

Alteryx Brewster Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions

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- 1. What's the default configuration of the union tool?**
 - A. To join by column index**
 - B. To join by column name**
 - C. To join by data type**
 - D. To join by unique value**

- 2. In the Configuration Panel, you can change the _____ based on what you're connecting to.**
 - A. data source**
 - B. file type**
 - C. input method**
 - D. connection string**

- 3. What feature is used to search for files with similar names in subdirectories?**
 - A. Search SubDirectories**
 - B. Output File Name**
 - C. File Format**
 - D. Dynamic Input**

- 4. What symbol is used in the Alteryx input data tool to indicate "no delimiter"?**
 - A. \0**
 - B. NULL**
 - C. EMPTY**
 - D. NONE**

- 5. True or False: You can specify what row to start reading from in a CSV file using the input data tool.**
 - A. True**
 - B. False**
 - C. Depends on file format**
 - D. Only if using advanced settings**

6. Which field type is required for string calculations such as trim?

- A. Numeric**
- B. String**
- C. Date/Time**
- D. Boolean**

7. If an entire column is null, which data type will be assigned by the Auto Field Tool?

- A. Integer**
- B. String**
- C. Bool**
- D. DateTime**

8. When should data types generally match in Alteryx?

- A. When exporting workflows**
- B. When blended with other data**
- C. When importing files only**
- D. When applying formulas**

9. What benefit does the scalability feature provide in Alteryx Designer?

- A. Ability to secure large datasets**
- B. Capability of integrating various data formats**
- C. Automation of standard operations**
- D. Enhanced user collaboration**

10. What function does the "Change File/Table Name" option serve?

- A. Deletes the file name from the output**
- B. Changes the file name to the selected field name**
- C. Appends a version number to the file name**
- D. Locks the file name from changes**

Answers

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- 1. B**
- 2. B**
- 3. A**
- 4. A**
- 5. A**
- 6. B**
- 7. C**
- 8. B**
- 9. B**
- 10. B**

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Explanations

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1. What's the default configuration of the union tool?

- A. To join by column index
- B. To join by column name**
- C. To join by data type
- D. To join by unique value

The default configuration of the union tool in Alteryx is to join by column name. This means that when you use the union tool to combine multiple data streams, it automatically looks for columns with matching names in each data source. If these names are the same, the tool aligns the data based on those names, which facilitates a seamless integration of the data into a single output. By joining based on column name, this method ensures that the data from different sources is matched correctly and helps maintain data integrity. It is especially useful in scenarios where you are pulling in datasets from different origins that might have identical column structures. If column names do not match, those fields will still be included in the output but will be represented with nulls in columns without corresponding data. In contrast, the other choices focus on different joining criteria that are not the default behavior of the union tool. For instance, joining by column index or data type could lead to mismatched data if the structures of the datasets vary, and joining by unique value is not applicable in a union context since unions are meant to concatenate datasets rather than merge based on unique matching keys.

2. In the Configuration Panel, you can change the _____ based on what you're connecting to.

- A. data source
- B. file type**
- C. input method
- D. connection string

The correct choice is related to the ability to modify settings that dictate how the Alteryx tool interacts with various types of data. In the Configuration Panel, changing the file type allows users to specify the format of the data being imported or processed. This is crucial because different file types, such as CSV, Excel, or database formats, may require distinct handling or settings to correctly read and manipulate the data. Adjusting the file type ensures that Alteryx recognizes the data correctly, allowing for appropriate parsing and extraction of information. It enables users to tailor the workflow to the specific characteristics of the data source they are utilizing. The other options focus on different aspects of data connections, like the method of input or specific connection details, but they do not directly address the aspect of specifying how the type of file influences data handling and processing within the workflow.

3. What feature is used to search for files with similar names in subdirectories?

A. Search SubDirectories

B. Output File Name

C. File Format

D. Dynamic Input

The feature that enables the search for files with similar names in subdirectories is the capability referred to as "Search SubDirectories." This function is specifically designed to traverse through the folder hierarchy and locate files that match certain naming criteria, even if they are located within different subdirectories. This functionality is particularly useful when handling large datasets spread across multiple folders, allowing users to efficiently locate and manipulate relevant files without manually browsing through each directory. By utilizing the "Search SubDirectories" feature, users save time and streamline the data preparation process, as they can quickly gather necessary files that fit specific naming patterns, ultimately enhancing workflow efficiency. The other options do not serve the purpose of seeking out files based on naming conventions across subdirectories. While "Output File Name" pertains to naming conventions for saving files after processing, "File Format" deals with the type of data contained in files, and "Dynamic Input" is a method to read data from sources that may vary in structure, but none of these options facilitate searching for files by name in subfolders.

4. What symbol is used in the Alteryx input data tool to indicate "no delimiter"?

A. \0

B. NULL

C. EMPTY

D. NONE

The symbol that indicates "no delimiter" in the Alteryx input data tool is represented by \0. This is an escape sequence that commonly represents the null character in programming and data processing contexts, signifying the absence of a delimiter. When specified, it instructs the tool to treat the entire record as a single piece of data without breaking it into segments. Understanding delimiters is crucial when working with data input; specifying no delimiter ensures that the data is read in its entirety, which can be essential for accurate processing in certain workflows. This is especially relevant when dealing with data formats where splitting on specific characters isn't desired or necessary. Other options like NULL, EMPTY, and NONE may suggest the absence of a value or indicate that there are no actual characters, but they do not use the specific escape sequence \0 to signify the absence of a delimiter in Alteryx. Thus, \0 is the correct representation for "no delimiter."

