Querying Relational Databases Part 2 Notes

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1 Unique Keys

- Is configured so that no value can be repeated

- Can be null (if schema permits)

- Can have multiple unique keys per table

  - e.g. unique emails column, and uniqe ssn column in one table

- Can be modified to a new value

  - As long as it is not conflicted with others

2 PRIMARY Keys

- Never be null

- One primary key per table

- Cannot be modified to a new value

Person Table

PRIMARY KEY

id	name	ssn
1	Jan	123-12-1234
2	Steve	333-33-3333
2	Dorian	444-44-444

Not allowed. Nono.

3   Quiz 1

1. What happens when a Unique Constraint is violated in a database system?

   A. An email alert is sent to the Database Administrator.

   B. The database locks up until the Database Administrator does a reboot.

   C. The database does not allow the data to be written to the table and an error is returned.

   D. The database allows the data to be written anyway.

   Answer: C

2. What data type does a primary key have to be?

   A. Integer

   B. Text

   C. Either, as long as the value guarantees uniqueness

   Answer: C

3. Which of the following is NOT something a database key can do?

    A. Ensure a value does not repeat within a given column.

    B. Guarantee a table does not return data when queried unless a specific password is supplied.

    C. Guarantee an entire row is unique within a table.

    D. Act as a pointer or a link back to another table.

    Answer: B

4. A Primary Key will allow one NULL value, but no more than that.

    A. True

    B. False

    Answer: B

4 Foreign Keys