What is a Sub Query?

Subquery

- 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 the SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, and DELETE statements along with the operators like =, <, >, >=, <=, IN, BETWEEN, etc
- Subqueries can be used to return either a scalar (single) value or a row set; whereas, joins are used to return rows.

Subqueries rules to 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.
- Subqueries that return more than one row can only be used with multiple value operators such as the IN operator.
- The BETWEEN operator cannot be used with a subquery.

Subquery Syntax and Example

SELECT column-names

FROM table-name1

WHERE value IN (SELECT column-name

FROM table-name2

WHERE condition)

SELECT * FROM CUSTOMERS

WHERE ID IN (SELECT ID FROM

CUSTOMERS WHERE SALARY > 4500);