

# **HugoManual**

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# Chapter 1

# HugoManual

## 1.1 HUGO v2.3 PROGRAMMING MANUAL

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HUGO v2.3

PROGRAMMING MANUAL

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This AmigaGuide® version  
was made by  
Paolo Vece

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## 1.2 INTRODUCTION

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### I. INTRODUCTION

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Hugo is a system for designing, programming, and running sophisticated interactive fiction, or text adventures. It is the result of an attempt to further extend the concepts developed in earlier, similar systems in order to make interactive fiction programming less cryptic and more accessible to designers. Hugo owes much to the original Infocom format (particularly with regard to its internal data tables) as well as to Graham Nelson's publicly distributed Inform compiler (and its excellent grammar definition and programming style).

The best advice to be given for learning Hugo is probably to print the source listing of SAMPLE.HUG, and refer to it throughout; examples of almost all of Hugo's features may be found in it.

---

#### I.a. LEGAL NOTES

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Programs created using the Hugo Compiler are the property of the individual author. Note, however, that the library files are copyright by Kent Tessman, the creator of Hugo, as is the Hugo Engine.

The use of the Hugo library files and the distribution of the Hugo Engine are authorized so long as all transactions are non-commercial and free of charge, and that the library files and engine are not distributed in a modified form.

For those interested in the commercial distribution of a program created with the Hugo Compiler, please contact Kent Tessman for permission.

NOTE: Since the Hugo Compiler and Engine are provided free of charge, there is no warranty for their use.

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I.b. NAMES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Those who have taken upon themselves the (sometimes trying, I'm sure) task of porting Hugo to various platforms are:

David Kinder	Amiga
Bill Lash	Unix (i.e. Solaris OS, Linux, etc.)
Colin Turnbull	Acorn Archimedes

The author is considerably indebted to them, for all their work as well as for their input on how to improve the compiler and engine.

A few words of appreciation are due Volker Blasius who (now with help from David Kinder) has had the substantial responsibility of maintaining the Interactive Fiction Archive at ftp://ftp.gmd.de--one of the key resources for Hugo programmers and a primary hub of material for contributors to (and readers of) the newsgroups rec.arts.int-fiction and rec.games.int-fiction.

More than a little acknowledgement and thanks are due Graham Nelson, whose Inform language helped give shape to Hugo's early syntax and structure.

Thanks also to those whose comments and suggestions have contributed to making Hugo as useful and usable as it is: Dr. Jeff Jenness, Vikram Ravindran, Jesse McGrew, and Paolo Vece.

Special thanks to Jim Newland and Julian Arnold: Jim, for his work on the nefarious plural/identical-objects architecture that found its way into OBJLIB.H (and actually coaxed that aspect of the object library into existence)--one of many, many valuable contributions to Hugo's development; and Julian for asking time and time again "Wouldn't it be better if...?"

Finally, my brother Dean Tessman has given valuable input to the system's development, particularly with the advent of the Debugger, and his views on user interfaces and the occasional head-shake followed by "I don't think that's gonna fly..." are much appreciated.

---

I.c. PACKING LIST

---

A number of files are part of the basic Hugo package:

(NOTE: Throughout this manual, the default naming convention is for MS-DOS. As Hugo becomes available for other systems, file naming conventions may vary, and any machine-specific documentation should document those variations.)

HC.EXE	Hugo Compiler	(hc on Amiga)
HE.EXE	Hugo Engine	("Hugo Engine" on Amiga)
HD.EXE	Hugo Debugger	(hd on Amiga)
HDHELP.HLP	Debugger help file	

---



HUGOLIB.H	Library definitions and routines
GRAMMAR.G	Standard grammar definitions
OBJLIB.H	A library of useful object definitions (included by HUGOLIB.H)
SAMPLE.HUG	Sample game source code
SHELL.HUG	Source code to build on

And two sets of files that, depending on user-specifiable settings, are optionally included by HUGOLIB.H and GRAMMAR.G:

HUGOFIX.H	Debugging routines
HUGOFIX.G	Debugging grammar
VERBSTUB.H	Additional verb routines
VERBSTUB.G	Additional verb grammar

(An additional Hugo source file demonstrates the ability to create precompiled headers:

HUGOLIB.HUG	To create a #linkable version of HUGOLIB.H)
-------------	---

The latest release of Hugo is available through anonymous FTP from ftp.gmd.de in if-archive/programming/hugo. Distribution of any of the Hugo files is authorized only with permission of the author.

