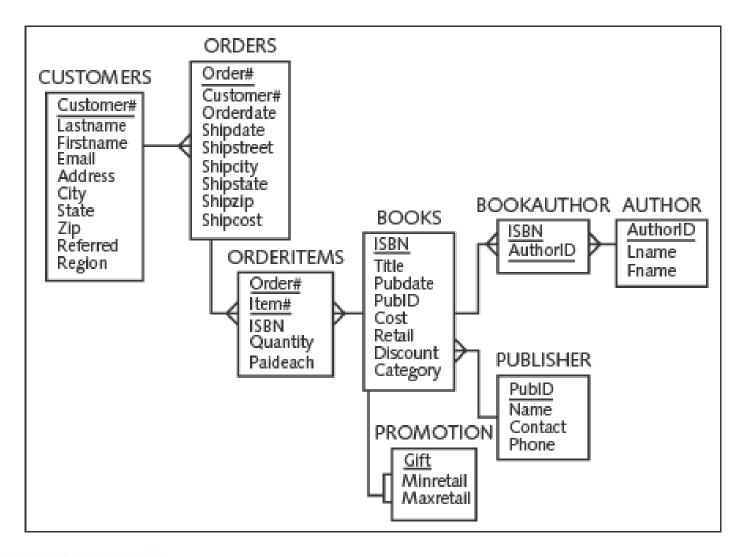
Database Systems Basic SELECT Statements

CS 630 Database Systems
Professor Nardi



Normalized JustLee Books Database...





SELECT Statement Syntax – Part 1...

- Used to Retrieve Data From a Database...
- Referred to as a Query...
- Format is Always SELECT what data FROM which tables WHERE what condition(s) is true...

No Matter How Complicated It Make Get, This is ALWAYS the Basic

Structure...

```
SELECT [DISTINCT | UNIQUE] (*, columnname [ AS alias], ...)
FROM tablename
[WHERE condition]
[GROUP BY group_by_expression]
[HAVING group_condition]
[ORDER BY columnname];
```



SELECT Statement Syntax – Part 2...

- SELECT and FROM Clauses Are Required...
- SELECT Clause Identifies Column(s)...
- FROM Clause Identifies Table(s)...
- WHERE Clause is Optional...

```
SELECT [DISTINCT | UNIQUE] (*, columnname [ AS alias], ...)

FROM tablename

[WHERE condition]

[GROUP BY group_by_expression]

[HAVING group_condition]

[ORDER BY columnname];
```



Selecting One Column From a Table...

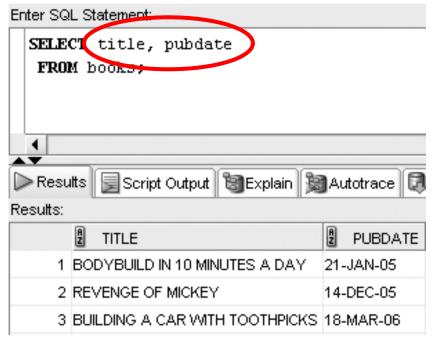
Enter the Column Name in the SELECT Clause...

Enter SQL Statement:
SELECT title
FROM books;
4
AV
Results Script Output SExplain A
Results:
2 TITLE
1 BODYBUILD IN 10 MINUTES A DAY
2 REVENGE OF MICKEY



Selecting Multiple Columns From a Table...

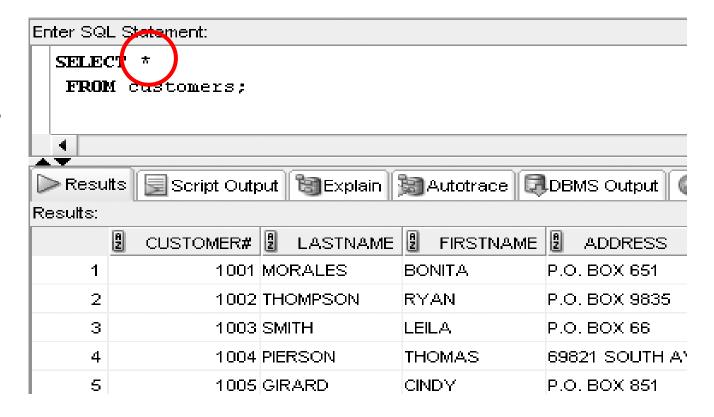
- Enter the Column Names in the SELECT Clause...
- Separate Column Names With a Comma...





