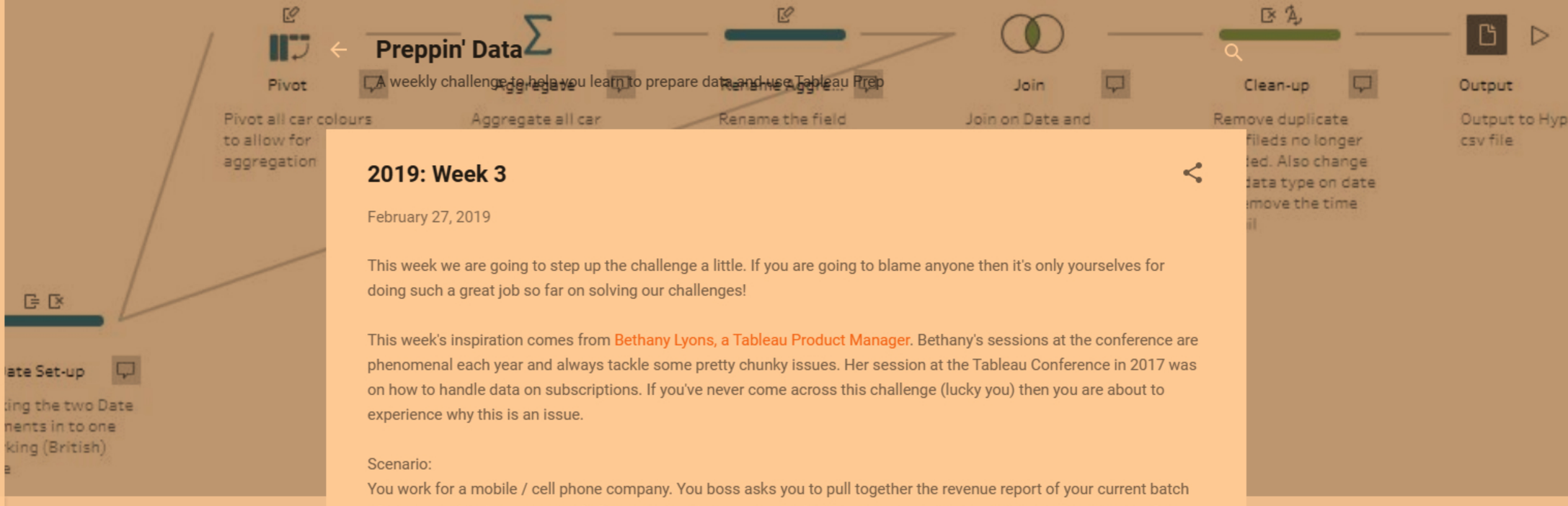

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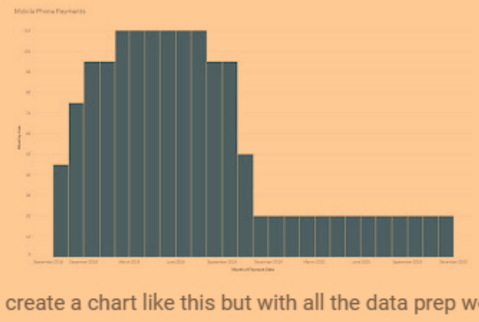
2019: Week 3

February 27, 2019

This week we are going to step up the challenge a little. If you are going to blame anyone then it's only yourselves for doing such a great job so far on solving our challenges!

This week's inspiration comes from Bethany Lyons, a Tableau Product Manager. Bethany's sessions at the conference are phenomenal each year and always tackle some pretty chunky issues. Her session at the Tableau Conference in 2017 was on how to handle data on subscriptions. If you've never come across this challenge (lucky you) then you are about to experience why this is an issue.

Scenario:
You work for a mobile / cell phone company. You boss asks you to pull together the revenue report of your current batch of contracts (sadly there are only four contracts!). They need to know how much revenue is generated each month from these contracts whilst they are 'live' (ie from their start date until 'x' months in the future when the contract runs out).



The aim of the week is to be able to create a chart like this but with all the data prep work done in Tableau Prep Builder. If you think that is simple - here's the input data:

Name	Monthly Cost	Contract Length (months)	Start Date
Carl	20	24	13/12/2018
Jonathan	15	6	22/02/2019
Andy	45	12	17/10/2018
Sophie	30	12	19/11/2018

Requirements for this week:

- Import the file
- Make sure you use both sheets
- Use one sheet to help you create a row of data for each month the person's contract is 'live' for
- Remove unnecessary fields of data
- Output for use within Tableau Desktop
- Recreate the viz

Payment Date	Name	Monthly Cost	Contract Length (months)	Start Date
19/11/2018	Sophie	30	12	19/11/2018
17/10/2018	Andy	45	12	17/10/2018
22/02/2019	Jonathan	15	6	22/02/2019
13/12/2018	Carl	20	24	13/12/2018
19/12/2018	Sophie	30	12	19/11/2018
17/11/2018	Andy	45	12	17/10/2018
22/03/2019	Jonathan	15	6	22/02/2019
13/01/2019	Carl	20	24	13/12/2018

Your output file should:

- Have five columns
- Have fifty-five rows of data (including the headers)
- Be at the person, per month level of detail
- Have no cells without a value
- Save as a .tde or .hyper file (csv if you are not going to build the view in Tableau Desktop)

For comparison, here's our output file. Don't to forget to fill in our participation tracker!

Date Calculations Join

Popular posts from this blog

2023: Week 1 The Data Source Bank

January 04, 2023

Created by: Carl Allchin Welcome to a New Year of Preppin' Data. These are weekly exercises to help you learn and develop data preparation skills. We publish the challenges on a Wednesday and share a solution the following Tuesday. You can take the challenges whenever you want and we love to see y…

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2021: Week 22 - Answer Smash

June 02, 2021

Challenge By: Jenny Martin Recently, my family and I have become quite invested in the TV quiz show Richard Osman's House of Games . The final round is always a round called Answer Smash. In this round you have a picture and question and you have to "smash" the name of the picture with the answ…

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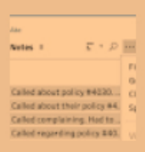
How to...Handle Free Text

January 24, 2020



Free isn't always a good thing. In data, Free text is the example to state when proving that statements correct. However, lots of benefit can be gained from understanding data that has been entered in Free Text fields. What do we mean by Free Text? Free Text is the string based data that comes from allowi…

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