What is Cognos Reporting tool?

➤ Cognos is a Reporting tool from IBM which helps in reporting and analysis of various data from a data warehouse.

http://questionsdoor.com/cognos-interview-questions/

What is Cognos Connection?

➢ It is a Web portal for Cognos 8 and a component which interracts with the Content Store. It is a frontend to publish, find, manage, organize, and view organization's business intelligence data.

What is Report item?

➢ Report item is nothing but a query item when it is drag and drop into the work area.

Define filter?

> A filter is an expression that specifies the conditions that rows or instances must meet to be retrieved for the dimension, query subject, calculation, or report to which the filter is applied.

What is query subject?

➢ A query subject is the basic building block in Framework Manager. A query subject is a set of query items that have an inherent relationship.

What are the types of prompt in Cognos?

➢ Value prompt
➢ Text Prompt
➢ Date prompt
➢ Time prompt
➢ Date and time prompt

What is Drill Through?

➢ Drill-through reporting allows you to link from one report to another. You can drill through in a number of ways.
A Drill Through id developed with two reports.
1. Parent Report
2. Child Report.

What are the components of Report Net?

- Framework manager
- Cognos connection
- Query Studio
- Report Studio

What is the difference between Stand–alone and Embedded filter?

- There are two types of filters :
- Stand–alone : to reuse the expression.
- Embedded : to use a filter with only one dimension or query subject.

Define Cognos 8 BI?

➢ Cognos 8BI is a powerful suite of products that focuses on transforming raw data into powerful information for business decisions. Cognos 8 BI can be used across all levels in an organization, from users looking for pre–defined reports to analysts with complex data requirements. For all levels of users, Cognos 8BI has a tool.

What are the different types of folders?

➢ There are three main types of folders are:

➢ Standard Folder

➢ Package Folder

➢ Metrics Folder

Explain standard folders?

> This is a container for other folders or BI objects, and is used for organizational purposes. It will behave just like a folder on your local computer, but will operate like a web page with active links. A bright yellow icon specifics Standard folders.

Explain package folders?

➢ This folder is similar to a Standard Folder, but internally it contains pre-defined business rules and metadata related to sources of information. It is used by the Studios to create new queries, reports, analyses, etc. A dark blue icon specifics Package folders.

Explain metrics folders?

➤ Metrics folders arc used by the Metrics Studio to store metrics-related information. While the standard behavior upon selecting the other two folder types is to show their contents, a Metrics Folder will open up directly into Metrics Studio. A dark blue icon with colored dots specifies Metrics folders.

What is the difference between macros and prompt?

- ➤ **Macro** is set of instructions to run report.
- ➤ **Prompts** provide a way to dynamically change the reports.

What is transformer?

> Transformer is used for building the Cubes (Multidimensional Structure used for OLAP processing).

What is catalog and types of catalogs in cagonos?

➢ A catalog is a file containing the information (Database tables) that Impromptu users need to create reports.
personal
distributed
shared
secured

What is Cardinality?

> Relationships exist between two query subjects. The cardinality of a relationship is the number of related rows for each of the two query subjects. The rows are related by the expression of the relationship; this expression usually refers to the primary and foreign keys of the underlying tables.

What is the security module used in cognos?

➢ The security module used in cognos is cognos access manager.

How to generate cubes in cognos?

➤ Power Play Transformer contain dimension,measure,model and cube. we can generate cube different way.
Just right click on cube name and build. we can write script in unix. using that we can generate cube.

What is snapshot?

➢ A Snapshot is the copy of data, when we create a snapshot it copies the exact data that'srelated to the at perticular report, we use snapshot when ever we want to compare reports.(Example :we want to compare this months report with previous months).

Define datastores in Cognos?

➤ Data sources, also known as query databases, are relational databases, dimensionalcubes, files, or other physical data stores that can be accessed through IBM Cognos8. Application Tier Components use data source connections to access data sources.

What is metric store database?

- A metric store database is a special case of a query database. A metric storedatabase is used to store the information associated with metrics that appear inscorecards, including
- targets
- performance metrics
- thresholds
- membership in sorecards
- links to related reports

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What is difference between view and materialized view?

➢ Views contains query whenever execute views it has read from base table Where as M views loading or replicated takes place only once which gives you better query performance.

What is difference between data mart and data warehouse?

> A data mart designed for a particular line of business, such as sales, marketing, or finance.

> Where as data warehouse is enterprise-wide/organizational

> The data flow of data warehouse depending on the approach.

What is DTM?

➢ DTM transform data received from reader
buffer and its moves transformation to
transformation on row by row basis and it
uses transformation caches when
necessary.

What are the different uses of a repository manager?

➤ Repository manager used to create repository which contains metadata the informatica uses to transform data from source to target. And also it use to create informatica user's and folders and copy, backup and restore the repository.

What are cascading prompts?

➢ Cascading Prompts allows a user to use values selected from one prompt to filter values in another prompt.

What is a folder?

➢ Folder contains repository objects such as sources, targets, mappings, transformation which are helps logically organize our data warehouse.

What are the filters in Framework Manager and Report Studio?

➢ Filters in framework manager are
➢ Standalone filters
➢ Embedded filtersReport studio Filters are
➢ Detail filters
➢ Summary filters

Define models?

➢ A models is a complete set of query objects and query subjects that are used for reporting.

Explain user roles?

- The users of Cognos 8 BI can be grouped into four major roles based upon their respective business and technical requirements. These groups include the following :

- **Consumers** – are users who want to have access to pre–defined content. Most of the time, they want to access the content through a web portal, but in some scenarios they may require access to content from MS Office, by performing searches, or through a mobile device such as a Blackberry.

