**Week 1 Research**

**What are wildcards in MySQL? How are they useful?**

Wildcards are a character that can be used in place of one or multiple characters in a string. They are used with the LIKE operator, which in turn is used in a WHERE clause to generate a specific search in a column. The % symbol is used to represent zero or more characters, and the \_ symbol is used to represent a single character. For example, WHERE condition LIKE ‘a%’, finds any value that start with a, and, WHERE condition LIKE ‘a\_’, finds any value that starts with a and is followed by a single character. These symbols can be combined to help target searches more directly, like ‘\_a%’, ‘%a%’, or ‘a\_%\_%’.

**Research all the operators that can be used in a SQL WHERE clause. What do they each do?**

These are the operators that can be used in the WHERE clause:

= Equals

> Greater than

< Less than

>= Greater than or equal to

<= Less than or equal to

<> Not equal (though != might also accomplish this)

BETWEEN Between a certain range

LIKE Search for a pattern

IN To indicate an array, or multiple possible values in a column

<https://www.w3schools.com/mysql/mysql_wildcards.asp>

<https://www.w3schools.com/mysql/mysql_where.asp>