MS ACCESS HOW TO:
ALTER THE CONTENTS OF A LIST BOX

Unit 18 Database Design
Extended Diploma in ICT
On a form you often want to have a list box where the contents change based on the selection of another list box.

This can be achieved by modifying the selection process Access uses when making list boxes and adding a tiny bit of VBA.
You want to select a genre of costumes, then only show the costumes in that genre for selection.
When we select the genre “Historical” we only want “Elizabeth 1” to appear as a choice
We use the link table (tblrental) as the control source and add the costume ID to it (text box).

The form is saved as ListBoxPopulation.
Add list boxes

- Drag out a list box and use the wizard to make the list box show the genres (see the How To on list boxes and sub forms for details). Name it `lstGenre` in the property sheet.
This will now show the genres, but should not update the CostumeID
Add another list box for costumes and make sure it will store the value in the CostumeID field. Call it lstCostume
Two independent list boxes

- We now have 2 list boxes that are not connected
- Selecting a costume should update the costumeID
We need to edit the queries that Access uses to populate the list boxes
Select the costume list box
The query is in the Row Source. Click on the three dots
View the query in SQL

- The query opens in design view
- Click on View and select SQL
The SQL view shows the SQL statement

- **Command to extract data from a table**
- **Gets the CostumeID**
- **Gets the CostumeType**

```
SELECT tblCostume.CostumeID, tblCostume.CostumeType
FROM tblCostume;
```

- **Takes the data from tblCostume**
We need to make sure we only list one record if there could be duplicates

Modify the SQL for lstGenre list box to the following:

- SELECT DISTINCTROW tblGenre.GenreID, tblGenre.Genre
  FROM tblGenre;

And for the lstCostume list box to:

- SELECT DISTINCTROW tblCostume.CostumeID, tblCostume.CostumeType
- FROM tblCostume;
We can use a WHERE statement to get the data where the GenreID in the costume table matches the GenreID value in the list box.

SELECT tblCostume.CostumeID, tblCostume.CostumeType
FROM tblCostume
WHERE
(((tblCostume.GenreID)=[forms]![ListBoxPopulation]![lstGenre]));
The list box for Costume should now only show the costumes associated with the chosen genre, but it doesn’t. This is because lstCostume needs refreshing after a change has been made to lstGenre. This is done by adding VBA to the After Update event of lstGenre.
We add a VBA statement to rerun the query that populates the costume list box.

```vba
Option Compare Database

Private Sub lstGenre_AfterUpdate()
    lstCostume.Requery
End Sub
```
We now have the costume list box contents changing depending on the selected genre
Task

- Create tables for the Vet database which match the data dictionaries specified in the design
- Populate these tables with at least 10 records in each table*
- *populate the owners table by importing data from the ‘CustomerSpreadsheet File’ on the Wiki, lesson 5
- Create form to enable owners to be added and another to enable animals to be added