Export/Import database data between servers

For the purposes of that action, we will use SQL Management Studio and Command Prompt

Export data

1. Open SQL Management Studio and connect to the server of the database to export from
2. Right-click on the database and select 'Generate Scripts'

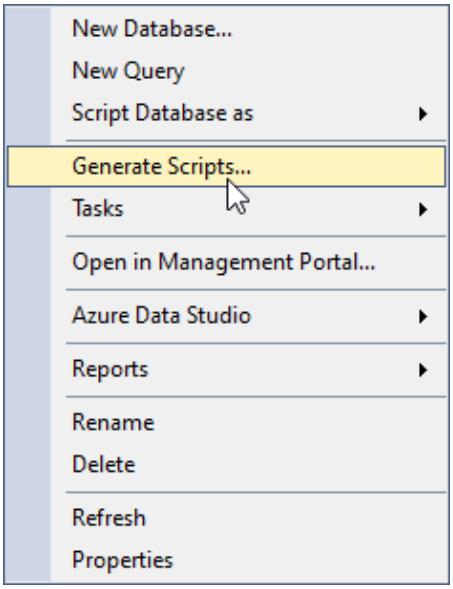

Figure 1. SQL Server Management Studio 18

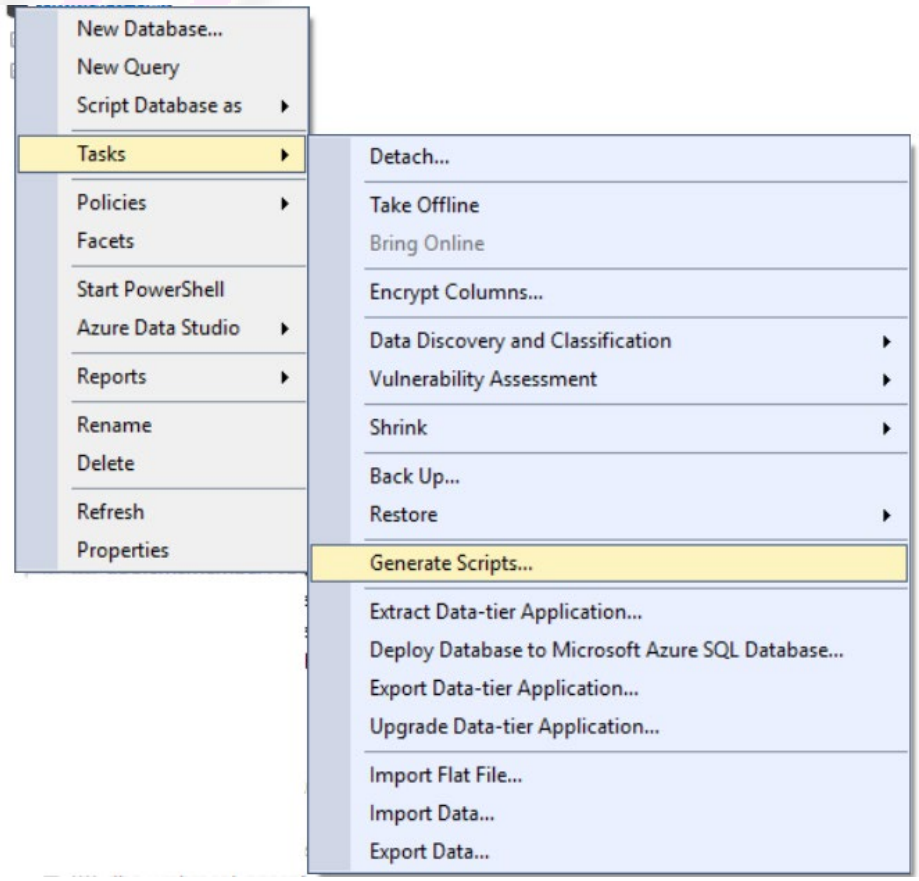

Figure 2. SQL Server Management Studio 19

3. A new window will pop up

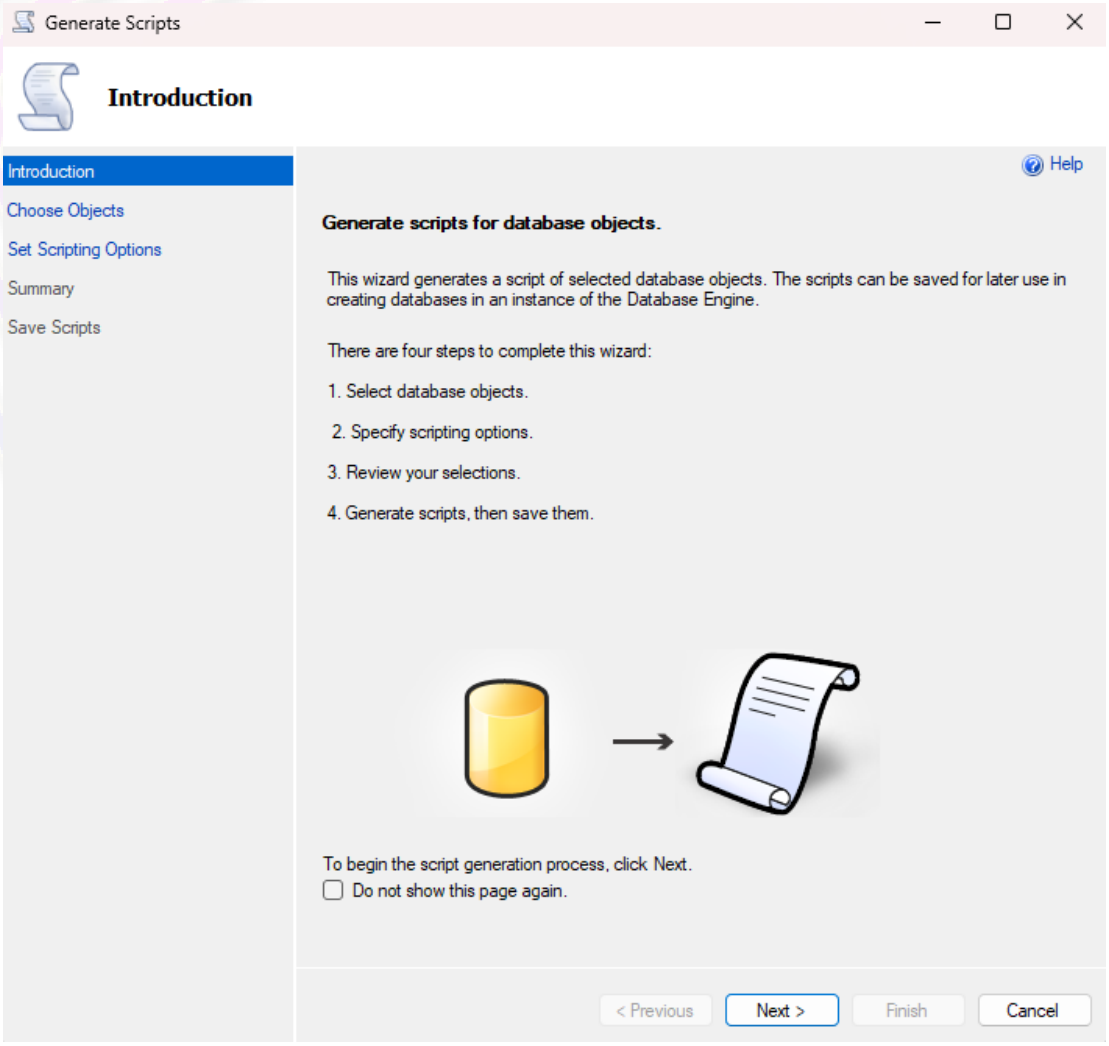

Figure 3. Generate Scripts window

4. By clicking the Next button proceed to step 'Choose Objects' from the wizard and choose 'Select specific database objects'

