'[date_id], "MMM") & "" & FORMAT('Date'[year], "#")
D. FORMAT('Date' [date_id], "MMM YYYY")

Answer: A

Explanation:
What determines the answer is the need to create a calculated column to display the month based on the reporting requirements. Measures are evaluated in the current filter context, whereas calculated columns are stored at refresh. The selected DAX must therefore return the requested result at the correct grain without materializing unnecessary model data. Choose A (FORMAT('Date'[date], "MMM YYYY")). A measure would not create the persistent row-level field or table needed for sorting, categorization, relationships, or reuse in the model. Microsoft lists this skill in the current PL-300 outline as "Create calculated tables or columns". It also preserves predictable filter context and aggregation behavior when the result is used by several visuals or report pages.
Microsoft Learn https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dax/ | PL-300 objective: "Create calculated tables or columns" | Study guide: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/credentials/certifications/resources/study-guides/pl-300

Question: 3

You need to create the required relationship for the executive's visual. What should you do before you can create the relationship?

A. Change the data type of Sales[region_id] to Whole Number.
B. In the Sales table, add a measure for sum(sales_amount).
C. Change the data type of sales[sales_id] to Text.
D. Change the data type of sales [region_id] to Decimal Number.

Answer: A

Explanation:
The relationship must carry filters from the descriptive table to the transaction table through matching keys. Bidirectional filtering is reserved for a demonstrated need because it can introduce multiple active paths. The required outcome is to create the required relationship for the executive's visual. The supported selection is A (Change the data type of Sales[region_id] to Whole Number). The relevant current PL-300 study-guide bullet is "Define a relationship's cardinality and cross-filter direction". The opposite cardinality or unnecessary bidirectional filtering can duplicate results, block propagation, or create ambiguity rather than solve the stated model path. It also preserves predictable filter context and aggregation behavior when the result is used by several visuals or report pages.
Microsoft Learn https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-bi/transform-model/desktop-relationships-understand | PL-300 objective: "Define a relationship's cardinality and cross-filter direction" | Study guide: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/credentials/certifications/resources/study-guides/pl-300

Question: 4

What should you create to meet the reporting requirements of the sales department?

A. a measure that uses a formula of SUM (Sales [sales_id])
B. a calculated column that use a formula of COUNTA(sales [sales_id])
C. a measure that uses a formula of COUNTROWS (Sales)
D. a calculated column that uses a formula of SUM (Sales [sales_id])

Answer: C

Explanation:
The answer resolves to C (a measure that uses a formula of COUNTROWS (Sales)). DAX calculations depend on evaluation context. Aggregators, iterators, and filter-modifying functions must be combined so the expression evaluates the intended rows while retaining or replacing filters only where required. The technical decision turns on how to select what must be created to meet the reporting requirements of the sales department. An alternative that changes the source or creates a stored column either ignores filter context or increases model size without meeting a dynamic measure requirement. For exam alignment, this is assessed under "Create single aggregation measures" in the current study guide.

Microsoft Learn https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/dax/ | PL-300 objective: "Create single aggregation measures" | Study guide: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/credentials/certifications/resources/study-guides/pl-300

Question: 5

You need to create a relationship between the Weekly_Returns table and the Date table to meet the reporting requirements of the regional managers. What should you do?

A. In the Weekly.Returns table, create a new calculated column named date-id in a format of yyyymmdd and use the calculated column to create a relationship to the Date table.
B. Add the Weekly_Returns data to the Sales table by using related DAX functions.
C. Create a new table based on the Date table where date-id is unique, and then create a many-to-many relationship to Weekly_Return.

Answer: A

Explanation:
The scenario is asking for a way to create a relationship between the Weekly_Returns table and the Date table to meet the reporting requirements of the regional managers. The verified answer is A (In the Weekly.Returns table, create a new calculated column named date-id in a format of yyyymmdd and use the calculated column to create a relationship to the Date table). A text month or an incomplete date column cannot supply a reliable chronological hierarchy or the contiguous dates expected by time-intelligence calculations. A dedicated, contiguous date table supports month, quarter, and year analysis consistently. Marking it as a date table tells Power BI which column represents the model's canonical dates. The current skills outline describes this competency as "Create a common date table".
Microsoft Learn https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/power-bi/transform-model/desktop-date-tables | PL-300 objective: "Create a common date table" | Study guide: https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/credentials/certifications/resources/study-guides/pl-300

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