

Database Programming with PL/SQL

2-7: Good Programming Practices

Practice Activities

Vocabulary

No new vocabulary for this lesson.

Try It / Solve It

1. Enter and run the following PL/SQL block. It will execute correctly if you have entered it correctly, but it contains some examples of bad programming practices.
 - A. Modify the block to use good programming practices, and re-run the block.
 - B. Your modified block should contain examples of the following good programming practices: explicit data type conversions, meaningful and consistent variable names, use of %TYPE, upper and lowercase conventions, single and multi-line comments, and clear indentation.

```
DECLARE
    myvar1    VARCHAR2(20);
    myvar2    number(4);
BEGIN
    SELECT country_name INTO myvar1
    FROM countries WHERE country_id = 421;
    myvar2 :=
        '1234';
        MYVAR2 := myvar2 * 2;
    DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(myvar1);
End;
```

```
1 DECLARE
2     v_country_name countries.country_name%TYPE;
3     v_num number(4);
4 BEGIN
5     /*
6      Gets the name of the country with id 421
7      */
8     SELECT country_name INTO v_country_name
9     FROM countries WHERE country_id = 421;
10
11     -- 1234*2
12     v_num := TO_NUMBER('1234');
13     v_num := v_num * 2;
14
15     DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(v_country_name);
16 End;
```