Introduction to Data Definition Language

Objectives

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

- Categorize the main database objects
- Review the table structure
- List the data types that are available for columns
- Create a simple table
- Explain how constraints are created at the time of table creation
- Describe how schema objects work

Lesson Agenda

- Database objects
- CREATE TABLE statement
- Data types
- Overview of constraints: NOT NULL, UNIQUE, PRIMARY KEY, FOREIGN KEY, CHECK constraints
- Creating a table using a subquery
- ALTER TABLE statement
- DROP TABLE statement

Database Objects

Object	Description
Table	Is the basic unit of storage; composed of rows
View	Logically represents subsets of data from one or more tables
Sequence	Generates numeric values
Index	Improves the performance of some queries
Synonym	Gives alternative name to an object

Naming Rules

Table names and column names must:

- Begin with a letter
- Be 1–30 characters long
- Contain only A–Z, a–z, 0–9, _, $, and #
- Not duplicate the name of another object owned by the same user
- Not be an Oracle server–reserved word

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- Creating a table using a subquery
- `ALTER TABLE` statement
- `DROP TABLE` statement

CREATE TABLE Statement

- You must have:
  - The CREATE TABLE privilege
  - A storage area

```
CREATE TABLE [schema.]table
        (column datatype [DEFAULT expr][, ...]);
```

- You specify:
  - The table name
  - The column name, column data type, and column size

Creating Tables

- Create the table:

```
CREATE TABLE dept
        (deptno      NUMBER(2),
         dname       VARCHAR2(14),
         loc         VARCHAR2(13),
         create_date DATE DEFAULT SYSDATE);
table DEPT created.
```

- Confirm table creation:

```
DESCRIBE dept
```

```
DESCRIBE dept
Name        Null Type
----------- ---- ------------
DEPTNO           NUMBER(2)
DNAME            VARCHAR2(14)
LOC              VARCHAR2(13)
CREATE_DATE      DATE
```

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Data Types

Data Type	Description
VARCHAR2(*size*)	Variable-length character data
CHAR(*size*)	Fixed-length character data
NUMBER(p, s)	Variable-length numeric data
DATE	Date and time values
LONG	Variable-length character data (up to 2 GB)
CLOB	Maximum size is (4 gigabytes - 1) * (DB_BLOCK_SIZE).
RAW and LONG RAW	Raw binary data
BLOB	Maximum size is (4 gigabytes - 1) * (DB_BLOCK_SIZE initialization parameter (8 TB to 128 TB)).
BFILE	Binary data stored in an external file (up to 4 GB)
ROWID	A base-64 number system representing the unique address of a row in its table

DEFAULT Option

- Specify a default value for a column during the CREATE table.

```
... hire_date DATE DEFAULT SYSDATE, ...
```

- Literal values, expressions, or SQL functions are legal values.
- Another column's name or a pseudocolumn are illegal values.
- The default data type must match the column data type.

```
CREATE TABLE hire_dates
        (id          NUMBER(8),
         hire_date DATE DEFAULT SYSDATE);
table HIRE_DATES created.
```


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Including Constraints

- Constraints enforce rules at the table level.
- Constraints ensure the consistency and integrity of the database.
- The following constraint types are valid:
  - NOT NULL
  - UNIQUE
  - PRIMARY KEY
  - FOREIGN KEY
  - CHECK

Defining Constraints

- Syntax:

```
CREATE TABLE [schema.]table
      (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
      [column_constraint],
      ...
      [table_constraint][,...]);
```

- Column-level constraint syntax:

```
column [CONSTRAINT constraint_name] constraint_type,
```

- Table-level constraint syntax:

```
column,...
  [CONSTRAINT constraint_name] constraint_type
  (column, ...),
```

Defining Constraints

- Example of a column-level constraint:

```
CREATE TABLE employees(
  employee_id  NUMBER(6)
    CONSTRAINT emp_emp_id_pk PRIMARY KEY,
  first_name   VARCHAR2(20),
  ...);
```

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- Example of a table-level constraint:

```
CREATE TABLE employees(
  employee_id  NUMBER(6),
  first_name   VARCHAR2(20),
  ...
  job_id       VARCHAR2(10) NOT NULL,
  CONSTRAINT emp_emp_id_pk
    PRIMARY KEY (EMPLOYEE_ID));
```

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NOT NULL Constraint

Ensures that null values are not permitted for the column:

