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IT FDN 130 A

Assignment 07

Views, Functions, and Stored Procedures

Intro

This week is getting intense. It took me a while to figure out Question 6 and 7. I was sort of surprised that there's only one question for UDF. However, it is a nice design as we probably need to get familiar with the Common Functions first.

1.   Explain when you would use a SQL UDF.

I will use a SQL UDF when:

- I don't want to repeat the same procedure over and over for efficiency.
- I need to or want to use a function/procedure in a Select, Where, or Case statement.
- I need to or want to use a function/procedure to create joins.
- I need to or want to write fewer codes to invoke a function/procedure inside another statement.

2.   Explain the differences between Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions.

I conclude their differences as below:

	Parameters	Returns	Performance
Scalar	Any number	A Single Value	N/A
Inline	Multiple	A Virtual Table	Better in performance (treated as a view)
Multi-Statement	Not required	A Table-Type Result Set	Not as good in performance as Inline (Treated as a Table Variable)

Summary

Starting this week, we are saying goodbyes to the beginner stage. I look forward to assignments involving Scalar, Inline, and Multi-Statement Functions so we can compare them better. To be honest,

there are several concepts related to functions that I still feel strange, like table variable and table-type result set. By 'strange,' I mean I know the definition and maybe can recognize them, but I don't know what exactly they are.