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

Posted by [john.hrv583](#) on Thu, 27 Feb 2014 17:33:49 GMT

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On Wednesday, February 26, 2014 7:23:38 PM UTC-5, David Fanning wrote:

> Phillip Bitzer writes:

>

>

>

>> Then don't listen to this :-)

>

>>

>

>> If you absolutely **must** you can do this in a script. Here's the 1970's syntax (it's not pretty and **very** cumbersome)

>

>>

>

>> CASE x OF & \$

>

>> 1: print, 'one' & \$

>

>> 2: print, 'two' & \$

>

>> 3: print, 'three' & \$

>

>> 4: print, 'four' & \$

>

>> ELSE: print, 'not one through four' & \$

>

>> ENDCASE

>

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>> Again, this should be a last resort.

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> I used to be one of thorough people, too. But, over the years, I've

>

> learned to give people just enough information to move one step forward.

>

> That's about all they can handle and stay productive. ;-)

>

>

>

> Cheers,

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>
>
> David
>
> --
>
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
>
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
>
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
>
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi, everyone,

Thank you all so much for your overwhelming responses and help.

Actually I am not just learning to use CASE statements in IDL, I'm learning to use IDL per se. And as it so happened, yesterday I got stuck with the case statement for quite a while, because I was trying out different things that I learned recently. Basically, I had tried almost every option that you have suggested regarding the CASE statement, but none of them worked. (In retrospect, with your insightful explanations, I know that's because there was always something missing in my codes.) And I was really quite frustrated.

Then I thought what I really need is to find some step by step tutorials and get familiar with some of the "subtleties" of the IDL programming language. So I searched on the Internet. While doing so, I came across this discussion group. Because I did not find anything that would help solve my problem any time soon, I decided to try to ask for help in this discussion group. But I was quite unsure if I would get any response at all, because I thought although my problem is a big problem for me, people in this group might be tired of answering this kind of questions.

To my surprise, your responses proved that I am totally wrong again:-). And I think your responses are the best tutorials I can get, because in addition to solving my particular problem at hand, they also provided precise answers to some questions I have had since I started to learn IDL recently. This definitely saved me a lot of time that I would otherwise have to spend in looking for the answers in the documents etc. myself.

All in all, I really think that each and every response from you all is a treasure. And thank you so much again for your generosity in sharing your precious time and expertise!

John

P.S.: David, I intended to post my response so that everyone in the discussion group can see it.

Since I am using such a discussion group for the first time,
I'm not sure if I'm doing it correctly. If not, please give me advice on how to
do it CORRECTLY. Thanks a lot in advance!

John
