**Spark SQL** is a **Spark module** for structured data processing. It provides a programming abstraction called **DataFrames** and can also act as a **distributed SQL query engine**. [With Spark SQL, unmodified Hadoop Hive queries can run up to **100 times faster** on existing deployments and data1](https://medium.com/@rupa.mahanti0/11-free-resources-for-learning-spark-3b05a381aef0).

Here are **five free resources** where you can learn more about Spark SQL:

1. [**Databricks**](https://www.databricks.com/glossary/what-is-spark-sql): Databricks provides a comprehensive guide to Spark SQL, covering its features, advantages, and practical usage[1](https://medium.com/@rupa.mahanti0/11-free-resources-for-learning-spark-3b05a381aef0).
2. [**Spark By Examples**](https://sparkbyexamples.com/spark/spark-sql-explained/): This website offers explanations and examples of Spark SQL operations, making it a great starting point for beginners[2](https://sparkbyexamples.com/spark/spark-sql-explained/).
3. [**Medium - Introduction to Apache Spark for Data Engineering**](https://medium.com/@DataEngineeer/introduction-to-apache-spark-for-data-engineering-d2060166165a): Dive into Spark SQL concepts and learn how it fits into the big data ecosystem[3](https://medium.com/@DataEngineeer/introduction-to-apache-spark-for-data-engineering-d2060166165a).
4. [**Great Learning Academy**](https://www.mygreatlearning.com/spark/free-courses): Explore free online courses on Apache Spark, including Spark Basics and PySpark[4](https://www.mygreatlearning.com/spark/free-courses).
5. [**Coursera - Apache Spark SQL for Data Analysts**](https://www.coursera.org/learn/apache-spark-sql-for-data-analysts): This course teaches you how to leverage your existing SQL skills to work with Spark and Delta Lake[5](https://www.coursera.org/learn/apache-spark-sql-for-data-analysts).

Happy learning! 🚀