PRACTICAL 2 FORMATTING OUTPUT DATABASE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS



OBJECTIVES

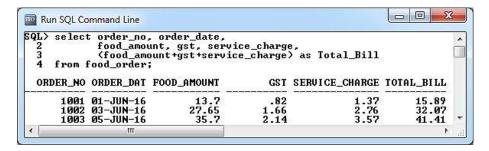
- 1. Format column output
- 2. Create simple reports

INSTRUCTION

Reference: SQL*Plus Command Reference, Chapter 12.

[You will need to format all the outputs for your assignment. Higher marks will be allocated for a report that is presented in a useful and easy to read manner.]

The following is a query from the previous lesson:



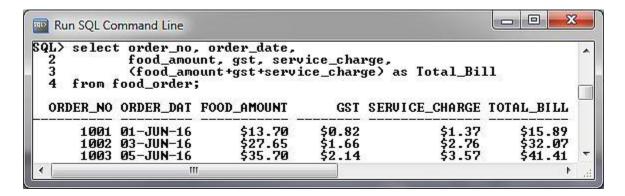
The information is useful but does not seemed "nicely" presented, especially the numbers data.

Formatting numbers:

To present numbers with the proper decimal points, execute the following SQL*Plus commands:

```
column food_amount format $999.99
column gst format $990.99
column service_charge format $999.99
column Total Bill format $9,999.99
```

Execute the previous SQL statement and your result should look like this:



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You use the COLUMN command to format the display of column headings and column data. (Please refer to **SQLPlus User's Guide and Reference** Chapter 12 pg 12-26 for the various options of the COLUMN command)

Changing width of columns:

You can see that the output "ORDER_DAT" is missing the "E". This is because the size of the data item (dd-Mon-yy) is only 9 characters wide, whereas "ORDER_DATE" is 10 characters wide. To display the column heading in full:

```
COLUMN order date FORMAT A10
```

Now execute:

```
select order_no, order_date
from food order;
```



Execute this SQL statement:

```
select cust_no, phone, gender
from customer;
```

Now execute:

```
COLUMN cust_no HEADING "Customer No."
COLUMN phone HEADING "Tel No."
COLUMN gender HEADING "Male/Female"
```

Question 1: Run the customer SQL guery again.

Explain what happened (and suggest any improvements if any).



Clearing Column Formatting

You clear the formatting for a column using the CLEAR option of the COLUMN command.

Setting 1

```
column food_amount format $999.99
select order_no, food_amount
from food order;
```

Setting 2

```
column food_amount CLEAR
select order_no, food_amount
from food order;
```

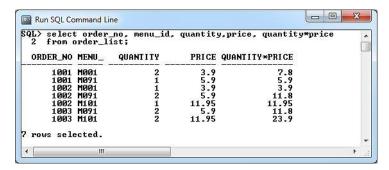
Question 2: What the difference between the above two settings?

You can clear the formatting for all columns using CLEAR COLUMNS. For example:

CLEAR COLUMNS

Question 3: Use formatting commands to improve the following output.

select order_no, menu_id, quantity,price, quantity*price
from order list;



Ans:		

[Reference: SQL*Plus Command Reference, Chapter 12.]