Restricting and Sorting Data

Objectives

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

- Limit the rows that are retrieved by a query
- Sort the rows that are retrieved by a query
- Use ampersand substitution in SQL*Plus to restrict and sort output at run time

Limiting Rows Using a Selection

EMPLOYEES

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90
103	Hunold	IT_PROG	60
104	Ernst	IT_PROG	60
107	Lorentz	IT_PROG	60
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	50

...

20 rows selected.

"retrieve all employees in department 90"

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90

Limiting the Rows That Are Selected

- Restrict the rows that are returned by using the `WHERE` clause:

```
SELECT *|{[DISTINCT] column|expression [alias],...}
FROM   table
[WHERE condition(s)];
```

- The `WHERE` clause follows the `FROM` clause.

Using the WHERE Clause

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  department_id = 90 ;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
100	King	AD_PRES	90
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	90
102	De Haan	AD_VP	90

Character Strings and Dates

- Character strings and date values are enclosed in single quotation marks.
- Character values are case sensitive, and date values are format sensitive.
- The default date format is DD-MON-RR.

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name = 'Whalen' ;
```

Comparison Conditions

Operator	Meaning
=	Equal to
>	Greater than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<	Less than
<=	Less than or equal to
<>	Not equal to
`BETWEEN ...AND...`	Between two values (inclusive)
`IN(set)`	Match any of a list of values
`LIKE`	Match a character pattern
`IS NULL`	Is a null value

Using Comparison Conditions

```
SELECT last_name, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary <= 3000 ;
```

LAST_NAME	SALARY
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500

Using the BETWEEN Condition

Use the BETWEEN condition to display rows based on a range of values:

```
SELECT last_name, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary BETWEEN 2500 AND 3500 ;
```

Lower limit Upper limit

LAST_NAME	SALARY
Rajs	3500
Davies	3100
Matos	2600
Vargas	2500

Using the IN Condition

Use the IN membership condition to test for values in a list:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, manager_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  manager_id IN (100, 101, 201) ;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	MANAGER_ID
202	Fay	6000	201
200	Whalen	4400	101
205	Higgins	12000	101
101	Kochhar	17000	100
102	De Haan	17000	100
124	Mourgos	5800	100
149	Zlotkey	10500	100
201	Hartstein	13000	100

8 rows selected.

Using the `LIKE` Condition

- Use the `LIKE` condition to perform wildcard searches of valid search string values.
- Search conditions can contain either literal characters or numbers:
  - `%` denotes zero or many characters.
  - `_` denotes one character.

```
SELECT   first_name
FROM     employees
WHERE    first_name LIKE 'S%';
```

Using the LIKE Condition

– You can combine pattern-matching

```
SELECT last_name
FROM   employees
WHERE  last_name LIKE '_o%' ;
```

LAST_NAME
Kochhar
Lorentz
Mourgos

– You can use the ESCAPE identifier to search for the actual % and _ symbols.

Using the NULL Conditions

Test for nulls with the IS NULL operator.

```
SELECT last_name, manager_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  manager_id IS NULL ;
```

LAST_NAME	MANAGER_ID
King	

Logical Conditions

Operator	Meaning
`AND`	Returns `TRUE` if *both* component conditions are true
`OR`	Returns `TRUE` if *either* component condition is true
`NOT`	Returns `TRUE` if the following condition is false

Using the AND Operator

AND requires both conditions to be true:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary >=10000
AND    job_id LIKE '%MAN%' ;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN	10500
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	13000

Using the OR Operator

OR requires either condition to be true:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  salary >= 10000
OR     job_id LIKE '%MAN%' ;
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
100	King	AD_PRES	24000
101	Kochhar	AD_VP	17000
102	De Haan	AD_VP	17000
124	Mourgos	ST_MAN	5800
149	Zlotkey	SA_MAN	10500
174	Abel	SA_REP	11000
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	13000
205	Higgins	AC_MGR	12000

8 rows selected.

Using the NOT Operator

```
SELECT last_name, job_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  job_id
       NOT IN ('IT_PROG', 'ST_CLERK', 'SA_REP') ;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID
King	AD_PRES
Kochhar	AD_VP
De Haan	AD_VP
Mourgos	ST_MAN
Zlotkey	SA_MAN
Whalen	AD_ASST
Hartstein	MK_MAN
Fay	MK_REP
Higgins	AC_MGR
Gietz	AC_ACCOUNT

10 rows selected.

Rules of Precedence

Operator	Meaning
1	Arithmetic operators
2	Concatenation operator
3	Comparison conditions
4	`IS [NOT] NULL, LIKE, [NOT] IN`
5	`[NOT] BETWEEN`
6	Not equal to
7	`NOT` logical condition
8	`AND` logical condition
9	`OR` logical condition

You can use parentheses to override rules of precedence.

