



Using Subqueries to Solve Queries

Objectives

After completing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- Define subqueries
- Describe the types of problems that the subqueries can solve
- List the types of subqueries
- Write single-row and multiple-row subqueries

Lesson Agenda

- Subquery: Types, syntax, and guidelines
- Single-row subqueries:
 - Group functions in a subquery
 - HAVING clause with subqueries
- Multiple-row subqueries
 - Use ALL or ANY operator.
- Null values in a subquery

Using a Subquery to Solve a Problem

Who has a salary greater than Abel's?

Main query:



Which employees have salaries greater than Abel's salary?

Subquery:



What is Abel's salary?



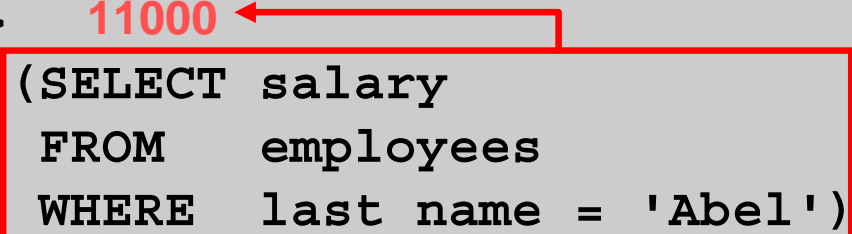
Subquery Syntax

```
SELECT    select_list
FROM      table
WHERE     expr operator
          (SELECT      select_list
           FROM        table);
```

- The subquery (inner query) executes *before* the main query (outer query).
- The result of the subquery is used by the main query.

Using a Subquery

```
SELECT last_name, salary
FROM employees
WHERE salary > 11000
      (SELECT salary
       FROM employees
       WHERE last_name = 'Abel');
```



	LAST_NAME	SALARY
1	King	24000
2	Kochhar	17000
3	De Haan	17000
4	Hartstein	13000
5	Higgins	12000

Guidelines for Using Subqueries

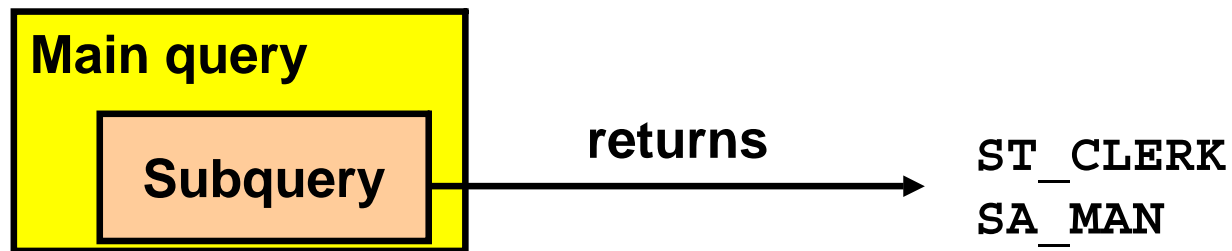
- Enclose subqueries in parentheses.
- Place subqueries on the right side of the comparison condition for readability (However, the subquery can appear on either side of the comparison operator.).
- Use single-row operators with single-row subqueries and multiple-row operators with multiple-row subqueries.

Types of Subqueries

- Single-row subquery



- Multiple-row subquery



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Single-Row Subqueries

- Return only one row
- Use single-row comparison operators


Operator	Meaning
=	Equal to
>	Greater than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<	Less than
<=	Less than or equal to
<>	Not equal to




Executing Single-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees
WHERE job_id =  (SELECT job_id
FROM employees
WHERE last_name = 'Taylor')
AND salary >  (SELECT salary
FROM employees
WHERE last name = 'Taylor');
```

	 LAST_NAME	 JOB_ID	 SALARY
1	Abel	SA_REP	11000

Using Group Functions in a Subquery

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary =  (SELECT MIN(salary)
                        FROM   employees);
```

	 LAST_NAME	 JOB_ID	 SALARY
1	Vargas	ST_CLERK	2500

The HAVING Clause with Subqueries

- The Oracle server executes the subqueries first.
- The Oracle server returns results into the HAVING clause of the main query.

```
SELECT    department_id, MIN(salary)
FROM      employees
GROUP BY  department_id
HAVING    MIN(salary) > (SELECT MIN(salary)
                        FROM      employees
                        WHERE      department_id = 50);
```

2500

	DEPARTMENT_ID	MIN(SALARY)
1	(null)	7000
2	90	17000
3	20	6000
...		
7	10	4400

What Is Wrong with This Statement?

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name
FROM employees
WHERE salary =
      (SELECT MIN(salary)
       FROM employees
       GROUP BY department_id);
```

ORA-01427: single-row subquery returns more than one ...



An error was encountered performing the requested operation:

ORA-01427: single-row subquery returns more than one row
01427. 00000 - "single-row subquery returns more than one row"

*Cause:

*Action:

Error at Line:1

**Single-row operator
with multiple-row
subquery**

No Rows Returned by the Inner Query

```
SELECT last_name, job_id
FROM employees
WHERE job_id =
    (SELECT job_id
     FROM employees
     WHERE last_name = 'Haas');
```

0 rows selected

Subquery returns no rows because there is no employee named "Haas."

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- Subquery: Types, syntax, and guidelines
- Single-row subqueries:
 - Group functions in a subquery
 - `HAVING` clause with subqueries
- **Multiple-row subqueries**
 - Use `ALL` or `ANY` operator
- Null values in a subquery

Multiple-Row Subqueries

- Return more than one row
- Use multiple-row comparison operators

Operator	Meaning
IN	Equal to any member in the list
ANY	Must be preceded by =, !=, >, <, <=, >=. Compares a value to each value in a list or returned by a query. Evaluates to <code>FALSE</code> if the query returns no rows.
ALL	Must be preceded by =, !=, >, <, <=, >=. Compares a value to every value in a list or returned by a query. Evaluates to <code>TRUE</code> if the query returns no rows.

Using the ANY Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees
WHERE salary < ANY
      (SELECT salary
       FROM employees
       WHERE job_id = 'IT_PROG')
AND job_id <> 'IT_PROG';
```

9000, 6000, 4200

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
1	144	Vargas	ST_CLERK	2500
2	143	Matos	ST_CLERK	2600
3	142	Davies	ST_CLERK	3100
4	141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500
5	200	Whalen	AD_ASST	4400

...

9	206	Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT	8300
10	176	Taylor	SA_REP	8600

Using the ALL Operator in Multiple-Row Subqueries

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM employees
WHERE salary < ALL
      (SELECT salary
       FROM employees
       WHERE job_id = 'IT_PROG')
AND job_id <> 'IT_PROG';
```

9000, 6000, 4200

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
1	141	Rajs	ST_CLERK	3500
2	142	Davies	ST_CLERK	3100
3	143	Matos	ST_CLERK	2600
4	144	Vargas	ST_CLERK	2500

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Null Values in a Subquery

```
SELECT emp.last_name  
FROM   employees emp  
WHERE  emp.employee_id NOT IN  
                                (SELECT mgr.manager_id  
                                FROM   employees mgr);
```

0 rows selected

Quiz

Using a subquery is equivalent to performing two sequential queries and using the result of the first query as the search value(s) in the second query.

1. True
2. False

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Identify when a subquery can help solve a problem
- Write subqueries when a query is based on unknown values

```
SELECT    select_list
FROM      table
WHERE     expr operator
          (SELECT select_list
           FROM table);
```

Practice 7: Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Creating subqueries to query values based on unknown criteria
- Using subqueries to find out the values that exist in one set of data and not in another