
Subject: HELP,<return_string>=<variable of interest> ??
Posted by [Russ Welti](#) on Tue, 18 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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A while ago someone discussed using

```
help,calls=calls
```

to get the traceback info from IDL as a string array.
It works.

Does anyone know if I can get the normal HELP info on
just a simple variable back similarly, as in:

```
help,var=var or maybe help,/stru,struct=some_struct
```

I have a large structure, and I really like the output of
'help,/stru,my_struct', so why can't I get it as a string
array? Or is there some undocumented backdoor for this...?

Thanks much!

```

                                     /
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```

Subject: Re: HELP,<return_string>=<variable of interest> ??
Posted by [Fergus Gallagher](#) on Thu, 27 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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Russ Welti <rwelti@chroma.mbt.washington.edu> wrote:

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```

I have been told by Dave Fanning from RSI that IDL 4.0 has a GETHELP
function for exactly this purpose.

Fergus

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```
=====
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```

Subject: Re: HELP,<return_string>=<variable of interest> ??
Posted by [Russ Welti](#) on Thu, 27 Apr 1995 07:00:00 GMT
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On Thu, 27 Apr 1995, Fergus Gallagher wrote:

```
> Russ Welti <rwelti@chroma.mbt.washington.edu> wrote:
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> function for exactly this purpose.
```

RSI (thank you Steve Penton) saw my post and sent me the source code to GETHELP function. I thought it got posted to the group as well, but if anyone sends a request to me I'll repost it.

It is great; just what I wanted, and educational to peruse.

Russ Welti
