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**INTRODUCTION:**

**SQL** is the most common language for extracting and organizing data that is stored in a relational database. A database is a table that consists of rows and columns. SQL is the language of the database. It facilitates retrieving specific information from that database which is further used for analysis.

**WHEN WE WOULD USE A SQL VIEW:**

A view is a stored SQL query. Every time a view is used, it executes its stored query and creates a result set consisting of rows and columns

**DIFFERENCES AND SIMILARITIES BETWEEN A VIEW, FUNCTION, AND STORED PROCEDURE:**

Store procedure and View both are different things. Store procedures are best used for INSERT, UPDATE, and DELETE statements. Whereas Views are used for Select statements.

1. A view represents a virtual table. You can join multiple tables in a view and use the view to present the data as if the data were coming from a single source.

A VIEW:

* Does not accept parameters.
* Can be used as a building block in a large query.
* Can contain only a single select query.
* Cannot perform modifications to any table.

1. A stored procedure:

* Accept parameters
* Can not be used as a building block in a large query.
* Can contain several statements.
* Can perform modifications to one or several tables.
* Can not be used as the target of an INSERT, UPDATE OR DELETE STATEMENT.

1. A Function:

* Can return only a single value.
* Can return a table of values.
* It allows only select statements in it.
* Generally used for computations.
* Can use parameters.