There are many ways that a transaction is started, the 4 most commonare:

1. The user has established a new connection to the server and has ablank sheet ready to go, starts a new transaction

2. The user uses the BEGIN statement in Oracle SQL, this will start anew transaction

3. The user executes a COMMIT statement, the current transaction iscommitted, and a new transaction starts.

4. The user executes ANY DDL statement. This automaticallytriggers an auto-commit of the current transaction and starts a newtransaction.

Commit, Save Points, Rollback

In Oracle, the three main statements used in transactions are COMMIT,SAVEPOINT and ROLLBACK.

Auto-CommitSET AUTOCOMMIT ONSET AUTOCOMMIT OFFare two statements that can be run to change how DML statements arehandled. By default auto-commit is off. If auto commit is on, thenDML statements are automatically committed immediately uponsuccessful execution without the need for commit. Why don't we alwaysdo this you say? Remember the banking example above where yourmoney went into cyber space, sometimes we need a way to make sureother statements are also successful before committing to previous ones

RollbackThe rollback statement will undo all the executed statements in thecurrent transaction as if nothing had happened. REMEMBER, the current transaction. So knowing where the current transaction started isimportant

SavepointsSAVEPOINT is a statement that can be used in larger transactions toplace markers at specific locations throughout the transaction. This nowallows ROLLBACK to only undo part of the transaction, and not thewhole thing. SQL code can be written in a way that multiple tries cantake place, so a partial rollback may allow another try before giving upand rolling back the entire transaction.

DDL and TransactionsAs mentioned above, a transaction is automatically committed when anyDDL statement is executed. This is a pretty big gotcha in dailyoperations and can do things in the background that you did not intendand also gives you no feedback stating that this happened. So you justsimply have to know this is an issue and not mix your DML and DDLcode if you are utilizing transaction features