Helen, IDL is more elegant than you suppose.

I would suggest using arrays rather than FOR loops.
(David meant findgen() rather then fltarr(), I assume.)
With the plots outside of a loop, you won't need to use the /continue
keyword.

Whenever I need to set up a plot and then draw the plot in two steps,
I use the /data keyword. Then you don't need to hassle with !X, !Y,
and the like. This is done in testPlots2 below.

An even more compact version is in testPlots3 below. This may or may
not work for you, but I combine the creation of the plot and the
actual plotting into one step using plot rather than plot & plots.
They keywords to plot let you choose the domain and range (x and y)
yourself, and the ystyle=1 setting allows you to force the use of
[-5,5] rather than the automatically-selected [-6,6].

```
pro testPlots2
 window, 1
 plot,[0,10],[-10,10], /NoData
 window,2
 plot,[0,10],[-5,5], /NoData

 I = findgen(11)
 arrayY = cos(I+1)
 arrayX = sin(I+1)
 arrayT = I

 wset, 1
 plots, arrayT, arrayX, /data
 wset, 2
 plots, arrayT, arrayY, /data
end



pro testPlots3
 I = findgen(11)
 arrayY = cos(I+1)
 arrayX = sin(I+1)
 arrayT = I

 window, 1
```

```
plot, arrayT, arrayX, /data, xrange=[0,10], yrange=[-10,10]
window, 2
plot, arrayT, arrayY, /data, xrange=[0,10], yrange=[-5,5], ystyle=1
end
```

I hope this points you in the right direction,

M. Katz