Joining Functions Worksheet

Softball relies on a player’s ability to score runs by stepping up to home plate and batting. The statistics that are collected can determine the batting order, what pitches a pitcher throws and even where the infielders and outfielders stand. This worksheet looks at some simple batting stats over two seasons through the use of joining functions (this is only a small window of a bigger dataset). When there are more than one datasets, it is important to be able to merge them in cases where you want to compare. In this case, we want to compare batting statistics over two seasons. The complete datasets can be used to do further calculations and comparisons.

**batting2021**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Player** | **team** | **R** | **H** |
| Aaliyah Swan | Cal State Northridge | 8 | 20 |
| Abbey Latham | Ole Miss | 25 | 53 |
| Bella Rocco | Boise State | 16 | 42 |
| Carson Fischer | Northern Colorado | 11 | 15 |
| Drew Dudley | Austin Peay | 10 | 29 |
| Emily Gant | Boston University | 31 | 36 |

**batting2022**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Player** | **team** | **R** | **H** |
| Aaliyah Swan | Cal State Northridge | 16 | 23 |
| Abbey Latham | Ole Miss | 36 | 45 |
| Bella Rocco | Boise State | 10 | 29 |
| Emily Gant | Boston University | 40 | 55 |
| Lexi Osowski | Austin Peay | 42 | 64 |
| Mikayla Allee | Ole Miss | 36 | 28 |

Joining functions:

1. left\_join
2. right\_join
3. full\_join
4. inner\_join
5. semi\_join
6. anti\_join

Questions

1. Which of the joining functions are mutating joins and which are filtering joins?

1. When using a join function, which variable would you want to use as your key and why looking at the datasets above?

1. Draw the dataset you would create when using a left\_join of batting2022 to batting2021.

1. Are you keeping the player names from batting2022 or batting2021?

4. Would the dataset created by a right\_join of batting2022 to batting2021 be identical to the dataset created in question 3? Why or why not?

5. What is the difference between a full\_join and inner\_join? Answer based on what players would be included in each dataset.

1. How many rows would result from a full\_join of batting2021 and batting2022?

6. Looking at the new table created below, what join function do you think created it and why?

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Player** | **team** | **R.x** | **H.y** | **R.x** | **H.y** |
| Aaliyah Swan | Cal State Northridge | 8 | 20 | 16 | 23 |
| Abbey Latham | Ole Miss | 25 | 53 | 36 | 45 |
| Bella Rocco | Boise State | 16 | 42 | 10 | 29 |
| Emily Gant | Boston University | 31 | 36 | 40 | 55 |

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7.  Draw the dataset you would create when using an anti\_join of batting2022 to batting2021.

8. If we wanted to see if players' performances improved or not from the 2021 season to the 2022 season, which of the previously mentioned join functions would be the most practical? Explain.