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## Title

P05. Assign or initialize format-sensitive literal values to variables: date, timestamp, and interval.

## Description

The literals for date, timestamp, and interval data types are format-sensitive to the NLS\_DATE\_FORMAT setting.

Oracle implicitly converts these literals to the corresponding data types based on the NLS\_DATE\_FORMAT setting in the current session when you do not explicitly specify the format using the `TO_DATE`, `TO_TIMESTAMP`, or `TO_YMINTERVAL` functions (or so-called date-time conversion functions).

You can check the current NLS\_DATE\_FORMAT setting using the following SQL statement:

```
1 select * from nls_session_parameters where parameter = 'NLS_DATE_FORMAT';
```

## Example

```
1 -- Initialize data, timestamp, and interval variables with literals
2 -- Can be applied to assign literal values to variables in the
  executable section
3 declare
4     -- Need to comply with the NLS_DATE_FORMAT setting
5     -- Default format is 'DD-MON-RR'
6     v_date date := '10/03/24';    -- date literal
7     -- timestamp literal
8     v_timestamp timestamp := '10/03/24 12:00:00';
9     -- interval literal
10    v_interval interval day to second := interval '1 12:00:00' day to
        second;
11 begin
12     dbms_output.put_line('Date: ' || v_date);
13     dbms_output.put_line('Timestamp: ' || v_timestamp);
14     dbms_output.put_line('Interval: ' || v_interval);
15 end;
16 /
```