

Technical Interview Questions in Oracle Apps

Written by Anil Passi

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Please find a list of possible technical interview questions in Oracle Apps. All the contents on this website are Copyright protected.

I will try to keep this upto date with any new questions that I come accross. New apps questions will be added to the top of this post.

Most of the Oracle apps interview questions listed here are technical in natue. These interview questions span various Oracle Apps modules plus FND & OA Framework. For Oracle HRMS and Payroll interview questions visit [HRMS Interview Questions](#)

For Oracle iProcurement interview questions, kindly visit [iProc Interview Questions](#) .

Question: How will you migrate Oracle General Ledger Currencies and Sets of Books Definitions from one environment to another without reKeying? Will you use FNDLOAD?

Answer: FNDLOAD can not be used in the scenario. You can use migrator available in "Oracle iSetup" Responsibility

Question: This is a very tough one, almost impossible to answer, but yet I will ask. Which Form in Oracle Applications has most number of Form Functions?

Answer: "Run Reports". And why not, the Form Function for this screen has a parameter to which we pass name of the "Request Group", hence securing the list of Concurrent Programs that are visible in "Run Request" Form. Just so that you know, there are over 600 form functions for "Run Reports"

Question: Which responsibility do you need to extract Self Service Personalizations?

Answer: Functional Administrator

Question: Can you list any one single limitation of Forms Personalization feature that was delivered with 11.5.10

Answer: You can not implement interactive messages, i.e. a message will give multiple options for Response. The best you can get from Forms Personalization to do is popup up Message with OK option.

Question: You have just created two concurrent programs namely "XX PO Prog1" & "XX PO Prog2". Now you wish to create a menu for Concurrent Request submission such that only these two Concurrent Programs are visible from that Run Request menu. Please explain the steps to implement this?

Answer:

a) Define a request group, lets say with name "XX_PO_PROGS"

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- b) Add these two concurrent programs to the request group "XX_PO_PROGS"
- c) Define a new Form Function that is attached to Form "Run Reports"
- d) In the parameter field of Form Function screen, enter
REQUEST_GROUP_CODE="XX_PO_PROGS"
REQUEST_GROUP_APPL_SHORT_NAME="XXPO" TITLE="XXPO:XX_PO_PROGS"
- e) Attach this form function to the desired menu.

Question: Does Oracle 10g support rule based optimization?

Answer: The official stance is that RBO is no longer supported by 10g.

Question: Does oracle support partitioning of tables in Oracle Apps?

Answer: Yes, Oracle does support partitioning of tables in Oracle Applications. There are several implementations that partition on GL_BALANCES. However your client must buy licenses to if they desire to partition tables. To avoid the cost of licensing you may suggest the clients may decide to permanently close their older GL Periods, such that historical records can be archived.

Note: Before running the archival process the second time, you must clear down the archive table GL_ARCHIVE_BALANCES (don't forget to export archive data to a tape).

Question: What will be your partitioning strategy on GL_BALANCES? Your views please?

Answer: This really depends upon how many periods are regularly reported upon, how many periods are left open etc. You can then decide to partition on period_name, or period ranges, or on the status of the GL Period.

Question: Does Oracle support running of gather stats on SYS schema in Oracle Apps?

Answer: If your Oracle Applications instance is on 10g, then you can decide to run stats for SYS schema. This can be done by `exec dbms_stats.gather_schema_stats('SYS');`

Alternately using command

`dbms_stats.gather_schema_stats('SYS',cascade=>TRUE,degree=>20);`

I will prefer the former with default values.

If you wish to delete the stats for SYS use `exec dbms_stats.delete_schema_stats('SYS');`

You can schedule a `dbms_job` for running stats for SYS schema.

Question: Can you use concurrent program "Gather Schema Statistics" to gather stats on sys schema in oracle apps?

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Answer: No, "Gather Schema Statistics" has no parameters for SYS schema. Please use dbms_job.

Question: Which table is used to provide drill down from Oracle GL into sub-ledger?

