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Subject: Re: Problem Compiling and Using Functions  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 05 Jan 2006 00:13:10 GMT  
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someone@someplace.com writes:

- > DOH!... Doh!... doh!... (echoing off into the distance) :)
- >
- > Thanks for your fast response. It works now.
- >
- > I'm new to IDL and I'm not used there being this difference between
- > functions and procedures.
- >
- > So, procedures don't return anything and functions \*always\* have to
- > return something and the calling function/procedure has handle them
- > correctly.

Yes, this is correct. But if you are going to write your functions to return 0s, you have surmised correctly that you could just as well use a procedure. All arguments to procedures and function alike (including keyword arguments) can be passed by reference, so getting things into and out of procedure (as well as functions) is reasonably trivial.

Just keep chanting to yourself "IDL is NOT C, IDL is NOT C."

Cheers,

David

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