

### 1. What is SQL?

**Answer:** SQL (Structured Query Language) is a standard language used to manage and manipulate relational databases.

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### 2. What are the types of SQL commands?

**Answer:** SQL commands are categorized into:

- DDL (Data Definition Language) – e.g., CREATE, ALTER, DROP
  - DML (Data Manipulation Language) – e.g., INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE
  - DCL (Data Control Language) – e.g., GRANT, REVOKE
  - TCL (Transaction Control Language) – e.g., COMMIT, ROLLBACK
  - DQL (Data Query Language) – e.g., SELECT
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### 3. What is a Primary Key?

**Answer:** A primary key uniquely identifies each record in a table. It cannot contain NULL or duplicate values.

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### 4. What is a Foreign Key?

**Answer:** A foreign key is a field in one table that refers to the primary key in another table. It establishes a relationship between tables.

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### 5. What is the difference between WHERE and HAVING?

**Answer:** WHERE filters rows before aggregation, while HAVING filters groups after aggregation.

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### 6. What is normalization?

**Answer:** Normalization is the process of organizing data to reduce redundancy and improve data integrity in a database.

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### 7. What is denormalization?

**Answer:** Denormalization is the process of combining tables to improve read performance by reducing joins.

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### 8. What is a Join in SQL?

**Answer:** A join is used to combine rows from two or more tables based on a related column.

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**9. What is the difference between `INNER JOIN` and `LEFT JOIN`?**

**Answer:** `INNER JOIN` returns only matching records; `LEFT JOIN` returns all records from the left table and matched records from the right.

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**10. What is a View in SQL?**

**Answer:** A view is a virtual table based on the result of a SQL query. It doesn't store data but shows data from underlying tables.

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**11. What is a constraint in SQL?**

**Answer:** Constraints are rules applied to columns to enforce data integrity. Examples include `NOT NULL`, `UNIQUE`, `PRIMARY KEY`, `FOREIGN KEY`, `CHECK`.

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**12. What is a NULL value?**

**Answer:** `NULL` represents a missing or unknown value in a column.

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**13. What is the difference between `DELETE` and `TRUNCATE`?**

**Answer:** `DELETE` removes specific rows and can be rolled back; `TRUNCATE` removes all rows quickly and cannot be rolled back in some systems.

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**14. What is a Unique Key?**

**Answer:** A unique key ensures that all values in a column are different. Unlike the primary key, it can accept one `NULL` value.

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**15. What is an Index in SQL?**

**Answer:** An index is a database object that improves the speed of data retrieval operations on a table.

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**16. What is the use of the `DISTINCT` keyword?**

**Answer:** `DISTINCT` is used to return only unique (non-duplicate) values from a column.

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**17. What is the difference between `UNION` and `UNION ALL`?**

**Answer:** `UNION` removes duplicate records; `UNION ALL` includes all duplicates.

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**18. What is a Subquery?**

**Answer:** A subquery is a query nested inside another query, used to retrieve data to be used by the outer query.

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**19. What is a CTE (Common Table Expression)?**

**Answer:** A CTE is a temporary result set that can be referred to within a SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE statement.

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**20. What is data integrity?**

**Answer:** Data integrity refers to the accuracy and consistency of data in a database.