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1. Creating a script file for an assignment

The most common way to do this is to open a text editor on your local computer and start to build the script file locally; open the script file for this assignment in a text editor . Open another window to connect to the mysql interactive client.

Write the SQL statement in the text editor window and copy and paste to the mysql client window and run it. If the query is correct, resave the script file. This way you can work on the script for a while and come back to it later. You can save an incomplete or incorrect query in your script and correct it later.

2. Running a script from the command line

This command was discussed in the document 01-04. the command line was

```
mysql -u a_rose -p  < C:\db_scripts\155A_zoo_creates.sql
```

This assumed that the user name is a_rose and the full path to the script file is :\db_scripts\155A_zoo_creates.sql

If the queries in your script produce output, the output will be displayed in the command window.

3. Running the script to produce a spool file

For the assignments, you will need to direct the output of your script to a file called the spool file that you can turn in for grading. This requires a few more options on the command line.

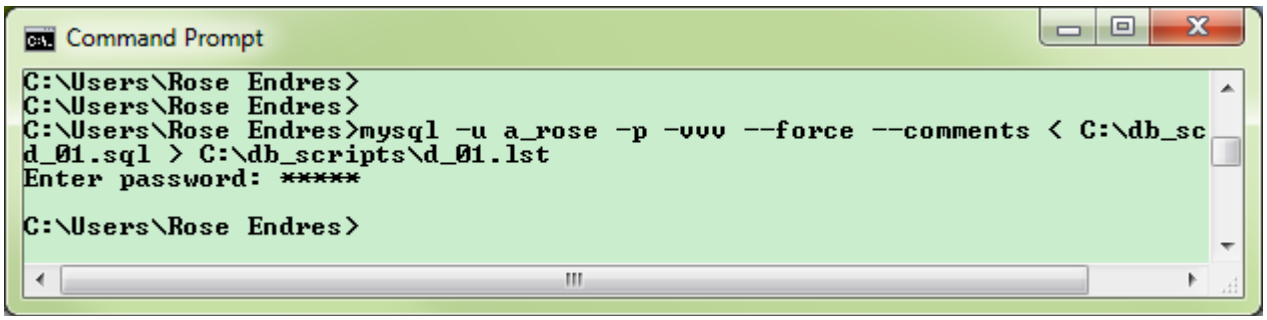
Assuming the script file name is d_01

```
mysql -u a_rose -p -vvv --force --comments < C:\db_scripts\d_01.sql >
C:\db_scripts\d_01.lst
```

The command uses input redirection with the < symbol and output redirection with the > symbol. It is reading the sql commands from the sql file and it is writing the output to the lst file. It includes a number of options discussed in this document.

NOTE:

- The command above is a single line that may wrap in your command window.
- This command is given from a command prompt; it is **not** given from a mysql prompt.
- You are prompted for your password
- You can edit your file(the slq file) and then rerun this command. On a Windows system use the up arrow to get back to the command line to rerun it.
- If you do this as shown, you will get a new file in your directory demo_01.lst.
- If there are error messages they will appear in the command window- not in the spool file.



A student (Ameer Navidi Summer 2103) suggested this technique for getting the path to the file into the command line. After writing the following:

```
mysql -u yourusername -p -vvv --f --comments <
```

If you are using a Mac

Find your .SQL file in a Finder, and drag the file from finder into the terminal window. The terminal file will then write the file path to the file that was dragged into it (which is your .SQL file).

Then type the ">" symbol and then drag the .SQL file into the window again, so that Terminal would write the file path again. The final step is to change the .SQL in the second filepath to .LST so that the file created is a .LST file.

If you are using a Windows system:

Find your .SQL file in a File Explorer window, and drag the file from File Explorer into the Command Prompt window. The Command Prompt window will then write the file path to the file that was dragged into it (which is your .SQL file).

Then type the ">" symbol and then drag the .SQL file into the window again, so that Command Prompt would write the file path again. The final step is to change the .SQL in the second filepath to .LST so that the file created is a .LST file.

This is my sql script file;

```
/* demo script file
THIS IS NOT A01
*/
use a_testbed;

/*  task 01 */
select z_name, z_type
from zoo_2015
where z_type = 'Lion';

/*  task 02 */
select z_name, z_type , z_id
from zoo_2015
where z_cost > 3000
order by z_type;
```

This is the spool file that was produced.

```
--------------
/* demo script file
THIS IS NOT A01
*/
use a_testbed
--------------

Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)

--------------
```

```
/*  task 01 */
select z_name, z_type
from zoo_2015
where z_type = 'Lion'
--------------

+--------+--------+
| z_name | z_type |
+--------+--------+
| Leon   | Lion   |
| Lenora | Lion   |
| Leon   | Lion   |
| NULL   | Lion   |
| NULL   | Lion   |
|        | Lion   |
+--------+--------+
6 rows in set (0.00 sec)

--------------
/*  task 02 */
select z_name, z_type , z_id
from zoo_2015
where z_cost > 3000
order by z_type
--------------

+--------+---------+------+
| z_name | z_type  | z_id |
+--------+---------+------+
| Sam    | Giraffe |   23 |
| Sally  | Giraffe |   85 |
| Dewey  | Giraffe |   52 |
| Leon   | Lion    |   56 |
| Lenora | Lion    |   57 |
+--------+---------+------+
5 rows in set (0.00 sec)


Bye
```

This file is called a spool file and this is one of the files that you submit for an assignment. Some things to note about the spool file.

- The comments such as the task numbers appear in the spool file.
- The sql queries appear in the spool file
- The output of the query follows the query for each task.
- The file ends with Bye

If there is an error in one of your query, then there will be no output and no response in this file. The error message went to the screen.

You always need to read your spool (LST) file. If there is no result table for a query- find out if that is because the query has an error and did not run- or if the query simply has no output to display.

4. The options on the command line

As long as you produce the correct type of output spool file, you don't have to know what those option do, but this is why you need them.

4.1. -u

This is for your user name.

4.2. -p

This is to indicate that you will supply a password when asked.

4.3. -vvv

The first thing we need is to see the queries that are being run and the output formatted as rows and columns. This is done with the -vvv option.

If I cannot see your sql queries in the spool file, then you get a grade of 0 for the assignment.

4.4. -- force

This forces your script to continue to run even if you have an error in your script. Suppose you have 10 queries and query #3 has an error. If you do not include the force option your spool file would stop with query 2 and you would get no points for anything after query 2. You can use -f instead of --force if you want.

(You will still see an error message in the command window but the script will continue to run.)

4.5. -- comments

I need to see the comments to help me keep track of the various steps in the assignment and I need your name displayed. For this we include a --comments option on the command line.

If I do not see the task number comments and your name comments in the spool file, then you will lose points on each query.