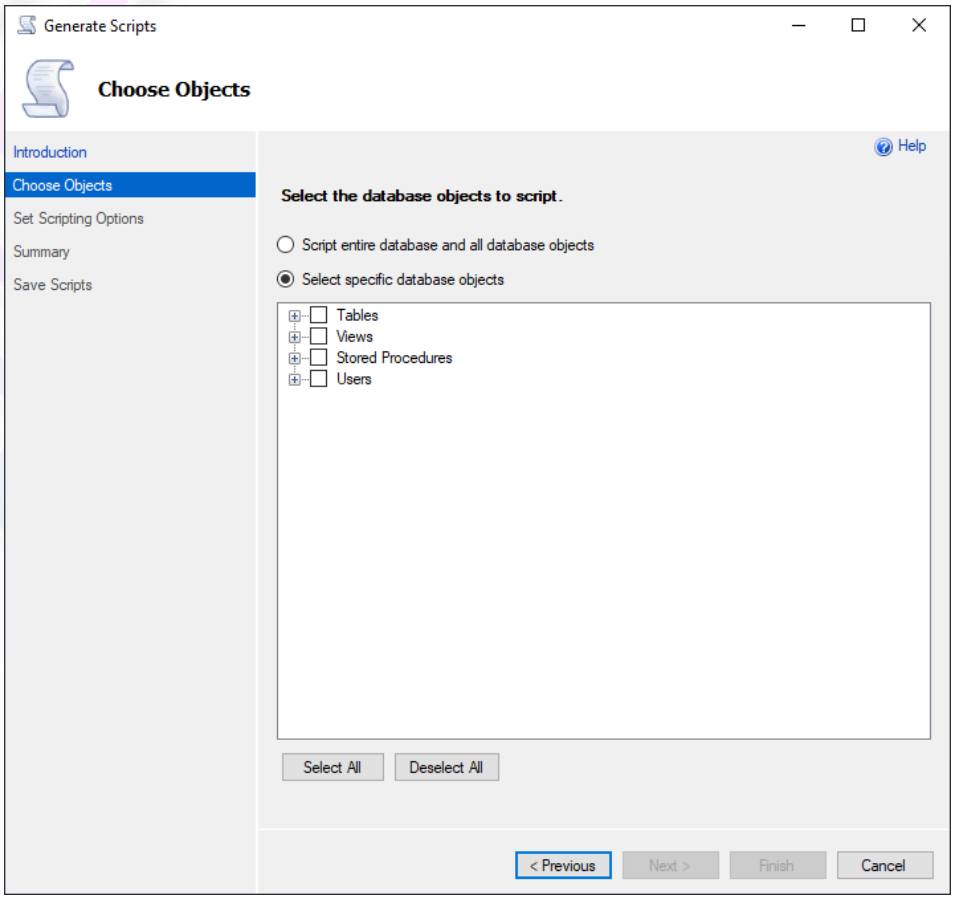

Figure 4. Step 'Choose Objects'

