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Subject: Re: Weirdest Error Ever

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Thu, 19 Oct 2006 14:59:12 GMT

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Karsten Rodenacker wrote:

> This reminds me on a syntax error which is again and again bothering me:

>

> IDL> help,1 < -5

>

> help,1 < -5

>       ^

> % Syntax error.

> IDL> help,1 < (-5)

> <Expression>   INT       =       -5

> Possibly ...

This error is because <, >, +, and - have the same order of precedence.

So they are parsed left to right; "1 < -" is a syntax error. It does mean that David is right in wanting to put ()'s around operands in a < or > expressions (though in his particular case it was OK without them).

Mike

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[www.michaelgalloy.com](http://www.michaelgalloy.com)

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