Answer: GL_IMPORT_REFERENCES

Question: What is the significance of profile option "Node Trust Level" in Oracle Apps.

Answer: If this profile option is set to a value of external against a server, then it signifies that the specific mid-tier is External i.e. it will be exposed to the www. In other words this server is not within the firewall of your client. The idea behind this profile option is to flag such middle-tier so that special restrictions can be applied against its security, which means a very restricted set of responsibilities will be available from such Middle-Tier.

Question: What is the significance of profile option "Responsibility Trust Level" .

Answer: In order to make a responsibility accessible from an external web tier, you must set profile option "Responsibility Trust Level" at responsibility level to "External" . Only those responsibilities that have this profile option against them will be accessible from External Middle tiers.

Question: What else can you suggest to restrict the access to screens from external web tiers?

Answer: You may use URL filtering within Apache.

Question: What is the role of Document Manager in Oracle Purchasing?

Answer: POXCON is an immediate concurrent program. It receives pipe signal from the application when a request is made for approval/reservations/receipts.

Question: How to debug a document manager in Oracle Apps?

Answer: Document manger runs within the concurrent manager in Oracle Applications. When an application uses a Document Manager, it sends a pipe signal which is picked up by the document manager.

There are two mechanisms by which to trace the document manager

1. Set the debugging on by using profile option

STEP 1. Set profile option "Concurrent:Debug Flags" to TCTM1

This profile should only generate debugs when set at Site level(I think, as I have only tried site), because Document Manager runs in a different session.

STEP 2. Bounce the Document Managers

STEP 3. Retry the Workflow to generate debugs.

STEP 4. Reset profile option "Concurrent:Debug Flags" to blank

STEP 5. have a look at debug information in table fnd_concurrent_debug_info

2. Enable tracing for the document managers

This can be done by setting profile option "Initialization SQL Statement" Custom against your username before reproducing the issue. The value of this profile will be set so as to enable trace using event 10046, level 12.

Question: You have written a Java Concurrent Program in Oracle Apps. You want to modify the CLASSPATH such that new class CLASSPATH is effective just for this program.

Answer: In the options field of the concurrent program you can enter something similar to below.

```
-cp <your custom lib path used by Java Conc Prog>  
:/home/xxvisiondev/XXDEVDB/comn/java/appsorg.zip:/home/xxvisiondev/XXDEVDB/comn/java  
a
```

Question: How will you open a bc4j package in jdeveloper?

Answer: Oracle ships a file named server.xml with each bc4j package. You will need to ftp that file alongside other bc4j objects (VOs, EOs, AM, Classes etc).

Opening the server.xml will load the complete package starting from AM (application module). This is a mandatory step when building Extensions to framework.

Question: In OA Framework Self-Service screen, you wish to disable a tab. How will you do it?

Answer: Generally speaking, the tabs on a OA Framework page are nothing but the SubMenus. By entering menu exclusion against the responsibility, you can remove the tab from self service page.

Question: In self service, you wish to change the background color and the foreground text of the OA Framework screens to meet your corporate standards. How will you do it?

Answer: You will need to do the below steps

a. Go to Mid Tier, and open \$OA_HTML/cabo/styles/custom.xss

b. Enter below text (change colours as needed)

```
<style name="DarkBackground">  
  <property name="background-color">#000066</property>  
</style>  
<style name="TextForeground">  
  <property name="color">#0000FF</property>  
</style>
```

c. cd \$OA_HTML/cabo/styles/cache

d. Take a backup of all the css files.

e. Delete all the files of following pattern oracle-desktop*.css

The idea here is to delete the cache. Next time when you logon to Oracle Apps Self Service, the Framework will rebuild the css file if found missing for your browser.

Question: Can you extend and substitute a root AM (Application Module) in OA Framework using JDeveloper.

Answer: You can extend the AM in jDeveloper, but it doesn't work(at least it didn't work in 11.5.9). I am hopeful that Oracle will deliver a solution to this in the future.

Question: In a workflow notification, you have a free text response field where the user enters the Vendor Number for the new vendor. You want to validate the value entered in the notification response field upon the submission of a response. How will you do it?

