

# Essential problem solving method for MySQL query containing emoticon like '\xF0\x9F\x94\x8A S...'

You should alter table charset to use utfmb4 collate utf8mb4\_unicode\_ci if you face query error when the query string containing emoticon like or . Its error message will be something like SyntaxError: Non-UTF-8 code starting with '\xed' ...

The basic utf-8 format in the MySQL is 3-bytes data type, so the special characters like or are not supported. The solution is to convert the table type in the 4 bytes data type as following:

```
ALTER DATABASE [database_name] CHARACTER SET = utf8mb4 COLLATE = utf8mb4_unicode_ci;  
ALTER TABLE [table_name] CONVERT TO CHARACTER SET utf8mb4 COLLATE utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
```

When you create your table it should be like

```
create table test(  
    id int NOT NULL AUTO_INCREMENT PRIMARY KEY,  
    title text  
) CHARACTER SET utf8mb4 COLLATE utf8mb4_unicode_ci;
```