What is a Function?

A Function in PL/SQL is a named block that returns a single value and can be used in SQL queries or PL/SQL blocks.
Functions help in modularizing code, reusability, and improving performance.

2. Syntax of a Function

CREATE OR REPLACE FUNCTION function_name (param1 datatype, param2 datatype)

RETURN return_datatype

IS

  -- Declare variables

BEGIN

  -- Logic & calculations

   RETURN value; -- Must return a value

EXCEPTION

  -- Error handling

END function_name;

3. Key Components of a Function

Function Name → The unique identifier of the function.

Parameters → Input values passed to the function.

RETURN Clause → Specifies the data type of the return value.

BEGIN-END Block → Contains the logic of the function.

RETURN Statement → Returns a single value.

EXCEPTION Handling → Handles errors.

4. Types of Functions

1. Scalar Functions (Return a single value)

2. Table Functions (Return multiple rows as a table)

3. Pipelined Functions (Process large data in parallel)

4. Recursive Functions (Function calling itself)