



Tajamul Khan

50 SQL Interview Questions





1. Find duplicate records in a table.



```
SELECT column1, column2, COUNT(*)  
FROM your_table  
GROUP BY column1, column2  
HAVING COUNT(*) > 1;
```





2. Retrieve the second highest salary from the Employee table.



```
SELECT MAX(salary) AS SecondHighestSalary  
FROM Employee  
WHERE salary < (SELECT MAX(salary)  
FROM Employee);
```



Microsoft



3. Find employees without department (Left Join usage)



```
SELECT e.*  
FROM Employee e  
LEFT JOIN Department d  
ON e.department_id = d.department_id  
WHERE d.department_id IS NULL;
```

Uber



4. Calculate the total revenue per product.



```
SELECT product_id,  
       SUM(quantity * price) AS total_revenue  
  FROM Sales  
 GROUP BY product_id;
```





5. Get the top 3 highest-paid employees.



```
SELECT TOP 3 *
FROM Employee
ORDER BY salary DESC;
```

Google



6. Find customers who made purchases but never returned products.



```
SELECT DISTINCT c.customer_id  
FROM Customers c  
JOIN Orders o ON c.customer_id =  
o.customer_id  
WHERE c.customer_id NOT IN (  
    SELECT customer_id FROM Returns  
);
```





7. Show the count of orders per customer.



```
SELECT customer_id,  
COUNT(*) AS order_count  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```





8. Retrieve all employees who joined in 2023.



```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE YEAR(hire_date) = 2023;
```





9. Calculate the average order value per customer.



```
SELECT customer_id,  
AVG(total_amount) AS avg_order_value  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```



Microsoft



10. Get the latest order placed by each customer.



```
SELECT customer_id,  
MAX(order_date) AS latest_order_date  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY customer_id;
```

Uber



11. Find products never sold.



```
SELECT p.product_id  
FROM Products p  
LEFT JOIN Sales s  
ON p.product_id = s.product_id  
WHERE s.product_id IS NULL;
```





12. Identify the most selling product.



```
SELECT TOP 1 product_id,  
SUM(quantity) AS total_qty  
FROM Sales  
GROUP BY product_id  
ORDER BY total_qty DESC;
```



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13. Get the total revenue and the number of orders per region.



```
SELECT region,  
       SUM(total_amount) AS total_revenue,  
       COUNT(*) AS order_count  
  FROM Orders  
 GROUP BY region;
```





14. Count how many customers placed more than 5 orders.



```
SELECT COUNT(*) AS customer_count
FROM (
    SELECT customer_id FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id
    HAVING COUNT(*) > 5
) AS subquery;
```



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15. Retrieve customers with orders above the average order value.



```
SELECT *
FROM Orders
WHERE total_amount >
(SELECT AVG(total_amount) FROM Orders);
```





16. Find all employees hired on weekends.



```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE DATENAME(WEEKDAY, hire_date) IN
('Saturday', 'Sunday');
```





17. List employees whose salary is within a range



```
SELECT *
FROM Employee
WHERE salary BETWEEN 50000 AND 100000;
```



Microsoft



18. Get monthly sales revenue and order count.



SELECT

```
FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy-MM') AS month,  
SUM(total_amount) AS total_revenue,  
COUNT(order_id) AS order_count  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy-MM');
```

Google



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19. Rank employees by salary within each department.



SELECT

```
employee_id, department_id, salary,  
RANK() OVER (PARTITION BY department_id  
ORDER BY salary DESC) AS salary_rank  
FROM Employee;
```





20. Find customers who placed orders every month in 2023.



```
SELECT customer_id
FROM Orders
WHERE YEAR(order_date) = 2023
GROUP BY customer_id
HAVING COUNT(DISTINCT FORMAT(order_date,
'yyyy-MM')) = 12;
```





21. Find moving average of sales over the last 3 days.



```
SELECT order_date,  
SUM(total_amount) OVER (ORDER BY  
order_date ROWS BETWEEN 2 PRECEDING AND  
CURRENT ROW) AS moving_avg  
FROM Orders;
```