The .HUG, .H, and .G files are text files and must be downloaded as such; the executables are binary files.

(FORMATTING NOTE: The above files are properly formatted for a standard tab stop of 8 spaces; if the formatting appears incorrect, adjust the tab size on your editor.)

---

## I.d. MANUAL CONVENTIONS

---

The following conventions will (hopefully) be adhered to throughout this manual in order to distinguish the following from plain text:

<parameter>	for required parameters
[parameter]	for optional parameters
FILE	for specific filenames
KEYWORD	for commands, functions, etc.
...	for omissions

(Filenames and keywords may not appear in all-capitals when set apart from the regular text of this manual, as in the invocation examples below.)

---

---

I.e. GETTING STARTED

---

Type

```
hc
```

without any parameters to get a full listing of available compiler options and specifications.

The MS-DOS syntax for running the compiler is

```
hc [-switches] <sourcefile[.HUG]> <objectfile>
```

It is not necessary to specify any switches, the name of the objectfile, or the sourcefile extension. The bare-bones version of the compiler invocation is

```
hc <sourcefile>
```

With no other parameters explicitly described, the compiler assumes an extension of .HUG. The default object filename is <sourcefile>.HEX.

Here's how to compile the sample game. With the compiler executable, library files, and sample game source code all in the current directory, type

```
hc -ls sample.hug
```

or simply

```
hc -ls sample
```

and after a few seconds (or more, or less, depending on your processor and configuration) a screenful of statistical information will appear following the completed compilation (because of the -s switch).

The new file SAMPLE.HEX will have appeared in current directory. As well, the -l switch wrote all compile-time output (which would have included errors, had there been any) to the file SAMPLE.LST.

---

I.f. COMPILER SWITCHES

---

A number of switches may be selected via the invocation line. The available options are:

```
-a  Abort compilation on any error
-d  compile as an .HDX debuggable executable
-f  Full object summaries
-h  compile in .HLB precompiled Header format
-i  display debugging Information
```

---

```
-l  print Listing to disk as <sourcefile>.LST
-o  display Object tree
-p  send output to standard Printer
-s  print compilation Statistics
-u  show memory Usage for objectfile
-x  ignore switches in source code
-z  inhibit normal compilation messages
```

Most Hugo programming will probably make us of the `-l` switch in order to record compile-time errors.

The `-z` switch may, on some configurations, increase compilation speed by inhibiting normal messaging (i.e. "Compiling...lines of..." and "...percent complete").

---

#### I.g. LIMIT SETTINGS

---

Also included on the invocation line, after any switches and before the sourcefile, may be one or more limit settings. These settings are for memory management, and limit the number of certain types of program elements, such as objects and dictionary entries.

To list the settings, type:

```
hc $list
```

To change a non-static limit, type:

```
hc $<setting>=<new limit> <sourcefile>...
```

For example, to compile the sample game with the maximum number of dictionary entries doubled from the default limit of 1024, and with the `-l` and `-s` switches set,

```
hc -ls $MAXDICT=2048 sample
```

If a compile-time error is generated indicating that too many symbols of a particular type have been declared, it is probably possible to overcome this simply by recompiling with a higher limit for that setting specified in the invocation line.

See Appendix C for a complete listing of valid limit settings.

---

#### I.h. DIRECTORIES

---

It is possible to specify where the Hugo Compiler will look for different types of files. This can be done in the command line via:

```
hc @<directory>=<real directory>
```

For example, to specify that the source files are to be taken from

---

the directory Work:Hugo/Source, invoke the compiler with

```
hc @source=Work:Hugo/Source <filename>
```

Valid directories are:

source	Source files
object	Where the new .HEX file will be created
lib	Library files
list	.LST files
temp	Temporary compilation files (if any)

Advanced users may take advantage of the ability to set default directories using environment variables. (The method for setting an environment variable may vary from operating system to operating system.)

The HUGO\_<NAME> environment variable may be set to the <name> directory. For example, the source directory may be set with the HUGO\_SOURCE environment variable.

