So now I want to do this in order to use a loop to add lines to a plot and then make a legend. I need the plot names to all be different so I can use them in the "target" argument, but I can otherwise make the plot commands identical, e.g.,

p1 = plot(xbin, pdf, color = linecolors[nsea], thick = 2, name = seanames[nsea], /overplot)

Based on David's comment, I tried

execute('p5 = plot(xbin, pdf, color = linecolors[nsea-1], thick = 2, name = seanames[nsea-1], /overplot)')

but this didn't do anything except return a "1". I'm really not excited about putting in a plot command (with an 'if' statement' for each of the lines I want to overplot.