N.Memarzadeh assignment 5.2

NOW(): The NOW() function returns us the current date and time. It is especially useful when we want to log timestamps when records are created or updated. Take that as an example; within an employee's clocking in to work, NOW() could be used to automatically log the exact time they started working, providing detailed tracking the hours spent in work.

Alias: Timestamp or Clock_In_Time

SELECT NOW() AS Timestamp;

```
mysql> SELECT NOW() AS Timestamp;
+---------------------+
| Timestamp           |
+---------------------+
| 2024-11-12 08:40:13 |
+---------------------+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

LENGTH(): LENGTH() returns the number of characters in the string, this is useful for validation input. For instance, if you want an application to ask the user to enter a credit card number, LENGTH() can be called so that when the transaction is complete, the input matches exactly 16 digits.

Alias: Card_Length

SELECT LENGTH('1234567890123456') AS Card_Length;

```
mysql> SELECT LENGTH('1234567890123456') AS Card_Length;
+-------------+
| Card_Length |
+-------------+
|          16 |
+-------------+
1 row in set (0.01 sec)
```

UPPER(): The UPPER() function converts to upper case. This can be used to standardized user input, for instance, when it comes to data that has to be formatted uniformly. In an email marketing application, for example, you could UPPER() so all customer names are capitalized when you put them in an email subject line, and communications would look the same.

Alias: City_Name

SELECT UPPER('aliso viejo') AS City_Name;

```
mysql> SELECT UPPER('aliso viejo') AS City_Name;
+-------------+
| City_Name   |
+-------------+
| ALISO VIEJO |
+-------------+
1 row in set (0.01 sec)
```

CONCAT(): CONCAT() concatenates many strings into one string which helps us in creating combined fields. So if you store addresses like street, city and postal code in individual columns, you could CONCAT() those address elements to create a single address field for printing on an invoice or mailing label.

Alias: Full_Address

SELECT CONCAT('65 Enterprise, ', 'Aliso Viejo, ', 'CA, ', '92656') AS Full_Address;

```
mysql> SELECT CONCAT('65 Enterprise, ', 'Aliso Viejo, ', 'CA, ', '92656') AS Full_Address;
+----------------------------------+
| Full_Address                     |
+----------------------------------+
| 65 Enterprise, Aliso Viejo, CA, 92656 |
+----------------------------------+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```