CL-2005: Database Systems

Lab #9: Introduction to SQL

Objective:

To explore concepts i.e., DDL, DML, DCL and DQL.

Scope:

The student shall know the following:

- Workaround SQL Server.
- SQL Practice.
- Hands-on experience on the above-mentioned concepts.

Discussion:

SQL Language is made up of various types of SQL Commands. The SQL language commands are divided into four main sections:

- **DML** (Data Manipulation Language) Commands:
 - DML commands are used to insert, update and delete data in the database. As the name suggests, they are used to manipulate the data in database.
 - The DML commands are INSERT, UPDATE and DELETE.
- **DDL** (Data Definition Language) Commands:
 - DDL commands are used to manipulate the database itself. They deal with creation of database, altering it's structure and deleting the database.
 - The DDL Commands are CREATE, ALTER and DROP.
- DCL (Data Control Language) Commands:
 - DCL commands are used to control the access to the database. They are used to give privilege to the users and take away privilege from the users.
 - The DCL Commands are GRANT and REVOKE.
- **DQL** (Data Query Language) Command:
 - Data is accessed from the database by firing queries. DQL command allows us to fire queries to the database and get the data from the database.
 - The DQL command is SELECT.

1. Data Definition Language (DDL):

The various DDL commands are **CREATE**, **ALTER** and **DROP**. Let us learn about each DDL Command one by one with examples.

CREATE Statement:

The <u>CREATE</u> statement in SQL is used to create the database and the database objects like <u>Tables</u>, Views, etc. Let us see how a database and table are created in SQL.

Creating a database in SQL:

Syntax:

CREATE DATABASE DatabaseName;

Example:

```
CREATE DATABASE Demos;
```

On executing this query, a database named "Demos" is created.

CREATE TABLE in SQL:

Database is a collection of related tables and other objects. This implies that a table is a part of the database. Now, we have created the "Demos" database. Now, we need to create a "Students" table in this database.

By default, the master database is selected. Select Demos database from the dropdown list or alternatively you can use the following command:

```
USE Demos;
```

This command will instruct the SQL Server that you want to use the database **Demos**. Then we can create a table within **Demos** database.

Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE TableName(
columnName1 datatype,
columnName2 datatype,
.
.
columnNameN datatype);
```

Here, datatype is the type of data which you need to store in that column. For numeric values, we have "**numeric**" datatype, for strings we have "**varchar**" and so on. We will study about the datatypes in the upcoming articles.

Example:

```
CREATE TABLE
    Students
( id numeric(3),
    name
    varchar(50)
);
```

This will create a table named **Students** with two columns, one is "id" which can contain a numeric value up to three digits and second "name" which is varchar(50), which means that it can contain 50 characters.

Now, we have created a table with two columns. And we need to add two more columns "city" and "marks" to the table Students. Then, how can we go do this?

This can be done using the ALTER Command of SQL.

ALTER Statement:

The Alter Table command helps us to modify the structure of the table. If we need to add, delete or modify the columns in our existing table then we use the Alter Table Statement.

Syntax:

To <u>add column</u> to the existing table:

ALTER TABLE ExistingTableName

ADD columnName datatype;

To <u>remove column</u> from the existing table:

ALTER TABLE ExistingTableName

DROP columnName;

Lastly, to modify the datatype of a column in our existing table:

ALTER TABLE ExistingTableName

ALTER COLUMN columnName newDataType;

Example:

Let's add the **city** and **marks** columns to our table **students**.

```
ALTER TABLE students
ADD city varchar(25);
ALTER TABLE students
ADD marks numeric(3);
```

DROP Statement:

As the name suggests, the DROP Statement is used to delete a table or a database.

Syntax:

To delete a table:

DROP TABLE TableName;

Similary, to delete a database;

DROP DATABASE databaseName;

Example:

```
DROP TABLE Students;
```

This will delete the **Students** table which we have created.

There may be a situation when we just want to empty the table and not to delete the table itself.

In such situations, we use the **TRUNCATE** table statement of SQL.

Suppose we have data of 50 old students in our table. But we don't need that data anymore. But we need the table as we need to keep a record of our students. In such situations, we will use the truncate table statement so that only the data gets deleted and the table is as it is.

Example:

```
TRUNCATE TABLE Students;
```

That's all about various DDL Statements.

2. Data Manipulation Language (DML):

The various DML Commands in SQL are **INSERT**, **UPDATE** and **DELETE**.

INSERT Statement:

Simply, the insert statement is used to insert data into the table.

Syntax:

```
INSERT INTO
```

```
tableName ( column1, column2, column3,
```

.

