

Conceptual Answers of Weak 3 Assignment

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Part A

Q: Explain why you choosed the data types for `student_id`, `email`, and `marks_obtained`.

- **`student_id`:**

I choosed `INT` for `student_id` because in most colleges and universities, student roll numbers or enrolment numbers are numeric. Using `INT` ensure efficient storage and fast retrieval for these unique identifiers.

- **`email`:**

I used `VARCHAR` for the `email` field because email addresses can contain alphabets, numbers, and special characters (like @, ., etc.). `VARCHAR` is perfect for such mixed strings and also provides dynamic memory allocation, saving space for shorter emails.

- **`marks_obtained`:**

For `marks_obtained`, I selected `INT` as marks are always numeric values. Using an integer data type ensures that we can efficiently perform mathematical operations and comparisons on marks data.

Part C

1. List all students enrolled in "Database Management Systems" along with their emails.

```
SELECT s.student_id, s.name, s.email, c.title
FROM Students s
JOIN Enrollments e ON s.student_id = e.student_id
JOIN Courses c ON e.course_id = c.course_id
WHERE c.title = 'Database Management Systems';
```

Sample Output:

student_id	name	email	title
1	Shivam Gupta	shivam.gupta@email.com	Database Management Systems
2	Aarav Sharma	aarav.sharma@email.com	Database Management Systems
3	Priya Verma	priya.verma@email.com	Database Management Systems

Explanation:

This query finds all students who are enrolled in the course "Database Management Systems". According to the sample data, students with IDs 1, 2, and 3 (Shivam Gupta, Aarav Sharma, and Priya Verma) are enrolled in this course. Their email addresses are also shown in the result.

2. Show the average marks obtained in each course.

```
SELECT c.title,
       ROUND(AVG(g.marks_obtained), 2) AS average_marks
  FROM Courses c
  JOIN Enrollments e ON c.course_id = e.course_id
  JOIN Grades g ON e.enrollment_id = g.enrollment_id
 GROUP BY c.course_id, c.title;
```

Sample Output:

title	average_marks
Database Management Systems	61.00
Data Structures and Algorithms	54.33
Operating Systems	81.00
Computer Networks	85.00

Explanation:

This query calculates the average marks received by students for each course. For instance, the average marks for "Database Management Systems" is 61.00. This helps to get an overview of how students are performing in different courses, based on the given grades in the database.

Part D

Why are transactions important in real systems such as banking, education platforms, or e-commerce?

Answer:

Transactions are critically important in real-world systems because they insure the reliability and integrity of data when multiple operations need to be performed as a single logical unit. They achieve this by providing the following ACID properties:

- **Atomicity:** Guarantees that all operations within a transaction are completed; if any operation fails, the entire transaction is rolled back.
Example: In banking, during a transfer, the debit and credit must both occur together. If one fails, neither should be applied.
- **Consistency:** Ensures that the database moves from one valid state to another.
Example: In an education platform, when a student enrolls in a course and makes a payment, the enrollment should only be successful if the payment is successful too.
- **Isolation:** Prevents concurrent transactions from interfering with each other and causing data anomalies.
Example: In e-commerce, simultaneous orders for the same item shouldn't allow the item count to become negative.

- **Durability:** Once a transaction is committed, its changes persist even in the event of a system failure.
Example: A completed purchase in an online store should never disappear, even if the platform crashes right afterward.

Summary:

Transactions ensure the correctness and trustworthiness of critical operations in banking, education, and e-commerce systems, where data errors or inconsistencies can lead to financial losses, user dissatisfaction, or security breaches.

Part E

Q1: Explain the difference between DELETE and TRUNCATE.

Answer:

Both **DELETE** and **TRUNCATE** are used to remove data from a table, but they work a little differently:

- **DELETE** lets you remove specific rows from a table. You can choose which rows to delete by using a condition. For example, you can delete just one student from the student list. **DELETE** is also a bit slower because it removes rows one at a time.
 - *Example:*
`DELETE FROM Students WHERE student_id = 5;` (This deletes only the student with ID 5.)
- **TRUNCATE** quickly removes **all** rows from a table. You can't choose specific rows—it wipes the table clean! It's usually much faster than **DELETE** for clearing a table. It also usually resets things like auto-increment counters.
 - *Example:*
`TRUNCATE TABLE Students;` (This deletes every student from the table—all at once.)

In short:

Use **DELETE** when you want to remove specific data; use **TRUNCATE** when you want to quickly empty the whole table.

Q2: Why are foreign keys important for data integrity? Give a real-world example.

Answer:

Foreign keys make sure that relationships between tables stay accurate. They prevent data that doesn't match from being entered, keeping your data consistent.

- *Example:*
If there's an **Enrollments** table that links students to courses, a foreign key ensures you can't enroll a student who doesn't exist in the **Students** table.

Q3: What is the advantage of normalization in this schema?

Answer:

Normalization keeps the data tidy and avoids repetition. In this schema, each piece of info—like students or courses—is stored just once, so there's no confusion or extra copies to update. This makes the database more accurate and easier to manage.