PL/SQL - RELATIONAL OPERATORS

Relational operators compare two expressions or values and return a Boolean result. Following table shows all the relational operators supported by PL/SQL. Assume variable A holds 10 and variable B holds 20, then:

!=

<>

~=

Operator	Description	Example
=	Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if yes then condition becomes true.	$A = B$ is not true.
Checks if the values of two operands are equal or not, if values are not equal then condition becomes true.	$A ! = B$ is true.	
>	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	$A > B$ is not true.
<	Checks if the value of left operand is less than the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	$A < B$ is true.
>=	Checks if the value of left operand is greater than or equal to the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	$A >= B$ is not true.
<=	Checks if the value of left operand is less than or equal to the value of right operand, if yes then condition becomes true.	$A <= B$ is true.

Example:

```
DECLARE
   a number (2) := 21;
   b number (2) := 10;
BEGIN
   IF (a = b) then
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 1 - a is equal to b');
   ELSE
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 1 - a is not equal to b');
   END IF;

   IF (a < b) then
```

```
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 2 - a is less than b');
   ELSE
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 2 - a is not less than b');
   END IF;

   IF ( a > b ) THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 3 - a is greater than b');
   ELSE
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 3 - a is not greater than b');
   END IF;

   -- Lets change value of a and b
   a := 5;
   b := 20;
   IF ( a <= b ) THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 4 - a is either equal or less than b');
   END IF;

   IF ( b >= a ) THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 5 - b is either equal or greater than a');
   END IF;

   IF ( a <> b ) THEN
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 6 - a is not equal to b');
   ELSE
      dbms_output.put_line('Line 6 - a is equal to b');
   END IF;

END;
/
```

When the above code is executed at SQL prompt, it produces the following result:

```
Line 1 - a is not equal to b
Line 2 - a is not less than b
Line 3 - a is greater than b
Line 4 - a is either equal or less than b
Line 5 - b is either equal or greater than a
Line 6 - a is not equal to b

PL/SQL procedure successfully completed
```