UNIQUE Constraint

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unique key

used whenever you would like to specify that you don't want to see duplicate data in a given field

365 Careers

UNIQUE Constraint

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```
- ensures that all values in a column (or a set of columns)
are different
```

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UNIQUE Constraint

- *unique keys* are implemented in SQL through a constraint – the UNIQUE Constraint

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  if you attempt to insert an already existing, duplicate value in the unique column, SQL will display an error
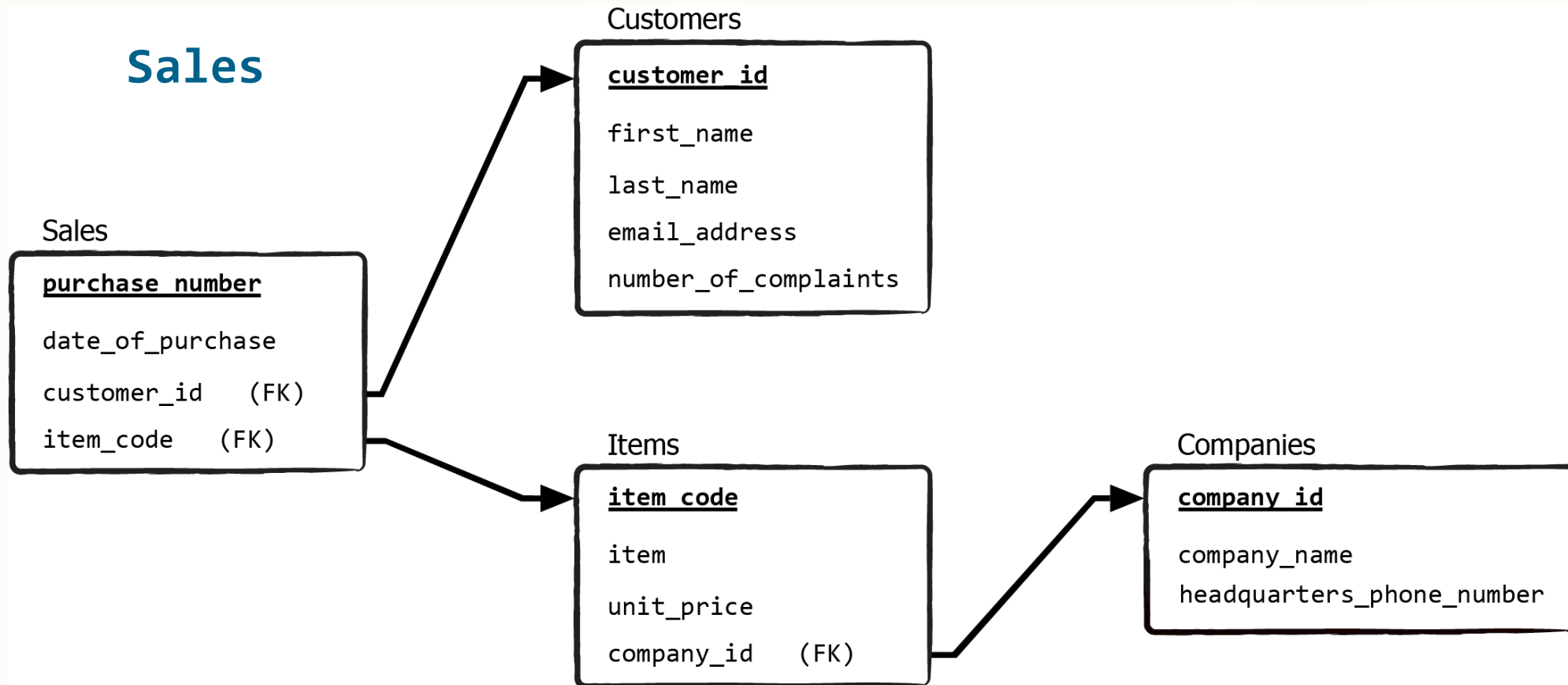
UNIQUE Constraint

- *unique keys* are implemented in SQL through a constraint – the <u>UNIQUE Constraint</u>

  if you attempt to insert an already existing, duplicate value in the unique column, SQL will display an error

  ERROR

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UNIQUE Constraint

Customers				
customer_id	first_name	last_name	email_address	number_of_complaints
1	John	McKinley	john.mackinley@365careers.com	0
2	Elizabeth	McFarlane	e.mcfarlane@365careers.com	2
3	Kevin	Lawrence	kevin.lawrence@365careers.com	1
4	Catherine	Winnfield	c.winnfield@365careers.com	0

UNIQUE Constraint

- **Indexes**

UNIQUE Constraint

<u>Indexes</u>

unique keys in MySQL have the same role as *indexes*

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index of a table

an organizational unit that helps retrieve data more easily

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UNIQUE Constraint

Indexes

unique keys in MySQL have the same role as *indexes*

the reverse isn't true **!!!**

index of a table

an organizational unit that helps retrieve data more easily

- it takes more time to update a table because indexes must be updated, too, and that's time consuming

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UNIQUE Constraint

```sql
ALTER TABLE table_name
DROP INDEX unique_key_field;
```

SQL

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