

SQL INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

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Top 70 advanced SQL questions and answers for query writing!

1. How to retrieve the second-highest salary of an employee?

```
SELECT MAX(salary) FROM employees  
WHERE salary < (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM employees);
```

2. How to get the nth highest salary in ?

```
SELECT salary  
FROM (  
SELECT salary, DENSE_RANK() OVER  
(ORDER BY salary DESC) AS rank  
FROM employees) AS ranked_salaries WHERE rank = N;
```

3. How do you fetch all employees whose salary is greater than the average salary?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE salary > (SELECT AVG(salary) FROM employees);
```

4. Write a query to display the current date and time in .

```
SELECT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP;
```

5. How to find duplicate records in a table?

```
SELECT column_name, COUNT(*) FROM table_name  
GROUP BY column_name HAVING COUNT(*) > 1;
```

6. How can you delete duplicate rows in ?

```
WITH CTE AS (  
    SELECT column_name,  
    ROW_NUMBER() OVER (PARTITION BY column_name ORDER BY  
    column_name) AS row_num FROM table_name  
)  
DELETE FROM CTE WHERE row_num > 1;
```

7. How to get the common records from two tables?

```
SELECT *  
FROM table1 INTERSECT SELECT *  
FROM table2;
```

8. How to retrieve the last 10 records from a table?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
ORDER BY employee_id DESC LIMIT 10;
```

9. How do you fetch the top 5 employees with the highest salaries?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees ORDER BY salary DESC LIMIT 5;
```

10. How to calculate the total salary of all employees?

```
SELECT SUM(salary) FROM employees;
```

11. How to write a query to find all employees who joined in the year 2020?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE YEAR(join_date) = 2020;
```

12. Write a query to find employees whose name starts with 'A'.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees WHERE name LIKE 'A%';
```

13. How can you find the employees who do not have a manager?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE manager_id IS NULL;
```

14. How to find the department with the highest number of employees?

```
SELECT department_id, COUNT(*) FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id ORDER BY COUNT(*) DESC LIMIT 1;
```

15. How to get the count of employees in each department?

```
SELECT department_id, COUNT(*) FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id;
```

16. Write a query to fetch employees having the highest salary in each department.

```
SELECT department_id, employee_id, salary
FROM employees AS e
WHERE salary = (SELECT MAX(salary) FROM employees
WHERE department_id = e.department_id);
```

17. How to write a query to update the salary of all employees by 10%?

```
UPDATE employees
SET salary = salary * 1.1;
```

18. How can you find employees whose salary is between 50,000 and 1,00,000?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE salary BETWEEN 50000 AND 100000;
```

19. How to find the youngest employee in the organization?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
ORDER BY birth_date DESC LIMIT 1;
```

20. How to fetch the first and last record from a table?

```
(SELECT * FROM employees ORDER BY employee_id ASC LIMIT 1)
UNION ALL
(SELECT * FROM employees ORDER BY employee_id DESC LIMIT 1);
```

21. Write a query to find all employees who report to a specific manager.

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```
SELECT *
FROM employees WHERE manager_id = ?;
```

22. How can you find the total number of departments in the company?

```
SELECT COUNT(DISTINCT department_id) FROM employees;
```

23. How to find the department with the lowest average salary?

```
SELECT department_id, AVG(salary) FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id ORDER BY AVG(salary) ASC LIMIT 1;
```

24. How to delete all employees from a department in one query?

```
DELETE FROM employees WHERE department_id = ?;
```

25. How to display all employees who have been in the company for more than 5 years?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE DATEDIFF(CURDATE(), join_date) > 2020;
```

26. How to find the second-largest value from a table?

```
SELECT MAX(column_name) FROM table_name
WHERE column_name < (SELECT MAX(column_name) FROM table_name);
```

27. How to write a query to remove all records from a table but keep the table structure?

```
TRUNCATE TABLE table_name;
```

28. Write a query to get all employee records in XML format.

```
SELECT employee_id, name, department_id FROM employees  
FOR XML AUTO;
```

29. How to get the current month's name from ?

```
SELECT MONTHNAME(CURDATE());
```

30. How to convert a string to lowercase in ?

```
SELECT LOWER('STRING_VALUE');
```

31. How to find all employees who do not have any subordinates?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE employee_id NOT IN (SELECT manager_id FROM employees WHERE  
manager_id IS NOT NULL);
```

32. Write a query to calculate the total sales per customer in a sales table.

