Subject: Empty FOREACH loop

Posted by Michael Galloy on Mon, 14 Feb 2011 23:47:45 GMT

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I was quite surprised when the following raised an error for me:

IDL> foreach g, [] do help, g

% Variable is undefined: <UNDEFINED>.

% Execution halted at: \$MAIN\$

Does this seem like unexpected behavior? I was expecting the loop just not to execute.

Of course, whatever the right answer is, it shouldn't do this (as it does on my Mac):

IDL> foreach g, [] do help, g

% Temporary variables are still checked out - cleaning up...

Mike

--

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Subject: Re: Empty FOREACH loop

Posted by Bill Nel on Fri, 12 Oct 2012 22:40:46 GMT

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On Friday, October 12, 2012 5:33:01 PM UTC-4, Dick Jackson wrote:

- > IDL> foreach x, myUndefinedNonVariable do print,x
- > % Variable is undefined: MYUNDEFINEDNONVARIABLE.
- > Would anyone else agree that with no elements in myUndefinedNonVariable, this should quietly do no iterations?
- > -Dick

>

Think about the fun you'd have should you happen to misspell an honest-to-goodness defined variable :-)

Subject: Re: Empty FOREACH loop

Posted by David Fanning on Fri, 12 Oct 2012 22:57:22 GMT

rigby@crd.ge.com writes:

> Think about the fun you'd have should you happen to misspell an honest-to-goodness defined variable :-)

I agree. This would fall, along with silent error handlers, under my definition of Pure Evil if I were classifying it in a programming book. :-)

Cheers.

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D. Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.dfanning.com/

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thos speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: Empty FOREACH loop Posted by Paul Van Delst[1] on Mon, 15 Oct 2012 14:59:32 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

On 10/12/12 18:57, David Fanning wrote:

> rigby@crd.ge.com writes:

>

>> Think about the fun you'd have should you happen to misspell an honest-to-goodness defined variable :-)

>

- > I agree. This would fall, along with silent error handlers,
- > under my definition of Pure Evil if I were classifying it
- > in a programming book. :-)

+1

In the context presented, I consider usage of undefined/non-existant variables as a fundamental programming error.

It causes automatic failure of the "Good Citizen" test when reviewing code submissions as a measure for granting write access to a repository.

Like going through a stop sign during your driving test. :o)

cheers.

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