RAISERROR ('Error message', severity, state);

| **Part** | **Meaning** |
| --- | --- |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 'Error message' | The **text** you want to show (example: 'Invalid phone number') |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| severity | A **number** that shows how serious the error is |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| state | A **number** from 1 to 255 — just a small tag to identify the location of error |

**What is ERROR\_SEVERITY()?**

* ERROR\_SEVERITY() is a **system function** in SQL Server.
* It is used **inside the CATCH block** to tell **how serious the error is** (in numbers).
* The **value is a number** from **0 to 25**.

| **Severity** | **Meaning (Simple)** | **Who should fix it?** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0–9 | **Information only** (not real errors) | No action needed |
| 10 | Warning or message (not a real error) | Just informs |
| 11–16 | **User errors** – like wrong input, invalid query | ✅ You (the user or developer) can fix it |
| 17–19 | **System errors** – like server resource issues | Admin might be needed |
| 20–25 | **Serious system errors** – connection lost, database may shut down | Handled by SQL Server automatically |

 16 – This is the most used severity in your stored procedures.

 It means: **User made a mistake** (like invalid phone number or duplicate ID)

### What is ERROR\_STATE()?

Think of it as a **code number** that tells **where exactly the error happened** inside SQL Server.

It is not very important for beginners, but SQL uses it **internally** to help identify or track errors better.

### 🧠 Real-life Example (Very Simple):

Imagine a school has different rooms:

* Room 1: Admission section
* Room 2: Exam section
* Room 3: Fees section

Now, a problem happens.

* ERROR\_MESSAGE() says: “Light not working”
* ERROR\_SEVERITY() says: Serious (level 16)
* ERROR\_STATE() says: Room 2 (Exam section)

So from ERROR\_STATE(), SQL knows **where** in the system the error happened.

### First, what is ERROR\_STATE()?

* ERROR\_STATE() is a **number (1–255)** that gives **more info** about **where the error happened** inside SQL Server.
* It is mainly useful for **advanced debugging** or for **Microsoft support** — not usually important for beginners.

| **State** | **Meaning (Simple)** |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Most **general/default** errors. Very common. |
| 2–10 | Sometimes used for **specific checks** (e.g., permission issues, language settings, etc.) |
| 11–16 | Usually means a **user error** that **you can fix**, like wrong data or constraint issues. |
| 17–25 | **More serious system-level errors** (memory issues, hardware, etc.). Often need admin help. |
| > 25 | **Rare or internal errors**. SQL Server uses this to track low-level bugs. |