**Unit 10 Database Development**

**Main constituents of a database**

There are many components that make up a database. The different components in a database are called objects.

**Tables**

We have already learned that a series of tables is an important part of a database. Tables store the raw data. Even small commercial databases will need perhaps dozens of related tables.

**Queries**

Queries are designed to show a specific view of the data that is needed for a particular user or requirement. You can develop queries from single tables or from a series of related tables.

For example, think about the college database we looked at. This database needs a table listing all the students, a table listing all the courses, and a table listing which students are on which course. At the beginning of the academic year, the GCSE Maths tutor will need to know the names of all students on this course, and they can run a query to find out this information.

Another example concerns the garage database we looked at. A supplier is offering a special deal on Ford spare parts and the garage owner wants to know how many Ford vehicles the garage has serviced. He can create a query to find out this information.

**Forms**

Data entry forms are an easy way for users to enter data into database tables. A series of validation and verification techniques ensures that the entered data is as accurate as possible.

**Reports**

Reports are the printed outputs from a database. Reports can be based on tables or queries. In addition, you can place other controls on reports, for example to give summary totals. For example, the car retail business could produce monthly reports listing all the cards they have sold each month.