Creating PL/SQL Blocks

Terminology

Directions: Identify the vocabulary word for each definition below:

1. _____ Unnamed blocks of code not stored in the database and do not exist after they are executed.

2. _____ A program that computes and returns a value.

3. _____ Named PL/SQL blocks that are stored in the database and can be declared as procedures or functions.

4. _____ Software that checks and translates programs written in high-level programming languages into binary code to execute.

5. _____ A program that performs an action and does not have to return a value.

Try It/Solve It Questions

1. Complete the following chart defining the syntactical requirements for a PL/SQL block:

	Optional or Mandatory?	What is included in this section?
DECLARE		
BEGIN		
EXCEPTION		
END;		

2. Which of the following PL/SQL blocks execute successfully? For the blocks that fail, explain why they fail

   A. BEGIN
      END;

   B. DECLARE
         amount INTEGER(10);
      END;

   C. DECLARE
      BEGIN
      END;

   D. DECLARE
         amount NUMBER(10);
      BEGIN
        DBMS_OUTPUT.PUT_LINE(amount);
      END;

3. Fill in the blanks:

    A. PL/SQL blocks that have no names are called _____.

    B. _____ and _____ are named blocks and are stored in the database.

4. In Application Express, create and execute a simple anonymous block that outputs "Hello World."

Extension Exercise

1. Create and execute a simple anonymous block that does the following:
    - Declares a variable of datatype DATE and populates it with the date that is six months from today
    - Outputs "In six months, the date will be: <insert date>."