Answer: You will need to attach a post notification function to the Workflow Notification.

The PL/SQL code will look similar to below:-

The below code will display an error in the notification when user attempts to create a Duplicate Vendor Number.

PROCEDURE validate_response_from_notif

```
(  
  itemtype IN VARCHAR2  
  ,itemkey IN VARCHAR2  
  ,actid IN NUMBER  
  ,funcmode IN VARCHAR2  
  ,RESULT IN OUT VARCHAR2  
) IS  
  l_nid NUMBER;  
  l_activity_result_code VARCHAR2(200);  
  v_newly_entered_vendor_num VARCHAR2(50);  
  CURSOR c_get_response_for_new_vendor IS  
    SELECT wl.lookup_code  
    FROM wf_notification_attributes wna  
      ,wf_notifications wn  
      ,wf_message_attributes_vl wma  
      ,wf_lookups wl  
    WHERE wna.notification_id = l_nid  
    AND wna.notification_id = wn.notification_id  
    AND wn.message_name = wma.message_name  
    AND wn.message_type = wma.message_type  
    AND wna.NAME = wma.NAME  
    AND wma.SUBTYPE = 'RESPOND'  
    AND wma.format = wl.lookup_type  
    AND wna.text_value = wl.lookup_code  
    AND wma.TYPE = 'LOOKUP'  
    AND decode(wma.NAME, 'RESULT', 'RESULT', 'NORESULT') = 'RESULT';  
BEGIN  
  IF (funcmode IN ('RESPOND'))  
  THEN  
    l_nid := wf_engine.context_nid;  
    OPEN c_get_response_for_new_vendor;  
    FETCH c_get_response_for_new_vendor  
    INTO l_activity_result_code;
```

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```
CLOSE c_get_response_for_new_vendor;
v_newly_entered_vendor_num :=
wf_notification.getattrtext(l_nid,'NEWLY_ENTERED_VENDOR_NUM_4_PO');
IF l_activity_result_code = 'NEW_VENDOR'
  AND does_vendor_exist(p_vendor => v_newly_entered_vendor_num)
THEN
  RESULT := 'ERROR: VendorNumber you entered already exists';
  RETURN;
END IF;
END IF;
EXCEPTION
  WHEN OTHERS THEN
    RESULT := SQLERRM;
END validate_response_from_notif;
```

Question: How to make concurrent program end with warning?

Answer: If the concurrent program is of type PL/SQL, you can assign a value of 1 to the `œretcodeœ` OUT Parameter.

For a Java Concurrent program, use the code similar to below

```
ReqCompletion IRC;
//get handle on request completion object for reporting status
IRC = pCpContext.getReqCompletion();
IRC.setCompletion(ReqCompletion.WARNING, "WARNING");
```

Question: How do you link a Host type concurrent program to Concurrent Manager?

Answer: Assuming your executable script is LOADPO.prog, then use the commands below

```
cd $XXPO_TOP/bin
ln -s $FND_TOP/bin/fndcpepr $XXPO_TOP/bin/LOADPO
```

Question: How do you know if a specific Oracle patch has been applied in apps to your environment.

Answer: Use table ad_bugs, in which column bug_number is the patch number.

```
SELECT bug_number
       ,to_char(creation_date, 'DD-MON-YYYY HH24:MI:SS') dated
FROM   apps.ad_bugs
WHERE  bug_number = TRIM('&bug_number') ;
```

Question: How do you send a particular Oracle Apps Workflow Activity/Function within a workflow process into background mode.

Answer: If cost of the workflow activity is greater than 50, then the workflow activity will be processed in background mode only, and it won't be processed in online mode.

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Question: What are the various ways to kick-off a workflow

Answer: You can either use wf_engine.start_process or you can attach a runnable process such that it subscribes to a workflow event.

Question: When starting (kicking off) an oracle workflow process, how do you ensure that it happens in a background mode?

--a) if initiating the process using start_process, do the below

```
wf_engine.threshold := -1;
wf_engine.createprocess(l_itemtype
                        ,l_itemkey
                        , '<YOUR PROCESS NAME>');
wf_engine.startprocess(l_itemtype, l_itemkey)
```

--B) When initiating the workflow process through an event subscription, set the Execution Condition Phase to be equal to or above 100 for it to be executed by background process.

Question: On 10g, how will you use awr?

Answer: By running below scripts. These are both the same scripts, but with differing parameters.

