Limitation of my database.

The first limitation of my database is that I decided not to use foreign keys in my final draft; when I was initially using foreign keys I was having a lot of issues with them, despite fully understanding the concept of how to use them. In the end, I just used unique ID’s for each table eg. CommentsID, LikesID as a way of interlinking tables. Though this works, it did encore a few issues down the line with querying my database, specifically the 5th one asking to retrieve authors with a relational name to the article.

One way I would have addressed this issue in hindsight is the use of relation table, for the last query I could have simply used something such as SELECT…FROM…WHERE…AND Author.NI = Written\_by for example. This makes more logical sense and means the database would have to check against less data than the method I employed, having it return data to the user faster.

Another thing I would change is my use of “BIG INT”, “AUTOINCREMENT” and “MAXCHAR” as I was initially using them for every attribute or integer that was being implemented in the database. I later realised that while not directly effecting my database the use of these statements was all overkill and were not necessary in this database.

How I’d alter my database.

If the new word count is 50,000 words, I’d have to change the Content VARCHAR limit from 250 to 50,000 words. I would do this by saying ALTER TABLE world\_news\_corp\_cms;, ALTER COLUMN Content VARCHAR (50,000) NOT NULL;. It may also be appropriate to scale the Topic and Title of the table if the company wants to scale the character limit, though I don’t think scaling the Country attribute would be appropriate as a countries length doesn’t change.