A prepared statement is a feature used to execute the same (or similar) SQL statements repeatedly with high efficiency.

Prepared statements basically work like this:

Prepare: An SQL statement template is created and sent to the database. Certain values are left unspecified, called parameters (labeled "?"). Example: INSERT INTO table\_name VALUES(?, ?, ?)

This function binds the parameters to the SQL query and tells the database what the parameters are. The "isb" argument lists the types of data that the parameters are. The s character tells mysql that the parameter is a string.

The argument may be one of four types:

* i - integer
* d - double
* s - string
* b – BLOB