8

Handling Exceptions

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Objectives

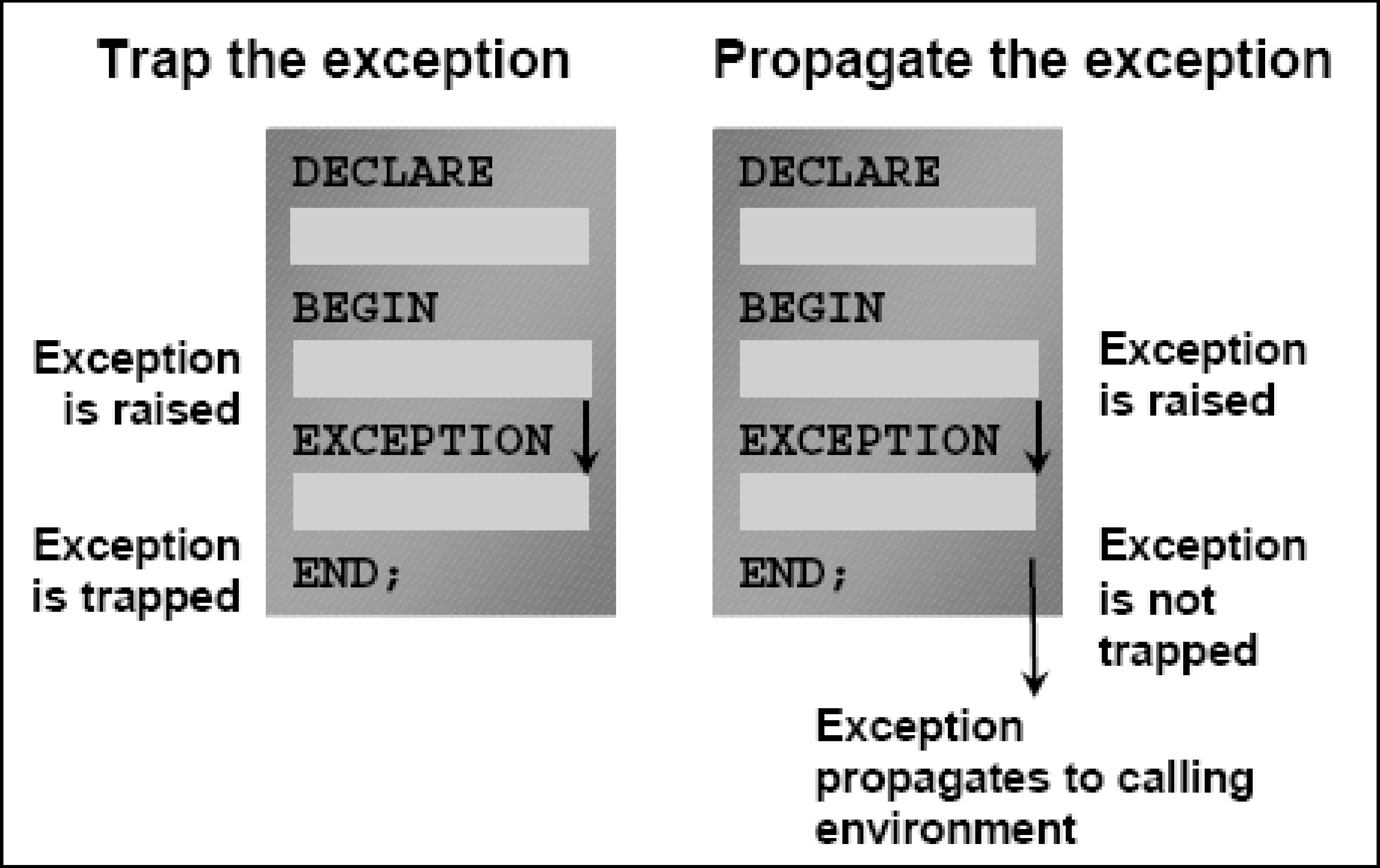
After completing this lesson, you should be able to do the following:

- Define PL/SQL exceptions
- Recognize unhandled exceptions
- List and use different types of PL/SQL exception handlers
- Trap unanticipated errors
- Describe the effect of exception propagation in nested blocks
- Customize PL/SQL exception messages

Handling Exceptions with PL/SQL

- An exception is an identifier in PL/SQL that is raised during execution.
- How is it raised?
  - An Oracle error occurs.
  - You raise it explicitly.
- How do you handle it?
  - Trap it with a handler.
  - Propagate it to the calling environment.

