

Chapter 2 Solutions

Review Questions

1. *What is a data dictionary?* A collection of objects the DBMS manages to maintain information about the database, such as table names, column names, and column data types. This information is often referred as metadata.
2. *What are the two required clauses for a SELECT statement?* SELECT and FROM
3. *What is the purpose of the SELECT statement?* It's used to retrieve data from database tables.
4. *What does the use of an asterisk (*) in the SELECT clause of a SELECT statement represent?* All columns in the referenced table
5. *What is the purpose of a column alias?* Provides another name for a column that's displayed as the column heading in the output
6. *How do you indicate that a column alias should be used?* Include the AS keyword followed by the alias, or list the alias immediately after the column name without a separating comma.
7. *When is it appropriate to use a column alias?* To provide a more descriptive column heading
8. *What are the guidelines to keep in mind when using a column alias?* If the column alias includes a blank space or special symbols, or should retain the specified letter case, it must be enclosed in quotation marks.
9. *How can you concatenate columns in a query?* Separate the column names with two vertical bars (||) rather than a comma.
10. *What is a NULL value?* A NULL value indicates an absence of value. If no value was placed in a field of a row, the field value is empty or NULL.

Multiple Choice

1. c
2. d
3. d
4. b
5. b
6. c
7. c
8. c
9. d
10. d
11. a
12. c

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- 13. d
- 14. d
- 15. c
- 16. a
- 17. a
- 18. b
- 19. d
- 20. b

Hands-On Assignments

1.
SELECT *
FROM books;
 2.
SELECT title
FROM books;
 3.
SELECT title, pubdate "Publication Date"
FROM books;
 4.
SELECT customer#, city, state
FROM customers;
 5.
SELECT name, contact "Contact Person", phone
FROM publisher;
 6.
SELECT DISTINCT category
FROM books;
- or
- SELECT UNIQUE category
FROM books;
7.
SELECT DISTINCT customer#
FROM orders;
- or
- SELECT UNIQUE customer#
FROM orders;

Oracle 12c SQL, ISBN 9781305251038

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8.
SELECT category, title
FROM books;

9.
SELECT lname || ', ' || fname
FROM author;

10.
SELECT order#, item#, isbn, quantity, paideach, quantity*paideach "Item Total"
FROM orderitems;

Advanced Challenge

1.
SELECT lastname || ', ' || firstname "Name", address, city || ', ' || state "Location", zip
FROM customers;

2.
SELECT title, (retail-cost)/cost*100 "Profit %"
FROM books;

Case Study: *City Jail*

Resumes in Chapter 3.