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INFO 498

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Final Report

As the summer quarter ends its time to reflect on all that I’ve learned during the SQL crash course. For the second section, the base of SQL knowledge that I developed in 340 allowed me to understand and learn more high level SQL concepts.

The first important concept I learned in this course was ETL processing. Knowing how to load data using multiple methods as well as knowing when to use each method is a helpful skill. I know when I can use a plain old insert, a flush and fill technique, or a merge statement when I’m deciding how to transfer my data.

I learned how to backup a database and create reports by creating a read-only version of the database. While we only learned an introductory level of material regarding backups, the knowledge will still be helpful. One of my main goals after the course is to investigate more into how to adequately backup files and databases as well as create detailed reports of each step of the process.

I also learned how to use SQL Server Agent to automate tasks. Using SQL Server Agent makes real life situations low effort. Instead of manually backing up database every day, I can instead create steps that have a set schedule, so I can focus my time on more demanding tasks.

Though I probably won’t be using these skills immediately when doing analysis work using SQL. I hope that as my skills develop I will use these administrative tasks in the future. Having preliminary knowledge to help understand conversations had by higher level SQL coders will also be helpful.