

2-2 Recognizing PL/SQL Lexical Units

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1 Vocabulary

1. An explicit numeric, character string, date, or Boolean value that is not represented by an identifier.

Literal

2. Symbols that have special meaning to an Oracle database.

Escape characters

3. Words that have special meaning to an Oracle database and cannot be used as identifiers.

Reserved Words

4. Describe the purpose and use of each code segment and are ignored by PL/SQL.

Comments

5. Building blocks of any PL/SQL block and are sequences of characters including letters, digits, tabs, returns, and symbols.

Identifiers

6. A name, up to 30 characters in length, given to a PL/SQL object.

Identifiers

2 Try It / Solve It Questions

1. Identify each of the following identifiers as valid or invalid. If invalid, specify why.
 - (a) `Today` Invalid (Identifiers cannot start with or contain equal signs).
 - (b) `Last name` Invalid (Identifiers cannot contain spaces).
 - (c) `today's_date` Invalid (Identifiers cannot contain apostrophes).
 - (d) `number_of_days_in_february_this_` Invalid (Identifiers cannot end with an underscore followed by an equal sign).
 - (e) `year` Valid
 - (f) `Isleap$year` Valid
 - (g) `#number` Invalid (Identifiers cannot start with a pound sign).
 - (h) `NUMBER#` Invalid (Identifiers cannot contain pound signs).

(i) Number1to7 Valid

2. Identify the reserved words in the following list.

Word	Reserved
create	X
make	
table	X
seat	
alter	X
rename	X
row	
number	
web	

3. What kind of lexical unit (for example Reserved word, Delimiter, Literal, Comment) is each of the following?

Value	Lexical Unit
SELECT	Reserved Word
:=	Delimiter
'TEST'	Literal
FALSE	Literal
-- new process	Comment
FROM	Reserved Word
/* select the country with the highest elevation */	Comment
v_test	Identifier
4.09	Literal