### **1. Retrieving Data with SELECT**

The SELECT statement is used to fetch data from a database. You can select specific columns or all columns using SELECT \*. For example:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses;

This statement retrieves all columns from the Expenses table.

### **2. Using Wildcards and Comparison Operators**

Wildcards and comparison operators help in filtering data more precisely. The % wildcard can be used with the LIKE operator to search for patterns. For instance, to find all expenses with descriptions containing "food":

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE description LIKE '%food%';

Comparison operators such as =, >, <, >=, and <= help in setting conditions. To find expenses over $100:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE amount > 100;

### **3. Filtering Data with WHERE Clause**

The WHERE clause is crucial for filtering data. You can use logical operators like AND, OR, and NOT to combine conditions. For example, to find expenses in January over $100:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE amount > 100 AND date BETWEEN '2024-01-01' AND '2024-01-31';

To find expenses in January or expenses over $100:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE date BETWEEN '2024-01-01' AND '2024-01-31' OR amount > 100;

### **4. Sorting Data with ORDER BY**

The ORDER BY clause is used to sort the results. By default, it sorts in ascending order, but you can specify DESC for descending order. For example, to sort expenses by date:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses ORDER BY date DESC;

To sort by amount and then by date:

sql

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SELECT \* FROM Expenses ORDER BY amount DESC, date ASC;

### **Example Queries**

Here are some example queries combining these concepts:

**Retrieve all expenses sorted by date:**sql  
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SELECT \* FROM Expenses ORDER BY date;

**Retrieve expenses over $50 sorted by amount:**sql  
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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE amount > 50 ORDER BY amount DESC;

**Retrieve expenses with "office" in the description from March:**sql  
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SELECT \* FROM Expenses WHERE description LIKE '%office%' AND date BETWEEN '2024-03-01' AND '2024-03-31';

These techniques will help you manage and analyze your financial data efficiently.