```
$ORACLE_HOME/rdbms/admin/awrrpt.sql
```

```
$ORACLE_HOME/rdbms/admin/awrrpti.sql
```

Question : How will you configure Apache to run in Debug mode, specifically useful when debugging iProcurement (prior to 11.5.10).

Answer: After 11.5.10, FND Logging can be used for debugging Oracle iProcurement.

Prior to 11.5.10

----STEPS IN A NUTSHELL-----

```
cd $ORACLE_HOME/..iAS/Apache
```

```
vi $ORACLE_HOME/..iAS/Apache/Jserv/etc/ssp_init.txt
```

```
DebugOutput=/home/<<SID>>/ora9/iAS/Apache/Apache/logs/debug.log
```

```
DebugLevel=5
```

```
DebugSwitch=ON
```

```
vi $ORACLE_HOME/..iAS/Apache/Jserv/etc/jserv.conf
```

```
ApJServLogLevel debug
```

```
vi $ORACLE_HOME/..iAS/Apache/Jserv/etc/jserv.properties
```

```
log=true
```

Question: How will you add a new column to a List Of Values (LOV) in Oracle Applications Framework? Can this be done without customization?

Answer: Yes, this can be done without customization, i.e. by using OA Framework Extension coupled with Personalization. Implement the following Steps :-

a) Extend the VO (View Object), to implement the new SQL required to support the LOV.

b) Substitute the base VO, by using jpximport [similar to as explained in [Link](#)]

c) Personalize the LOV Region, by clicking on Add New Item. While adding the new Item, you will cross reference the newly added column to VO.

Question: Can you do fnd_request.submit_request from SQL Plus in Oracle?

Answer: You will need to initialize the global variables first using fnd_global.initialize

DECLARE

v_session_id INTEGER := userenv('sessionid') ;

BEGIN

fnd_global.initialize

```
(  
  SESSION_ID      =>  v_session_id  
,USER_ID          =>  <your user id from fnd_user.user_id>  
,RESP_ID          =>  <You may use Examine from the screen PROFILE/RESP_ID>  
,RESP_APPL_ID     =>  <You may use Examine from the screen  
PROFILE/RESP_APPL_ID>  
,SECURITY_GROUP_ID =>  0  
,SITE_ID          =>  NULL  
,LOGIN_ID         =>  3115003--Any number here  
,CONC_LOGIN_ID    =>  NULL  
,PROG_APPL_ID     =>  NULL  
,CONC_PROGRAM_ID  =>  NULL  
,CONC_REQUEST_ID  =>  NULL  
,CONC_PRIORITY_REQUEST =>  NULL  
) ;  
commit ;  
END ;  
/
```

Optionally you may use fnd_global.apps_initialize, which internally calls fnd_global.initialize

```
fnd_global.apps_initialize(user_id => :user_id,  
                           resp_id => :resp_id,  
                           resp_appl_id => :resp_appl_id,  
                           security_id => :security_id,  
                           server_id => :server_id);
```

By doing the above, your global variables upon which Concurrent Managers depend upon will be populated. This will be equivalent to logging into Oracle Apps and submitting the concurrent request from a responsibility.

Question: You are told that the certain steps in the Oracle Apps Form/Screen are running slow, and you are asked to tune it. How do you go about it.

Answer: First thing to do is to enable trace. Preferably, enable the trace with Bind Variables.

This can be done by selecting menu Help/Diagnostics/Trace/Trace With Binds and Wait

Internally Oracle Forms issues a statement similar to below:-

```
alter session set events='10046 trace name context forever, level 12' ;
```


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