Hands-on Lab: Simple SELECT Statements



Estimated time needed: 20 minutes

In this lab, you will learn one of the most commonly used statements of SQL (Structured Query Language), the SELECT statement. The SELECT statement is used to select data from a database.

Objectives

After completing this lab, you will be able to:

- Query a database to obtain a response as a result set
- Retrieve all or selected columns of a dataset
- Apply criteria commands to filter the result set

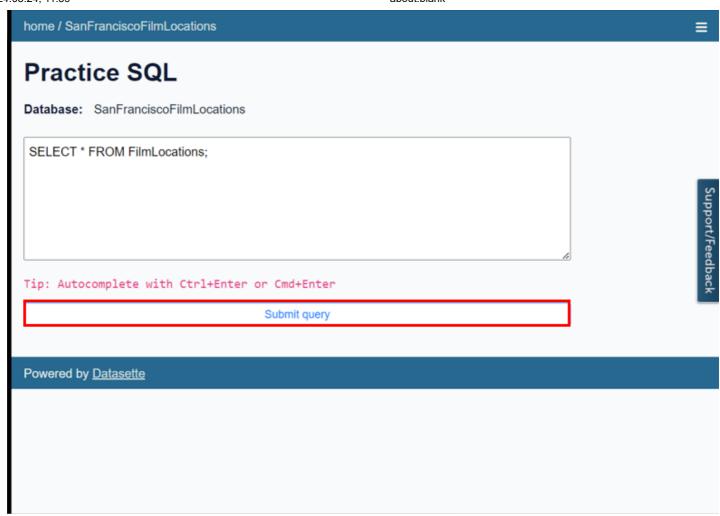
Software Used in this Lab

In this lab, you will use Datasette, an open source-tool for exploring and publishing data. You can visit the <u>Datasette GitHub repository here</u>.

Working with Datasette

The **Datasette** tool offers a platform to input and execute SQL queries. By clicking the **Submit query** button, you can execute the SQL query.

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Database Used in this Lab

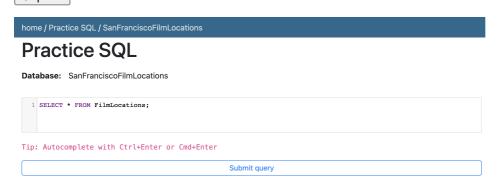
The database used in this lab comes from the following dataset source: <u>Film Locations in San Francisco</u> under a <u>PDDL</u>: <u>Public Domain Dedication and License</u>.

Exploring the Database

Let's first explore the SanFranciscoFilmLocations database using the Datasette tool:

- 1. If the first statement listed below is not already in the Datasette textbox on the right, then copy the code below by clicking on the little copy button on the bottom right of the code block below and then paste it into the textbox of the Datasette tool using either Ctrl+V or right-click in the text box and choose Paste.
- 1. 1
- SELECT * FROM FilmLocations;

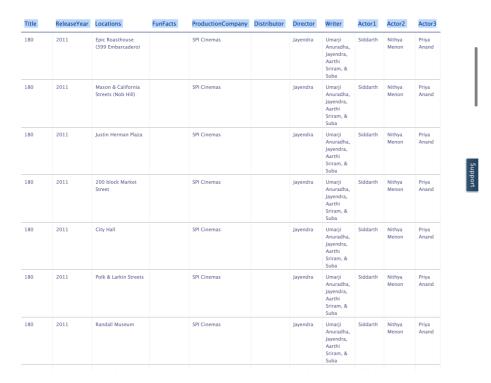
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2. Click Submit Query.

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3. Now, you can scroll down the table and explore all the columns and rows of the **FilmLocations** table to get an overall idea of the table contents.



4. These are the column attribute descriptions from the **FilmLocations** table:

```
1. 1
```

2. 2

3. 3

4. 4

5. 5 6. 6

7. 7

8.8

9. 9 10. 10

11. 11

12. 12

13. 13

FilmLocations(

2. Title: titles of the films,

ReleaseYear: time of public release of the films,

4. Locations: locations of San Francisco where the films were shot,

5. FunFacts: funny facts about the filming locations,

6. ProductionCompany: companies who produced the films,

7. Distributor: companies who distributed the films,

Director: people who directed the films,
Writer: people who wrote the films,

13.)

