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Assignment 5.2

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MySQL Functions

Like many of the MySQL string functions, the LOWER() function is used to format string data that may be in various different styles. Specifically, the LOWER() function converts a string to lowercase. This can be useful in situations where string data may have been typed in an inconsistent format—such as certain users capitalizing items and others not—and a query should display the data in a consistent format.

Query: select lower("ThiS TeXT usEs StRAnGe CaSEs");

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The COUNT() function returns the number of items selected by a query. This can be used to show the number of items in a table that meet certain criteria. Even more useful, this can be used with the GROUP BY statement to show the number of items in each group, such as to show the number of courses each student is enrolled in.

Query: select count("items") as "Number of items";

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The DATEDIFF function returns the number of days between two dates. This is particularly useful for deriving the amount of time since something happened, such as showing how long ago an order was or calculating age from data of birth.

Query: select datediff(current\_date, "2025-05-14") as "Days since purchase";

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