- **Authors** – are power users who have access to advanced tools to create and maintain adhoc queries, reports, analyses, scorecards, dashboards and alerts. They build the BI objects that will later be accessed by the Consumers.

- **Developers** – have access to development tools that build the infrastructure required by Authors to develop content. They create user-friendly layers used by Cognos 8 BI studios for Authors to use.

- **Administrators** – have access to configuration, administration and monitoring tools to ensure the availability and performance of the Cognos 8 BI infrastructure. These four roles use a combination of Cognos 8 BI modules to perform their work.

What is IQD?

- IQD stands for Impromptu Query Definition. It is report save extension with .IQD it is use for creating a cube in power play transformer.

What is query items?

➢ Query items are mainly used in Reporting and for BI Authors it is the most essential object from the framework manager. These have lot of properties associated with them and are present in query subjects. Query items are similar to subsets of query subjects.

What is main difference parameters and prompt?

> Parameters are placeholders that require a value to determine what data to report on, and prompts ask the user to provide a value or values for the corresponding parameter.

What are the types of security?

- Three different types of Security :
- **Data security :**Create a security filter and apply it to a specific query subject.
- **Object security :** Secure an object directly by allowing users access to the object, denying users access to the object, or keeping it hidden for all users.
- **Package security :** Apply security to a package and identify who has access to that package.

What is catalog and types of catalogs in cognos?

➢ A catalog is a file containing the information (Database tables) that Impromptu users need to create reports.

➢ personal

➢ distributed

➢ shared

➢ secured

What is Cognos Impromptu?

➢ Cognos Impromptu is a tool for generation of business intelligence reports.

What is the use of cognos scenario?

➤ Cognos scenario is used to find the hidden trends and patterns in data.

What are the differences between Reporter report and Explorer report?

➢ In a Cube, you can either modify or explore. Reporter is used to modify where as explorer is used to explore the cube.

What is the difference between a cascading report and drillthrough report?

➢ **Cascading prompt** means to extract the data from one prompt to using values from another prompt.
Drill through report means to extract the data by selecting a column in a report, means to get the detailed information by clicking that column data.

How to create cubes in transformer?

➢ Cube can be created by using different data sources.

What are the advantages of cognos?

➤ The main advantages of cognos are
➤ Planning
➤ Analysis
➤ Forecasting
➤ Scorecarding

Define OLAP Designer?

➢ is a development tool used to model and create multidimensional databases. A multidimensional database, often referred to as a "cube", is a highly compressed database and contains summarized information that is optimized for analysis.

What are shortcuts? Where it can be used? What are the advantages?

> There are 2 shortcuts(Local and global) Local used in local repository and global used in global repository. The advantage is reuse an object without creating multiple objects. Say for example a source definition want to use in 10 mappings in 10 different folder without creating 10 multiple source you create 10 shotcuts.

What are the types of studio?

- Query Studio
- Metrics Studio
- Analysis Studio
- Report Studio
- Event Studio

Define Query studio?

➢ Query Studio :
   is a very user–friendly adhoc query tool that allows users to easily access information. With Query Studio, the user drags and drops fields to execute queries, and with multiple available options at a touch of the mouse, it can group data, create summaries, display charts, filter information and export data. An Author who has access to Query Studio is referred to as a Business Author.

Define Metrics studio?

➢ Metrics Studio :
is a powerful scorecard tool that allows for the creation and monitoring of goals through an organization. An Author who has access to Metrics Studio is a Business Manager.

Define Analysis studio?

➢ Analysis Studio :
is the user-friendly tool used to quickly analyze summarized information with powerful dimension and variable crossing for complex analysis, discovery of trends and forecasting. An Author who has access to Analysis Studio is a Business Analyst.

Define Report studio?

➤ Report Studio :
is the professional report-authoring tool.
The tool allows for the development of
pixel-perfect reports, such as invoices and
statements, as well as very complex
layouts, such as those required for
enterprise dashboards. An Author who has
access to Report Studio is a Professional
Author.

Define Event studio?

➤ Event Studio :
is a monitoring tool that allows for the definition of agents that will monitor certain user-defined events and will execute tasks accordingly. They can be saved to Cognos as "agents". Event Studio access is included for Professional Authors.

What are the types of prompt?

- Value
- Textbox
- Select and search
- Date
- Time
- Date and time
- Interval
- Generated
- Prompt button

What are the batches and it's details?

➢ Sequential(Run the sessions one by one
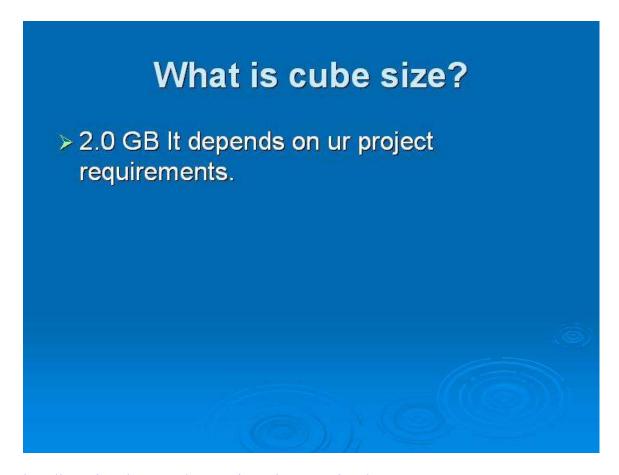➢ Concurrent (Run the sessions simultaneously)

What is Cardinality?

> Cardinality is nothing but relation between tables like
> One to One
> One to Many
> Many to Many

What are components of report studio?

- Insertable Objects pane
- Properties pane
- Explorer bar
- Report Viewer

What is Snap Shot?

➢ Snapshot is a static data source it is a picture of of report once u created a snapshot report u can't add a data item.