use AdventureWorks2014

go

--1. using like to pick out certain records

select firstname from Person.Person

where lower(FirstName) like '\_\_a'

group by firstname

--2. '%sar': anything before "sar"

--3. 'sar%': begin with sar, and end with anything

--4. '%pe%': search for pe inside the first name

--5. '\_a%': find names where a is the second letter

-- followed by anything