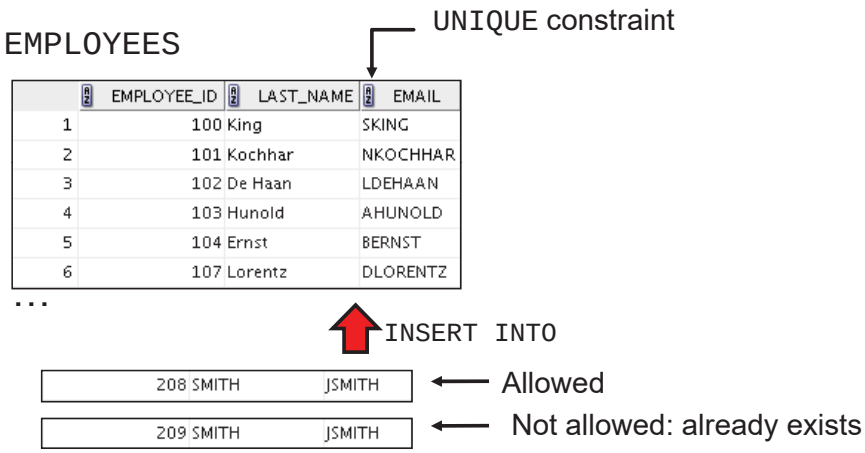
EMPLOYEE_ID	FIRST_NAME	LAST_NAME	SALARY	COMMISSION_PCT	DEPARTMENT_ID	EMAIL	PHONE_NUMBER	HIRE_DATE
100	Steven	King	24000	(null)	90	SKING	515.123.4567	17-JUN-87
101	Neena	Kochhar	17000	(null)	90	NKOCHHAR	515.123.4568	21-SEP-89
102	Lex	De Haan	17000	(null)	90	LDEHAAN	515.123.4569	13-JAN-93
103	Alexander	Hunold	9000	(null)	60	AHUNOLD	590.423.4567	03-JAN-90
104	Bruce	Ernst	6000	(null)	60	BERNST	590.423.4568	21-MAY-91
107	Diana	Lorentz	4200	(null)	60	DLORENTZ	590.423.5567	07-FEB-99
124	Kevin	Mourgos	5800	(null)	50	KMOURGOS	650.123.5234	16-NOV-99
141	Trenna	Rajs	3500	(null)	50	TRAJS	650.121.8009	17-OCT-95
142	Curtis	Davies	3100	(null)	50	CDAVIES	650.121.2994	29-JAN-97
143	Randall	Matos	2600	(null)	50	RMATOS	650.121.2874	15-MAR-98
144	Peter	Vargas	2500	(null)	50	PVARGAS	650.121.2004	09-JUL-98
149	Eleni	Zlotkey	10500	0.2	80	EZLOTKEY	011.44.1344.429018	29-JAN-00
174	Ellen	Abel	11000	0.3	80	EABEL	011.44.1644.429267	11-MAY-96
176	Jonathon	Taylor	8600	0.2	80	JTAYLOR	011.44.1644.429265	24-MAR-98
178	Kimberely	Grant	7000	0.15	(null)	KGRANT	011.44.1644.429263	24-MAY-99
200	Jennifer	Whalen	4400	(null)	10	JWHALEN	515.123.4444	17-SEP-87
201	Michael	Hartstein	13000	(null)	20	MHARTSTE	515.123.5555	17-FEB-96
202	Pat	Fay	6000	(null)	20	PFAY	603.123.6666	17-AUG-97
205	Shelley	Higgins	12000	(null)	110	SHIGGINS	515.123.8080	07-JUN-94
206	William	Gietz	8300	(null)	110	WGIETZ	515.123.8181	07-JUN-94

NOT NULL constraint (Primary Key enforces NOT NULL constraint.)

NOT NULL constraint

Absence of NOT NULL constraint (Any row can contain a null value for this column.)

