1. What is the difference between "Merge" and "Append" in Power Query?

Merge = JOIN (add columns)

Append = UNION (add rows)

5 What is the purpose of "Reference" vs. "Duplicate" in queries?

Duplicate

Makes a full copy of the selected query.

The new query is independent \rightarrow if you change the original query, the duplicate does **not** update.

Useful when you want two similar queries but plan to modify them separately.

Reference

Creates a linked query that depends on the original query.

If the original query changes, the referenced query automatically updates with those changes.

Useful for creating multiple outputs (e.g., one cleaned dataset \rightarrow then reference it to build different reports).