

SQL Introduction

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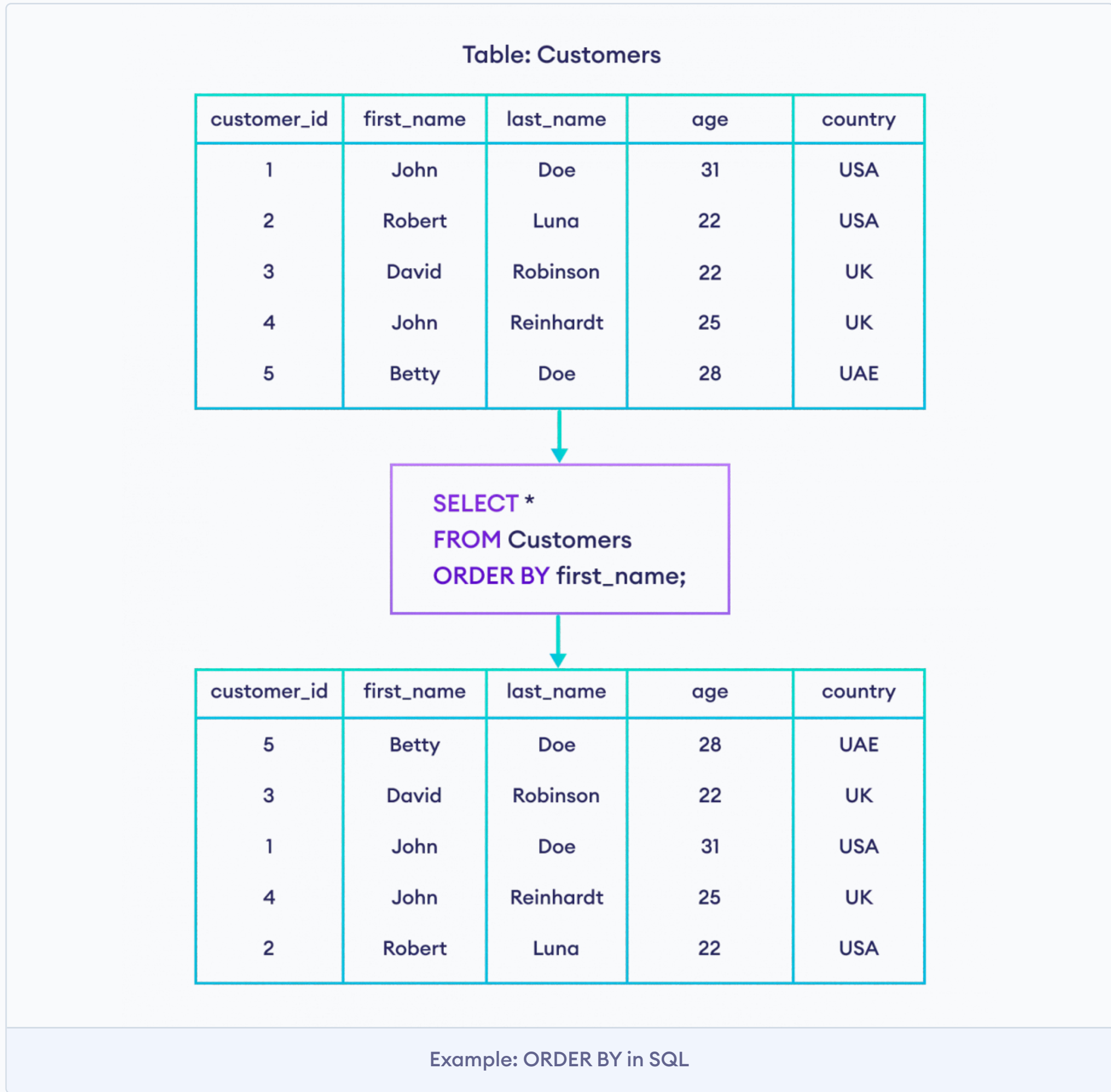
SQL ORDER BY Clause

In this tutorial, we'll learn about the ORDER BY clause and how to use it with examples.

The SQL ORDER BY clause is used to sort the result set in either ascending or descending order. For example,

```
SELECT *
FROM Customers
ORDER BY first_name;
```

Here, the SQL command selects all customers and then sorts them in ascending order by `first_name`.



ORDER BY ASC (Ascending Order)

We can use the `ASC` keyword explicitly to sort selected records in **ascending order**. For example,

```
SELECT *
FROM Customers
ORDER BY age ASC;
```

Here, the SQL command selects all the customers and then sorts them in ascending order by `age`.



Note: The `ORDER BY` clause sorts result set in ascending by default; it's not necessary to use `ASC` explicitly.

ORDER BY DESC (Descending Order)

We use the `DESC` keyword to sort the selected records in **descending order**. For example,

```
SELECT *
FROM Customers
ORDER BY age DESC;
```

Here, the SQL command selects all the customers and then sorts them in descending order by `age`.