5. Select ‘Tables’ for which to generate the script and click ‘Next’ button

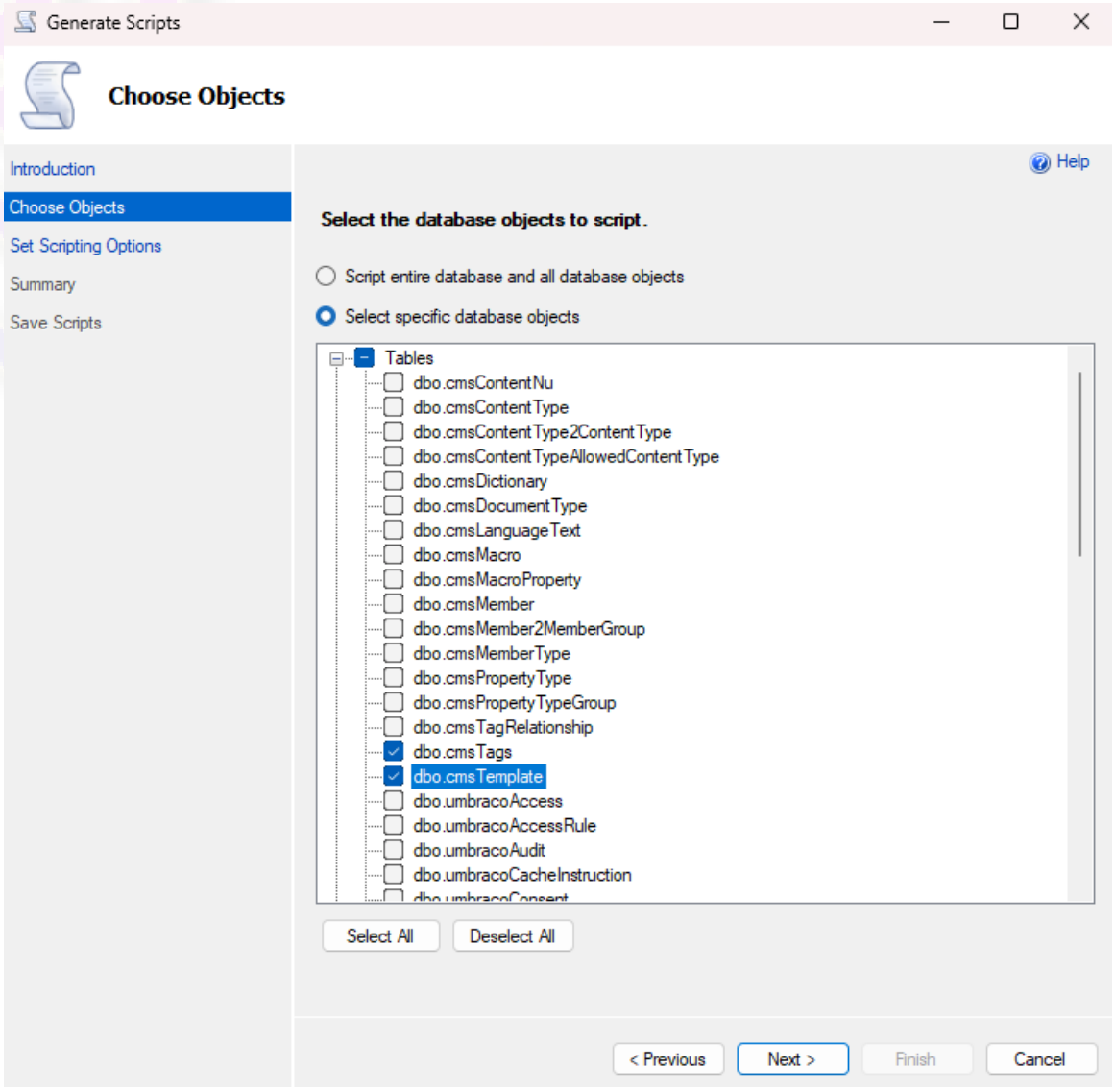

Figure 5. Select database objects to script

