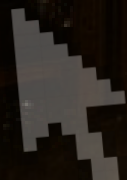




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STUDY GUIDE



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: ``
- 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.