

Certification Exam Prep & iSQL*Plus

Objectives

- Learn to prepare for the OCP Exam
- Learn how to include iSQL*Plus commands to produce more readable SQL output

Try It / Solve It

1. Review the OCP Checklist below.

☐ Review the following course materials:

- SQL Topics in Database Fundamentals
- All Sections in Database Programming with SQL
- Certification Test Content Checklist

☐ Read at least one other book about SQL programming.

☐ Learn as many of the basic rules that you can, for example "you may use a column alias or column ordinal in an ORDER BY CLAUSE" or "the AND operator is evaluated before the OR operator."

☐ Try to use some practice software such as the Self Test software. These are very thorough and explain why each correct answer was correct and why each incorrect answer was incorrect.

☐ Know the difference between iSQL*PLUS commands and SQL commands Use the reference:
iSQL*Plus User's Guide and Reference

☐ Be sure to review using NULL values. The usage of NULLS is tested when it doesn't even look like a NULL question.

☐ Practice; don't just read. Learning by practicing remains in your memory better than just studying!

☐ Be careful to select all the right answers on the test, don't stop looking when you find one.

☐ Know that when you can get four out of every five questions right on the practice tests, you are probably ready to take the test.

☐ Spend only 30 seconds evaluating a question on your first pass. Use the review page to go back and review the ones you didn't know.

☐ Remember, there is no penalty for guessing, so answer every question.

2. To prepare for the OCP Exam iSQL*Plus questions, be able to answer each of the following:

- a.** Explain the purpose and use of substitution variables.
- b.** List two symbols used to define substitution variables.
- c.** List two ways that variables may be defined using iSQL*Plus.
- d.** Explain the way that substitution variables operate.
- e.** Construct and execute a SQL query that uses substitution variables.
- f.** List 20 different iSQL*Plus commands.
- g.** List at least 5 different column format models.
- h.** List two commands affected by the BREAK command in iSQL*Plus.
- i.** Explain the way that iSQL*Plus commands modify the environment in which queries are submitted.
- j.** Construct and execute a successful SQL query that uses HTML DB formatting commands.
- k.** Differentiate between iSQL*Plus and HTML DB formatting commands.