Oracle Interview Questions and Answers : SQL

1. To see current user name
Sql> show user;

2. Change SQL prompt name
SQL> set sqlprompt "Manimara > "
Manimara >
Manimara >

3. Switch to DOS prompt
SQL> host

4. How do I eliminate the duplicate rows ?
SQL> delete from table_name where rowid not in (select max(rowid) from table group by duplicate_values_field_name);
or
SQL> delete duplicate_values_field_name dv from table_name ta where rowid <(select min(rowid) from table_name tb where ta.dv=tb.dv);
Example.
Table Emp
Empno Ename
101   Scott
102   Jiyo
103   Millor
104   Jiyo
105   Smith
delete ename from emp a where rowid < (select min(rowid) from emp b where a.ename = b.ename);
The output like,
Empno Ename
101   Scott
102   Millor
103   Jiyo
104   Smith

5. How do I display row number with records?
To achive this use rownum pseudocolumn with query, like SQL> SQL> select rownum, ename from emp;
Output:
1   Scott
2   Millor
3   Jiyo
4   Smith

6. Display the records between two range
select rownum, empno, ename from emp where rowid in
 (select rowid from emp where rownum <=&upto
 minus
 select rowid from emp where rownum<&Start);
Enter value for upto: 10
Enter value for Start: 7

```
  ROWNUM    EMPNO ENAME
--------- --------- ----------
        1     7782 CLARK
        2     7788 SCOTT
        3     7839 KING
        4     7844 TURNER
```

7. I know the nvl function only allows the same data type(ie. number or char or date Nvl(comm, 0)), if commission is null then the text "Not Applicable" want to display, instead of blank space. How do I write the query?

SQL> select nvl(to_char(comm.),'NA') from emp;

Output :

```
NVL(TO_CHAR(COMM),'NA')
-----------------------
NA
300
500
NA
1400
NA
NA
```

8.   Oracle cursor : Implicit & Explicit cursors
Oracle uses work areas called private SQL areas to create SQL statements.
PL/SQL construct to identify each and every work are used, is called as Cursor.
For SQL queries returning a single row, PL/SQL declares all implicit cursors.
For queries that returning more than one row, the cursor needs to be explicitly declared.

9.   Explicit Cursor attributes
 There are four cursor attributes used in Oracle
cursor_name%Found, cursor_name%NOTFOUND, cursor_name%ROWCOUNT, cursor_name%ISOPEN

10. Implicit Cursor attributes
 Same as explicit cursor but prefixed by the word SQL

SQL%Found, SQL%NOTFOUND, SQL%ROWCOUNT, SQL%ISOPEN

Tips : 1. Here SQL%ISOPEN is false, because oracle automatically closed the implicit cursor after executing SQL statements.
        : 2. All are Boolean attributes.

11. Find out nth highest salary from emp table
 SELECT DISTINCT (a.sal) FROM EMP A WHERE &N = (SELECT COUNT (DISTINCT (b.sal)) FROM EMP B WHERE a.sal<=b.sal);

```
Enter value for n: 2
    SAL
---------
   3700
```

12. To view installed Oracle version information
 SQL> select banner from v$version;

13. Display the number value in Words
 SQL> select sal, (to_char(to_date(sal,'j'), 'jsp'))
from emp;
the output like,

```
    SAL (TO_CHAR(TO_DATE(SAL,'J'),'JSP'))
--------- ----------------------------------------------------
    800 eight hundred
   1600 one thousand six hundred
   1250 one thousand two hundred fifty
```
If you want to add some text like,
Rs. Three Thousand only.
SQL> select sal "Salary ",
 (' Rs. '|| (to_char(to_date(sal,'j'), 'Jsp'))|| ' only.'))
 "Sal in Words" from emp
/

```
Salary  Sal in Words
-------  ------------------------------------------------------
   800  Rs. Eight Hundred only.
  1600  Rs. One Thousand Six Hundred only.
  1250  Rs. One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty only.
```

14. Display Odd/ Even number of records
 Odd number of records:
select * from emp where (rowid,1) in (select rowid, mod(rownum,2) from emp);
1
3
5
Even number of records:
select * from emp where (rowid,0) in (select rowid, mod(rownum,2) from emp)
2
4
6

15. Which date function returns number value?
 months_between

16. Any three PL/SQL Exceptions?
 Too_many_rows, No_Data_Found, Value_Error, Zero_Error, Others

17. What are PL/SQL Cursor Exceptions?
 Cursor_Already_Open, Invalid_Cursor

18. Other way to replace query result null value with a text
 SQL> Set NULL 'N/A'
to reset SQL> Set NULL ''

19.   What are the more common pseudo-columns?
 SYSDATE, USER , UID, CURVAL, NEXTVAL, ROWID, ROWNUM

20.   What is the output of SIGN function?
 1 for positive value,
0 for Zero,
-1 for Negative value.

21. What is the maximum number of triggers, can apply to a single table?
 12 triggers.