6. From 'Set Scripting Options' step, select the ‘Advanced’ button

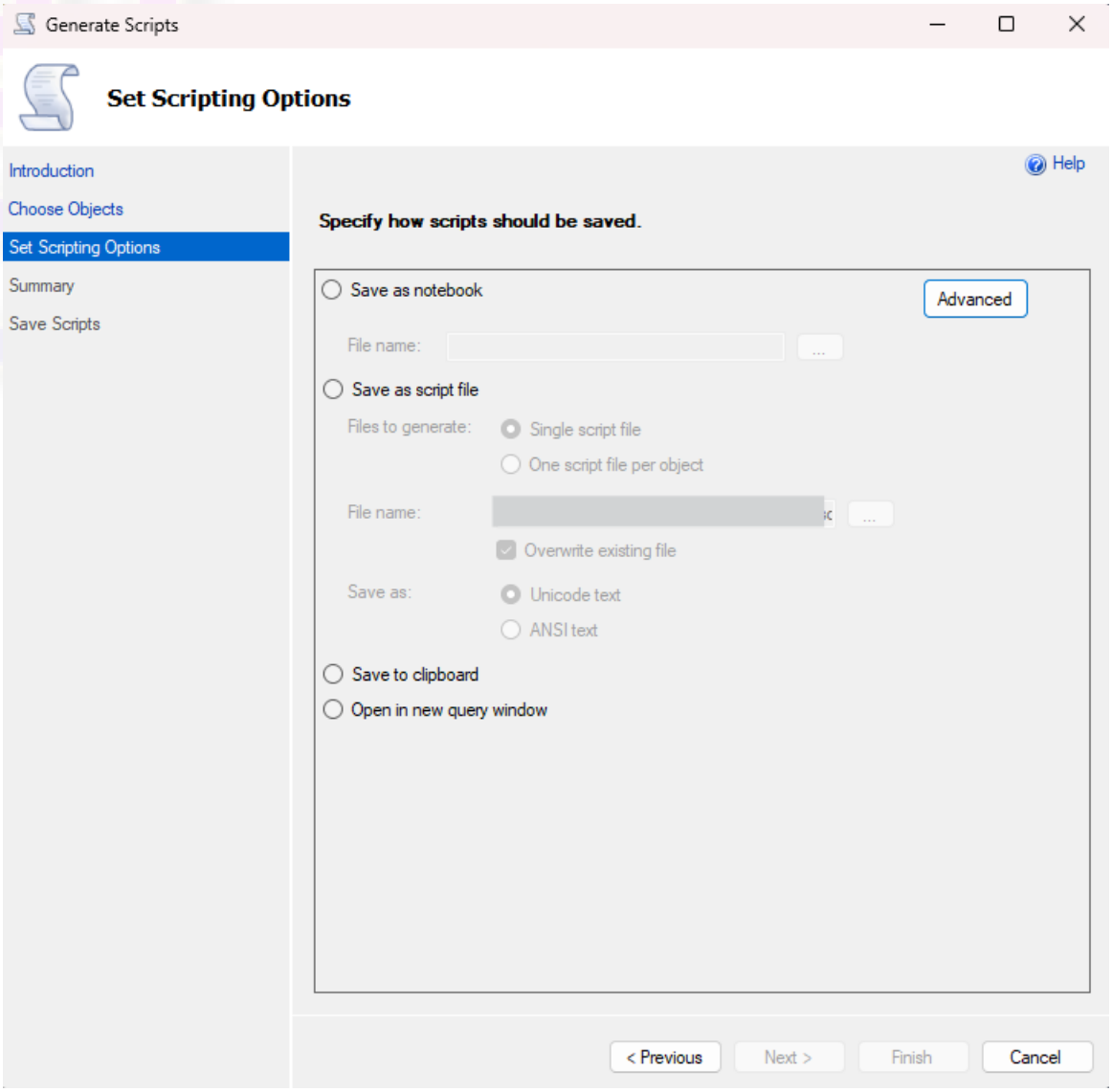

Figure 6. Step ‘Set Scripting Options’

