

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	NUMBER	4	-	-	NOT NULL	-
name	VARCHAR2	20	-	-	NOT NULL	-
date_opened	DATE	-	-	-	NOT NULL	-
address	VARCHAR2	30	-	-	NOT NULL	-
city	VARCHAR2	20	-	-	NOT NULL	-
zip/postal code	VARCHAR2	20	-	-	NULLABLE	-
phone	VARCHAR2	15	-	-	NULLABLE	-
email	VARCHAR2	90	-	-	NOT NULL	-
manager_id	NUMBER	4	-	-	NULLABLE	-
Emergency contact	VARCHAR2	40	-	-	NULLABLE	-

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

A Constraint is a rule enforced on data in a database to maintain data integrity & accuracy. example: Primary Key

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

Column level: Can be applied to a single column when the column is defined / Table level: Can refer to multiple columns together

3. Why is it important to give meaningful names to constraints?

- identify the purpose of the constraint
- simplify debugging

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

5. 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(30) NOT NULL  
 city varchar2(30) NOT NULL, zip-postal varchar2(20), phone varchar2(15)  
 email varchar2(15), email varchar2(80), manager-id number(4)

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

You would run the above SQL Code in SQL Commands or  
 SQL workshop inside Oracle Apex

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

DESC global-locations;

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),  
 name Varchar2(20) NOT NULL,  
 date-opened DATE NOT NULL  
 address Varchar2(30) NOT NULL, City Varchar2(20) NOT NULL,  
 zip-postal Varchar2(20), phone Varchar2(15), email Varchar2(80)  
 Manager-id NUMBER(4), Contact Varchar2(40)  
 Constraint pk-global-locations-id Primary key (id),  
 Constraint uq-global-location-email UNIQUE (email)  
 );



### PRIMARY KEY, FOREIGN KEY, and CHECK Constraints

1. What is the purpose of a  
• PRIMARY KEY : uniquely identifies each records  
• FOREIGN KEY : used to link two tables using primary key  
• CHECK CONSTRAINT limit the range of values

2. 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)  
name VARCHAR2(25)  
license\_tag\_number NUMBER(10)  
admit\_date DATE  
adoption\_id NUMBER(5)  
vaccination\_date DATE

Animal-id → primary key  
license-tag-number → unique  
admit-date & vaccination-date →  
NOT NULL

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

Create table animals (animal\_id NUMBER(6) CONSTRAINT pk-animal PK  
name varchar2(25), license\_tag\_number NUMBER(10) CONSTRAINT Uq-license  
admit\_date DATE CONSTRAINT nn-admit-date NOT NULL, adoption\_id Number(5)  
Vaccination\_date DATE CONSTRAINT nn-vaccination-date NOT NULL  
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 (animal\_id, name, license\_tag\_number, admit\_date,  
adoption\_id, vaccination\_date) 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(25), license\_tag\_number Number(10) UNIQUE,  
admit\_date DATE NOT NULL, adoption\_id NUMBER(5), vaccination\_date  
DATE NOT NULL);  
~~Constraint~~

6. What is the effect of setting the foreign key in the ANIMAL table as:

- a. ON DELETE CASCADE
- b. ON DELETE SET NULL

a) If an adoption record is deleted, all animals linked to that adoption will also be deleted

b) If adoption record is deleted adoption-id field in Animal becomes NULL

7. What are the restrictions on defining a CHECK constraint?

① Check Constraint can only refer to columns within the same table - it cannot reference columns in another tables

② It cannot include subqueries

③

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