

Practice Exercise: Explicit Cursors in PL/SQL

Your Task

Create a **PL/SQL block** that uses an **explicit cursor** to list all departments in the **HR schema**.

Your output should include:

- **Department ID**
- **Department Name**
- **Manager Name** (if available)

At the end of the listing, display the **total number of departments** using a cursor attribute.

Tips & Hints

- Use a **LEFT JOIN** to ensure departments without managers are included
- Declare variables to store values fetched from the cursor
- Use the **%ROWCOUNT** cursor attribute to show the total number of rows processed
- Remember to:
 - **OPEN** the cursor before looping
 - **FETCH** inside the loop
 - **CLOSE** the cursor after processing

Before You Check the Solution

The real learning happens when you **try first**.

- Don't worry if you get stuck — that's part of the process
- Break the problem into smaller steps
- Talk it through with a study partner if possible

Those “Aha!” moments often come when you least expect them.

When You're Ready

After giving it your best shot:

- Download the solution to compare your approach
- Look for improvements and alternative techniques

Remember:

Every line of code you write — whether it works perfectly or not — moves you forward on your **PL/SQL journey**.

🔥 Ready to dive in and show those cursors who's boss?
Let's code!