7. From the new window search for 'Types of data to script' in the General group of options

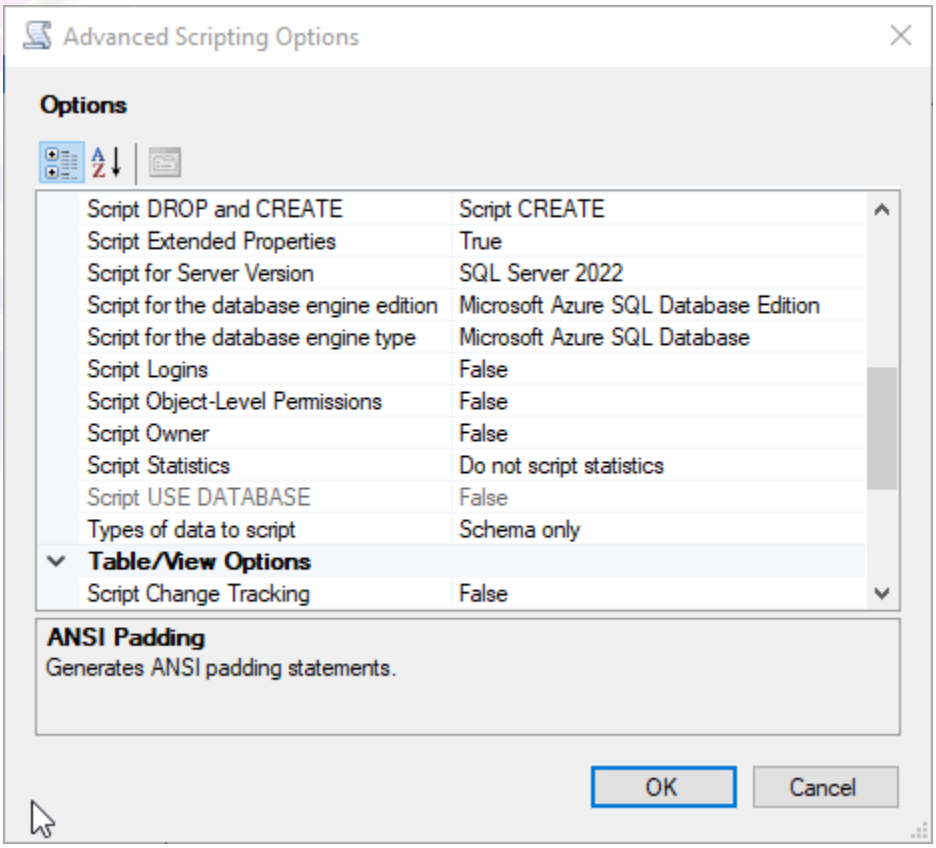

Figure 7. 'Types of data to script'

8. From the dropdown choose the option depending on your need:

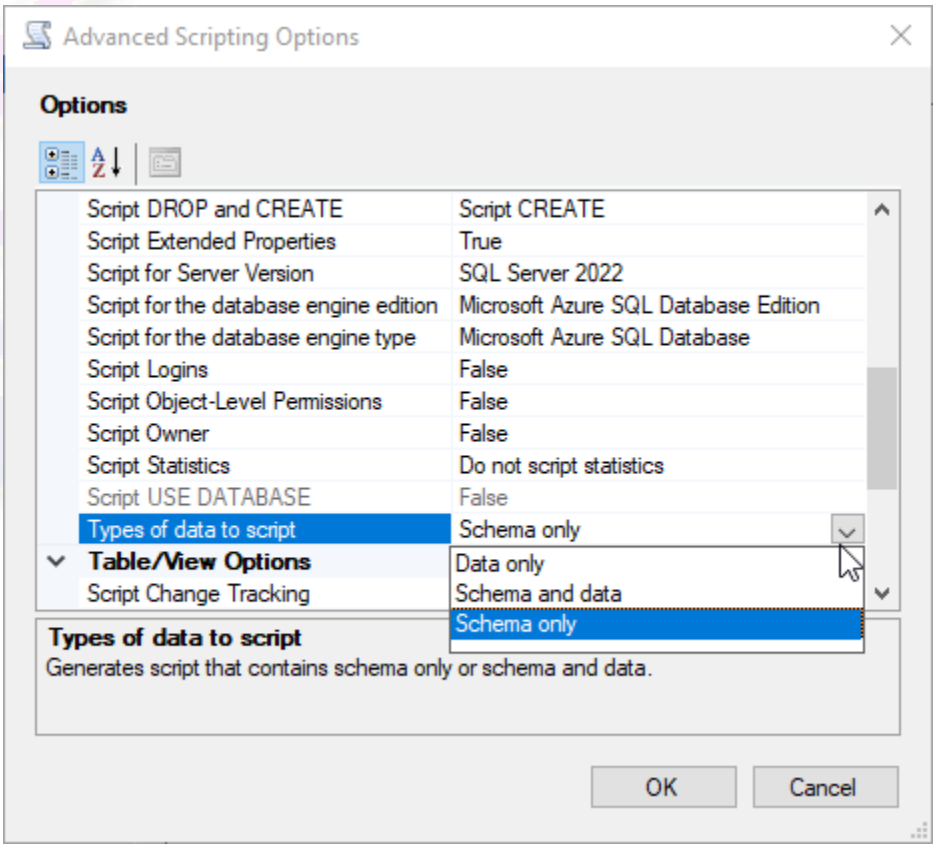

Figure 8. 'Types of data to script' options

a. '**Schema Only**' if the request is only for the tables without any data

b. '**Schema and data**' will generate a script which will include altogether: tables structure and data in each

c. '**Data Only**' if the request is only for the tables data

As a recommendation, create 2 separated scripts for schema and data, for fast importing afterwards

9. After the required type is selected click OK, and return to the 'Set Scripting Options' window from where to select the script to be saved as a script file

