This chapter six explains an important distinction between data and information. It also prepares the student in the process of planning and creating a database. It goes through the relational database theory with examples of data, information, and tables. It associates the elements of the conceptual model like entities with tables, and the attributes with columns. What I did not see in this chapter is the term “tuple” (the collection of columns from different tables as one row), but it does mention the maximum size for rows or records of 8,060 bytes that SQL Server enforces.

It shows a picture of the SSMS table designer and explains what *schemas* are. Examples of queries appear on this chapter in a very clear and easy to understand way. It goes through the three types of relationships between tables: one-to-one, one-to-many, and many-to-many. It also explains the use of a one-to-one relationship: 1) database system constrains, 2) improved security, and 3) improved performance. It covers the database design processes: SDLC, Database Life Cycle, and the BUM (Business Users Model).

One thing I found interesting was the six steps of the Database Life Cycle:

* Initiation
* Design
* Build and load
* Test
* Implementation, and
* Operations.

Another interesting thing in this chapter is the phases in the project management DBAs need to go through:

1. Define 2) Design 3) Deliver, and 4) Determine.

These phases reminded me one of the classes with Project Management as one of the topics.

References

Carpenter, T. (2013) Microsoft SQL Server 2012 administration