```
SELECT customer_id, SUM(sales_amount) FROM sales  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

33. How to write a query to check if a table is empty?

```
SELECT CASE  
WHEN EXISTS (SELECT 1 FROM table_name) THEN 'Not Empty'  
ELSE 'Empty' END;
```

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34. How to find the second highest salary for each department?

```
SELECT department_id, salary
FROM (SELECT department_id, salary,
DENSE_RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY department_id ORDER BY salary
DESC) AS rank
FROM employees) AS ranked_salaries WHERE rank = 2;
```

35. Write a query to fetch employees whose salary is a multiple of 10,000.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE salary % 10000 = 0;
```

36. How to fetch records where a column has null values?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE column_name IS NULL;
```

37. How to write a query to find the total number of employees in each job title?

```
SELECT job_title, COUNT(*) FROM employees
GROUP BY job_title;
```

38. Write a query to fetch all employees whose names end with ‘n’.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees WHERE name LIKE '%n' ;
```

39. How to find all employees who work in both departments 101 and 102?

```
SELECT employee_id FROM employees
```

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```
WHERE department_id IN (101, 102) GROUP BY employee_id  
HAVING COUNT(DISTINCT department_id) = 2;
```

40. Write a query to fetch the details of employees with the same salary.

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE salary IN (SELECT salary  
FROM employees GROUP BY salary HAVING COUNT(*) > 1);
```

41. How to update salaries of employees based on their department?

```
UPDATE employees SET salary = CASE  
WHEN department_id = 101 THEN salary * 1.10 WHEN department_id =  
102 THEN salary * 1.05 ELSE salary  
END;
```

42. How to write a query to list all employees without a department?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE department_id IS NULL;
```

43. Write a query to find the maximum salary and minimum salary in each department.

```
SELECT department_id, MAX(salary), MIN(salary) FROM employees  
GROUP BY department_id;
```

44. How to list all employees hired in the last 6 months?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees
```

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```
WHERE hire_date > ADDDATE(CURDATE(), INTERVAL -6 MONTH);
```

45. Write a query to display department-wise total and average salary.

```
SELECT department_id, SUM(salary) AS total_salary, AVG(salary) AS avg_salary FROM employees  
GROUP BY department_id;
```

46. How to find employees who joined the company in the same month and year as their manager?

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.name FROM employees e  
JOIN employees m ON e.manager_id = m.employee_id WHERE  
MONTH(e.join_date) = MONTH(m.join_date) AND YEAR(e.join_date) =  
YEAR(m.join_date);
```

47. Write a query to count the number of employees whose names start and end with the same letter.

```
SELECT COUNT(*)  
FROM employees  
WHERE LEFT(name, 1) = RIGHT(name, 1);
```

48. How to retrieve employee names and salaries in a single string?

```
SELECT CONCAT(name, ' earns ', salary) AS employee_info FROM  
employees;
```

49. How to find employees whose salary is higher than their manager's salary?

```
SELECT e.employee_id, e.name FROM employees e  
JOIN employees m ON e.manager_id = m.employee_id WHERE e.salary >  
m.salary;
```

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50. Write a query to get employees who belong to departments with less than 3 employees.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE department_id IN (SELECT department_id FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id HAVING COUNT(*) < 3);
```

51. How to write a query to find employees with the same first name?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE first_name IN (SELECT first_name FROM employees
GROUP BY first_name HAVING COUNT(*) > 1);
```

52. How to write a query to delete employees who have been in the company for more than 15 years?

