University of Central Florida CGS 2545 Database Concepts

- A Subquery or Inner query or a Nested query is a query within another SQL query and embedded within the WHERE clause.
- A subquery is used to return data that will be used in the main query as a condition to further restrict the data to be retrieved.

- Subqueries can be used with
 - SELECT statements
 - INSERT statements
 - UPDATE statements
 - DELETE statements
 - operators
 - =
 - <
 - >
 - >=
 - <=
 - IN
 - BETWEEN
 - Etc...

- There are a few rules that subqueries must follow
 - Subqueries must be enclosed within parentheses.
 - A subquery can have only one column in the SELECT clause, unless multiple columns are in the main query for the subquery to compare its selected columns.
 - An ORDER BY command cannot be used in a subquery, although the main query can use an ORDER BY. The GROUP BY command can be used to perform the same function as the ORDER BY in a subquery.

- There are a few rules that subqueries must follow
 - Subqueries that return more than one row can only be used with multiple value operators such as the IN operator.
 - The SELECT list cannot include any references to values that evaluate to a BLOB, ARRAY, CLOB, or NCLOB.
 - A subquery cannot be immediately enclosed in a set function.
 - The BETWEEN operator cannot be used with a subquery. However, the BETWEEN operator can be used within the subquery.

- Subqueries with the SELECT Statement
 - Subqueries are most frequently used with the SELECT statement.
 - The basic syntax is as follows

```
SELECT column_name [, column_name ]
FROM table1 [, table2 ]
WHERE column_name OPERATOR
  (SELECT column_name [, column_name ]
  FROM table1 [, table2 ]
  [WHERE])
```

- Example
 - Consider the CUSTOMERS table having the following records

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
1 1	Ramesh	35	Ahmedabad	2000.00
2	Khilan	25	Delhi	1500.00
j 3 j	kaushik	23	Kota	2000.00
4	Chaitali	25	Mumbai	6500.00
5	Hardik	27	Bhopal	8500.00
6	Komal	22	MP	4500.00
7	Muffy	24	Indore	10000.00
++		+		++

- Example
 - Now, let us check the following subquery with a SELECT statement.

```
SQL> SELECT *
FROM CUSTOMERS
WHERE ID IN (SELECT ID
FROM CUSTOMERS
WHERE SALARY > 4500);
```

- Subqueries with the INSERT Statement
 - Subqueries also can be used with INSERT statements.
 - The INSERT statement uses the data returned from the subquery to insert into another table.
 - The selected data in the subquery can be modified with any of the character, date or number functions.

- Subqueries with the INSERT Statement
 - The basic syntax is as follows.

```
INSERT INTO table_name [ (column1 [, column2 ]) ]
   SELECT [ *|column1 [, column2 ]
   FROM table1 [, table2 ]
   [ WHERE VALUE OPERATOR ]
```

Example

- Consider a table CUSTOMERS_BKP with similar structure as CUSTOMERS table.
- Now to copy the complete CUSTOMERS table into the CUSTOMERS_BKP table, you can use the following syntax.

```
SQL> INSERT INTO CUSTOMERS_BKP

SELECT * FROM CUSTOMERS

WHERE ID IN (SELECT ID

FROM CUSTOMERS);
```

- Subqueries with the UPDATE Statement
 - The subquery can be used in conjunction with the UPDATE statement.
 - Either single or multiple columns in a table can be updated when using a subquery with the UPDATE statement.

- Subqueries with the UPDATE Statement
 - The basic syntax is as follows.

```
UPDATE table
SET column_name = new_value
[ WHERE OPERATOR [ VALUE ]
    (SELECT COLUMN_NAME
    FROM TABLE_NAME)
[ WHERE) ]
```

Example

- Assuming, we have CUSTOMERS_BKP table available which is backup of CUSTOMERS table.
- The following example updates SALARY by 0.25 times in the CUSTOMERS table for all the customers whose AGE is greater than or equal to 27.

```
SQL> UPDATE CUSTOMERS
SET SALARY = SALARY * 0.25
WHERE AGE IN (SELECT AGE FROM CUSTOMERS_BKP
WHERE AGE >= 27 );
```

- Example
 - This would impact two rows and finally CUSTOMERS table would have the following records.

- Subqueries with the DELETE Statement
 - The subquery can be used in conjunction with the DELETE statement like with any other statements mentioned above.
 - The basic syntax is as follows.

```
DELETE FROM TABLE_NAME

[ WHERE OPERATOR [ VALUE ]

    (SELECT COLUMN_NAME

    FROM TABLE_NAME)

[ WHERE) ]
```

Example

- Assuming, we have a CUSTOMERS_BKP table available which is a backup of the CUSTOMERS table.
- The following example deletes the records from the CUSTOMERS table for all the customers whose AGE is greater than or equal to 27

```
SQL> DELETE FROM CUSTOMERS

WHERE AGE IN (SELECT AGE FROM CUSTOMERS_BKP

WHERE AGE >= 27 );
```

- Example
 - This would impact two rows and finally the CUSTOMERS table would have the following records.