



PLATFORM

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HTM

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QWERTY



STUDY GUIDE



**Purpose:** quick, practical primer for the SQL qualification round (Data Detective) and the Inspect & Detect HTML round. Read this before participating.

## **Module 1 — SQL essentials (what you need to know)**

How to open the DB

Use DB Browser for SQLite (free) or any online SQLite runner.

If you have a .db file: File → Open Database.

### **Core SQL commands**

- SELECT column1, column2 FROM table;
- SELECT \* FROM table LIMIT 10; — inspect a table
- WHERE → filter rows: SELECT \* FROM suspects WHERE age > 30;
- LIKE → partial string matches: WHERE name LIKE '%Ali%'
- ORDER BY → sort: ORDER BY age DESC
- LIMIT → keep only top rows: LIMIT 5
- JOIN → combine tables (optional):  
SELECT a.\*, b.clue FROM suspects a JOIN clues b ON a.id = b.suspect\_id;

### **Quick examples**

- List all suspects:

```
SELECT * FROM suspects;
```

- Find clues for suspect with id 2:

```
SELECT clue FROM clues WHERE suspect_id = 2;
```

- Find names of suspects older than 25:

```
SELECT name FROM suspects WHERE age > 25;
```

### **Tips for solving the case**

1. Start with SELECT \* FROM table LIMIT 10; to see column names and data.
2. Use WHERE to narrow results.
3. If tables look related (id fields), try a JOIN.
4. Use ORDER BY timestamp DESC LIMIT 1 to get latest entry.
5. If stuck, try LIKE '%keyword%' to search text fields.

## **PART B — HTML inspection basics (for Inspect & Detect)**

Open Developer Tools

- Right-click on a page → Inspect (or press F12)
- The Elements panel shows the page's HTML tree.



## Where flags are commonly hidden

- HTML comments: <!-- FLAG{something} -->
- Hidden elements: <div style="display:none">FLAG{...}</div>
- Alt text / img attributes: <img alt="FLAG{...}">
- data- attributes: \* <div data-flag="FLAG{...}">
- Script variables / console logs: var secret = "FLAG{...}";
- Meta tags or head: <meta name="note" content="FLAG{...}">
- Broken links / hidden pages: Inspect anchors (<a>) for href values.

## How to search

- In Elements panel, press Ctrl + F (or Cmd + F) and search for FLAG{ or FLAG
- Open Console tab: sometimes flags are logged with console.log().

## Simple commands (Console)

- document.querySelectorAll('\*') — returns all elements
- document.body.innerText — shows visible text
- document.querySelector('selector').getAttribute('data-flag') — read attributes

## PART C — What a FLAG looks like

- Example formats you will see: FLAG{scinnova001}, FLAG{evidence\_02}, FLAG{final\_flag}
- Flags may be split across multiple comments or combined (pay attention).

## PART D — Rules & conduct (short)

1. Mandatory: read this study guide before competing.
2. Bring your own laptop.
3. Work on the provided DB and provided website only — no external scraping or online searching.
4. Be honest. Any cheating disqualifies the team.
5. Round 2 (Inspect & Detect) is a timed solo speed round — first correct submission wins.

## PART E — Quick practice (2 mins each)

1. SQL practice:
  - SELECT name FROM suspects WHERE location = 'Library';
  - Try SELECT \* FROM clues WHERE clue LIKE '%crime%';
2. HTML practice:
  - Open any webpage → Inspect → Ctrl+F → search for <!-- to see comments.
  - Try document.body.innerText in Console to view visible page text.

Good luck — think like a detective, inspect like a coder.