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Subject: Re: IDL- variable variable names  
Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 07 Nov 1996 08:00:00 GMT  
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Hendrik Roepcke <[alpha@jungle.toppoint.de](mailto:alpha@jungle.toppoint.de)> writes:

> i want to play with IDL Variable names.....Look:  
  
> a=10  
> b="a"  
> c=print,MAGIC("b")  
> if c eq 10 then print," its magic!"  
>  
> So: How to programm this function MAGIC????

This looks like deja vu all over again. Here is the  
answer: Ain't no way, no how!

But..., I got about this close:

```
FUNCTION MAGIC, file  
  number = 0  
  ok = EXECUTE(file + ' = 0')  
  RESTORE, file  
  RETURN, number  
END
```

```
IDL> a = 10  
IDL> number = a  
IDL> Save, a, number, Filename='a'  
IDL> b = 'a'  
IDL> c = Magic(b)  
IDL> IF c EQ 10 THEN Print, "It's magic!"
```

It's magic!

David

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\* Sometimes I go about pitying myself, and all along my  
\* soul is being blown by great winds across the sky.  
\* -- Ojibway saying

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