Command-line-specified directories take precedence over those set in environment variables. In either case, if the file is not found in the specified directory, the current directory is searched.

---

EXAMPLE: COMMAND-LINE COMPILING

---

On the porter's machine, running under Amiga, the compiler executable HC is in a directory called Work:Hugo. The library files are in Work:Hugo/Lib, and the source code for the game Spur is in Work:Hugo/Spur.

What would the command line look like in order to compile Spur, including setting compiler flags to include the HugoFix debugging library and verb stub routines, and printing all debugging information, the object tree, and statistics to a file? (Assume that the current directory is Work:Hugo and that none of the switches or compiler flags are set in the source.)

ANSWER:

```
hc -iols #debug #verbstubs @source=spur @lib=lib spur
```

---

I.i. THE ENGINE

---

Having compiled the sample game, run it by invoking

```
he sample
```

Again, it is not necessary to specify the extension. The engine assumes .HEX if none is given.

---

(NOTE: The environment variable HUGO\_OBJECT or HUGO\_GAMES may hold the directory that the Hugo Engine searches for the specified .HEX file. The location for save files may be specified with HUGO\_SAVE. All of these are optional.)

## 1.3 A FIRST LOOK AT HUGO

---

### II. A FIRST LOOK AT HUGO

---

There are a couple of basic concepts to become oriented to in order to begin working with Hugo.

First of all, most programming in Hugo will involve the creation of what are called "objects". Quite literally, these represent the elements of the game universe: people, places, and things.

The bulk of the rest of a Hugo program is comprised of "routines". These are the sections of code made up of commands or statements that facilitate the actual behavior of the program at different points in the story. Routines are less frequently (although more frequently in other languages) called "functions"--they may be thought of as performing an operation or series of operations, and then returning some kind of value as a result.

(The idea of return values is an important one and, while sometimes puzzling to novices, is actually quite uncomplicated. Often a particular function will be referred to as "returning true" or "returning false"--all this means is that it returns either a non-zero value (usually 1) or a zero value, almost always to indicate success or failure. A program will constantly be checking the return values of a variety of routines and commands to determine if a particular operation was successful in order to decide what to do next. Of course, a return value can be any integer value; a routine that adds together two supplied values, a and b, may return the sum a+b.)

For those familiar with the common programming languages C and BASIC, Hugo strongly resembles a hybrid of the two. Individual objects and routines--as well as conditional blocks--are enclosed in braces as in C, but unlike C (and like BASIC), a semicolon is not required at the end of each line, and the language itself is considerably less cryptic. Keywords, variables, routine and object names, and other tokens are not case-sensitive.

The goal in designing Hugo was to make programming as intuitive to facilitate both initial development and subsequent debugging.

---

#### II.a. HELLO, SAILOR!

---

The grand (recent) tradition of programming texts has an introduction to a new programming language detailing how to print the optimistic phrase "Hello, world" as an example of the particular language's form and substance.

In the equally grand tradition of interactive fiction, we'll start with the rallying cry "Hello, Sailor!". Don't worry too much about the syntax below; this is meant mainly as a familiarization with what Hugo looks like.

```
routine main
{
    print "Hello, Sailor!"
    return
}
```

The entire program consists of one routine. (Two routines are normally required for any Hugo program, the other being the Init routine, which is omitted in this example since there isn't much required in the way of initialization.)

The Main routine is automatically called by the engine. It from here that the central behavior of any Hugo program is controlled. In this case the task at hand is the printing of "Hello, Sailor!", followed by an order to return from the routine (i.e. exit it) so that we don't strand the program waiting for an input, which is the normal order of Hugo business.

---

## II.b. DATA TYPES

---

All data in Hugo is represented in terms of 16-bit integers, treated as signed (-32767 to 32767) or unsigned (0 to 65535) as appropriate. The name of any individual data type may contain up to 32 alphanumeric characters (as well as the underscore "\_").

