

1. SQL Loader is a utility to load data from a textfile to oracle table. The textfile can be in .txt, .csv etc. format.
2. SQL Loader contains the following component-
  - i. Control File: Defines the configuration parameters which tell how to load the data into the table. This is different from the database control file.
  - ii. Input File (INFILE): Contains the input data, or the data to be loaded.
  - iii. LOGFILE: Records the action of sql\*loader and can be used for reference.
  - iv. BADFILE: Records which samples are failed to be loaded into the table.

How to use SQL Loader to load data from a CSV file:

1. First, create a table in the schema.
2. Prepare/collect a csv file containing all the data.
3. Create an empty control file in any directory 'type NUL > control.ctl'
4. Edit the control file with 'notepad control.ctl'
5. The control file should contain the following lines for loading data-

```
LOAD DATA
INFILE 'load_file.csv'
INSERT INTO TABLE salary
FIELDS TERMINATED BY ',' OPTIONALLY ENCLOSED BY '"'
TRAILING NULLCOLS
(
  id,
  name,
  city,
  amount
)
```
6. Check the entries of csv file by 'type load\_file.csv'
7. Invoke the sql loader utility at OS level to import the data 'sqlldr userid=myself/test123 control=control.ctl log=track.log'
8. Check the track by 'track.log'
9. Optional Task: Add some records to the table in the database and export the table as a csv file.