10

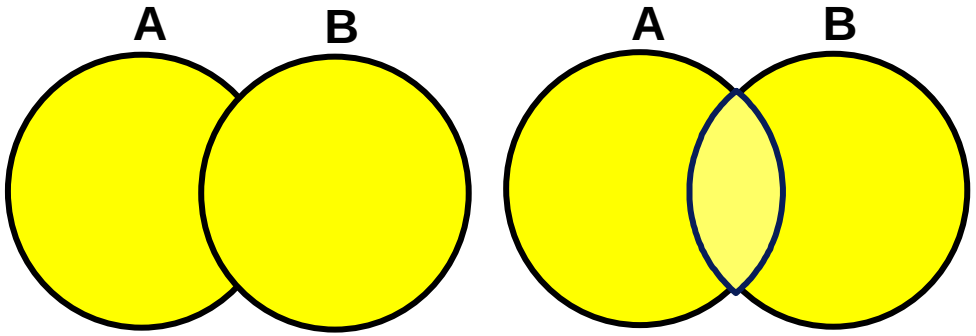
Using the Set Operators

Objectives

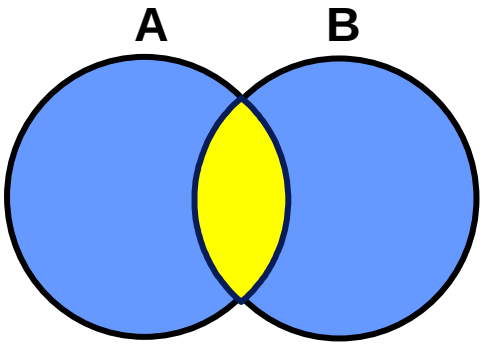
After completing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- **Describe set operators**
- **Use a set operator to combine multiple queries into a single query**
- **Control the order of rows returned**

