

Part - 15

Data Retrieval Interview

Q & A

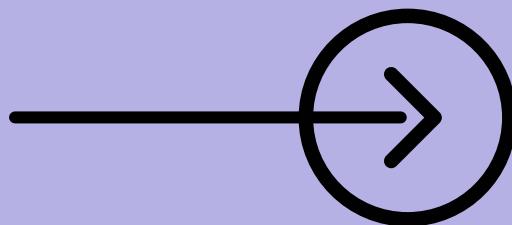
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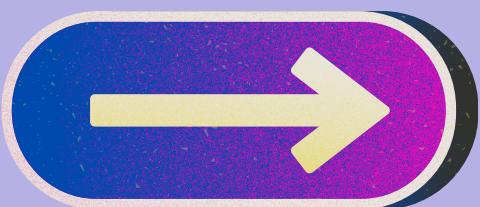
Sharing with
Counter questions ↑



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**How can you fetch the
first 5 characters from a
string?**



SUBSTRING :

→ To fetch the first 5 characters from a string in SQL, you can use the **SUBSTRING** (or **SUBSTR** in some databases) function.

This function allows you to extract a specific portion of a string starting from a specified position and for a specified length.



Let's See the Syntax of SUBSTRING 😎

Syntax:

→ Basic Syntax of the SUBSTRING:

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



Let's see the example for it ?

Examples:

→ Let's say we have an **Employees** table with a column named **Name**:

ID	Name
1	Krishna
2	Manisha
3	Radhika
4	Manish
5	Puneet
6	Kavya

Swipe right for the Query! 

Query:

→ SQL Query to Fetch the First 5 Characters:

```
SELECT  
    ID,  
    Name,  
    SUBSTRING(Name, 1, 5) AS FirstFiveChars  
FROM  
    Employees;
```

→ Explanation:

SUBSTRING(Name, 1, 5):

- **Name:** The column from which the substring is to be extracted.
- **1:** The starting position in the string (1 indicates the first character).
- **5:** The number of characters to extract from the starting position.

Swipe for the result 

Result:

→ Let's say we have an Employees table with a column named **Name**:

D	Name	FirstFiveChars
1	Krishna	Krish
2	Manisha	Manis
3	Radhika	Radhi
4	Manish	Manis
5	Puneet	Punee
6	Kavya	Kavya

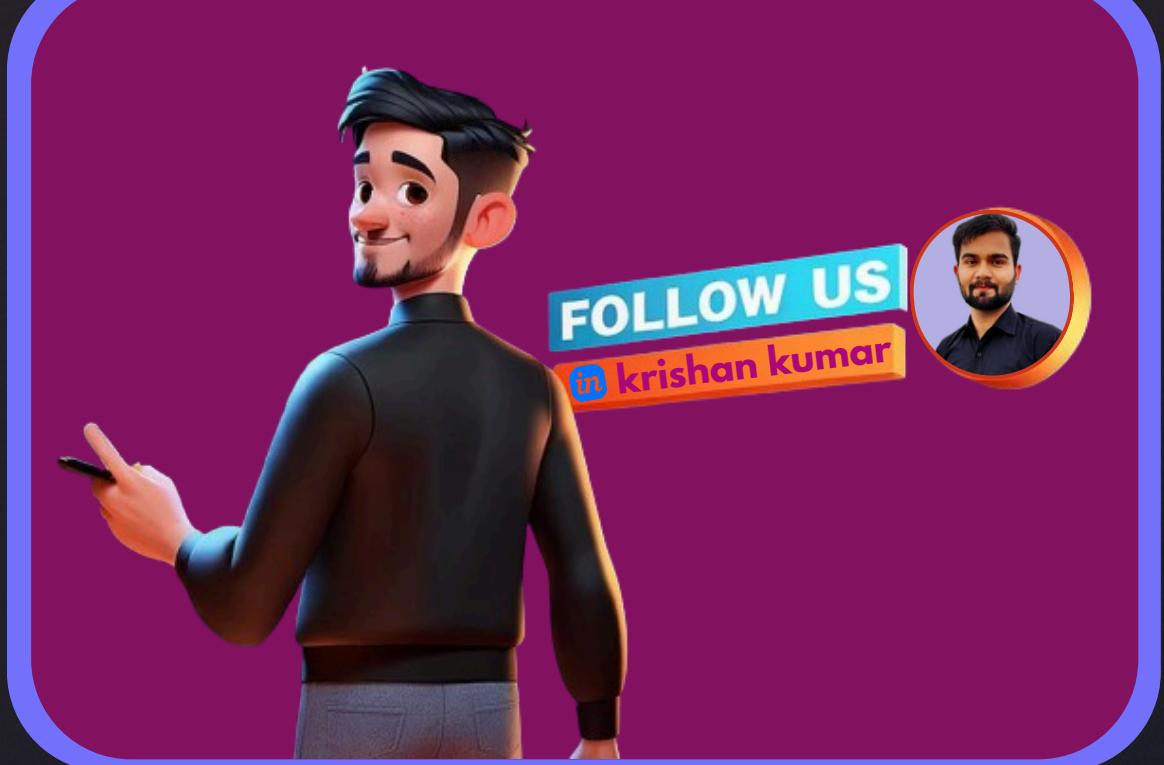
Swipe right for the surprise! 

Swipe right for the jackpot of the day! 😊





wanna see some
Counter Questions



1. What if the string has fewer than 5 characters?

- If the string has fewer than 5 characters, the **SUBSTRING** function will return all the available characters without throwing an error.

For example, if the name is "Eve," the result will simply be "Eve."



2. Can we use a different function to achieve the same result?

→ Yes, you can use **LEFT** function in many databases.

The `LEFT(column_name, number_of_characters)` function extracts a specified number of characters from the left side of the string.

For example, `LEFT(Name, 5)` will give the same result as `SUBSTRING(Name, 1, 5)`.



Next Question

3. What is the difference between SUBSTRING and LEFT functions?

→ The primary difference is **flexibility**. While LEFT extracts characters from the left side of the string,

SUBSTRING allows you to specify both the starting position and the length, making it more versatile.

SUBSTRING can be used to extract characters from any position within the string, not just the beginning.



4. Is there a way to handle cases where the starting position is larger than the string length?

- If the starting position specified in the **SUBSTRING** function exceeds the string length, the result will be an empty string.

For instance, if **SUBSTRING('Hello', 10, 5)** is used, the output will be an empty string, as there is no 10th character in "Hello."



5. How can you fetch characters from the end of a string?

- To fetch characters from the end of a string, you can use the **RIGHT** function in most databases.

For example, `RIGHT(Name, 5)` will extract the last 5 characters of the Name column.



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