# Definitions

## What is SQL?

SQL (Structured Query Language) is a special-purpose programming language designed for managing data held in a relational database management system (RDBMS).

SQL consists of:

* Data Manipulation Language (DML)
  + SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE
* Data Definition Language (DDL)
  + CREATE, DROP, ALTER
  + GRANT, REVOKE

## What is DML?

A data manipulation language (DML) is a family of syntax elements similar to a computer programming language used for selecting, inserting, deleting and updating data in a database.

## What is DDL?

A data definition language or data description language (DDL) is a syntax similar to a computer programming language for defining data structures, especially database schemas.

## Recite the most important SQL commands.

* SELECT - extracts data from a database
* UPDATE - updates data in a database
* DELETE - deletes data from a database
* INSERT INTO - inserts new data into a database
* INNER JOIN/LEFT JOIN/RIGHT JOIN/FULL JOIN – joins two tables from a database
* CREATE DATABASE - creates a new database
* ALTER DATABASE - modifies a database
* CREATE TABLE - creates a new table
* ALTER TABLE - modifies a table
* DROP TABLE - deletes a table
* CREATE INDEX - creates an index (search key)
* DROP INDEX - deletes an index

## What is Transact-SQL (T-SQL)?

Transact-SQL (T-SQL) is Microsoft's and Sybase's proprietary extension to SQL. T-SQL expands on the SQL standard to include procedural programming, local variables, various support functions for string processing, date processing, mathematics, etc. and changes to the DELETE and UPDATE statements.