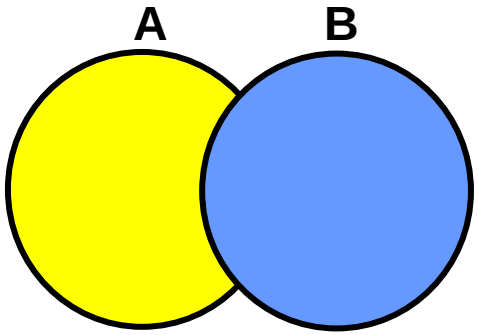
Set Operators



UNION/UNION ALL



INTERSECT



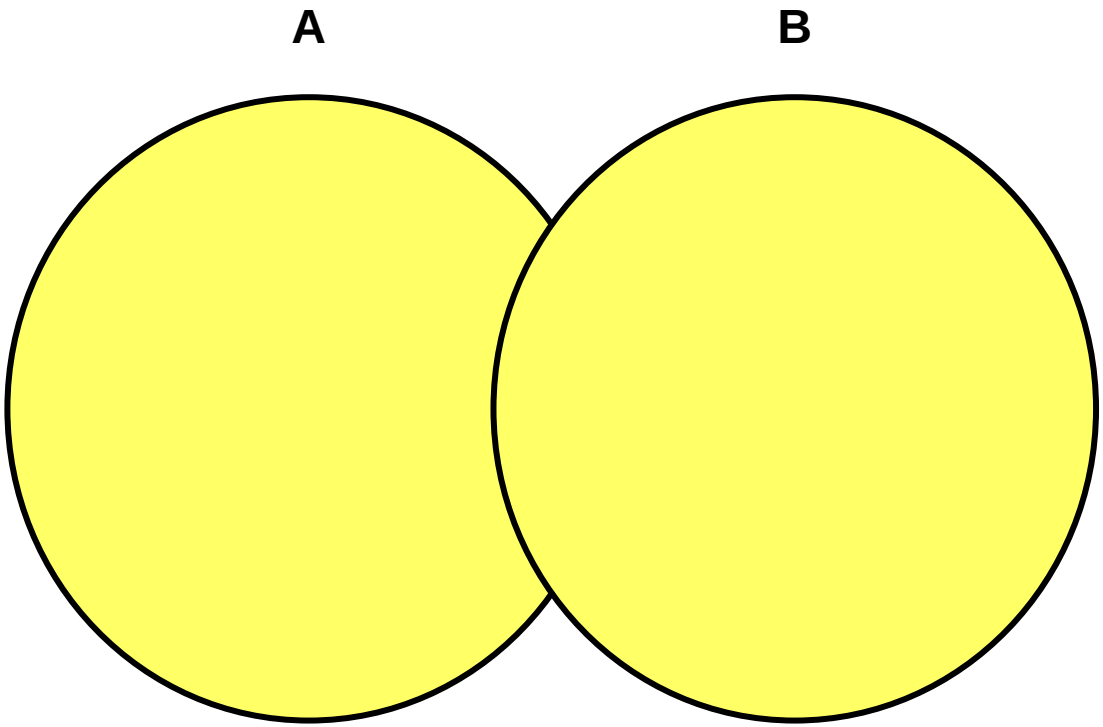
MINUS

Tables Used in This Lesson

The tables used in this lesson are:

- `EMPLOYEES`: Provides details regarding all current employees
- `JOB_HISTORY`: Records the details of the start date and end date of the former job, and the job identification number and department when an employee switches jobs

UNION Operator



The UNION operator returns results from both queries after eliminating duplications.

