

No rows → because Oracle never gets to assign `ROWNUM = 2`.

- The filtering happens **before** the counter increments.
- Row 1 is checked: `ROWNUM = 1`, does it equal 2? No → discard.
- Then Oracle tries the next row, but it's again assigned `ROWNUM = 1` at evaluation time, so it never reaches 2.

That's why only `ROWNUM = 1` works directly.