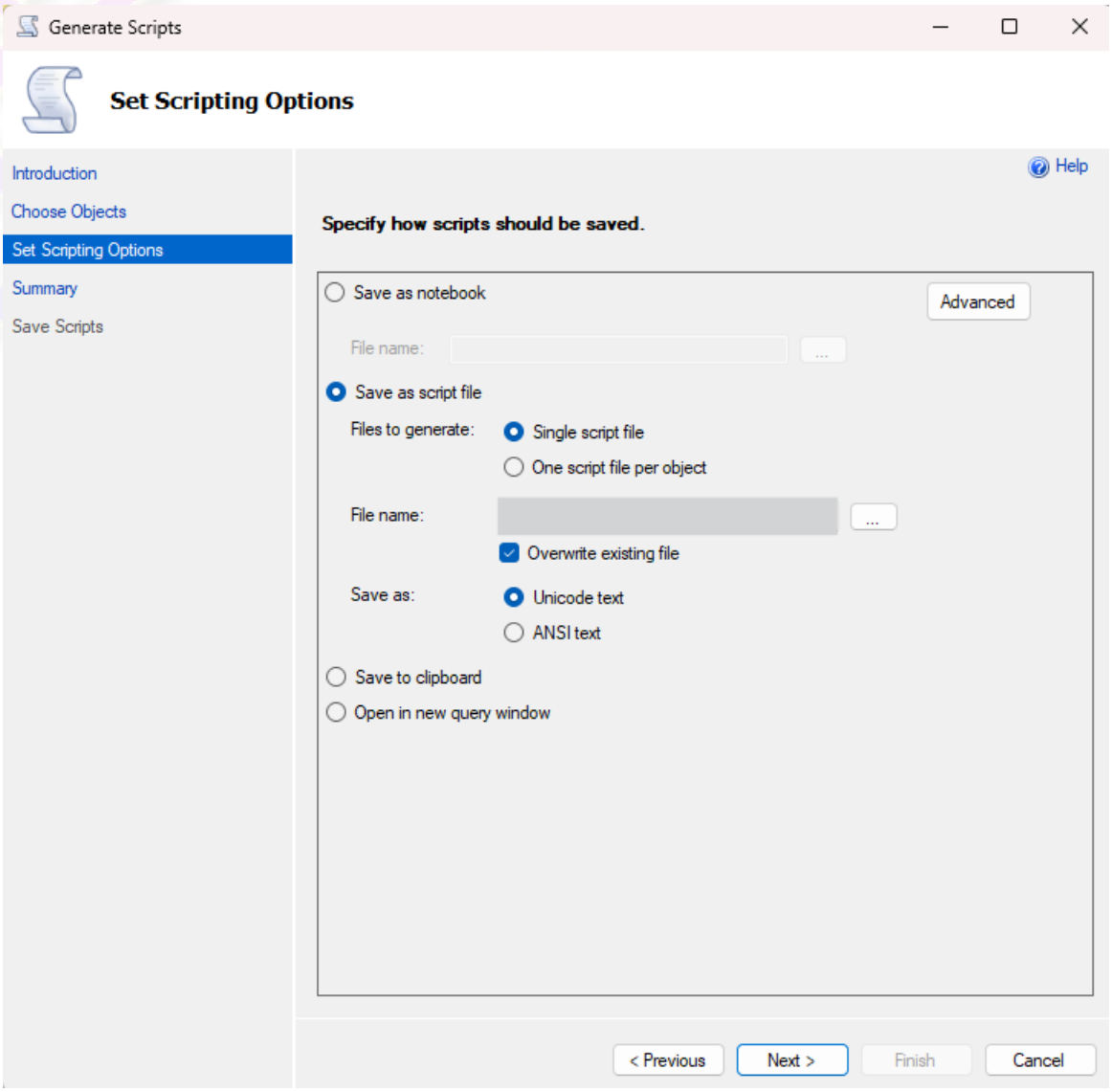

Figure 9. Save a script file

10. Then proceed with the Next button that leads to the Summary step

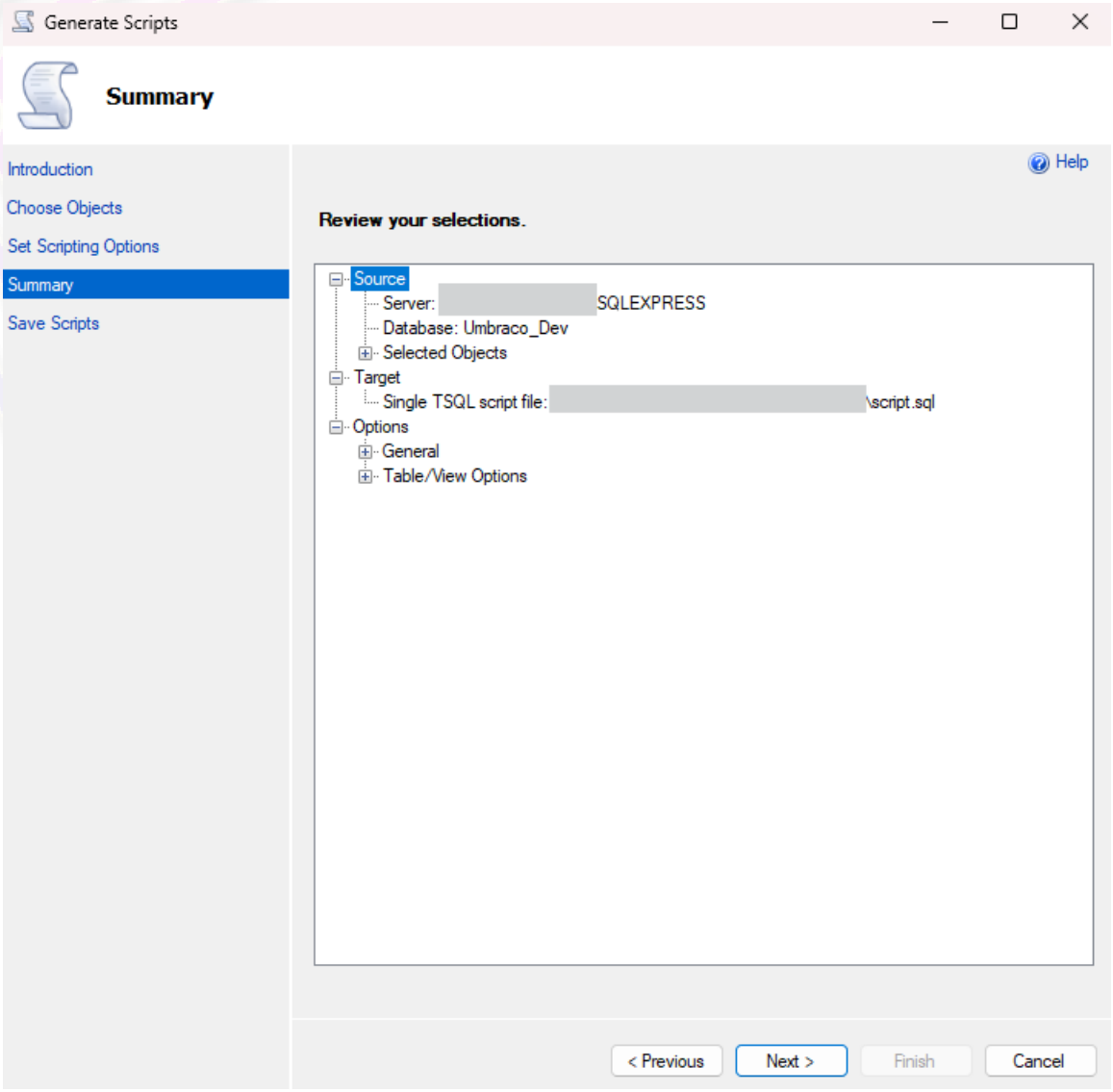

Figure 10. Step 'Summary'

11. If all looks good, again click the ‘Next’ button until getting to 'Save Scripts' step where the script file is in action to be generated and saved