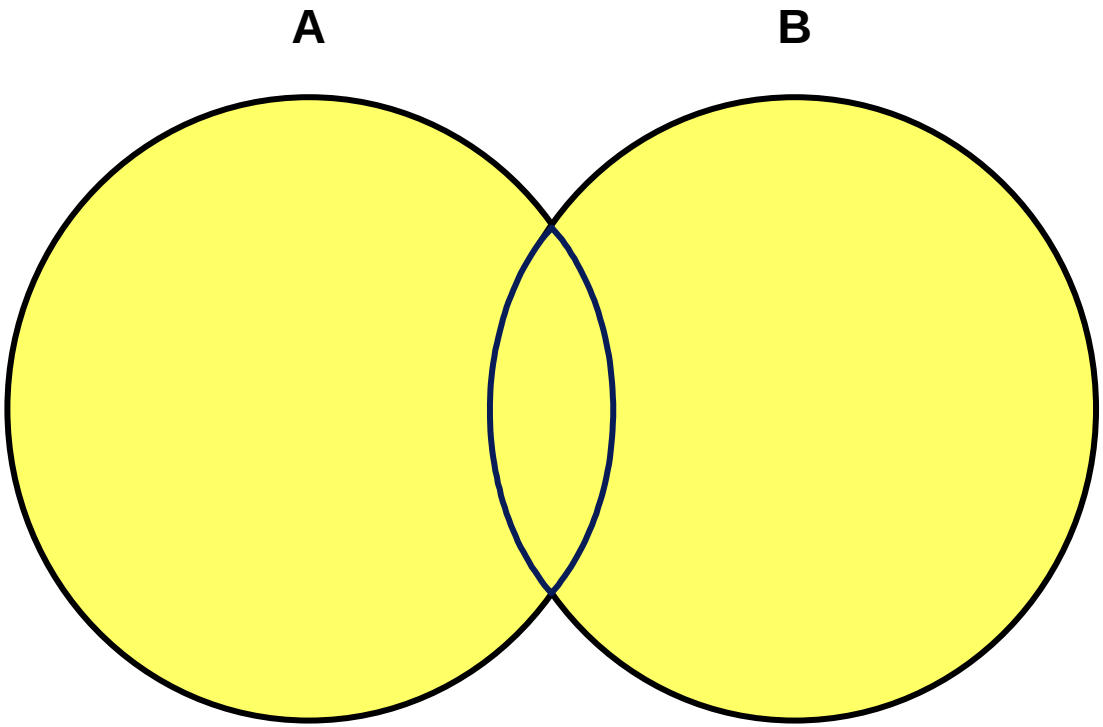
Using the UNION Operator

Display the current and previous job details of all employees. Display each employee only once.

```
SELECT employee_id, job_id
FROM   employees
UNION
SELECT employee_id, job_id
FROM   job_history;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	JOB_ID
100	AD_PRES
101	AC_ACCOUNT
...	
200	AC_ACCOUNT
200	AD_ASST
...	
205	AC_MGR
206	AC_ACCOUNT

UNION ALL Operator



The UNION ALL operator returns results from both queries, including all duplications.

Using the UNION ALL Operator

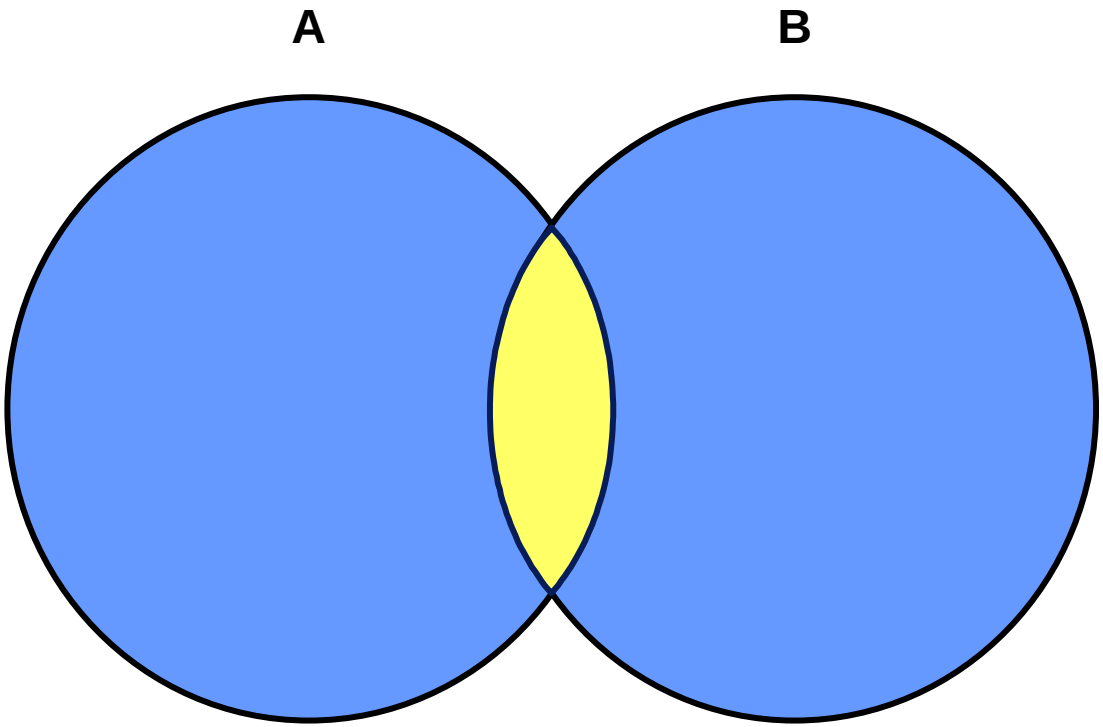
Display the current and previous departments of all employees.

```
SELECT employee_id, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
UNION ALL
SELECT employee_id, job_id, department_id
FROM   job_history
ORDER BY  employee_id;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	AD_PRES	90
101	AD_VP	90
...		
200	AD_ASST	10
200	AD_ASST	90
200	AC_ACCOUNT	90
...		
205	AC_MGR	110
206	AC_ACCOUNT	110

30 rows selected.

INTERSECT Operator



The INTERSECT operator returns rows that are common to both queries.

