

SQL Command Types – Full Notes

✓ 1. DDL – Data Definition Language

◆ Definition:

DDL commands are used to **define, create, and modify the structure** of database objects such as **tables, schemas, indexes, and views**.

◆ Key Characteristics:

- Operates on the **schema or structure** of the database.
- Changes are **auto-committed** (cannot be rolled back).
- Affects **entire tables or database objects**.

◆ Common DDL Commands:

Command Purpose

CREATE Creates new tables, views, databases, etc.

ALTER Modifies an existing object (e.g., adds/removes a column).

DROP Deletes an object permanently.

TRUNCATE Removes all records from a table without logging individual row deletions.

RENAME Renames database objects.

◆ Example:

sql

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```
CREATE TABLE students (id INT, name VARCHAR(50));
```

```
ALTER TABLE students ADD age INT;
```

```
TRUNCATE TABLE students;
```

```
DROP TABLE students;
```

✓ 2. DML – Data Manipulation Language

◆ Definition:

DML is used to **manipulate the data stored inside the tables**.

◆ Key Characteristics:

- Affects the **rows (records)** in the table.
- Changes can be **rolled back**.
- Works with **TCL** commands (COMMIT, ROLLBACK).

◆ Common DML Commands:

Command Purpose

INSERT Adds new rows into a table.

UPDATE Modifies existing data in the table.

DELETE Removes specific rows from the table.

◆ Example:

sql

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```
INSERT INTO students (id, name) VALUES (1, 'Amit');
```

```
UPDATE students SET name = 'Rahul' WHERE id = 1;
```

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

✓ 3. DQL – Data Query Language

◆ Definition:

DQL is used to **fetch/query data** from the database.

◆ Key Characteristics:

- **Read-only** operations.

- Does **not affect** data or schema.
- Primarily involves the SELECT statement.

◆ **DQL Command:**

Command Purpose

SELECT Retrieves data from one or more tables.

◆ **Example:**

sql

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```
SELECT * FROM students;
```

```
SELECT name, age FROM students WHERE age > 20;
```

✓ **4. DCL – Data Control Language**

◆ **Definition:**

DCL commands are used to **control access** to data in the database by **granting or revoking permissions**.

◆ **Key Characteristics:**

- Affects **authorization and security**.
- Changes are **auto-committed** (cannot be rolled back).

◆ **Common DCL Commands:**

Command Purpose

GRANT Gives user permissions to perform actions.

REVOKE Removes previously granted permissions.

◆ **Example:**

sql

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```
GRANT SELECT, INSERT ON students TO 'user1';
```

REVOKE INSERT ON students FROM 'user1';

✓ 5. TCL – Transaction Control Language

◆ Definition:

TCL commands are used to **manage transactions** in a database to ensure **data integrity and consistency**.

◆ Key Characteristics:

- Works with **DML commands**.
- Controls **commitment or rollback** of changes.
- Important in multi-step data operations.

◆ Common TCL Commands:

Command	Purpose
COMMIT	Permanently saves changes made in the current transaction.
ROLLBACK	Reverses changes made in the current transaction.
SAVEPOINT	Sets a point within a transaction to rollback to later.
SET TRANSACTION	Configures transaction properties.

◆ Example:

sql

START TRANSACTION;

UPDATE students SET name = 'Karan' WHERE id = 2;

SAVEPOINT before_change;

UPDATE students SET age = 25 WHERE id = 2;

ROLLBACK TO before_change;

COMMIT;

✓ 6. THE – Transaction Handling & Execution (Concept)

◆ Transaction:

A **transaction** is a sequence of one or more SQL operations that are executed as a **single logical unit of work**.

◆ Properties of Transactions – ACID:

Property	Meaning
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A – Atomicity	All steps in a transaction either succeed or fail together.
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C – Consistency	A transaction must leave the database in a valid state.
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I – Isolation	Each transaction should execute independently of others.
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D – Durability	Once committed, changes should persist even after failures.
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◆ Transaction Lifecycle:

1. **Begin** (optional)
 2. Perform operations (INSERT, UPDATE, etc.)
 3. COMMIT or ROLLBACK
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✅ Summary Table

Category Full Form		Affects	Rollback Possible	Auto-commit	Example Commands
DDL	Data Definition Language	Table structure/schema	❌ No	✅ Yes	CREATE, ALTER, DROP
DML	Data Manipulation Language	Table data (rows)	✅ Yes	❌ No	INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE
DQL	Data Query Language	Data (read-only)	❌ Not needed	❌ Not needed	SELECT
DCL	Data Control Language	Permissions & security	❌ No	✅ Yes	GRANT, REVOKE
TCL	Transaction Control Language	Transactions	✅ Yes	❌ No	COMMIT, ROLLBACK



Tip for Interview or Exam:

- **DDL = Structure**
- **DML = Data**
- **DQL = Query**
- **DCL = Control**
- **TCL = Transactions**