**✅ Interview Questions (with concise answers)**

1. **What is a stored procedure?**  
   A stored procedure is a set of precompiled SQL statements stored in the database that can be executed as a single unit to perform a task.
2. **How are stored procedures different from functions?**
   * **Procedures**: Can return multiple values via OUT parameters; used for performing actions (insert, update, delete).
   * **Functions**: Must return a single value; often used for computations.
3. **What are IN, OUT parameters in SQL procedures?**
   * **IN**: Input values passed into the procedure.
   * **OUT**: Values returned back from the procedure.
4. **How do you call a stored procedure in SQL?**

**CALL procedure\_name(parameters...);**

1. **Can stored procedures return values?**  
   Yes, via OUT parameters or by returning result sets.
2. **What is the use of BEGIN...END block?**  
   It groups multiple SQL statements into a single block for execution.
3. **How can you handle errors in stored procedures?**
   * Using DECLARE ... HANDLER in MySQL.
   * Using TRY...CATCH in SQL Server.
4. **When would you prefer stored procedures over direct queries?**
   * Repeated operations
   * Security (hide logic, limit direct table access)
   * Performance (precompiled)
5. **How do transactions work inside stored procedures?**  
   Use **START TRANSACTION / COMMIT / ROLLBACK** (MySQL/Postgres) or BEGIN **TRANSACTION / COMMIT / ROLLBACK** (SQL Server).
6. **How can you update inventory using SQL logic?**  
   By decreasing stock after a sale, or increasing stock after a purchase/return.