Handling Exceptions



Exception Types

- Predefined Oracle Server
- Nonpredefined Oracle Server

} Implicitly raised

- User-defined Explicitly raised

Trapping Exceptions

Syntax:

```
EXCEPTION
  WHEN exception1 [OR exception2 . . .] THEN
          statement1;
          statement2;
          . . .
  [WHEN exception3 [OR exception4 . . .] THEN
          statement1;
          statement2;
          . . .]
  [WHEN OTHERS THEN
          statement1;
          statement2;
          . . .]
```

Trapping Exceptions Guidelines

- The EXCEPTION keyword starts exception-handling section.
- Several exception handlers are allowed.
- Only one handler is processed before leaving the block.
- WHEN OTHERS is the last clause.

Trapping Predefined Oracle Server Errors

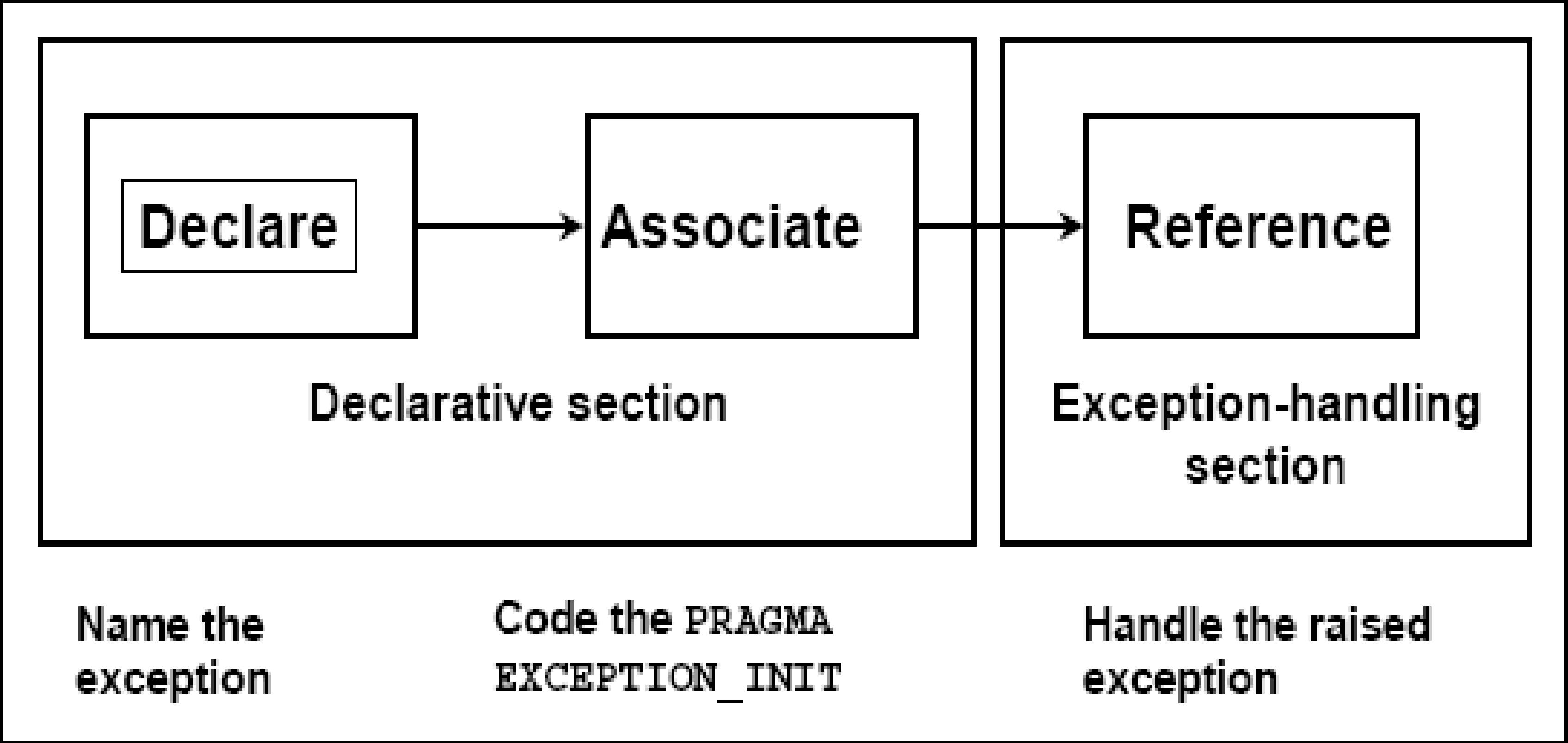
- Reference the standard name in the exception-handling routine.
- Sample predefined exceptions:
  – NO_DATA_FOUND
  – TOO_MANY_ROWS
  – INVALID_CURSOR
  – ZERO_DIVIDE
  – DUP_VAL_ON_INDEX

