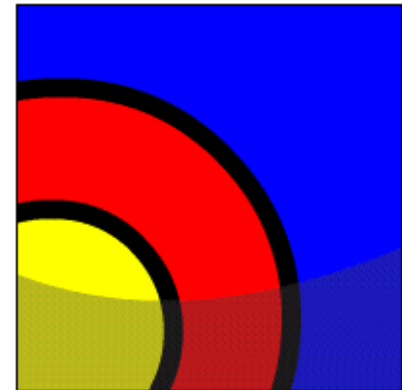


Using Applications

What Will I Learn?

In this lesson, you will learn to:

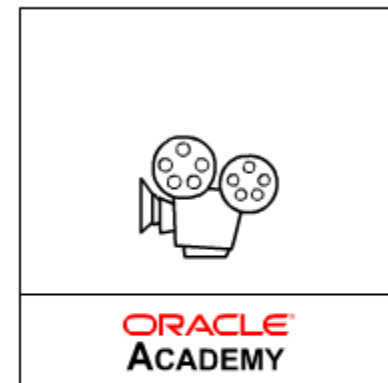
- Distinguish between application software and system software and give an example of each
- Demonstrate use of Oracle Application Express to enter SQL statements that retrieve data



Why Learn It?

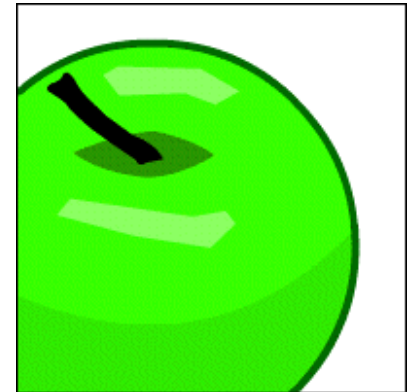
Every day, in one way or another, we come in contact with computer applications.

If you checked your email today, it was probably done using an application. If you bought an item at a grocery store, the clerk scanned the item using an application that calculated your bill and updated the store inventory. In this course, you will learn the syntax of SQL using the application Oracle Application Express.



Tell Me / Show Me

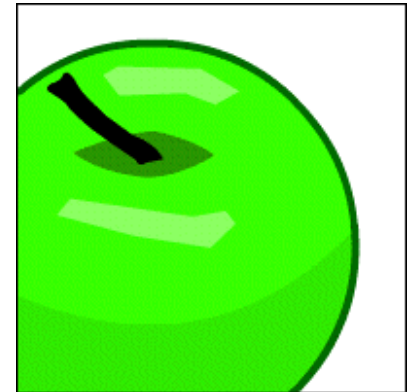
Although computers have been around since before you were born, their use for business and personal computing didn't take place until application software programs were developed. Application programs allowed the end user, people like you and me, to be able to buy fully developed, ready-to-use programs. It was no longer necessary to know how the program worked, just that it did work and accomplished what we wanted it to do.



Tell Me / Show Me

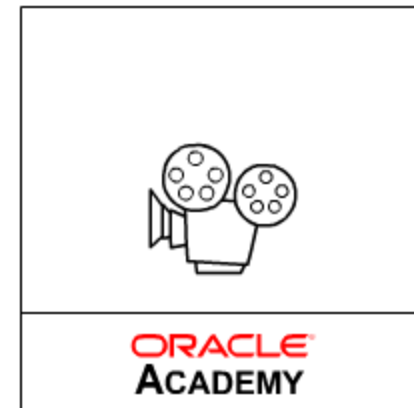
Application program software is different from system software. System software consists of low-level programs designed to interact with the computer hardware.

Operating systems, compilers and system utilities are examples of system software. In contrast, application software includes programs for word processing, databases, gaming, email and graphics.



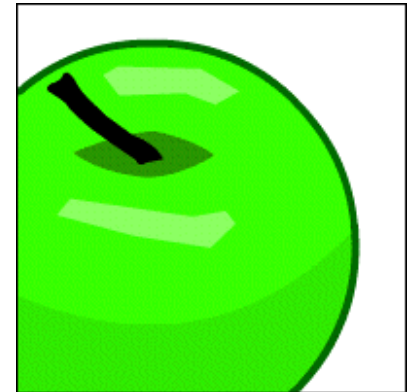
Tell Me / Show Me

Yahoo.com uses the Oracle database to store data. Rather than everyone who wants to search the database or retrieve email needing to learn SQL, an application has all the SQL (and other coding languages) pre-programmed into it. With a few mouse clicks, users have access to all the information they need.



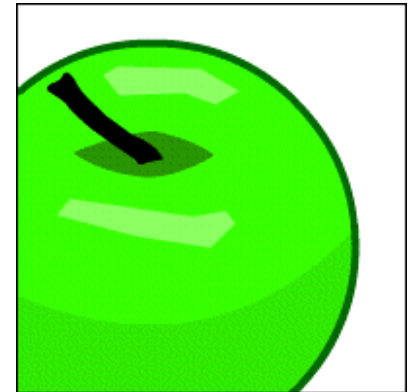
Tell Me / Show Me

An application is like a car. To drive a car, you need to know enough to make it work. It has a friendly “shell” to hide all the things you don’t need to know, such as how the transmission works or how fuel like petrol or diesel is used to make it run. Could you ever get your driver's license if you had to know every detail of what makes a car run?



Tell Me / Show Me

In this course, you will use Oracle Application Express. This application enables many developers to build and access applications as if they were running in separate databases. With built-in features such as design themes, navigational controls, form handlers, and flexible reports, Oracle Application Express accelerates the application development process.



Tell Me / Show Me

Oracle Application Express has three components:

- SQL Workshop
- Application Builder
- Data Browser

To learn SQL, you will use the SQL Workshop component.
To design an application, you use Application Builder.

Your teacher will demonstrate how to use SQL Workshop so you can get started learning SQL.

Tell Me / Show Me

Terminology

Key terms used in this lesson include:

Application software

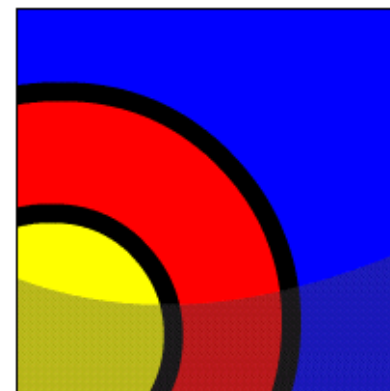
System software



Summary

In this lesson, you have learned about:

- Telling the difference between application software and system software
- How to use the Oracle Application Express to enter SQL statements that retrieve data, specifically the SQL Workshop:
 - Upload and run SQL scripts
 - Maintain a history of the executed SQL
 - Create or modify database objects
 - Query data by example
 - Browse the data dictionary
 - Enable database browsing with drill-up and drill-down



Summary

Practice Guide

The link for the lesson practice guide can be found in the course outline.

