

38 SQL PROBLEMS

You'll See Again and Again
in 2025 Interviews



Rajat Jain



Helping you to learn Data Analytics

1. Find duplicate records in a table (Amazon)

```
SELECT column1, column2, COUNT(*)
FROM your_table
GROUP BY column1, column2
HAVING COUNT(*) > 1;
```

2. Retrieve the second highest salary from Employee table ()

```
SELECT MAX(salary) AS SecondHighestSalary
FROM Employee
WHERE salary < (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM Employee);
```

3. Find employees without department (Uber)

```
SELECT e.*
FROM Employeee
LEFT JOIN Department d ON e.department_id = d.department_id
WHERE d.department_id IS NULL;
```

4. Calculate the total revenue per product (PayPal)

```
SELECT product_id, SUM(quantity * price) AS total_revenue
FROM Sales
GROUP BY product_id;
```

5. Get the top 3 highest-paid employees (Google)

```
SELECT TOP3 *
FROM Employee
ORDER BY salary DESC;
```

6. Customers who made purchases but never returned products (Walmart)

```
SELECT DISTINCT c.customer_id
FROM Customers c
JOIN Orders o ON c.customer_id = o.customer_id
WHERE c.customer_id NOT IN (SELECT customer_id FROM Returns);
```

7. Show the count of orders per customer (Meta)

```
SELECT customer_id, COUNT(*) AS order_count
FROM Orders
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

8. Retrieve all employees who joined in 2023 (Amazon)

```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE YEAR(hire_date) = 2023;
```

9. Calculate average order value per customer (Microsoft)

```
SELECT customer_id, AVG(total_amount) AS avg_order_value
FROM Orders
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

10. Get the latest order placed by each customer (Uber)

```
SELECT customer_id, MAX(order_date) AS latest_order_date
FROM Orders
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

11. Find products that were never sold ()

```
SELECT p.product_id
FROM Products p
LEFT JOIN Sales s ON p.product_id = s.product_id
WHERE s.product_id IS NULL;
```

12. Identify the most selling product (Adobe/Walmart)

```
SELECT TOP 1 product_id, SUM(quantity) AS total_qty
FROM Sales
GROUP BY product_id
ORDER BY total_qty DESC;
```

13. Get total revenue and number of orders per region (Meta)

```
SELECT region, SUM(total_amount) AS total_revenue, COUNT(*) AS order_count
FROM Orders
GROUP BY region;
```

14. Count customers with more than 5 orders (Amazon)

```
SELECT COUNT(*) AS customer_count
FROM (
    SELECT customer_id FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id
    HAVING COUNT(*) > 5
) AS subquery;
```

15. Retrieve customers with orders above average order value (PayPal)

```
SELECT *
FROM Orders
WHERE total_amount > (SELECT AVG(total_amount) FROM Orders);
```

16. Find all employees hired on weekends (Google)

```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE DATENAME(WEEKDAY, hire_date) IN ('Saturday', 'Sunday');
```

17. Find all employees with salary between 50000 and 100000 (Microsoft)

```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE salary BETWEEN 50000 AND 100000;
```

18. Get monthly sales revenue and order count (Google)

```
SELECT FORMAT(date, 'yyyy-MM') AS month,
       SUM(amount) AS total_revenue,
       COUNT(order_id) AS order_count
  FROM Orders
 GROUP BY FORMAT(date, 'yyyy-MM');
```

19. Rank employees by salary within each department (Amazon)

```
SELECT employee_id, department_id, salary,  
       RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY department_id ORDER BY salary DESC) AS salary_rk  
FROM Employee;
```

20. Find customers who placed orders every month in 2023 (Meta)

```
SELECT customer_id  
FROM Orders  
WHERE YEAR(order_date) = 2023  
GROUP BY customer_id  
HAVING COUNT(DISTINCT FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy-MM')) = 12;
```

21. Find moving average of sales over the last 3 days (Microsoft)

```
SELECT order_date,  
       AVG(total_amount) OVER (ORDER BY order_date ROWS BETWEEN 2 PRECEDING AND CURRENT ROW)  
FROM Orders;
```

22. Identify the first and last order date for each customer (Uber)

```
SELECT customer_id, MIN(order_date) AS first_order, MAX(order_date) AS last_order  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

23. Show product sales distribution (percent of total revenue) (PayPal)

```
WITH TotalRevenue AS (  
    SELECT SUM(quantity * price) AS total FROM Sales  
)  
SELECT s.product_id,  
       SUM(s.quantity * s.price) AS revenue,  
       SUM(s.quantity * s.price) * 100 / t.total AS revenue_pct  
FROM Sales  
CROSS JOIN TotalRevenue t  
GROUP BY s.product_id, t.total;
```

24. Retrieve customers who made consecutive purchases (2 Days) (Walmart)

```
WITH cte AS (  
    SELECT id, order_date,  
           LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY id ORDER BY order_date) AS prev_order_date
```

```
FROM Orders
)
SELECT id, order_date, prev_order_date
FROM cte
WHERE DATEDIFF(DAY, prev_order_date, order_date) = 1;
```