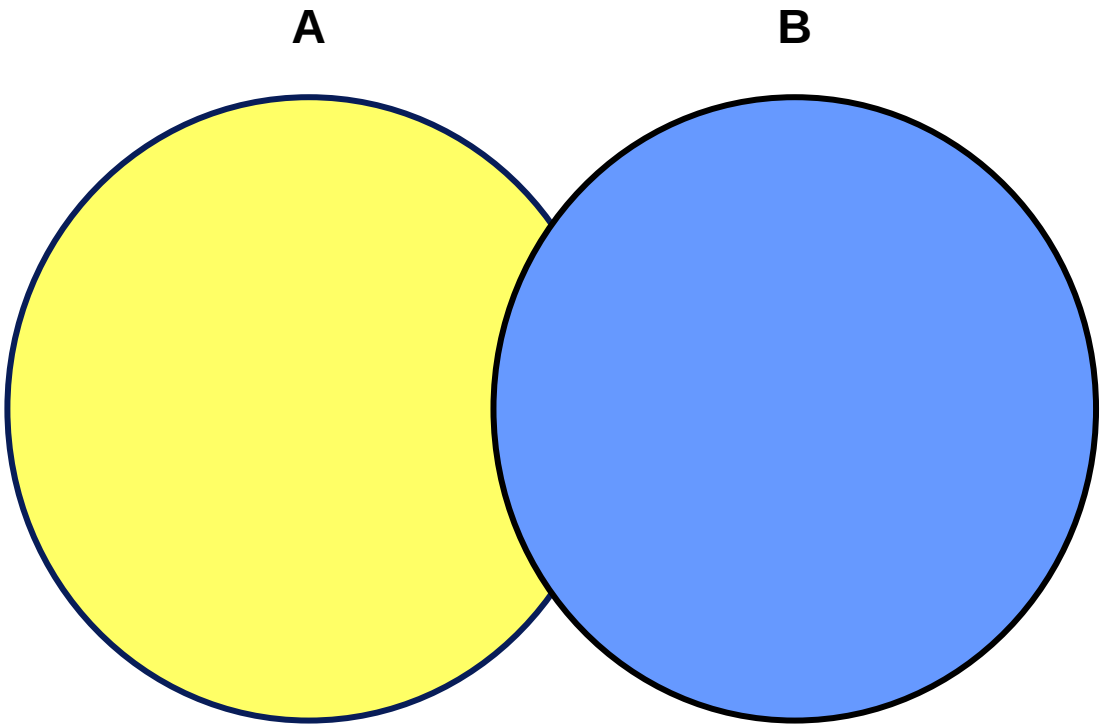
Using the INTERSECT Operator

Display the employee IDs and job IDs of those employees who currently have a job title that is the same as their job title when they were initially hired (that is, they changed jobs but have now gone back to doing their original job).

```
SELECT employee_id, job_id
FROM   employees
INTERSECT
SELECT employee_id, job_id
FROM   job_history;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	JOB_ID
176	SA_REP
200	AD_ASST

MINUS Operator



The MINUS operator returns rows in the first query that are not present in the second query.

MINUS Operator

Display the employee IDs of those employees who have not changed their jobs even once.

```
SELECT employee_id
FROM   employees
MINUS
SELECT employee_id
FROM   job_history;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	JOB_ID
100	AD_PRES
101	AD_VP
102	AD_VP
103	IT_PROG
...	
201	MK_MAN
202	MK_REP
205	AC_MGR
206	AC_ACCOUNT

18 rows selected.

Set Operator Guidelines

- The expressions in the `SELECT` lists must match in number and data type.
- Parentheses can be used to alter the sequence of execution.
- The `ORDER BY` clause:
  - Can appear only at the very end of the statement
  - Will accept the column name, aliases from the first `SELECT` statement, or the positional notation

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use `UNION` to return all distinct rows
- Use `UNION ALL` to return all rows, including duplicates
- Use `INTERSECT` to return all rows that are shared by both queries
- Use `MINUS` to return all distinct rows that are selected by the first query but not by the second