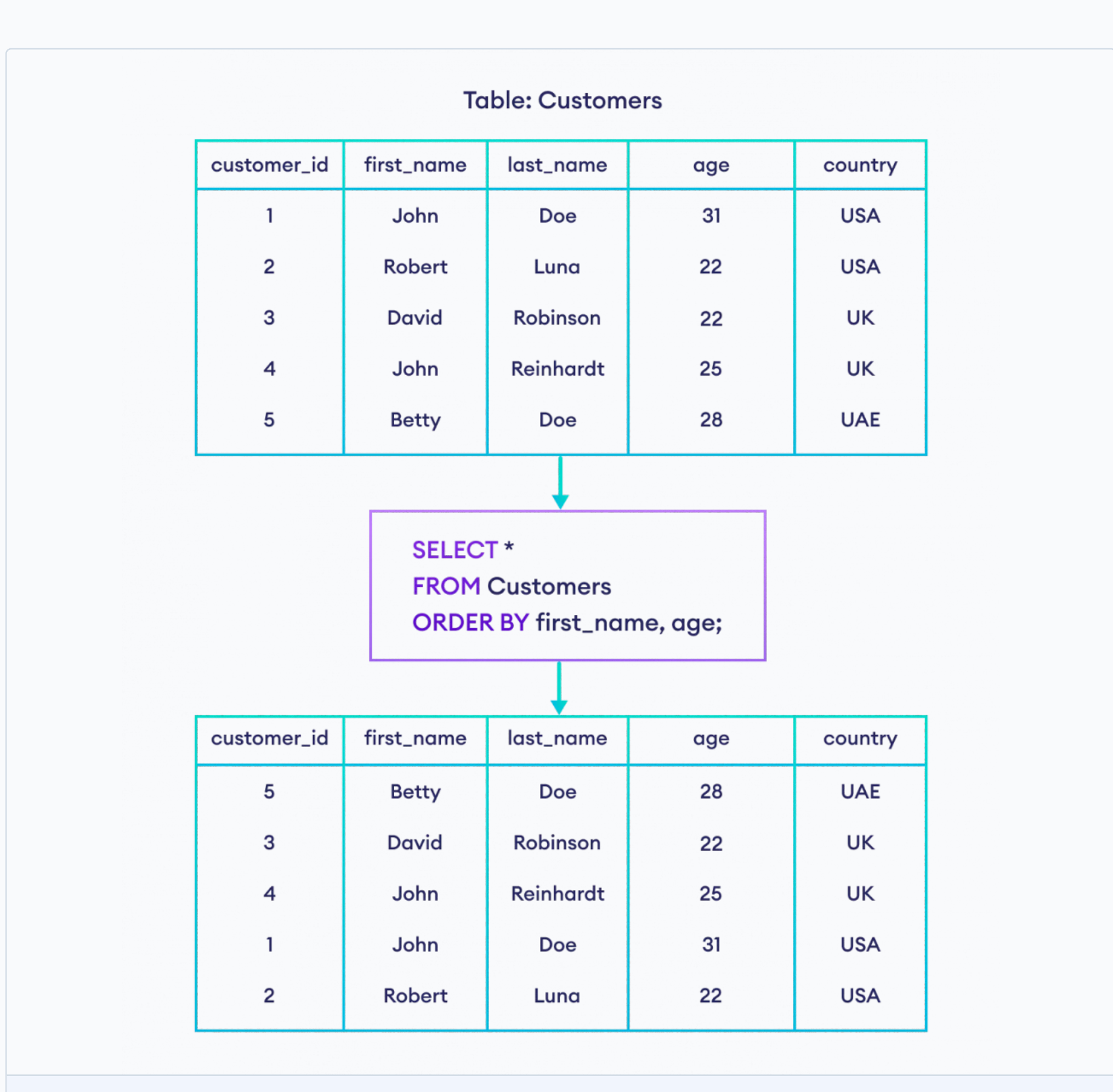


ORDER BY With Multiple Columns

We can also use `ORDER BY` with multiple columns. For example,

```
SELECT *
FROM Customers
ORDER BY first_name, age;
```

Here, the SQL command selects all the records and then sorts them by `first_name`. If the `first_name` repeats more than once, it sorts those records by `age`.



ORDER BY With WHERE

We can also use ORDER BY with the SELECT WHERE clause. For example,

```
SELECT last_name, age
FROM Customers
WHERE NOT country = 'UK'
ORDER BY last_name DESC;
```

Here,

- The SQL command first selects `last_name` and `age` fields from the `Customers` table if their `country` is not **UK**.
- Then, the selected records are sorted in descending order by their `last_name`.



Note: The `WHERE` clause must appear before the `ORDER BY` clause, while using the `WHERE` clause with `ORDER BY`.

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[SQL SUM\(\) and AVERAGE\(\)](#)

Next Tutorial:
[SQL GROUP BY](#)

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