UNIQUE Constraint

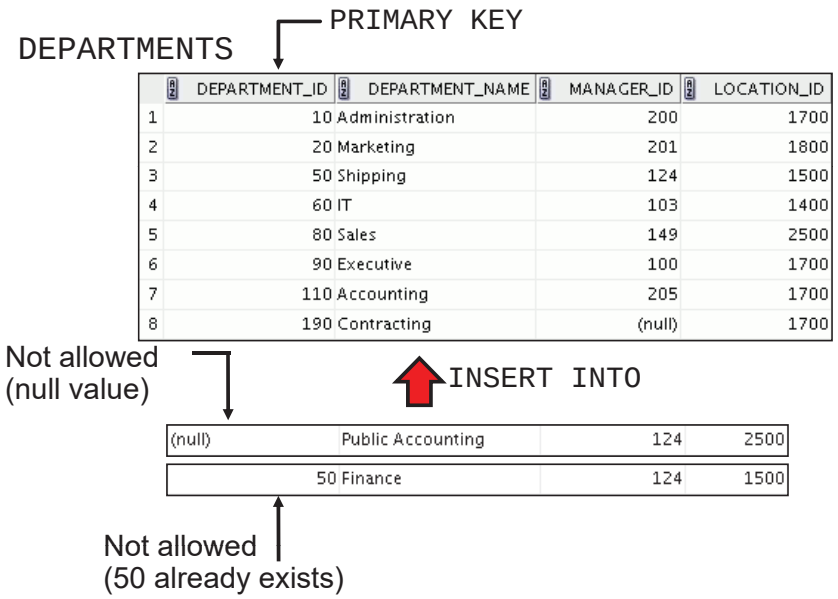


UNIQUE Constraint

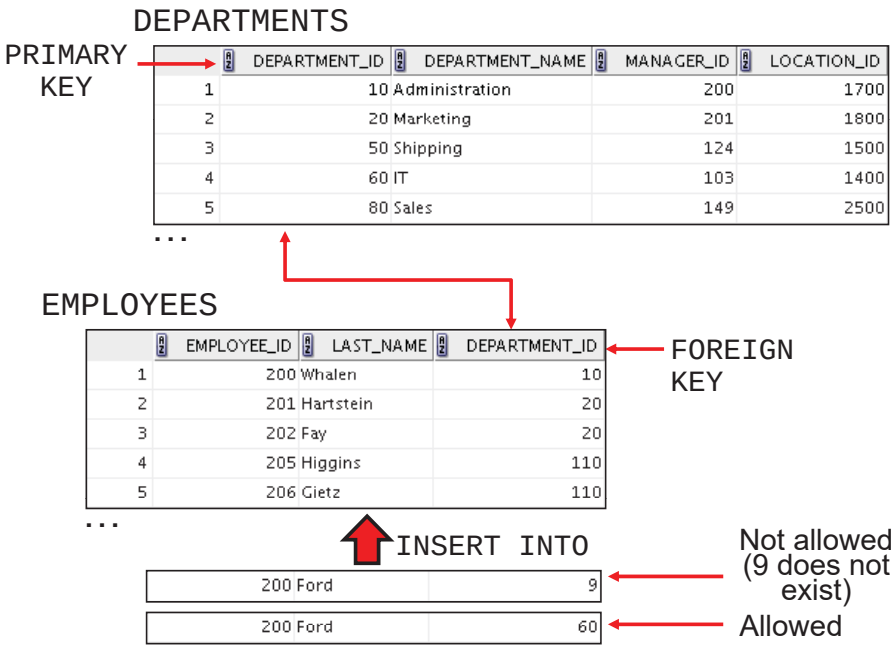
Defined at either the table level or the column level:

```
CREATE TABLE employees(
    employee_id      NUMBER(6),
    last_name        VARCHAR2(25) NOT NULL,
    email            VARCHAR2(25),
    salary           NUMBER(8,2),
    commission_pct   NUMBER(2,2),
    hire_date        DATE NOT NULL,
...
    CONSTRAINT emp_email_uk UNIQUE(email));
```

PRIMARY KEY Constraint



FOREIGN KEY Constraint



FOREIGN KEY Constraint

Defined at either the table level or the column level:

```
CREATE TABLE employees(
    employee_id      NUMBER(6),
    last_name        VARCHAR2(25) NOT NULL,
    email            VARCHAR2(25),
    salary           NUMBER(8,2),
    commission_pct   NUMBER(2,2),
    hire_date        DATE NOT NULL,
...
    department_id    NUMBER(4),
    CONSTRAINT emp_dept_fk FOREIGN KEY (department_id)
      REFERENCES departments(department_id),
    CONSTRAINT emp_email_uk UNIQUE(email));
```


FOREIGN KEY Constraint: Keywords

- FOREIGN KEY: Defines the column in the child table at the table-constraint level
- REFERENCES: Identifies the table and column in the parent table
- ON DELETE CASCADE: Deletes the dependent rows in the child table when a row in the parent table is deleted
- ON DELETE SET NULL: Converts dependent foreign key values to null

CHECK Constraint

- It defines a condition that each row must satisfy.
- It cannot reference columns from other tables.

```
..., salary   NUMBER(2)
     CONSTRAINT emp_salary_min
            CHECK (salary > 0),...
```


CREATE TABLE: Example

```
CREATE TABLE teach_emp (
         empno      NUMBER(5) PRIMARY KEY,
         ename      VARCHAR2(15) NOT NULL,
         job        VARCHAR2(10),
         mgr        NUMBER(5),
         hiredate   DATE DEFAULT (sysdate),
         photo      BLOB,
         sal        NUMBER(7,2),
         deptno     NUMBER(3) NOT NULL
                     CONSTRAINT admin_dept_fkey REFERENCES
                      departments(department_id));
```

Violating Constraints

```
UPDATE employees
SET    department_id = 55
WHERE  department_id = 110;
```

```
Error starting at line 1 in command:
UPDATE employees
SET    department_id = 55
WHERE  department_id = 110
Error report:
SQL Error: ORA-02291: integrity constraint (ORA1.EMP_DEPT_FK) violated - parent key not found
02291. 00000 - "integrity constraint (%s.%s) violated - parent key not found"
*Cause:    A foreign key value has no matching primary key value.
*Action:   Delete the foreign key or add a matching primary key.
```

Department 55 does not exist.