Predefined Exceptions

Syntax:

```
BEGIN
. . .
EXCEPTION
    WHEN NO_DATA_FOUND THEN
              statement1;
              statement2;
    WHEN TOO_MANY_ROWS THEN
              statement1;
    WHEN OTHERS THEN
              statement1;
              statement2;
              statement3;
END;
```

Trapping Nonpredefined Oracle Server Errors


Declare
Associate
Reference
Declarative section
Exception-handling section
Name the exception
Code the PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT
Handle the raised exception

Nonpredefined Error

Trap for Oracle server error number –2292, an integrity constraint violation.

```
DEFINE p_deptno = 10
DECLARE
        e_emps_remaining EXCEPTION;
        PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT
                (e_emps_remaining, -2292);
BEGIN
        DELETE FROM departments
        WHERE department_id = &p_deptno;
        COMMIT;
EXCEPTION
        WHEN e_emps_remaining  THEN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE ('Cannot remove dept ' ||
        TO_CHAR(&p_deptno) || '. Employees exist. ');
END;
```

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Functions for Trapping Exceptions

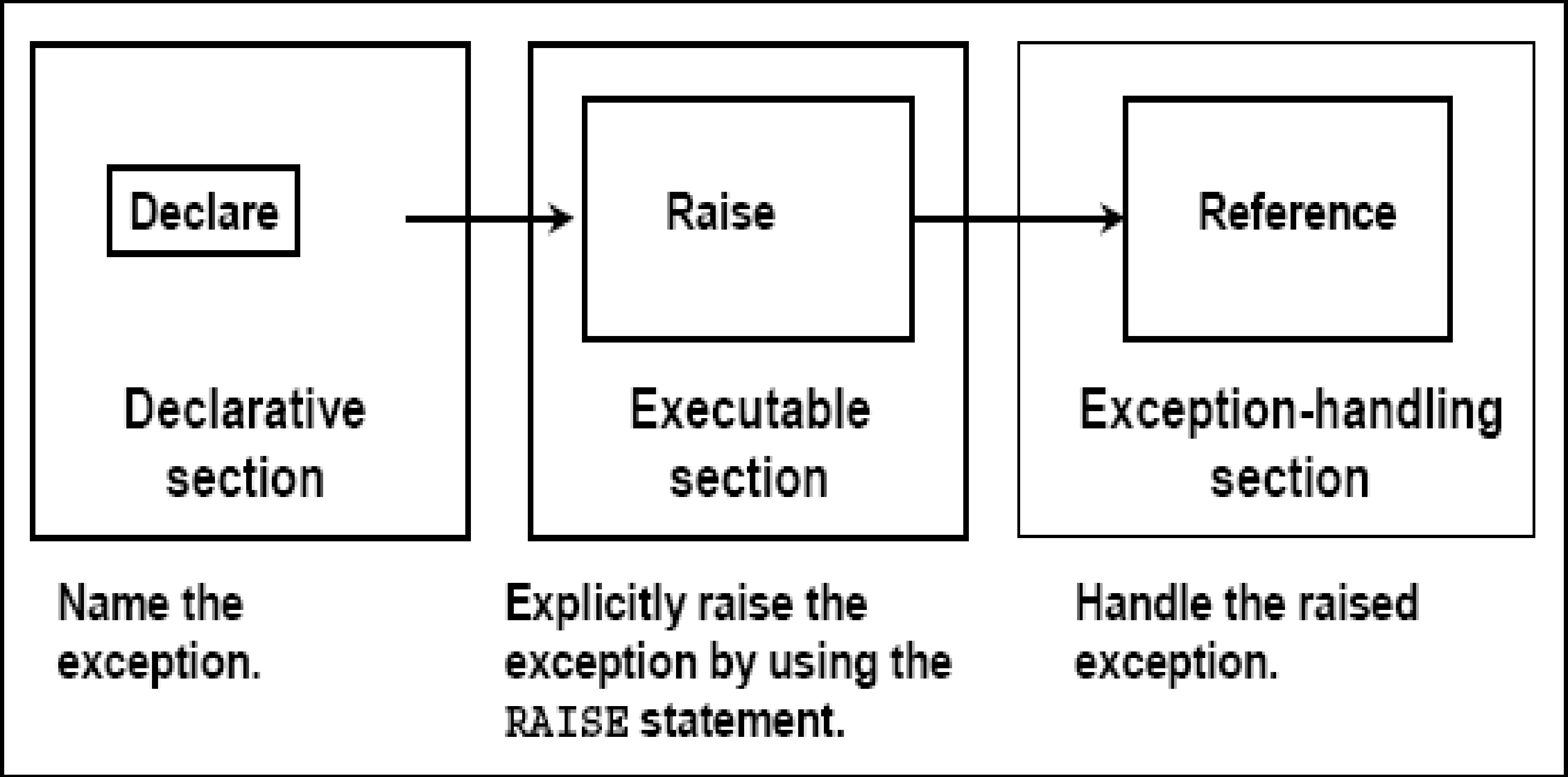
- SQLCODE: Returns the numeric value for the error code
- SQLERRM: Returns the message associated with the error number