Microsoft



22. Identify the first and last order date for each customer.



```
SELECT customer_id,  
       MIN(order_date) AS first_order,  
       MAX(order_date) AS last_order  
  FROM Orders  
 GROUP BY customer_id;
```

Uber



23. Show product sales distribution (percent of total revenue).



```
WITH TotalRevenue AS (
    SELECT SUM(quantity * price) AS total FROM Sales)
SELECT
    s.product_id,
    SUM(s.quantity * s.price) AS revenue,
    SUM(s.quantity * s.price) * 100.0 / t.total
        AS revenue_pct
    FROM Sales s
    CROSS JOIN TotalRevenue t
    GROUP BY s.product_id, t.total;
```





24. Retrieve customers who made consecutive purchases (2 Days)



```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT customer_id, order_date,
    LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id
    ORDER BY order_date) AS prev_order_date
    FROM Orders)
SELECT customer_id, order_date, prev_order_date
FROM cte
WHERE
DATEDIFF(DAY, prev_order_date, order_date) = 1;
```





25. Find churned customers (no orders in the last 6 months).



```
SELECT customer_id  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY customer_id  
HAVING  
MAX(order_date) < DATEADD(MONTH,-6,GETDATE());
```





26. Calculate cumulative revenue by day.



```
SELECT order_date,  
SUM(total_amount) OVER (ORDER BY order_date)  
AS cumulative_revenue  
FROM Orders;
```





27. Identify top-performing departments by average salary.



```
SELECT department_id,  
AVG(salary) AS avg_salary  
FROM Employee  
GROUP BY department_id  
ORDER BY avg_salary DESC;
```

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28. Find customers who ordered more than the average number of orders per customer.

```
WITH customer_orders AS (
    SELECT customer_id, COUNT(*) AS order_count
    FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id)
SELECT * FROM customer_orders
WHERE order_count > (SELECT AVG(order_count)
    FROM customer_orders);
```





29. Calculate revenue generated from new customers (first-time orders).

```
WITH first_orders AS (
    SELECT customer_id, MIN(order_date) AS
        first_order_date FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id)
SELECT SUM(o.total_amount) AS new_cus_revenue
    FROM Orders o JOIN first_orders f
    ON o.customer_id = f.customer_id
    WHERE o.order_date = f.first_order_date;
```



Microsoft



30. Find the percentage of employees in each department.



```
SELECT  
    department_id,  
    COUNT(*) AS emp_count, -- count  
    COUNT(*) * 100.0 / (SELECT COUNT(*) FROM  
Employee) AS pct -- percentage  
FROM Employee  
GROUP BY department_id;
```

Uber



31. Retrieve the maximum salary difference within each department.



```
SELECT  
    department_id,  
    MAX(salary) - MIN(salary) AS salary_diff  
FROM Employee  
GROUP BY department_id;
```





32. Find products that contribute to 80% of the revenue (Pareto Principle).

```
WITH sales_cte AS (
    SELECT product_id, SUM(qty * price) AS revenue
    FROM Sales GROUP BY product_id),
    total_revenue AS (
        SELECT SUM(revenue) AS total FROM sales_cte)
    SELECT s.product_id, s.revenue,
        SUM(s.revenue) OVER
        (ORDER BY s.revenue DESC ROWS BETWEEN UNBOUNDED
        PRECEDING AND CURRENT ROW) AS running_total
    FROM sales_cte s, total_revenue t
    WHERE SUM(s.revenue) OVER (ORDER BY s.revenue DESC ROWS
        BETWEEN UNBOUNDED PRECEDING AND
        CURRENT ROW) <= t.total * 0.8;
```





33. Calculate average time between two purchases for each customer.

```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT customer_id, order_date,
    LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id
    ORDER BY order_date) AS prev_date
    FROM Orders)
    SELECT customer_id,
    AVG(DATEDIFF(DAY, prev_date, order_date)) AS
    avg_gap_days FROM cte
    WHERE prev_date IS NOT NULL
    GROUP BY customer_id;
```