Selecting All Data In a Table...

- Substitute an Asterisk for the Column Names in a SELECT Clause...
- Returns ALL Data From EVERY Column...
- NEVER USE THE "*"...
- NEVER NEVER USE IT!...





Operations Within the SELECT Statement...

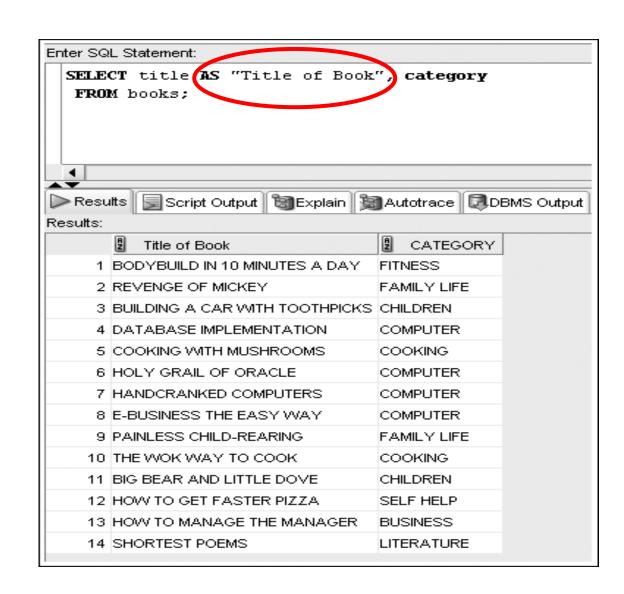
- Use Column Alias For Column Headings...
- Perform Arithmetic Operations...
- Suppress Duplicates...
- Concatenate Data...



Using Column Aliases...

- List the Alias After the Column Heading...
- AS Keyword Is Optional...
- Enclose in Double Quotation Marks:
 - If It Contains Blank Space(s)...
 - If It Contains Special Symbol(s)...
 - To Retain Case...

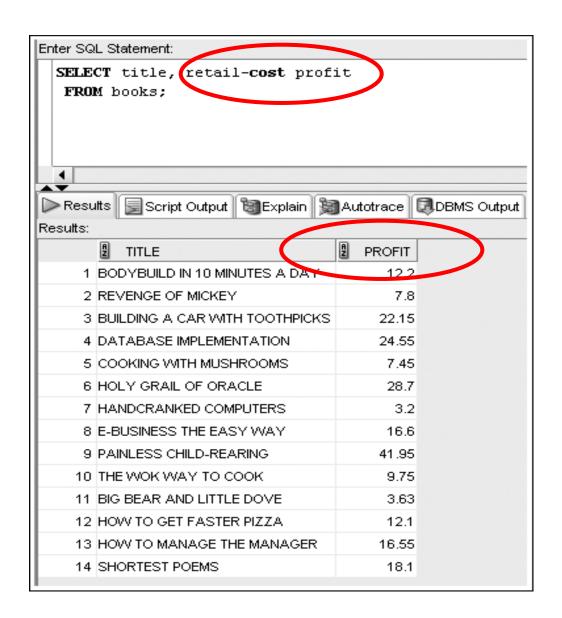




Using Arithmetic Operations...

- Arithmetic Operations...
 - Executed Left To Right...
 - Multiplication and Division Are Solved First...
 - Addition and Subtraction Are Solved Last...
 - ALWAYS USE PARENTHESES TO GUARANTEE ORDER...
- Use a Column Alias For Display Purposed...





NULL Values...

- Represents an Unknown or a Missing Value...
- A NULL VALUE DOES NOT MEAN A ZERO OR AN EMPTY TEXT STRING...
- Zero (0) Can Have Meaning...i.e., the Balance of a Bank Account, Amount of a Product in Stock...
- A Blank Space is a Valid Character...i.e., City Is Not Part of a Country,
 Someone Has No Middle Initial...