Functions for Trapping Exceptions

Example:

```
DECLARE
   v_error_code NUMBER;
   v_error_message VARCHAR2(255);
BEGIN
...
EXCEPTION
...
   WHEN OTHERS THEN
            ROLLBACK;
            v_error_code := SQLCODE ;
            v_error_message := SQLERRM ;
            INSERT INTO errors
            VALUES(v_error_code, v_error_message);
END;
```

Trapping User-Defined Exceptions



Name the exception.

Explicitly raise the exception by using the `RAISE` statement.

Handle the raised exception.

User-Defined Exceptions

Example:

```
DEFINE p_department_desc = 'Information Technology '
DEFINE P_department_number = 300
```

```
DECLARE
   e_invalid_department EXCEPTION;                        1
BEGIN
   UPDATE      departments
   SET         department_name = '&p_department_desc'
   WHERE       department_id = &p_department_number;
   IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
     RAISE e_invalid_department;                          2
   END IF;
   COMMIT;
EXCEPTION
   WHEN e_invalid_department THEN                         3
     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE('No such department id.');
END;
```

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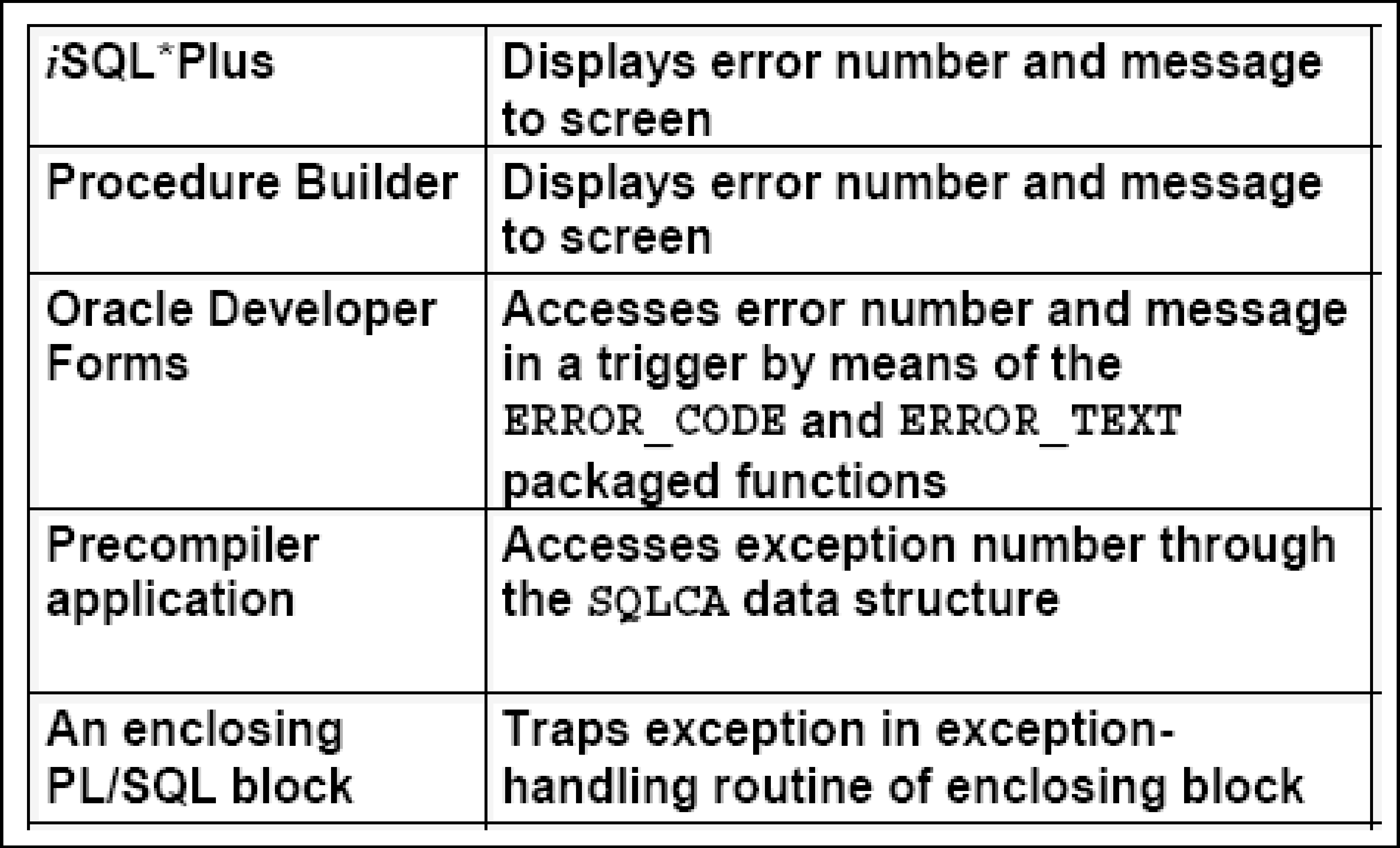
Calling Environments



*i*SQL*Plus	Displays error number and message to screen
Procedure Builder	Displays error number and message to screen
Oracle Developer Forms	Accesses error number and message in a trigger by means of the `ERROR_CODE` and `ERROR_TEXT` packaged functions
Precompiler application	Accesses exception number through the `SQLCA` data structure
An enclosing PL/SQL block	Traps exception in exception-handling routine of enclosing block

Propagating Exceptions

Subblocks can handle an exception or pass the exception to the enclosing block.

```
DECLARE
  . . .
  e_no_rows       exception;
  e_integrity     exception;
  PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT (e_integrity, -2292);
BEGIN
  FOR c_record IN emp_cursor LOOP
    BEGIN
     SELECT ...
     UPDATE ...
     IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
       RAISE e_no_rows;
     END IF;
    END;
  END LOOP;
EXCEPTION
  WHEN e_integrity THEN ...
  WHEN e_no_rows THEN ...
END;
```

The RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR Procedure

Syntax:

```
raise_application_error (error_number,
                         message[, {TRUE | FALSE}]);
```

- You can use this procedure to issue user-defined error messages from stored subprograms.
- You can report errors to your application and avoid returning unhandled exceptions.

The RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR Procedure

- Used in two different places:
  - Executable section
  - Exception section
- Returns error conditions to the user in a manner consistent with other Oracle server errors

RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR

```
set serveroutput on
DECLARE
    e_name EXCEPTION;
    PRAGMA EXCEPTION_INIT (e_name, -20999);
--Executable section :
BEGIN
  DELETE FROM employees
  WHERE last_name = 'Higginss';
  IF SQL%NOTFOUND THEN
    RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20999,'This is not a valid last name');
  END IF;
-- Exception section :
  EXCEPTION
    WHEN e_name THEN
        dbms_output.put_line('handle the error');
END;
/
```

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Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned that:

- Exception types:
  - Predefined Oracle server error
  - Nonpredefined Oracle server error
  - User-defined error
- Exception trapping
- Exception handling:
  - Trap the exception within the PL/SQL block.
  - Propagate the exception.

Practice 8 Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Handling named exceptions
- Creating and invoking user-defined exceptions