

### ### Introduction To Constraints ==> =====

\* One of the core functions of any Database Management System is to ensure the integrity of data during its life cycle.

\* Data Integrity, in simple terms, means that data should remain 'consistent' and 'accurate' as time goes by.

\* In Oracle, "constraints" are a facility to enforce rules to make sure that only allowable data values are stored in the database.

\* A constraint, as the name suggests, puts restrictions/checks on the type or value of data that can be stored in the database table.

### ## Types Of Constraints ==> =====

\* There are five types of Integrity Constraints available in Oracle and they are :

- Not Null
- Check
- Unique
- Primary Key
- Foreign Key

#### # Not Null ==> =====

\* By default all columns in a table can contain NULL values.

\* If we want to ensure that a column must always have a value, i.e. it should not be left blank, then we have to define a NOT NULL constraint on it.

\* The database will throw an error if NULL values are entered in the column which has NOT NULL applied on it.

#### # Check ==> =====

\* Use the CHECK CONSTRAINT to validate values entered into a column.

\* For example , in EMP table we might not want the SALARY to be NEGATIVE.

\* For such situations we define a CHECK constraint

#### # Unique ==> =====

\* A UNIQUE integrity constraint requires that every value in a column or set of columns (key) be unique—that is, no two rows of a table have duplicate values in a specified column or set of columns.

\* For example in a table called STUDENTS , the column called PROJECT\_TITLE must be created with UNIQUE constraint as we don't want two students to have the same Project Title.

\* However , NULL value is still allowed.

# Primary Key ==>  
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\* PRIMARY KEY constraint is a combination of NOT NULL and UNIQUE constraints.

\* The column or the set of columns on which PRIMARY KEY is defined will allow only UNIQUE and NOT NULL values.

\* However PRIMARY KEY itself has a constraint that in a table there can be only one PRIMARY KEY constraint.

# Foreign Key ==> (Referencing table)  
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\* It is frequently required that data in one table should be validated by comparing it to data in another table.

\* For example , if we add a new order in our ORDERS table, we must crosscheck that a valid product corresponding to this order is present in our PRODUCTS table.

\* To achieve this kind of data integrity, FOREIGN KEY constraint is used. This type of validation is also known as REFERENTIAL INTEGRITY.

\* A FOREIGN KEY constraint always makes reference to a PRIMARY KEY or a UNIQUE constraint of other tables.

\* The table that has a FOREIGN KEY defined is called child table or referencing table.

\* The table that has a PRIMARY KEY or UNIQUE constraint defined is called parent table or referenced table.

## Techniques Of Applying Constraints ==>  
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\* Oracle allows us to apply constraints either at the COLUMN LEVEL or at the TABLE LEVEL :-

\* Column-level constraints :- Are declared as part of a column definition and apply only to that column. They are also called INLINE CONSTRAINTS.

\* Table-level constraints :- Are declared independently from any column definitions (traditionally, at the end of a CREATE TABLE statement) and may apply to one or more columns in the table. A table constraint is required when we wish to define a constraint that applies to more than one column. They are also called OUT OF LINE CONSTRAINTS.

## Column Level Constraints ==>  
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# Syntax Of Applying Column Level Constraints ==>

- CREATE TABLE table\_name (

```

Column1 datatype (size) constraint <constraint_name>
<constraint_type>,
Column2 datatype (size) constraint <constraint_name>
<constraint_type>,
Column3 datatype (size) constraint <constraint_name>
<constraint_type>,
..... );

```

# Create a table called STUDENTS with the following columns and constraints:

Column Name	Data Type	Constraint
Roll_No	Number	Should not accept repeating values
Name	Varchar2	should not accept null values
Percentage	Number	

```

- Create Table STUDENTS(
Roll_No NUMBER(3) constraint ST_RN_UN UNIQUE,
Name VARCHAR2(15) constraint ST_NM_NN NOT NULL,
Per NUMBER(5,2)
);

```

- desc students;

Name	Null?	Type
ROLL_NO		NUMBER(3)
NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
PER		NUMBER(5,2)

# Create a table called VENDOR\_MASTER with the following columns and constraints:

Column Name	Data Type	Constraint
Vendor_Id	Varchar2	Should be PRIMARY KEY of the table
Product_Id	Varchar2	Should not accept null values
City	Varchar2	Should only accept Bhopal & Indore

-desc vendor\_master;

Name	Null?	Type
VENDOR_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(10)
PRODUCT_ID	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(15)
CITY		VARCHAR2(6)

```

## Table Level Constraints ==>
=====

```

\* A TABLE-LEVEL CONSTRAINT references one or multiple columns and is defined separately, after the definition of all the columns.

\* Points To Remember:

- All constraints except for the NOT NULL constraint can be defined at the TABLE LEVEL.

- We must use a TABLE-LEVEL CONSTRAINT if we are constraining more than one constraint on the same column.

- If we are referring to the column of the SAME TABLE in a CHECK CONSTRAINT , then also it should be a TABLE LEVEL CONSTRAINT.

- The syntax for adding REFERENTIAL CONSTRAINT requires additional clause called FOREIGN KEY.

# Syntax Of Applying Table Level Constraints ==>

```
-CREATE TABLE table_name(  
Column1 datatype (size) ,  
Column2 datatype (size) ,  
Column3 datatype (size) ,  
constraint <constraint_name>  
<constraint_type>(<col_name>),  
..... );
```

# Create a table called BOOKS with the following columns and constraints:

Column Name	Data Type	Constraint
=====	=====	=====
Book_Id	Number	Should be PRIMARY KEY
Book_Name	Varchar2	Should not accept null values
Book_Price	Number	Should allow values between 400 and 700 only
Book_Author_Id	Number	Should be foreign KEY

```
- create table books(  
2 book_id number(3),  
3 book_title varchar2(30) constraint bk_bt_nn not null,  
4 book_price number(3),  
5 book_author_id number(3),  
6 constraint bk_id_pk primary key (book_id),  
7 constraint bk_pr_ch check(book_price between 400 and 700),  
8 constraint bk_aid_fk foreign key (book_author_id) references authors)
```

```
- desc books;
```

Name	Null?	Type
-----	-----	-----
BOOK_ID	NOT NULL	NUMBER(3)
BOOK_TITLE	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(30)
BOOK_PRICE		NUMBER(3)
BOOK_AUTHOR_ID		NUMBER(3)

# Create a table called ORDER\_DETAILS with the following columns and constraints:

Column Name	Data Type	Constraint
=====	=====	=====
Order_Id	Number	Should be PRIMARY KEY
Prod_Id	Number	Should not accept null values
Ord_Date	Date	
Del_Date	Date	Should be greater than Ord_Date

```
- Create Table ORDER_DETAILS(  
Order_Id NUMBER(3),  
Prod_Id NUMBER(3) constraint ORD_DET_PID_NN NOT NULL,  
Ord_Date DATE,  
Del_Date DATE,  
Constraint ORD_DET_OID_PK PRIMARY KEY(Order_Id),
```

```
Constraint ORD_DET_DD_CH CHECK(Del_Date > Ord_Date));
```