VIEWS

Subqueries and joins become complex. This is where views come to rescue.

SELECT C.CLIENT_ID, C.NAME, SUM(INVOICE_TOTAL) AS TOTAL_SALES

FROM CLIENTS C

JOIN INVOICES I

USING(CLIENT_ID)

GROUP BY C.CLIENT_ID, C.NAME;

Instead of writing select query each time, we can save this query in a view and use that view in many places.

CREATE VIEW SALES_BY_CLIENT AS
SELECT C.CLIENT_ID, C.NAME, SUM(INVOICE_TOTAL) AS TOTAL_SALES
FROM CLIENTS C
JOIN INVOICES I
USING(CLIENT_ID)
GROUP BY C.CLIENT_ID, C.NAME;
We can use this view just like table.

SELECT * FROM SALES_BY_CLIENT;

SELECT * FROM SALES_BY_CLIENT
ORDER BY TOTAL_SALES DESC;

SELECT * FROM SALES_BY_CLIENT
WHERE TOTAL_SALES > 5000;

SELECT * FROM SALES_BY_CLIENT
JOIN CLIENTS
USING(CLIENT_ID);

Views act as virtual table. Views don't store data. Data is stored in a table. A view just provides a view to a underlying table.