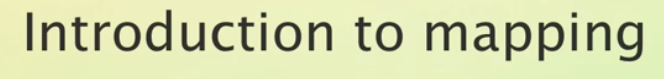
1. 
2. **Agenda**: In this section, we’re going to be looking at something called mapping.
3. In Elasticsearch, mappings are used to define how documents and their fields should be stored and indexed.
4. The point of doing this is to store and index data in a way that is appropriate for how we want to search our data.
5. A couple of examples of what mappings can be used for could be to define which fields should be treated as full text fields and which fields contain numbers, dates, or geographical locations.
6. You can also specify the date formats for date fields, and also specify analyzers for full text fields
7. Those were just a few examples of what mappings can be used for.
8. You can kind of think of mapping in Elasticsearch as the equivalent of defining a schema for a table in a RDBMS, such as MySQL.

Elasticsearch and relational db are very different technologies, so this analogy is not too accurate, but perhaps it helps to give an overall idea of what mapping is all about.

1. For simple use cases, you often don’t have to actively deal with mappings, but if you need greater control over how Elasticsearch handles your data, then you need to know how to define mappings.  
   **NOTE**: If adding mapping is not a requirement, then how Elasticsearch knows how to handle, store and index our data?  
   Well, let’s take a look… in next lecture.