
Subject: Re: IDL input files.

Posted by [ryanselk](#) on Mon, 18 Jun 2007 18:35:36 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Jun 18, 11:38 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> ryans...@gmail.com writes:

>> ive been reading some manuals and books for IDL but im not sure how to

>> solve this likely simple problem.

>

> Oh, dear. Which books have you been reading!?

>

> You need to explain your problem a little bit better

> for us. Your code doesn't work for many reasons, but

> one big reason is that you are trying to read from

> a file you opened for writing. And I can't tell from

> your example, what it is you are trying to do.

>

> Do you wish to *create* a file (OPENW and PRINTF), or

> do you wish to *read* from a file (OPENR and READF)?

>

> Or, do you wish to ask the user a question (maybe you

> need http://www.dfanning.com/widget_tips/popup.html)

> and then write the answers in a file?

>

> I'm very confused by your question. Do you think you

> could clarify for us?

>

> Cheers,

>

> David

> --

> David Fanning, Ph.D.

> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Whoops, its just reading from a file, I messed with it earlier and forgot to change it back, It should be:

```
PRO inputer
```

```
  print, 'starting input'
```

```
  getfile = DIALOG_PICKFILE (/READ)
```

```
  print, getfile
```

```
  OPENR, 1, getfile
```

```
POINT_LUN, 1, 0
```

```
IDL_Name = '      '; want extendable length if possible.
```

```
READU, 1, IDL_Name
```

```
print, IDL_Name
```

```
POINT_LUN, 1, 0
```

```
CLOSE, 1
```

```
END
```

Ideally,

This idl file just reads whatever file is selected and stores the name variable to IDL_Name .

But what I want to do is 'search' the file opened for certain words, when it finds them I want to be able to store that value to an IDL variable.

Im going to need to declare more variables then IDL_Name, but im unsure how to do it.

ie: if the user selects this file:

```
Name = {Joe}
```

```
Department = {CS}
```

```
Age = {25}
```

I want in IDL to have those 3 variables stored ie:

```
IDL_Name = Joe
```

```
IDL_DEPARTMENT = CS
```

```
IDL_AGE = 25
```

But, if the file reads:

```
Age = {30}
```

```
Department = {Science}
```

I would want IDL to return;

```
IDL_DEPARTMENT = Science
```

```
IDL_Age = 30
```

I think i need to use some sort of 'search file' command. I hope this is clearer, sorry for being unclear before.

Thank you! and David your website has been of help to me frequently in the past.
