

---

Subject: Help needed for a CASE statement, something subtle going on ...

Posted by [john.hrv583](#) on Wed, 26 Feb 2014 22:42:50 GMT

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

---

Hi,

I'm learning to use CASE statements in IDL, and have tried to put the following code lines

```
-----  
x = 2
```

```
CASE x OF
```

```
  1: print, 'one'
```

```
  2: print, 'two'
```

```
  3: print, 'three'
```

```
  4: print, 'four'
```

```
  ELSE: print, 'not one through four'
```

```
ENDCASE  
-----
```

into a file called "case\_st.pro". I then tried to run it under IDL using

"@case\_st", but got the following messages:

```
+++++
```

```
@case_st
```

```
% Case statement found no matches.
```

```
% Execution halted at: $MAIN$
```

```
  1: print, 'one'
```

```
  ^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 4
```

```
  2: print, 'two'
```

```
  ^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 5
```

```
  3: print, 'three'
```

```
  ^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 6
```

```
  4: print, 'four'
```

```
  ^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 7
```

```
ELSE: print, 'not one through four'
```

```
^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 8
```

```
ENDCASE
```

```
^
```

```
% Syntax error.
```

```
At: /C1/ryu/IDL_tools/examples/case_st.pro, Line 9
```

```
+++++
```

That's a bit surprising, because this is one of the examples that I found on the web about the usage of CASE statements, and I just copied the example code into a text file. I checked the IDL manual, and also compared the code with codes I saw on different websites, but could not find out what's wrong with the syntax of the case statements. So I guess something subtle is going on here, and it's quite frustrating, because I tried different things, and also some different examples, but they all gave this kind of syntax errors. So there must be something that I have done totally wrong.

Your help would be highly appreciated!

John

---