All of the following are valid data types:

Integer values           0, -10, 16800, -25005  
(constant values that appear in Hugo source code as numbers)

ASCII characters       'A', 'z', '7'  
(constant values equal to the common ASCII value for a character; i.e. 65 for 'A')

Objects                 suitcase, emptyroom, player  
(constant values representing the object number of the given object)

Variables              a, b, score, TEXTCOLOR  
(changeable value-holders that may be set to equal another variable or constant value)

Constants              true, false, BANNER  
(constant--obviously--values that are given a name similarly to

---

a variable, but are non-modifiable)

Dictionary entries "a", "the", "basketball"

(The appearance of "the" in a line of code actually refers to the location in the dictionary table where "the" is stored.)

Array elements ranking[1]

(a series of one or more changeable values that may be referenced from a common base point)

Array addresses ranking

(the base point--see above)

Properties nouns, short\_desc, found\_in

(variable attachments of data relating specifically to objects)

Attributes open, light, transparent

(less complex attachments of data describing an object, which may be specified as either having or not having the given attribute)

Most of these types are relatively straightforward, representing in most cases a simple value. Dictionary entries are addresses in the dictionary table, with the null string "" having the value 0. Array addresses (as opposed to separate array elements) represent the address at which the array begins in the array table. Properties and attributes treated as discrete values represent the number of that property or attribute, assigned sequentially as the individual property or attribute is defined.

As mentioned, routines also return values, as do engine functions, so that

```
FindLight(room)
```

and

```
parent(object)
```

are also valid integer data types.

Routine addresses are also stored as 16-bit integers. However, those versed in such calculations will notice that if such a value was treated as an absolute address, then any addressable executable code would be limited to 64K in size. Such is not the case, since the routine address is actually an indexed representation of the absolute address.

NOTE: The 16-bit format of a routine address (or the address of a property routine, to be discussed below), can be obtained via the address operator "&", as in:

```
x = &Routine
```

```
x = &object.property
```

(where x is a variable).

---

---

### II.c. COMMENTS

---

There are two types of comments. Comments on a single line begin with a '!'. Anything following on the line is ignored. Multiple-line comments are begun with '!\' and ended with '\!'.

```
! A comment on a single line
```

```
!\ A multiple-line  
comment \!
```

The '!\' combination must come at the start of a line to be significant; it cannot be preceded by any other statements or remarks. Similarly, the '\!' combination must come at the end of a line.

---

### II.d. MULTIPLE LINES

---

If any single command is too long to fit on one line, it may be split across several lines by ending all but the last with the control character '\\".

```
"This is an example string."
```

and

```
x = 5 + 6 * higher(a, b)
```

are the same as

```
"This is an example \  
string."
```

```
x = 5 + 6 * \  
higher(a, b)
```

The space at the end of the first line is necessary because the compiler automatically trims leading spaces from the second line.

String constants, such as in the above print statement, are an exception in that they do not require the '\\" character at the end of each line.

```
print "The engine will properly  
print this text, assuming a  
single space at the end of each  
line."
```

will result in:

```
The engine will properly print this text, assuming a single  
space at the end of each line.
```

---



Care must be taken, however, to ensure that the closing quotes are not left off the string constant. Failing that, the compiler will likely generate a "Closing brace missing" error when it overruns the object/routine/event boundary looking for a resolution to the odd number of quotation marks.

Also, most lines ending in a comma, "and", or "or" will automatically fall through to the next line (if they occur in a line of code). In other words,

```
x[0] = 1, 2, 3,      ! array assignment of x[0] through x[4]
      4, 5
```

and

```
if a = 5 and
    b = "tall"
```

translate into

```
x[0] = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5
```

and

```
if a = 5 and b = "tall"
```

This is provided primarily so that lengthy lines and complex expressions do not have to run off the right-hand side of the screen during editing, nor do they continually need to be extended using "\" and the end of each line.

(NOTE: Multiple lines that are not strictly code, such as property assignments in object definitions--to be discussed--must still be joined with "\", as in

```
nouns "plant", "flower", "marigold", \
      "fauna", "greenery"
```

and similar cases, even if they end in a comma.)

There is a complement to the "\" control character: the ":" character allows multiple lines to be put together on a single line, i.e.

```
x = 5 : y = 1
```

or

```
if i = 1: print "Less than three."
```

Which the compiler translates to

```
x = 5
y = 1
```

and

---

```
if i = 1
    {print "Less than three."}
```

(See sections below on code formatting to see exactly what these constructions represent.)