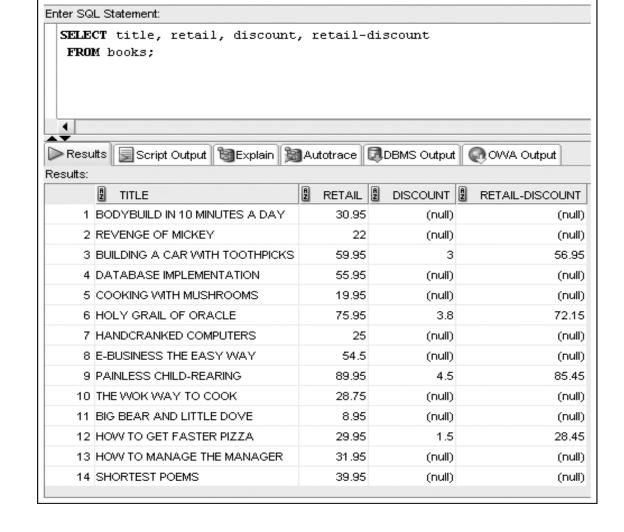
Why Use NULLS?...

- AGAIN...NULL VALUE DOES NOT MEAN A ZERO OR AN EMPTY TEXT STRING...
- Can Be Useful in Determining Whether or Not Data Has Been Entered for a Value...i.e., If Someone Does Not Have a Middle Name, the Field Can Be Null...If You Are Uncertain What Category Something Belongs to You Can Leave it NULL Until You Find Out...
- Numbers Can Be NULL...But Using NULLS in a Calculation Results in a NULL Value...
- Functions Can Be Used to Replace NULL Values With a 0 (Much More on That Later)...



NULL Value Example...

- Is It Desirable to Have a Discount of NULL?...
- Do You Want to Show \$0 Instead?...
- This Will Help You to Determine If a Field Can/Should Be NULL?...
- Remember to Define NULL When Creating the Table...





DISTINCT vs. UNIQUE...



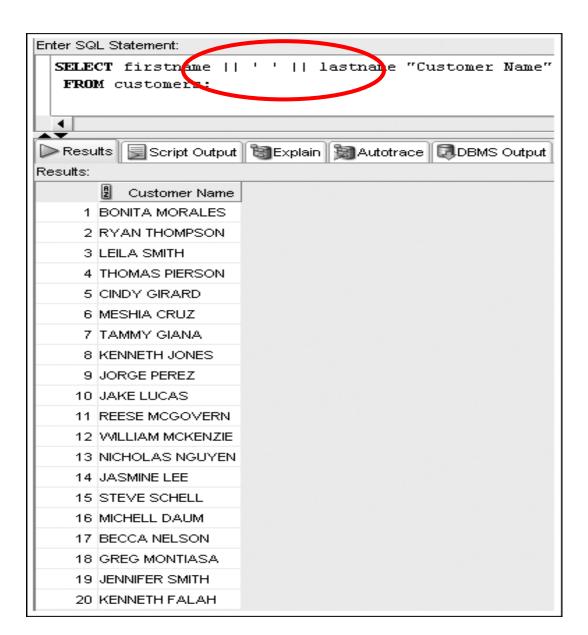
- In General When It Comes to a SELECT, UNIQUE is Older Syntax Used By Oracle...
- In a SELECT Statement, SELECT DISTINCT Removes All Duplicate Records When Returning Information...
- UNIQUE Is Still Used to Put a UNIQUE Constraints on Field That is NOT the Primary Key...
- For Example...a STUDENT Table May Have a PK of Student ID...But It Can Also Have a UNIQUE Constraints on SSN...



Concatenation in a SELECT...

- Used to Combine Data With a String Literal...
- Uses the Concatenation Operator,
 ||...
- Makes the Return Dataset More Readable...
- Make Sure You Concatenate
 Spaces Where Needed...
- Allows the Use of Column Aliases...





Questions...