25. Find churned customers (no orders in the last 6 months) (Amazon)

```
SELECT customer_id
FROM Orders
GROUP BY customer_id
HAVING MAX(order_date) < DATEADD(MONTH, -6, GETDATE());
```

26. Calculate cumulative revenue by day (Adobe)

```
SELECT order_date,
       SUM(total_amount) OVER (ORDER BY order_date) AS cumulative_revenue
FROM Orders;
```

27. Identify top-performing departments by average salary (Google)

```
SELECT department_id, AVG(salary) AS avg_salary
FROM Employee
GROUP BY department_id
ORDER BY avg_salary DESC;
```

28. Find customers who ordered more than the average number of orders per customer (Meta)

```
WITH customer_orders AS (
  SELECT customer_id, COUNT(*) AS order_count
  FROM Orders
  GROUP BY customer_id
)
SELECT * FROM customer_orders
WHERE order_count > (SELECT AVG(order_count) FROM customer_orders);
```

29. Calculate revenue generated from new customers (first-time orders) (Microsoft)

```
WITH first_orders AS (
  SELECT customer_id, MIN(order_date) AS first_order_date
```

```

FROM Orders
GROUP BY customer_id
)
SELECT SUM(o.total_amount) AS new_revenue
FROM Orders o
JOIN first_orders f ON o.customer_id = f.customer_id
WHERE o.order_date = f.first_order_date;

```

30. Find the percentage of employees in each department (Uber)

```

SELECT department_id, COUNT(*) AS emp_count,
       COUNT(*) * 100.0 / (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM Employee) AS pct
FROM Employee
GROUP BY department_id;

```

31. Retrieve the maximum salary difference within each department (PayPal)

```

SELECT department_id,
       MAX(salary) - MIN(salary) AS salary_diff
FROM Employee
GROUP BY department_id;

```

32. Find products that contribute to 80% of the revenue (Pareto Principle) (Walmart)

```

WITH sales_cte AS(
  SELECT product_id, SUM(qty * price) AS revenue
  FROM Sales
  GROUP BY product_id
),
total_revenue AS(
  SELECT SUM(revenue) AS total FROM sales_cte
)
SELECT s.product_id, s.revenue,
       SUM(s.revenue) OVER (ORDER BY s.revenue DESC ROWS BETWEEN UNBOUNDED PRECEDING AND CURRENT ROW) AS cumulative_revenue
FROM sales_cte s, total_revenue
WHERE SUM(s.revenue) OVER (ORDER BY s.revenue DESC ROWS BETWEEN UNBOUNDED PRECEDING AND CURRENT ROW) >= 0.8 * total_revenue.total

```

33. Calculate average time between two purchases for each customer (Meta)

```

WITH cte AS (
  SELECT customer_id, order_date,
         LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id ORDER BY order_date) AS prev_date
  FROM Orders
)
SELECT customer_id, AVG(order_date - prev_date) AS avg_time
FROM cte
GROUP BY customer_id;

```

```
)  
SELECT customer_id,  
       AVG(DATEDIFF(DAY, prev_date, order_date)) AS avg_gap_days  
FROM cte  
WHERE prev_date IS NOT NULL  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

34. Show last purchase for each customer along with order amount (Google)

```
WITH ranked_orders AS (  
    SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount,  
           ROW_NUMBER() OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id ORDER BY order_date DESC) AS rn  
    FROM Orders  
)  
SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount  
FROM ranked_orders  
WHERE rn = 1;
```

35. Calculate year-over-year growth in revenue (Microsoft)

```
SELECT FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy') AS year,  
       SUM(total_amount) AS revenue,  
       SUM(total_amount) - LAG(SUM(total_amount)) OVER (ORDER BY FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy'))  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy');
```

36. Detect customers whose purchase amount is higher than their historical 90th percentile (Amazon)

```
WITH ranked_orders AS (  
    SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount,  
           NTILE(10) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id ORDER BY total_amount) AS decile  
    FROM Orders  
)  
SELECT customer_id, order_id,  
       total_amount  
FROM ranked_orders  
WHERE decile = 10;
```

37. Retrieve the longest gap between orders for each customer (Meta)

```
WITH cte AS (  
    SELECT customer_id, order_date,  
           LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id ORDER BY order_date) AS prev_order_da  
    FROM Orders
```

```
)  
SELECT customer_id,  
       MAX(DATEDIFF(DAY, prev_order_date, order_date)) AS max_gap  
FROM cte  
WHERE prev_order_date IS NOT NULL  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

38. Identify customers with revenue below the 10th percentile (Google)

```
WITH cte AS (  
    SELECT customer_id, SUM(total_amount) AS total_revenue  
    FROM Orders  
    GROUP BY customer_id  
)  
SELECT customer_id, total_revenue  
FROM cte  
WHERE total_revenue < (SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.1) WITHIN GROUP (ORDER BY total_revenue) FROM cte);
```

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