5. True or False: You can specify what row to start reading from in a CSV file using the input data tool.

- A. True**
- B. False**
- C. Depends on file format**
- D. Only if using advanced settings**

The statement is true because the Input Data tool in Alteryx allows users to specify various parameters when reading in data from a CSV file. One of these parameters includes the ability to set the starting row from which to read the data. This can be particularly useful when the CSV file contains headers, comments, or other metadata that you want to skip over. By utilizing the options available in the configuration settings of the Input Data tool, such as the "Skip Rows" feature, users can effectively control which portion of the CSV file is read into their workflow. This flexibility enhances data preparation capabilities, enabling users to work with data formats that may not be uniform or straightforward. Other options like 'Depend on file format' or 'Only if using advanced settings' imply limitations or conditions that are not necessary for this functionality. The Input Data tool provides direct options to manage which rows to start reading from regardless of the file type or format.

6. Which field type is required for string calculations such as trim?

- A. Numeric**
- B. String**
- C. Date/Time**
- D. Boolean**

The requirement for string calculations, such as trim functions that remove whitespace from the beginning and end of a string, is that the data must be in a string format. String fields are specifically defined to hold alphanumeric characters, which allows for various string operations to be performed conveniently. In the context of data processing and transformation, string functions manipulate text data. The use of a string field is essential for functions designed to handle and manipulate text because these functions are not applicable to numeric values, date/time formats, or Boolean logic. Therefore, selecting a string field ensures that operations like trimming whitespace or concatenating text can be executed correctly and effectively.

7. If an entire column is null, which data type will be assigned by the Auto Field Tool?

- A. Integer**
- B. String**
- C. Bool**
- D. DateTime**

When using the Auto Field Tool in Alteryx, if an entire column is null, it assigns the data type as String. This is because, in the case of completely null values, there is no numeric or datetime information to derive a more specific type, which typically would include Integers, Booleans, or DateTimes. The tool opts for String as a default, as Strings can encompass a broader range of values and are suitable for representing potentially varied or missing data. Assigning String allows for greater flexibility in handling null values without assuming a more specific type that cannot be supported. Consequently, when all entries in a column are identified as null, the safest choice is to treat the column as a text type, hence leading to its assignment as String.

8. When should data types generally match in Alteryx?

- A. When exporting workflows**
- B. When blended with other data**
- C. When importing files only**
- D. When applying formulas**

Matching data types is crucial when blending data from different sources in Alteryx. This process, often referred to as data integration or data merging, involves combining datasets based on common fields or keys. If the data types do not match—for example, if one dataset has a numeric field and another has a string representation of that number—it can lead to errors, misalignments, or inaccurate results. When blending datasets, ensuring that the data types align allows for seamless joins and accurate analysis. For instance, if you have a date field from one dataset and a string field that represents dates in another, the join operation will not work correctly without converting the string to a date data type. In contrast, the other scenarios listed—involving exporting workflows, importing files, or applying formulas—may allow for some flexibility in data types, as they might not directly impact the merging of data as critically as in the blending process. Thus, paying attention to matching data types is especially vital when integrating multiple datasets.

9. What benefit does the scalability feature provide in Alteryx Designer?

- A. Ability to secure large datasets
- B. Capability of integrating various data formats**
- C. Automation of standard operations
- D. Enhanced user collaboration

Scalability in Alteryx Designer primarily refers to the platform's ability to handle increasing amounts of data and accommodate a growing number of users or workflows efficiently. The correct choice highlights that this feature allows the integration of various data formats by ensuring that as datasets increase in size and complexity, Alteryx can continue to process and analyze them without a decrease in performance. Through scalability, users can work with diverse data sources, regardless of format—whether structured or unstructured—which is vital for organizations that utilize multiple systems and data types. This ensures flexibility in data operations, allowing analysts to not only manage but also leverage large datasets effectively for insight generation and decision-making. While other options relate to useful functionalities within Alteryx, they focus on specific capabilities like security, automation, and collaboration rather than emphasizing the broad and essential function of scalability in handling diverse and extensive data integration tasks.

10. What function does the "Change File/Table Name" option serve?

- A. Deletes the file name from the output
- B. Changes the file name to the selected field name**
- C. Appends a version number to the file name
- D. Locks the file name from changes

The "Change File/Table Name" option is used to modify the name of the output file or table to align with a specified field name. This is particularly useful when you want the output to dynamically reflect an attribute of the data being processed, making it easier to identify the output in subsequent workflows or within file systems. By changing the file name to the selected field name, users can ensure that the output is contextually relevant, which enhances both organization and clarity when managing multiple datasets. Understanding the utility of this function is crucial in data workflows, as it not only keeps output files organized but also helps maintain a logical structure that reflects the data's characteristics and the processes applied to it.