

TOP 10 SQL commands (must know)

Case When:

It allows you to write complex conditional statements. If you want to allocate a certain value or class depending on other variables. Less commonly known, it also allows you to pivot data.

Select Distinct:

'SELECT DISTINCT' is something that you should always have at the back of your head. It's extremely common to use 'SELECT DISTINCT' statements with aggregate functions (which is #3).

Example:

```
SELECT  
COUNT (order_id) / COUNT (DISTINCT customer_id) as  
Orders - Per - cust  
FROM  
customer_orders
```

Aggregate Functions:

Related to Point #2, you should have strong understanding of aggregate functions like min, max, sum, count, etc. This also means that you have a strong understanding of the **GROUP BY** and **HAVING** Clause.

Example:

Id	Email
1	a@b.com
2	c@d.com
3	a@b.com

Answer

```
SELECT  
  Email  
FROM  
  Person  
GROUP BY  
  Email  
HAVING  
  COUNT(Email) > 1
```

Left join Vs Inner Join

For those who are relatively new to **SQL** or have not used it in a while, It can be easy to mix up left joins and inner joins. Make sure you clearly understand, how each joins derives different results.

Self Joins :

A **SQL** Self-join joins a table with itself. you might think that serves no purpose, But you'd be surprised at how common this is. In many real life settings, Data is stored in one large table rather than many smaller tables. In such cases, self-joins may be required to solve **unique problems**.

Example :

Id	Name	Salary	Manager Id
1	Joe	70000	3
2	Henry	80000	4
3	Sam	60000	NULL
4	Max	90000	NULL

Answer

```
SELECT
    a.Name as Employee
FROM
    Employee as a
    JOIN Employee as b on a.Manager ID= b.Id
WHERE a.Salary > b.Salary
```

Sub queries:

A sub query, is also known as an inner query or a nested query, is a query within a query and is embedded in the **WHERE** clause. This is a great way to solve unique problems that require multiple queries in sequence in order to produce a given outcome. Sub queries and **WITH AS** statements are both extremely useful when querying so you should absolutely make sure that you know how to use them.

Example:

Table: customers.

Id	Name
1	Joe
2	Henry
3	Sam
4	Max

Table: orders

Id	customerId
1	3
2	1

Answer

```
SELECT  
  Name as customers  
FROM  
  customers  
WHERE  
  Id NOT IN (  
    SELECT  
      customerId  
    FROM Orders  
  )
```


String Formatting:

String functions are important especially when working with data that isn't clean. Thus, companies may test you on string formatting and manipulation to make sure that you know how to manipulate data.

String formatting includes things like:

- LEFT, RIGHT
- TRIM
- POSITION
- SUBSTR
- CONCAT
- UPPER, LOWER
- COALESCE

Date - Time Manipulation:

you should definitely expect some sort of SQL questions that involves date-time data. For example you may be required to group data by months or convert a variable format from DD-MM-YYYY to simply the month.

Some functions you should know are

- EXTRACT
- DATETIME

Example:

Id (INT)	Record Date (DATE)	Temperature (INT)
1	2015-01-01	10
2	2015-01-02	25
3	2015-01-03	20
4	2015-01-04	30

Answer:

SELECT

a.Id

FROM

Weather a,
Weather b

WHERE

a.Temperature > b.Temperature

AND DATEDIFF(a.Record Date, b.Record Date) = 1

Window Functions:

Window function allow you to perform an aggregate value on all rows, instead of return only one row (which is what a **GROUP BY** statement does). Its extremely useful if you want to rank rows, calculate cumulative sums, and more.

Example

deptname	empno	Salary
develop	11	5200
develop	7	4200
develop	9	4500
develop	8	6000
develop	10	5200
Personnel	5	3500
Personnel	2	3900
Sales	3	4800
Sales	1	5000
Sales	4	4800

Answers

WITH sal_rank AS

(SELECT

empno,

RANK() OVER (ORDER BY salary DESC) rn

↓ continues


```
FROM  
  Salaries)  
SELECT  
  empno  
FROM  
  Sal_rank  
WHERE  
  rnk = 1;
```

Union:

As a bonus, #10 is UNION! while it doesn't come up often, you'll be asked about this the odd time and its good to know in general. If you have two tables with the same columns and you want to combine them, this is when you'd use UNION.

