

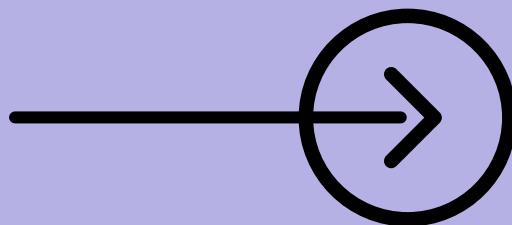
Part - 4

Advanced SQL Interview

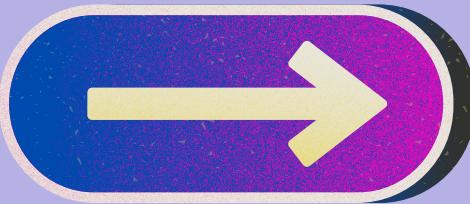
Q & A



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**How can you select unique
records from a table?**



Select unique records from a table

→ To select unique records from a table in SQL,
you can use the **DISTINCT** keyword in your
SELECT statement.



What are the exactly **Steps to Select Unique Records**

Steps to Select Unique Records:

- **Use DISTINCT Keyword:** Include the **DISTINCT** keyword immediately after the **SELECT** keyword in your query.



I want example to understand this concept

Example Scenario:

→ Suppose you have a table named Employees with columns EmployeeID, FirstName, LastName, and DepartmentID.

To select unique combinations of FirstName and LastName,

you would write:

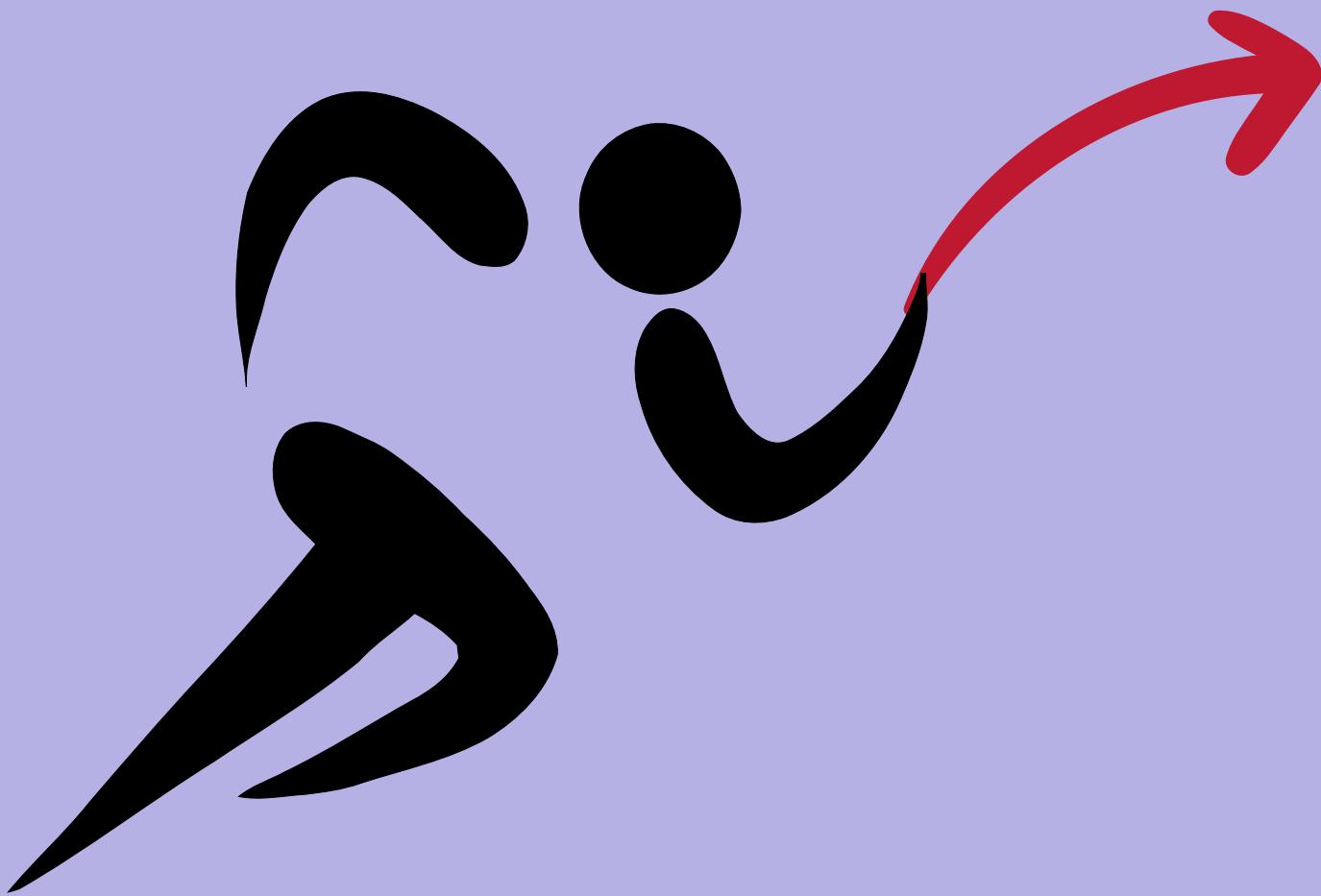
```
SELECT SUBSTRING(column_name, start_position, length)  
FROM table_name;
```



I noted some key Points: for you

Key Tips:

- ➡ • **Column Selection:** You can specify multiple columns after the **SELECT DISTINCT** keywords to retrieve unique combinations of those columns.
- **Ordering:** The **DISTINCT** keyword applies to the entire row, so the query returns unique combinations of all selected columns.



Swipe for the jackpot of the day 😊





wanna see some
Counter Questions



1. How does the DISTINCT keyword differ from using GROUP BY?

→ **DISTINCT** is used to retrieve unique combinations of values across selected columns in the result set.

In contrast, **GROUP BY** groups identical values and is typically used with aggregate functions like **COUNT**, **SUM**, etc., to summarize grouped data.



2. Can you explain how the DISTINCT keyword affects performance?

→ **The DISTINCT keyword can slow down queries, especially on large datasets,**

as it requires sorting and comparing rows to remove duplicates.

Using it with well-indexed columns helps reduce performance issues.



Next Question

3. How would you modify the query to select unique records based on a specific column?

→ Simply specify the desired column(s) after the **DISTINCT** keyword in the **SELECT** statement.

For example, `SELECT DISTINCT DepartmentID FROM Employees;` returns unique department IDs.



Next Question

4. Can DISTINCT be combined with aggregate functions?

- Yes, you can use DISTINCT within aggregate functions, like

COUNT(DISTINCT ColumnName), to count unique values in a specific column.



5. Are there any alternatives to using DISTINCT?

→ An alternative to DISTINCT is using ROW_NUMBER() with a CTE or subquery,

allowing you to remove duplicates with more control over which duplicates to keep in the result set.



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