Overview of SQL

ACTIVITY 7

To prepare for the upcoming activities related to SQL it is helpful to do a little reading about the history and general syntax of the language in advance. We will spend time writing queries so you should read this material with balance between understanding and knowing where to find answers to questions regarding syntax that will arise in the near future.

Purpose

The purpose of this activity is to provide you with an overview of the SQL Language

Learning Objective

To make a first attempt at "pseudo code"

Required Resources

- Access to a web browser

Time Allocated

30 minutes out-of-class

Tasks

A. Read Wikipedia article

The article available at: ***http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SQL*** gives a decent background and explanation of what SQL is and how you will be using it to query data.

B. Read (the entire text)

Available at PostgreSQL: ***http://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.1/static/tutorial-sql.html***

C. Skim the section on SQL

Skim the next chapter: ***http://www.postgresql.org/docs/9.1/static/sql.html***. Pay particular attention to section 8.1 on datatypes.

D. Write pseudo query syntax

Before getting stuck in the language syntax it is helpful to write the logic of the query that you might attempt in simple English. For example, for question 5 from Activity 6: "How many stops were made at STOP_ID 805?" you might write:

- Select the rows (records) from the stop table where the STOP_ID field value is equal to 805.
- Count the number of rows selected.

Now write the logic for questions 6-11 from Activity 6.

Deliverable

Submit Logic Task D in the course dropbox.

Assessment

Activity 7 Grading Rubric

	Excellent (10)	Good (8)	Poor (6)	0
Logic	Logic is sound. A step-by-step process is presented as a sequential series of processes resulting in the solution.	Logic is sound for most answers. A step-by-step process is presented in most cases and is a sequential series of processes.	Logic is difficult to understand. The processes were not presented in sequential or comprehensible order.	Did not submit.

Student Notes