
Subject: Re: Error: X does not support locale C.
Posted by [Luis Hector Peraza](#) on Tue, 10 Jul 2007 08:48:22 GMT
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On Jun 19, 5:37 pm, cantr...@chara.gsu.edu wrote:

> I have a FC5 machine with IDL Version 5.5a. When I try and run the
> help, it does not work.
>
> IDL> ?
> IDL> Error: X does not support locale C.
>
> I have no idea what could be causing this. Any ideas?
>
> -Justin

Hello Justin,

I recently upgraded my Linux system and ended up with the same problem.

The newer distribution came with Xorg instead of XFree86, which places the configuration files into a different directory. The idlhelp program apparently searches for the locale.alias and locale.dir files only in the /usr/X11R6/lib/X11/locale directory, which was missing in the new distribution. The new location was /usr/share/X11/locale.

To solve the problem, I did the following:

```
cd /usr/X11R6/lib
ln -s /usr/share/X11 X11
```

The symbolic link allows idlhelp to find the necessary files. I suspect

your case is similar, just look first for the X11 locale directory (it may also be under /usr/share/X11, under /etc/X11, or somewhere else; use the find command if necessary), then create the X11 link so it points to the whole X11 directory.

Additionally, I had to setup the LANG environment variable:

```
export LANG=en_US.ISO-8859-1
```

otherwise idlhelp would segfault.

Hope that helps.

Regards,

Hector.