Rules of Precedence

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  job_id = 'SA_REP'
OR     job_id = 'AD_PRES'
AND    salary > 15000;
```

1

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
King	AD_PRES	24000
Abel	SA_REP	11000
Taylor	SA_REP	8600
Grant	SA_REP	7000

```
SELECT last_name, job_id, salary
FROM   employees
WHERE  (job_id = 'SA_REP'
OR     job_id = 'AD_PRES')
AND    salary > 15000;
```

2

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	SALARY
King	AD_PRES	24000

Using the ORDER BY Clause

- Sort retrieved rows with the ORDER BY clause:
  - ASC: ascending order, default
  - DESC: descending order
- The ORDER BY clause comes last in the

```
SELECT   last_name, job_id, department_id, hire_date
FROM     employees
ORDER BY hire_date ;
```

LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID	HIRE_DATE
King	AD_PRES	90	17-JUN-87
Whalen	AD_ASST	10	17-SEP-87
Kochhar	AD_VP	90	21-SEP-89
Hunold	IT_PROG	60	03-JAN-90
Ernst	IT_PROG	60	21-MAY-91

...

20 rows selected.

Sorting

– Sorting in descending order:

```
SELECT   last_name, job_id, department_id, hire_date
FROM     employees
ORDER BY hire_date DESC ;
```

1

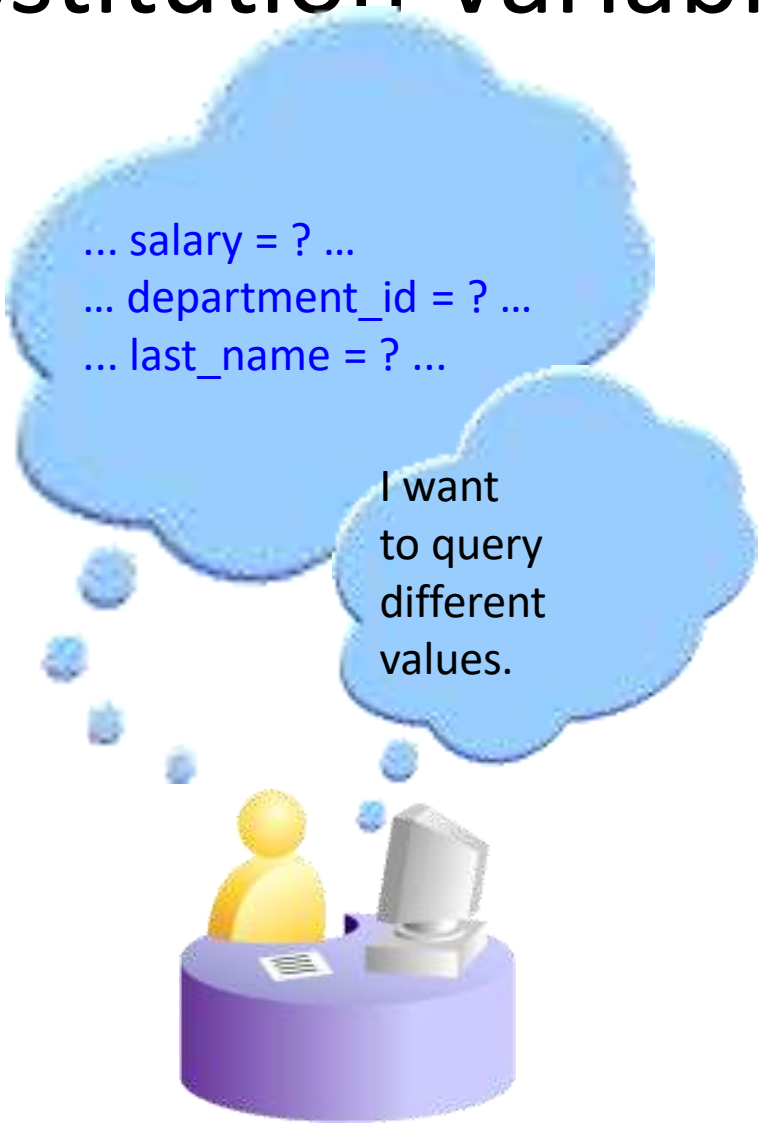
```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary*12 annsal
FROM   employees
ORDER BY annsal ;
```

2

```
SELECT last_name, department_id, salary
FROM   employees
ORDER BY department_id, salary DESC;
```

3

Substitution Variables



Substitution Variables

- Use SQL*Plus substitution variables to:
  - Temporarily store values with single-ampersand (`&`) and double-ampersand (`&&`) substitution
- Use substitution variables to supplement the following:
  - `WHERE` conditions
  - `ORDER BY` clauses
  - Column expressions
  - Table names
  - Entire `SELECT` statements

Using the & Substitution Variable

Use a variable prefixed with an ampersand (&) to prompt the user for a value:

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num;
```

```
Enter value for employee_num :
```

Using the & Substitution Variable

Enter value for employee_num **:**

```
old 3: WHERE employee_id = &employee_num
new 3: WHERE employee_id = 101
```

EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	SALARY	DEPARTMENT_ID
101	Kochhar	17000	90

Character and Date Values with Substitution Variables

Use single quotation marks for date and character values:

```
SELECT last_name, department_id, salary*12
FROM   employees
WHERE  job_id = '&job_title' ;
```

Enter value for job_title:

LAST_NAME	DEPARTMENT_ID	SALARY*12
Hunold	60	108000
Ernst	60	72000
Lorentz	60	50400

Specifying Column Names, Expressions, and Text

```
SELECT employee_id, last_name, job_id,&column_name
FROM   employees
WHERE  &condition
ORDER BY &order_column ;
```

```
Enter value for column_name : salary

Enter value for condition  : salary > 15000


Enter value for order_column : last_name
```

Using the && Substitution Variable

Use the double ampersand (&&) if you want to reuse the variable value without prompting the user each time:

```
SELECT   employee_id, last_name, job_id, &&column_name
FROM     employees
ORDER BY &column_name ;
```

Enter value for column_name : department_id

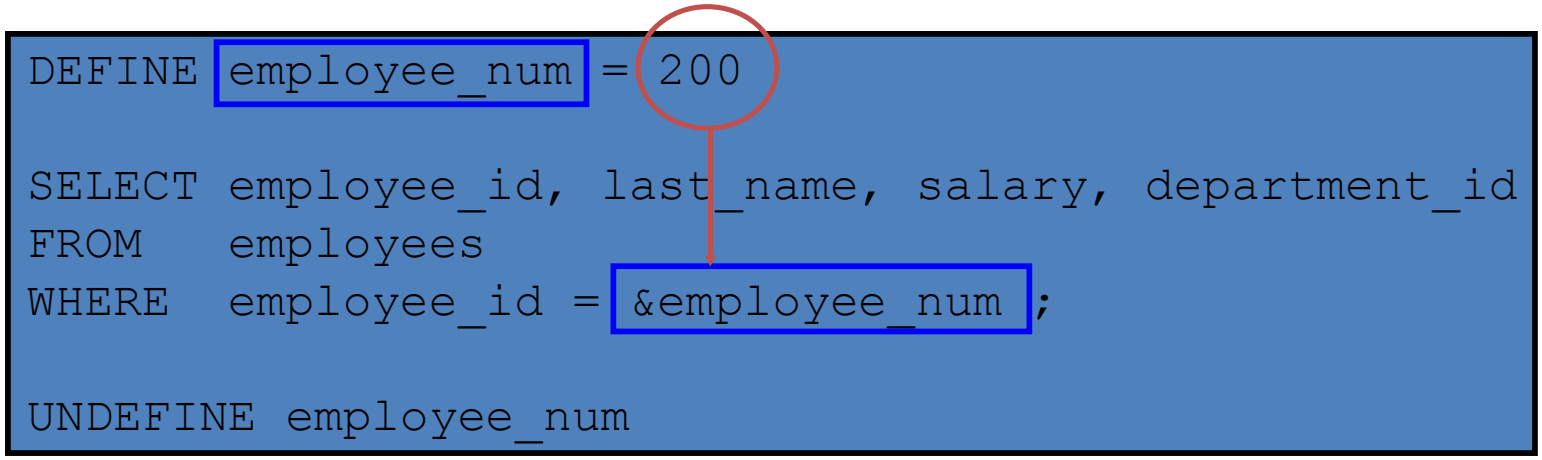
EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	JOB_ID	DEPARTMENT_ID
200	Whalen	AD_ASST	10
201	Hartstein	MK_MAN	20

...

20 rows selected.

Using the SQL*Plus DEFINE Command

- Use the SQL*Plus DEFINE command to create and assign a value to a variable.
- Use the SQL*Plus UNDEFINE command to remove a variable.



Using the VERIFY Command

Use the VERIFY command to toggle the display of the substitution variable, both before and after SQL*Plus replaces substitution variables with values:

```
SET VERIFY ON
SELECT employee_id, last_name, salary, department_id
FROM   employees
WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num;
```


```
old   3: WHERE  employee_id = &employee_num
new   3: WHERE  employee_id = 200
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to:

- Use the `WHERE` clause to restrict rows of output:
  - Use the comparison conditions
  - Use the `BETWEEN`, `IN`, `LIKE`, and `NULL` conditions
  - Apply the logical `AND`, `OR`, and `NOT` operators

```
SELECT  *|{[DISTINCT] column|expression [alias],...}
FROM    table
[WHERE  condition(s)]
[ORDER BY {column, expr, alias} [ASC|DESC]];
```

- Use the `ORDER BY` clause to sort rows of output:

Practice 2: Overview

This practice covers the following topics:

- Selecting data and changing the order of the rows that are displayed
- Restricting rows by using the `WHERE` clause
- Sorting rows by using the `ORDER BY` clause
- Using substitution variables to add flexibility to your SQL `SELECT` statements