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Using SELECT statement

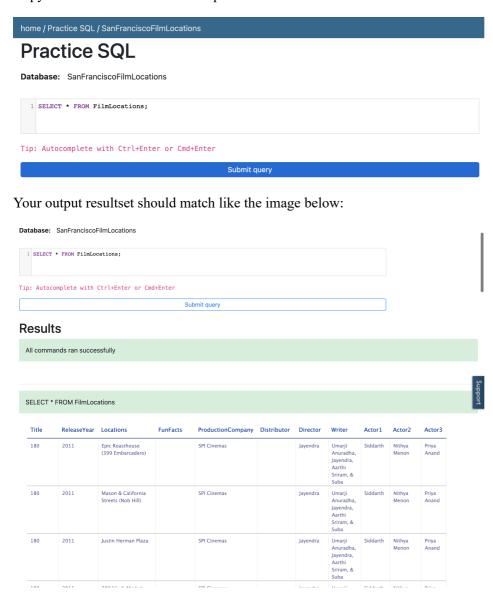
Now, let's go through some examples of SELECT queries.

- 1. Suppose we want to retrieve details of all the films from the **FilmLocations** table. The details of each film record should contain all the columns. The query statement for this is:
- 1. 1
- SELECT * FROM FilmLocations;

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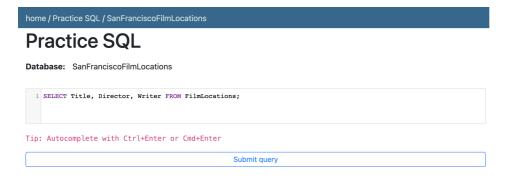
Copy the solution code above and paste it to the textbox of the Datasette tool. Then click **Submit query**.



- 2. We want to retrieve the film names and director and writer names. The query now would be:
- 1. 1
- SELECT Title, Director, Writer FROM FilmLocations;

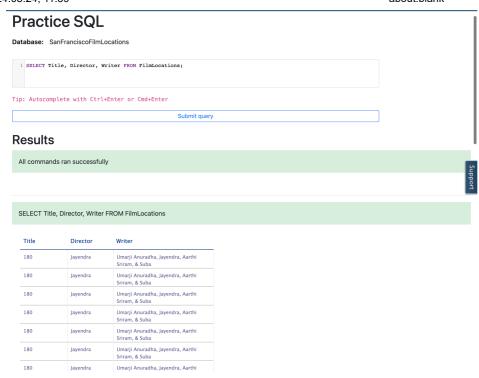
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Copy the solution code above and paste it to the textbox of the Datasette tool. Then click Submit query.



Your output resultset should match the image below:

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- 3. We want to retrieve film names along with filming locations and release years. But we also want to restrict the output resultset to retrieve only the film records released in 2001 and onwards (release years after 2001, including 2001).
- 1. 1
- SELECT Title, ReleaseYear, Locations FROM FilmLocations WHERE ReleaseYear>=2001;

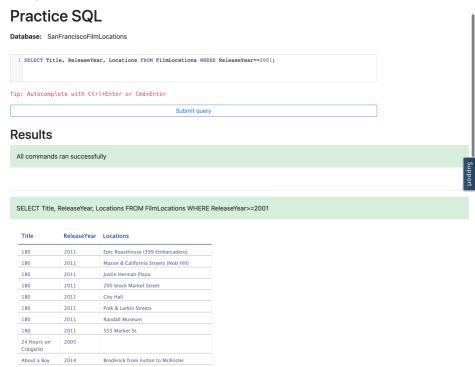
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Copy the solution code above and paste it to the textbox of the Datasette tool. Then click **Submit query**.



Your output resultset should match the image below:

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Practice exercises on the SELECT statement

- 1. Retrieve the fun facts and filming locations of all films.
- ▶ Click here for a hint
- ▶ Click here for the solution
- ► Click here for the output
 - 2. Retrieve the names of all films released in the 20th century and before (release years before 2000 including 2000), along with filming locations and release years.
- ▶ Click here for a hint
- ▶ Click here for the solution
- ► Click here for the output
 - 3. Retrieve the names, production company names, filming locations, and release years of the films not written by James Cameron.
- ▶ Click here for a hint
- ▶ Click here for the solution
- ▶ Click here for the output

Conclusion

Congratulations on completing this lab!

You are now able to:

- Query a database using SELECT statements
- Retrieve all or selected columns of data
- Filter the query response to meet a defined criteria

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Changelog

Date	Version	Changed by	Change Description
2023-10-12	1.9	Mercedes Schneider	QA Pass w/Edits
2023-10-11	1.8	Misty Taylor	ID Check
2023-10-01	1.7	Abhishek Gagneja	Updated Lab instructions
2023-07-11	1.6	Lakshmi Holla	Updated labs
2023-06-02	1.5	Eric Hao	Fixed Page Styles
2023-05-10	1.4	Eric Hao & Vladislav Boyko	Updated Page Frames
2023-05-04	1.3	Benny Li	Republished
2022-07-27	1.2	Lakshmi Holla	Updated html tag
2020-11-23	1.1	Steve Ryan	ID Review
2020-11-20	1.0	Sandip Saha Joy	Initial version created

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