Cascading Keys

1. **Surrogate Keys:**
   1. Benefits
      1. Surrogate keys ensure that the child only inherits one attribute from the parent class.
      2. Serves as a way of differentiating or distinguishing between attributes in different rows of different classes.
   2. Liabilities
      1. It would be hard to generate a surrogate key.
      2. If someone else is trying to work on the same database, it would be hard for the new person to recognize the surrogate key.
2. **Natural Keys:**
   1. Benefits
      1. Natural keys ensure consistency between each class.
      2. Natural keys are attributes that can be easily found in each table since they already exist in the class.
   2. Liabilities
      1. They may need to be changed if the attributes of a table change.
      2. Could be difficult to determine what attributes would be a good choice for the natural key(s) since multiple attributes may have their own pro’s/con’s when it comes to the design of the database.