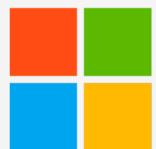
34. Show last purchase for each customer along with order amount.

```
WITH ranked_orders AS
(SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount,
ROW_NUMBER() OVER
(PARTITION BY customer_id ORDER BY order_date
DESC) AS rn FROM Orders)
SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount
FROM ranked_orders
WHERE rn = 1;
```



35. Calculate year-over-year growth in revenue.

```
SELECT FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy') AS year,  
SUM(total_amount) AS revenue,  
SUM(total_amount) - LAG(SUM(total_amount))  
OVER (ORDER BY FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy'))  
AS yoy_growth  
FROM Orders  
GROUP BY FORMAT(order_date, 'yyyy');
```



Microsoft



36. Detect customers whose purchase amount is higher than their historical 90th percentile.

```
WITH ranked_orders AS (
    SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount,
    NTILE(10) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id
    ORDER BY total_amount) AS decile
    FROM Orders)
SELECT customer_id, order_id, total_amount
FROM ranked_orders
WHERE decile = 10;
```





37. Find continuous login streaks (e.g., users who logged in 3 or more consecutive days).

```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT user_id, login_date,
    DATEDIFF(DAY, ROW_NUMBER() OVER
    (PARTITION BY user_id ORDER BY login_date),
    login_date) AS grp FROM Logins)
SELECT user_id, MIN(login_date) AS streak_start,
MAX(login_date) AS streak_end,
COUNT(*) AS streak_length
FROM cte
GROUP BY user_id, grp
HAVING COUNT(*) >= 3;
```





38. Calculate customer retention by month (Cohort analysis).



```
WITH Cohorts AS ( SELECT customer_id,
    MIN(DATEFROMPARTS(YEAR(order_date), MONTH(order_date), 1))
    AS cohort_month FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id),
    OrdersByMonth AS (
        SELECT customer_id,
        DATEFROMPARTS(YEAR(order_date), MONTH(order_date), 1)
        AS order_month FROM Orders)
    SELECT
        c.cohort_month, o.order_month,
        COUNT(DISTINCT o.customer_id) AS active_customers
    FROM Cohorts c
    JOIN OrdersByMonth o ON c.customer_id = o.customer_id
    GROUP BY c.cohort_month, o.order_month;
```



39. Find products that are always sold together (Market basket analysis).



```
SELECT A.product_id AS product_A,  
B.product_id AS product_B,  
COUNT(*) AS count_together  
FROM Order_Details A  
JOIN Order_Details B ON A.order_id = B.order_id  
AND  
A.product_id < B.product_id  
GROUP BY A.product_id, B.product_id  
HAVING COUNT(*) > 10;
```





40. Calculate income inequality (Gini coefficient).

```
WITH income_cte AS (
    SELECT salary,
        SUM(salary) OVER (ORDER BY salary) AS cum_incom,
        COUNT(*) OVER() AS n,
        ROW_NUMBER() OVER (ORDER BY salary) AS r
    FROM Employee)
SELECT 1 - (2 * SUM((cum_income) / (SUM(salary)
OVER ()) * (1.0 / n)) ) AS gini_coefficient
FROM income_cte;
```

Uber



41. Compute the day when cumulative revenue first exceeded 50% of total revenue (median sales day).

```
WITH cte AS ( SELECT order_date,  
SUM(total_amount) AS daily_rev  
FROM Orders GROUP BY order_date),  
cum_cte AS (  
SELECT order_date, daily_rev, SUM(daily_rev) OVER  
(ORDER BY order_date) AS cum_rev, SUM(daily_rev)  
OVER() AS total_rev FROM cte)  
SELECT TOP 1 order_date FROM cum_cte  
WHERE cum_rev >= total_rev / 2  
ORDER BY order_date;
```