Violating Constraints

You cannot delete a row that contains a primary key that is used as a foreign key in another table.

```
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE department_id = 60;
```

```
Error starting at line 1 in command:
DELETE FROM departments
WHERE department_id = 60
Error report:
SQL Error: ORA-02292: integrity constraint (ORA1.JHIST_DEPT_FK) violated - child record found
02292. 00000 - "integrity constraint (%s.%s) violated - child record found"
*Cause:    attempted to delete a parent key value that had a foreign
           dependency.
*Action:   delete dependencies first then parent or disable constraint.
```

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Creating a Table Using a Subquery

- Create a table and insert rows by combining the CREATE TABLE statement and the AS *subquery* option.

```
CREATE TABLE table
           [(column, column...)]
AS subquery;
```

- Match the number of specified columns to the number of subquery columns.
- Define columns with column names and default values.

Creating a Table Using a Subquery

```
CREATE TABLE  dept80
  AS
    SELECT  employee_id, last_name,
            salary*12 ANNSAL,
            hire_date
    FROM    employees
    WHERE   department_id = 80;
```

```
table DEPT80 created.
```

```
DESCRIBE dept80
```

Name	Null	Type
EMPLOYEE_ID		NUMBER(6)
LAST_NAME	NOT NULL	VARCHAR2(25)
ANNSAL		NUMBER
HIRE_DATE	NOT NULL	DATE

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ALTER TABLE Statement

Use the ALTER TABLE statement to:

- Add a new column
- Modify an existing column definition
- Define a default value for the new column
- Drop a column
- Rename a column
- Change table to read-only status

ALTER TABLE Statement

Use the ALTER TABLE statement to add, modify, or drop columns:

```
ALTER TABLE table
ADD         (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
            [, column datatype]...);
```

```
ALTER TABLE table
MODIFY      (column datatype [DEFAULT expr]
            [, column datatype]...);
```

```
ALTER TABLE table
DROP (column [, column] …);
```

Adding a Column

- You use the ADD clause to add columns:

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
ADD        (job_id VARCHAR2(9));
```

```
table DEPT80 altered.
```

- The new column becomes the last column:

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL	HIRE_DATE	JOB_ID
1	149	Zlotkey	10500	29-JAN-08	(null)
2	174	Abel	11000	11-MAY-04	(null)
3	176	Taylor	8600	24-MAR-06	(null)

Modifying a Column

- You can change a column's data type, size, and default value.

```
ALTER TABLE dept80
MODIFY     (last_name VARCHAR2(30));
```

```
table DEPT80 altered.
```

- A change to the default value affects only subsequent insertions to the table.

Dropping a Column

Use the DROP COLUMN clause to drop columns that you no longer need from the table:

```
ALTER TABLE  dept80
DROP (job_id);
```

```
table DEPT80 altered.
```

	EMPLOYEE_ID	LAST_NAME	ANNSAL	HIRE_DATE
1	149	Zlotkey	10500	29-JAN-08
2	174	Abel	11000	11-MAY-04
3	176	Taylor	8600	24-MAR-06

Read-Only Tables

You can use the ALTER TABLE syntax to:

- Put a table in read-only mode, which prevents DDL or DML changes during table maintenance
- Put the table back into read/write mode

```
ALTER TABLE employees READ ONLY;

-- perform table maintenance and then
-- return table back to read/write mode

ALTER TABLE employees READ WRITE;
```

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Dropping a Table

- Moves a table to the recycle bin
- Removes the table and all its data entirely if the PURGE clause is specified
- Invalidates dependent objects and removes object privileges on the table

```
DROP TABLE dept80;
table DEPT80 dropped.
```

Summary

In this lesson, you should have learned how to use the CREATE TABLE, ALTER TABLE, and DROP TABLE statement to create a table, modify a table and columns, and include constraints.

- Categorize the main database objects
- Review the table structure
- List the data types that are available for columns
- Create a simple table
- Explain how constraints are created at the time of table creation
- Describe how schema objects work