W06 Paper

The way you perform the CONCAT function is most commonly executed in the select statement. It would look something like this: SELECT CONCAT(“My Name is”, “Evan”) --- Output = “My Name is Evan” (as one string instead of two). This allows you to put multiple strings together. An escape mechanism that can be used to backquote an apostrophe embedded in a string would be to put an apostrophe where you would normally only put one when you’re string is in quotes. You can also put a back slash before the apostrophe. For example, the string “Doesn’t” would have to be typed as either ‘Doesn’’t’ or ‘Doesn\’t’.

The QUOTE() function is important because it automatically will place quotes around a string and include any necessary escapes to the string. This is beneficial when you are exporting your data but still want it to be accessible. Built in functions, like LENGTH, SUBSTRING, LOCATE, POSITION, STUFF, REPLACE, and INSERT, allow you to go into strings and make any adjustments if they are required. Each of the stated functions has a purpose. For example, REPLACE allows you to replace either a portion of a string or an entire string, while LENGTH allows you to determine the numerical positions of characters in a string. Each function has a different use and benefit depending on the task.

SQL handles arithmetic on a row by row basis and can perform calculations as necessary. For example, SELECT (2\*2) + 4; will return 8. Although it’s a simple calculation, it shows SQL’s ability to perform arithmetic as necessary. Functions like ROUND and TRUNCATE can adjust the number of decimals displayed. Strings can also be converted to correct dates/times. For example, the string “August 21” can be converted by STR\_TO\_DATE(“21 August” , “%d %M”). The format components need to be used in order to correctly convert the part of the string into temporal data.