42. Find percentiles (25th, 50th, 75th) of employee salaries.



SELECT

```
(SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.25) WITHIN GROUP  
    (ORDER BY salary) OVER () FROM Employee) AS p25,  
(SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.50) WITHIN GROUP  
    (ORDER BY salary) OVER () FROM Employee) AS p50,  
(SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.75) WITHIN GROUP  
    (ORDER BY salary) OVER () FROM Employee) AS p75;
```





43. Retrieve customers with increasing order amounts over their last 3 orders.

```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT customer_id, order_date, total_amount,
    LAG(total_amount, 2) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id
    ORDER BY order_date) AS amt_t_minus_2,
    LAG(total_amount, 1) OVER (PARTITION BY customer_id
    ORDER BY order_date) AS amt_t_minus_1
    FROM Orders)
SELECT customer_id, order_date, total_amount
FROM cte
WHERE amt_t_minus_2 < amt_t_minus_1
AND amt_t_minus_1 < total_amount;
```

Google



44. Calculate conversion funnel between different stages (e.g., visits → signups → purchases).



```
SELECT  
    SUM(CASE WHEN stage = 'visit' THEN 1  
            ELSE 0 END) AS visits,  
    SUM(CASE WHEN stage = 'sign_up' THEN 1  
            ELSE 0 END) AS sign_ups,  
    SUM(CASE WHEN stage = 'purchase' THEN 1  
            ELSE 0 END) AS purchases  
FROM Funnel;
```



Microsoft



45. Find the percentage of total sales contributed by the top 10% of customers.



```
WITH cte AS (SELECT customer_id,  
SUM(total_amount) AS revenue  
FROM Orders GROUP BY customer_id),  
ranked AS (SELECT *, NTILE(10) OVER  
(ORDER BY revenue DESC) AS decile FROM cte)  
SELECT  
SUM(revenue) * 100.0 / (SELECT SUM(revenue)  
FROM cte) AS pct_top_10  
FROM ranked  
WHERE decile = 1;
```

Google



46. Calculate weekly active users



```
SELECT DATEPART(YEAR, login_date) AS year,  
DATEPART(WEEK, login_date) AS week,  
COUNT(DISTINCT user_id) AS wau  
FROM Logins  
GROUP BY DATEPART(YEAR, login_date),  
DATEPART(WEEK, login_date);
```

Uber



47. Find employees with salary higher than department average.

```
WITH dept_avg AS (
    SELECT department_id, AVG(salary) AS
        avg_salary
    FROM Employee
    GROUP BY department_id)
SELECT e.* FROM Employee e JOIN dept_avg d
ON e.department_id = d.department_id
WHERE e.salary > d.avg_salary;
```





48. Calculate time between user signup and their first purchase.



```
WITH first_purchase AS (
    SELECT user_id, MIN(purchase_date) AS
        first_purchase_date FROM Purchases
    GROUP BY user_id)
SELECT u.user_id,
    DATEDIFF(DAY, u.signup_date,
    f.first_purchase_date) AS days_to_purchase
FROM Users u JOIN first_purchase f
ON u.user_id = f.user_id;
```





49. Retrieve the longest gap between orders for each customer.

```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT customer_id, order_date,
    LAG(order_date) OVER (PARTITION BY
    customer_id ORDER BY order_date) AS
    prev_order_date FROM Orders)
SELECT customer_id, MAX(DATEDIFF(DAY,
prev_order_date, order_date)) AS max_gap
FROM cte
WHERE prev_order_date IS NOT NULL
GROUP BY customer_id;
```





50. Identify customers with revenue below the 10th percentile.



```
WITH cte AS (
    SELECT customer_id, SUM(total_amount) AS
        total_revenue
    FROM Orders
    GROUP BY customer_id)
SELECT customer_id, total_revenue
FROM cte
WHERE total_revenue <
(SELECT PERCENTILE_CONT(0.1) WITHIN GROUP
(ORDER BY total_revenue) FROM cte);
```

Google

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