```
DELETE FROM employees
WHERE DATEDIFF(CURDATE(), join_date) > 5475;
```

53. Write a query to list all employees working under the same manager.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees WHERE manager_id = ?;
```

54. How to find the top 3 highest-paid employees in each department?

```
SELECT *
FROM (SELECT *,
DENSE_RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY department_id ORDER BY salary
DESC) AS rank
FROM employees) AS ranked_employees WHERE rank <= 3;
```

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55. Write a query to list all employees with more than 5 years of experience in each department.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE DATEDIFF(CURDATE(), join_date) > 1825;
```

56. How to list all employees in departments that have not hired anyone in the past 2 years?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE department_id IN (SELECT department_id FROM employees
GROUP BY department_id
HAVING MAX(hire_date) < ADDDATE(CURDATE(), INTERVAL -2
YEAR));
```

57. Write a query to find all employees who earn more than the average salary of their department.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees e
WHERE salary > (SELECT AVG(salary) FROM employees
WHERE department_id = e.department_id);
```

58. How to list all managers who have more than 5 subordinates?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE employee_id IN (SELECT manager_id FROM employees
GROUP BY manager_id HAVING COUNT(*) > 5);
```

59. Write a query to display employee names and hire dates in the format "Name - MM/DD/YYYY".

```
SELECT CONCAT(name, ' - ', DATE_FORMAT(hire_date, '%m/%d/%Y')) AS
```

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```
employee_info  
FROM employees;
```

60. How to find employees whose salary is in the top 10%?

```
SELECT *  
FROM employees  
WHERE salary >= (SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.9) WITHIN GROUP (ORDER  
BY salary ASC)  
FROM employees);
```

61. Write a query to display employees grouped by their age brackets (e.g., 20-30, 31-40, etc.).

```
SELECT CASE  
WHEN age BETWEEN 20 AND 30 THEN '20-30'  
WHEN age BETWEEN 31 AND 40 THEN '31-40'  
ELSE '41+'  
END AS age_bracket, COUNT(*)  
FROM employees GROUP BY age_bracket;
```

62. How to find the average salary of the top 5 highest-paid employees in each department?

```
SELECT department_id, AVG(salary) FROM (SELECT department_id,  
salary,  
DENSE_RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY department_id ORDER BY salary  
DESC) AS rank  
FROM employees) AS ranked_employees WHERE rank <= 5  
GROUP BY department_id;
```

63. How to calculate the percentage of employees in each department?

```
SELECT department_id,  
(COUNT(*) * 100.0 / (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM employees)) AS  
percentage FROM employees  
GROUP BY department_id;
```

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64. Write a query to find all employees whose email contains the domain '@example.com'.

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE email LIKE '%@example.com';
```

65. How to retrieve the year-to-date sales for each customer?

```
SELECT customer_id, SUM(sales_amount) FROM sales
WHERE sale_date BETWEEN '2024-01-01' AND CURDATE()
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

66. Write a query to display the hire date and day of the week for each employee.

```
SELECT name, hire_date, DAYNAME(hire_date) AS day_of_week FROM
employees;
```

67. How to find all employees who are older than 30 years?

```
SELECT *
FROM employees
WHERE DATEDIFF(CURDATE(), birth_date) / 365 > 30;
```

68. Write a query to display employees grouped by their salary range (e.g., 0- 20K, 20K-50K).

```
SELECT CASE
WHEN salary BETWEEN 0 AND 20000 THEN '0-20K'
WHEN salary BETWEEN 20001 AND 50000 THEN '20K-50K' ELSE '50K+'
END AS salary_range, COUNT(*)
FROM employees GROUP BY salary_range;
```

69. How to list all employees who do not have a bonus?

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```
SELECT *
FROM employees WHERE bonus IS NULL;
```

70. Write a query to display the highest, lowest, and average salary for each job role.

```
SELECT job_role, MAX(salary) AS highest_salary, MIN(salary) AS
lowest_salary, AVG(salary) AS avg_salary
FROM employees GROUP BY job_role;
```

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