```
columnN) VALUES (
column1Value,
column2Value,
column3Value,
columnNValue
);
Similarly,
INSERT INTO tableName
VALUES (column1Value,
column2Value, column3Value,
columnNValue
);
Example:
INSERT INTO Students ( id,
name, city, marks ) VALUES (
'Ali',
'Peshawar',
584
);
INSERT INTO Students VALUES (
'Mutharib',
'Rawalpindi',
574
```

UPDATE Statement:

There may be situations when we need to modify the data that we have inserted in the table.

This can be achieved with the help of the **UPDATE** Statement in SQL.

UPDATE Statement allows us to modify/change the data in our tables.

Syntax:

UPDATE tableName

```
SET\ column 1 = column 1 Value,\ column 2 = column 2 Value,.....\ column = column N Value
```

WHERE condition:

Examples:

```
UPDATE Students
SET name = 'Ahmed Ali'
WHERE id = 1;

UPDATE Students
SET name = 'Ahmed Ali', city = 'Karachi'
WHERE id = 1;
```

DELETE Statement:

As the name suggests, the Delete Statement is used to delete records/rows from the table.

Syntax:

DELETE from tableName

WHERE condition;

Examples:

Suppose, we need to delete the record of the student having id = 1. This can be done very easily by writing the following query.

```
DELETE FROM Students
WHERE id = 1;
```

It is important to specify the WHERE condition along with the delete statement. If we do not specify the WHERE Condition, all the rows will be deleted.

3. SQL Server Constraints:

Constraints in SQL Server are rules and restrictions applied on a column or a table such that unwanted data can't be inserted into tables. This ensures the accuracy and reliability of the data in the database. We can create constraints on single or multiple columns of any table. Constraints maintain the data integrity and accuracy in the table.

Constraints can be classified into the following two types.

1. Column Type Constraints:

Definitions of these types of constraints is given when the table is created.

Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE tableName (

id int NOT NULL, salary

int CHECK(salary > 500) );
```

2. Table Type Constraints:

Definitions of these types of constraints is given after the creation of the table using the Alter Command.

Syntax:

ALTER TABLE tableName

ALTER COLUMN columnName columnDataType CHECK(columnName > 600);

Moreover, SQL Server contains the following 6 types of constraints:

- 1. Not Null Constraint
- 2. Check Constraint
- 3. Default Constraint
- 4. Unique Constraint
- 5. Primary Constraint
- 6. Foreign Constraint

Let us understand each constraint briefly.

NOT NULL CONSTRAINT:

A Not null constraint restricts the insertion of null values into a column. If we are using a Not Null Constraint for a column then we cannot ignore the value of this column during an insert of data into the table.

Column Level:

Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE tableName (

columnName datatype CONSTRAINT constraintName NOT NULL
);
```

Example:

```
CREATE TABLE students (
        id int CONSTRAINT not_null_constraint NOT NULL
);
```

Table Level:

Syntax:

ALTER TABLE tableName

ALTER COLUMN columnName columnDataType NOT NULL;

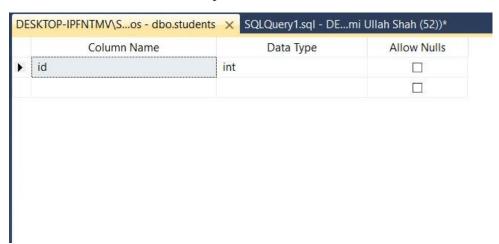
Example:

```
ALTER TABLE students
ALTER COLUMN id int NOT NULL;
```

Without SQL Command:

We can also create a Not Null constraint in Microsoft SQL Server without execution of a SQL query.

First right-click on the table and select and click on the design option. Now check all the columns in the "Allow Nulls" option that should have a Null Value.



Now, explore all other constraints by your own. The syntax is same, you just need to differentiate between them (constraints).

Class Task

User:

id	name	username	DOB

- The attribute 'id' shall be of type integer, not null, must have specific limit and is a primary key.
- The attribute 'name' shall be of varchar type, shall not be null, have specific limit.
- The attribute 'username' shall be alphanumeric, shall not be null.
- DOB stands for Date of Birth, it shall be of UNIXTIME and can be null.

Post:

id	description	date	userID

- The attribute 'id' shall be of type integer, not null, must have specific limit and is a primary key
- The attribute 'description' shall be of varchar type, shall not be null.
- The attribute 'date' shall store the time of a post in the form UNIXTIME.
- The attribute 'user_id' shall be a value from table user and shall have FOREIGN KEY constraint.

Comment:

id	description	date	Post_id	userID

- The attribute 'id' shall be of type integer, not null, must have specific limit and is a primary key.
- The attribute 'description' shall be varchar type, shall not be null.
- The attribute 'date' shall store the time of a comment in the form UNIXTIME.
- The attribute 'post_id' shall be a value from Post table and the 'user_id' shall be from the user table. 'post_id' is supposed to describe the post on which the comment is done while the 'user_id' is supposed to describe the user who commented on the post. Note, both of the attributes i.e., post_id and user_id shall have FOREIGN KEY constraint.
- 1. Create the above table
- 2. Insert 3 values in each table
- 3. Write 2 queries from a scenario you think. Provide the statement and use subqueries and group in both queries.