Reflection Paper for Team 4

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We started by attempting to understand the Rosas Palas case. Initially we were under the wrong impression that the data from Rosas Palas was supposed to be inserted into the H_Accounting database, but that was not the case. Gino, the financial expert in our group gave us a rundown on how a Profit and Loss statement, and Balance sheet looks like, and an explanation as to how it works. Ruoyan, who also has financial background, with the help of Gino managed to read the database and identify which attributes from which tables were needed for making the B/S and P/L statements. After which I, Sam, started to work on the logic of the script and eventually after 2 long days of working together, we reached the intended outcome.

I myself am not well-versed in Finance and accounting, so this was a real crash course for me. But it was also a humungous SQL learning experience for all three of us. Stored Procedures is new territory, and we managed to understand how they work. We also recognized the restrictions we had with permissions on H_Accounting, and it complicated our lives a lot. But somehow, through trial and error, we learnt how we use our individual temporary tables to get the Balance sheet and P and L sheet as clearly formatted as possible. We obviously had to use joins after identifying the various attributes needed from different tables, and we understood how to declare variables and select information into them.

Our group fortunately had people with varying expertise, and we could learn a lot from each other. SQL, Accounting and surprisingly, teamwork, these were the key learnings for this assignment. From the Rosas Palas case, we recognized the structure on which H_Accounting database was built. This made our life easier to recognize which attributes to look for (the names of the attributes). The biggest learning by far was understanding the use of procedures and working around the limited permissions with our unique temporary tables. Using joins and checking the conditions for every declared variable was rather basic.

We stared off by not using procedures, as we were not sure how to use the temporary tables because of the lack of permissions, but once we realized that the temp tables can be manipulated in the procedure, we changed our approach which is demonstrated in the script. For now, we do not see a better way of approaching this problem because of lack of in-depth SQL knowledge and we also believe this is the best method to have done this.