# **Data Sorting**

* the ORDER BY keyword is used to sort the result-set in ascending or descending order.
* the ORDER BY keyword sorts the records in ascending order by default. To sort the records in descending order, use the DESC keyword.
* for string values the ORDER BY keyword will order alphabetically.
* We can also order by several cols. i.e., if one col has same value that we have to consider next col in the ORDER BY clause for comparison.

# **NULL VALUES**

* A field with a NULL value is a field with no value.
* It is not possible to test for NULL values with comparison operators, such as =, <, or <>.
* So, we use IS NULL and IS NOT NULL operators instead.

E.g., **WHERE column\_name IS NULL**

* **IS NULL** – is used to test for empty values.
* **IS NOT NULL** – is used to test for non-empty values.
* **IFNULL()** – method is used to return an explicit value if the data is null.

# **AUTO INCREMENT**

* allows a unique number to be generated automatically when a new record is inserted into a table.
* By default, the starting value for AUTO\_INCREMENT is 1, and it will increment by 1 for each new record.
* To set the custom starting value use:

**ALTER TABLE table\_name AUTO\_INCREMENT=100;**