

Date: 29/8/25

EXERCISE 12

Intro to Constraints; NOT NULL and UNIQUE Constraints

Global Fast Foods has been very successful this past year and has opened several new stores. They need to add a table to their database to store information about each of their store's locations. The owners want to make sure that all entries have an identification number, date opened, address, and city and that no other entry in the table can have the same email address. Based on this information, answer the following questions about the global_locations table. Use the table for your answers.

Global Fast Foods global_locations Table						
NAME	TYPE	LENGTH	PRECISION	SCALE	NULLABLE	DEFAULT
id						
name						
date_opened						
address						
city						
zip/postal code						
phone						
email						
manager_id						
Emergency contact						

- What is a "constraint" as it relates to data integrity?

A constraint is a rule enforced or data in a database to maintain data integrity and it ensures that only valid data is inserted into the table.

- What are the limitations of constraints that may be applied at the column level and at the table level?

* Column level constraints : can only be applied to a single column when the column is defined.

* Table-level constraints : Can refer to multiple columns.

- Why is it important to give meaningful names to constraints?

* Identify the purpose of the constraint.
* Simplify debugging or when an error message.

- Based on the information provided by the owners, choose a datatype for each column. Indicate the length, precision, and scale for each NUMBER datatype.

- Use "(nullable)" to indicate those columns that can have null values.

- * zip/postal code (nullable)
- * phone (nullable).
- * manager_id (nullable)
- * Emergency contact (nullable).

6. Write the CREATE TABLE statement for the Global Fast Foods locations table to define the constraints at the column level.

CREATE TABLE global.locations (id NUMBER(4) PRIMARY KEY,
name VARCHAR2(20) NOT NULL, date_opened DATE NOT
NULL, address VARCHAR2(80) NOT NULL, city VARCHAR2(20)
NOT NULL, zip_postal VARCHAR2(15), phone VARCHAR2(15),
email VARCHAR2(80) UNIQUE NOT NULL);

7. Execute the CREATE TABLE statement in Oracle Application Express.

SQL code in SQL commands or SQL workshop
inside Oracle APEX. (Just type and click
run).

8. Execute a DESCRIBE command to view the Table Summary information.

DESC global.locations;

this command displays the column names
datatypes and nullability.

9. Rewrite the CREATE TABLE statement for the Global Fast Foods locations table to define the
UNIQUE constraints at the table level. Do not execute this statement.

NAME	TYPE	LENGTH	PRECISION	SCALE	NULLABLE	DEFAULT
id	number	4				
loc_name	varchar2	20			X	
	date					
address	varchar2	30				
city	varchar2	20				
zip_postal	varchar2	20			X	
phone	varchar2	15			X	
email	varchar2	80			X	
manager_id	number	4			X	
contact	varchar2	40			X	

CREATE TABLE global.locations (id NUMBER(4),
loc_name VARCHAR2(20) NOT NULL, date_opened DATE,
address VARCHAR2(80), city VARCHAR2(20),
zip_postal VARCHAR2(15) NOT NULL, phone VARCHAR2(15),
email VARCHAR2(80) NOT NULL,
manager_id NUMBER(4) NOT NULL, contact
VARCHAR2(40) NOT NULL);

PRIMARY KEY, FOREIGN KEY, and CHECK Constraints

- What is the purpose of a
 - PRIMARY KEY
 - FOREIGN KEY
 - CHECK CONSTRAINT

a) A primary key uniquely identifies record in table!
b) A foreign key is used to link two table together.
c) A check constraint is used to limit the input from user.
- Using the column information for the animals table below, name constraints where applicable at the table level, otherwise name them at the column level. Define the primary key (animal_id). The license_tag_number must be unique. The admit_date and vaccination_date columns cannot contain null values.

animal_id NUMBER(6) → primary key
name VARCHAR2(25)
license_tag_number NUMBER(10) → UNIQUE
admit_date DATE → NOT NULL
adoption_id NUMBER(5),
vaccination_date DATE → NOT NULL.

3) CREATE TABLE animals (animal_id NUMBER(6),
name VARCHAR2(20), license-tag-number NUMBER(10))

3. Create the animals table. Write the syntax you will use to create the table.

NOT NULL UNIQUE, admit_date DATE, adoption-
id NUMBER(5), vaccination-date DATE);

4. Enter one row into the table. Execute a SELECT * statement to verify your input. Refer to the graphic below for input.

ANIMAL_ID	NAME	LICENSE_TAG_NUMBER	ADMIT_DATE	ADOPTION_ID	VACCINATION_DATE
101	Spot	35540	10-Oct-2004	205	12-Oct-2004

INSERT INTO animals VALUES (101, 'Spot',
35540, '10-Oct-2004', 205, '12-Oct-2004');

SELECT * FROM animals;

5. Write the syntax to create a foreign key (adoption_id) in the animals table that has a corresponding primary-key reference in the adoptions table. Show both the column-level and table-level syntax. Note that because you have not actually created an adoptions table, no adoption_id primary key exists, so the foreign key cannot be added to the animals table.

CREATE TABLE animals (animal_id NUMBER(6)
PRIMARY KEY, name VARCHAR2(20), licence-tag-
number NUMBER(10) UNIQUE, admit_date
DATE NOT NULL, adoption_id NUMBER(5)
REFERENCES adoptions (adoption_id));

6. What is the effect of setting the foreign key in the ANIMAL table as:
- ON DELETE CASCADE a) If an adoption record is deleted, all animals linked to that adoption will also be deleted automatically;
 - ON DELETE SET NULL b.) If an adoption record is deleted, the adoption_id field in the animal table for those animals become NULL.
7. What are the restrictions on defining a CHECK constraint?
- 1. CHECK CONSTRAINT can only refer its columns within the same table it cannot references columns in other tables.
 - 2. It cannot include subqueries.
 - 3. It must be boolean expression, that evaluates to TRUE or false.
 - 4. It cannot be use functions that return non-deterministic values (like SYSDATE, USER).

Evaluation Procedure	Marks awarded
Query(5)	5
Execution (5)	5
Viva(5)	5
Total (15)	15
Faculty Signature	P.M