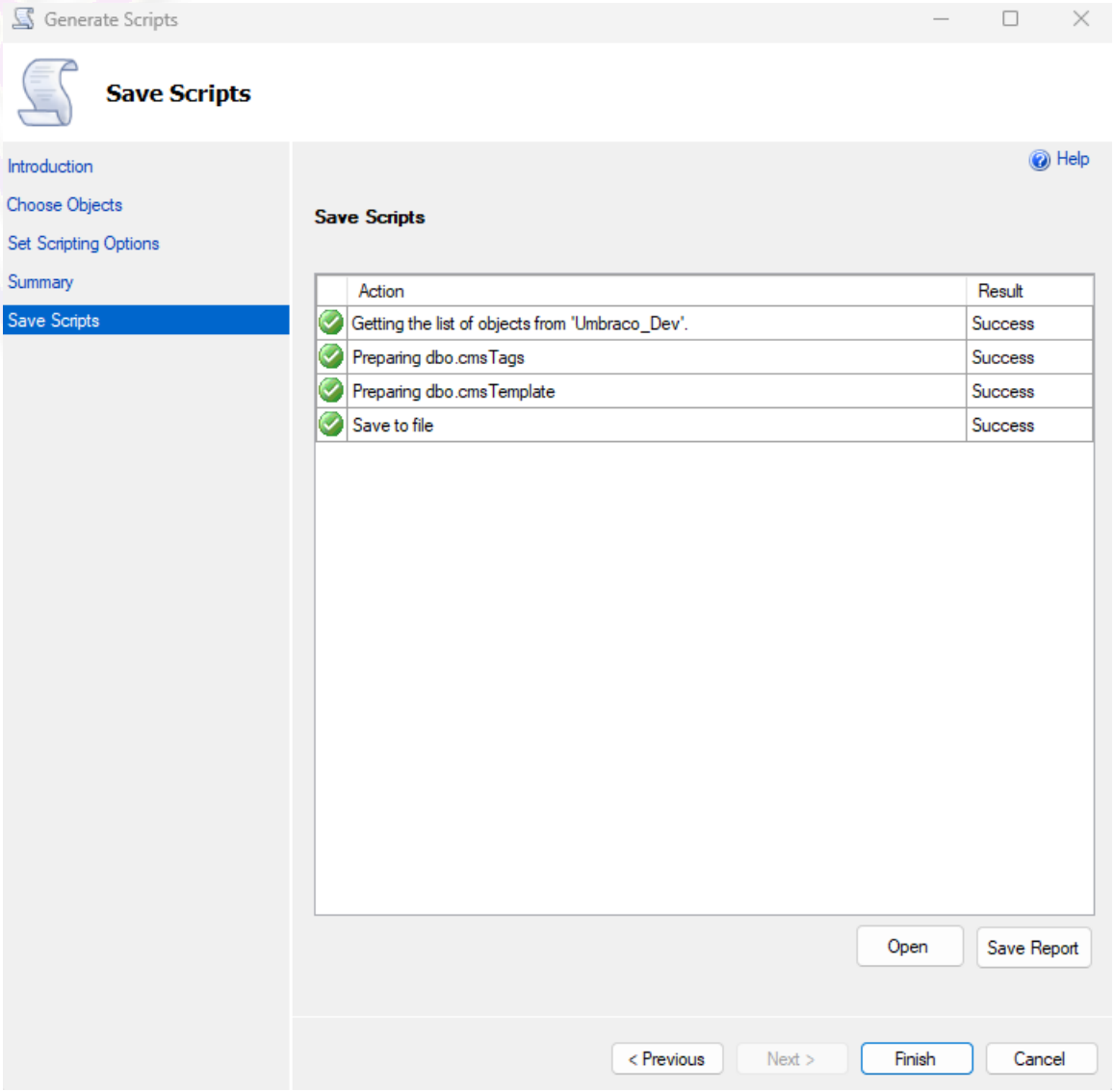

Figure 11. Step 'Save Scripts'

12. Close the window by clicking the ‘Finish’ button

If you have selected ‘Schema only’ option from 'Types of data to script' (as in the described case), for fetching the data, follow the same steps since point 1 but change the 'Types of data script' to ‘Data only’ as explained in point 7

Import data

Here are the steps for importing into the new database when separated script files for scheme and data were generated

1. Connect to the new database and open the generated script with the scheme only in the SQL Management studio
2. If the new database is not selected, at the beginning of the script add USE statement to reassure that we are creating the tables in the proper Database:

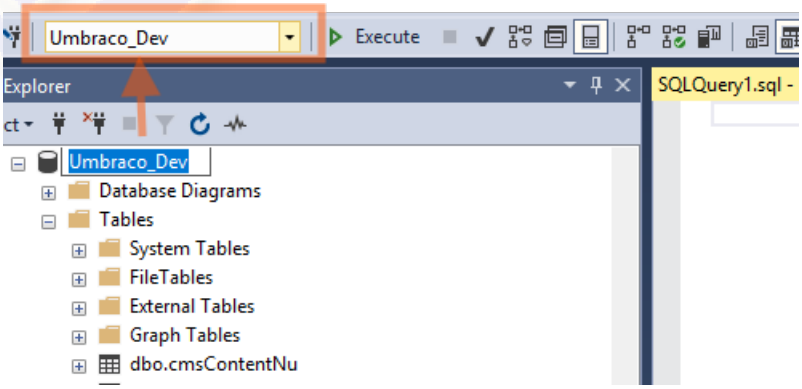

Figure 12. Selected Database

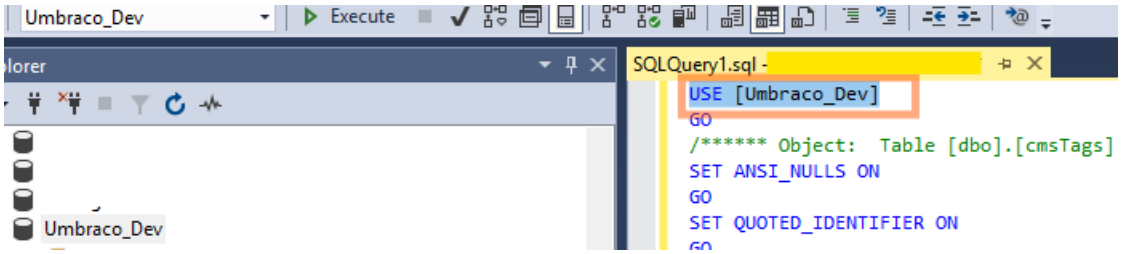

Figure 13. USE statement

3. Execute the script. This will create the tables in the new database with all columns
4. For importing the data, open Command Prompt from the place where the SQL generated script file is placed
5. Run the following command
   sqlcmd -S <server name> -d <database name> -U <username> -P <paddword> -i <filename.sql>
   This is done by CMD because of the big amount of data to be transferred

6. Wait for the command to finish and all is now done