Learning to COUNT()

You saw how to use COUNT() in the video. This task is to determine what COUNT() returns in the provided SQL query.
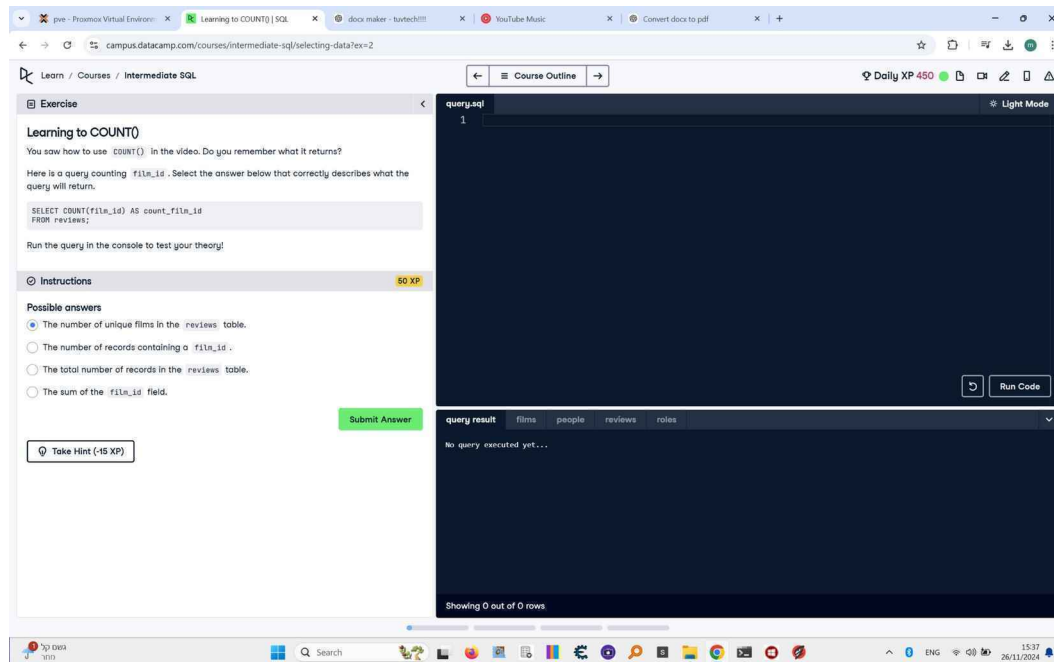
Query:
SELECT COUNT(film_id) AS count_film_id
FROM reviews;

Instructions:
1. Run the query in the console to test your theory.
2. Select the correct option for what COUNT(film_id) returns.

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Correct Answer:

The number of records containing a `film_id`.

Explanation:

1. **COUNT(film_id)**: The COUNT() function counts the number of non-NULL values in the specified column. In this case, it will count the number of rows in the `film_id` column of the `reviews` table that are not NULL.
2. **Why not total records?**: If there are NULL values in the `film_id` column, they will not be included in the COUNT(). Thus, it does not represent the total number of rows in the table unless `film_id` has no NULL

values.
3. **Conclusion**: COUNT(film_id) returns the number of records where `film_id` has a value (non-NULL), which corresponds to 'The number of records containing a `film_id`'.