Example 1

A publishing company produces scientific books on various subjects. The books are written by authors who specialize in one particular subject. The company employs editors who, not necessarily being specialists in a particular area, each take sole responsibility for editing one or more publications. A publication covers essentially one of the specialist subjects and is normally written by a single author. When writing a particular book, each author works with one editor, but may submit another work for publication to be supervised by other editors. To improve their competitiveness, the company tries to employ a variety of authors, more than one author being a specialist in a particular subject.
Example 2

A General Hospital consists of a number of specialized wards (such as Maternity, Paediatry, Oncology, etc). Each ward hosts a number of patients, who were admitted on the recommendation of their own GP and confirmed by a consultant employed by the Hospital. On admission, the personal details of every patient are recorded. A separate register is to be held to store the information of the tests undertaken and the results of a prescribed treatment. A number of tests may be conducted for each patient. Each patient is assigned to one leading consultant but may be examined by another doctor, if required. Doctors are specialists in some branch of medicine and may be leading consultants for a number of patients, not necessarily from the same ward.
Example 3

A database is to be designed for a Car Rental Co. (CRC). The information required includes a description of cars, subcontractors (i.e. garages), company expenditures, company revenues and customers. Cars are to be described by such data as: make, model, year of production, engine size, fuel type, number of passengers, registration number, purchase price, purchase date, rent price and insurance details. It is the company policy not to keep any car for a period exceeding one year. All major repairs and maintenance are done by subcontractors (i.e. franchised garages), with whom CRC has long-term agreements. Therefore the data about garages to be kept in the database includes garage names, addressees, range of services and the like. Some garages require payments immediately after a repair has been made; with others CRC has made arrangements for credit facilities. Company expenditures are to be registered for all outgoings connected with purchases, repairs, maintenance, insurance etc. Similarly the cash inflow coming from all sources - car hire, car sales, insurance claims - must be kept of file. CRC maintains a reasonably stable client base. For this privileged category of customers special credit card facilities are provided. These customers may also book in advance a particular car. These reservations can be made for any period of time up to one month. Casual customers must pay a deposit for an estimated time of rental, unless they wish to pay by credit card. All major credit cards are accepted. Personal details (such as name, address, telephone number, driving licence, number) about each customer are kept in the database.

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+-----------+      +-----------+      +-----------+
| Income    |  generates  | Car Model |  has for  | Garage |
|-----------+----------+------------+----------+--------+
| Rental Contract |  have      | Car       | services |        
| Customer    |          | Insurance | needs    |        
|            |          |           |          |        
|            |          | Car       | generates |        
|            |          | Maintenance| generators|        
|            |          | Expenditure|          |        
+-----------+      +-----------+      +-----------+
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Example 4

A database is to be designed for a college to monitor students' progress throughout their course of study. The students are reading for a degree (such as BA, BA(Hons) MSc, etc) within the framework of the modular system. The college provides a number of module, each being characterised by its code, title, credit value, module leader, teaching staff and the department they come from. A module is coordinated by a module leader who shares teaching duties with one or more lecturers. A lecturer may teach (and be a module leader for) more than one module. Students are free to choose any module they wish but the following rules must be observed: some modules require pre-requisites modules and some degree programmes have compulsory modules. The database is also to contain some information about students including their numbers, names, addresses, degrees they read for, and their past performance (i.e. modules taken and examination results).
Example 5

A relational database is to be designed for a medium sized Company dealing with industrial applications of computers. The Company delivers various products to its customers ranging from a single application program through to complete installation of hardware with customized software. The Company employs various experts, consultants and supporting staff. All personnel are employed on long-term basis, i.e. there are no short-term or temporary staff. Although the Company is somehow structured for administrative purposes (that is, it is divided into departments headed by department managers) all projects are carried out in an inter-disciplinary way. For each project a project team is selected, grouping employees from different departments, and a Project Manager (also an employee of the Company) is appointed who is entirely and exclusively responsible for the control of the project, quite independently of the Company's hierarchy. The following is a brief statement of some facts and policies adopted by the Company.
Entity Relationship Diagram for Orders and Products in Company.
Entity Relationship Diagram for car repair Company.
Example: Airline Reservation System

NOTES:
(1) A LEG (SEGMENT) IS A NONSTOP PORTION OF A FLIGHT
(2) A LEG INSTANCE IS A PARTICULAR OCCURRENCE OF A LEG ON A PARTICULAR DATE
**Example: Library Mgmt System**

A college library holds books for its members to borrow. Each book may be written by more than one author. Any one author may have written several books. If no copies of a wanted book are currently in stock, a member may make a reservation for the title until it is available. If books are not returned on time a fine is imposed and if the fine is not paid the member is barred from loaning any other books until the fine is paid.

**Example: Global Enterprise Mgmt System**

A global enterprise has three companies, and each company has between two and six departments. Each department employs one or more employees (although certain company employees may not currently be attached to a department), who, as well as possibly having a number of dependants, may well have an associated set of employment history notes. State any assumptions you make.

**Example: School Database**

A local authority wishes to keep a database of all its schools and the school children that are attending each school. The system should also be able to record teachers available to be employed at a school and be able to show which teachers teach which children. Each school has one head teacher who’s responsibility it is to manage their individual school, this should also be modelled. State any assumptions you make.