---

## II.e. COMPILER ERRORS

---

A compiler error is generally of one of two types. A fatal error looks like this:

```
FATAL ERROR: <message>
```

and halts compiler execution.

A non-fatal error typically looks like:

```
<FILENAME>: <location>
(...the offending code...)
ERROR: <message>
```

It prints the section of code that caused the error, followed by an explanation of the problem. Compilation will generally continue unless the `-a` switch has been set.

NOTE: The section of offending code may not be printed exactly as it appears in the source, since the compiler often paraphrases and rebuilds the source code into a more rigid format before building the line.

Also, the compiler may issue warnings in the form:

```
WARNING: <message>
```

Compilation will continue, but this is an indication that the compiler suspects a problem at compile-time.

If the `-g` switch has been set during invocation to generate generic-format errors, error output looks like:

```
filename(line): Error: <error message>
```

(The usefulness of this is that some editors recognize the above type of error for line-seeking within a given file.)

---

## II.f. COMPILER DIRECTIVES

---

A number of special commands may be used to determine a.) how the source code is read by the compiler, or b.) what special output will be generated at compile time.

---

To set switches within the source code so that they do not have to be specified each time the compiler is invoked for that particular program, the line

```
#switches -<sequence>
```

will set the switches specified by <sequence>, where <sequence> is a string of characters representing valid switches, without any separators between characters.

Many programmers may find it useful to make

```
#switches -ils
```

the first line in every new program, which will automatically print out debugging information, a statistical summary, and any errors to the .LST list file.

Using

```
#version <version>[.<revision>]
```

specifies that the file is to be used with version <version>.<revision> of the compiler. If the file and compiler version are mismatched, a warning will be issued.

To include the contents of another file at the specified point in the current file, use

```
#include "<filename>"
```

where <filename> is the full path and name of the file to be read. When <filename> has been read completely, the compiler resumes with the statement immediately following the INCLUDE command.

(A file or set of files can be compiled into a precompiled header using the -h switch, and then linked using #link instead of #include. See Appendix D on Precompiled Headers.)

A useful tool for managing Hugo source code is the ability to use compiler flags for conditional compilation. A compiler flag is simply a user-defined marker that can control which sections of the source code are compiled. In this way, a programmer can develop add-ons to a program that can be included or excluded at will. For example, the library files HUGOLIB.H and GRAMMAR.G check to see if a flag called DEBUG has been set previously (as it is in SAMPLE.HUG). Only if it has do they include the HUGOFIX.H and HUGOFIX.G files.

To set and clear flags, use

```
#set <flagname>
```

and

```
#clear <flagname>
```

---

respectively.

Then, check to see if a flag is set or not (and include or exclude the specified block of source code) by using

```
#ifset <flagname>
    ...conditional block of code...
#endif
```

or

```
#ifclear <flagname>
    ...conditional block of code...
#endif
```

Conditional compilation constructions may be nested up to 16 levels deep.

(Remember also that compiler flags can be specified in the invocation line as #<flag name>.)

Finally, the #message directive can be used as

```
#message "<text>"
```

to output <text> when (or if) that statement is processed during the first compilation pass.

Including "error" or "warning" before "<text>" as in

```
#message error "<text>"
```

or

```
#message warning "<text>"
```

will force the compiler to issue an error or warning, respectively, as it prints "<text>".

It is also possible to include inline limit settings, such as

```
$<setting>=<limit>
```

in the same way as in the invocation line. However, an error will be issued if, for example, an attempt is made to reset MAXOBJECTS if one or more objects have already been defined.

## 1.4 OBJECTS

---

### III. OBJECTS

---

Objects are the building blocks of any Hugo program. Anything that

---

must be accessible to a player during the game--including items, rooms, other characters, and even directions--must be defined as an object.

The basic object definition looks like this:

```
object <objectname> "object name"
{
    ...
}
```

As an example, a suitcase object might be defined as:

```
object suitcase "suitcase"
{}
```

The enclosing braces are needed even if the object definition has no body. The only data attached to the suitcase object are--from right to left--a name, an identifier, and membership in the basic object class.

The compiler assigns the object labelled <objectname> the next sequential object number. That is, if the first-defined object is the "nothing" object (object 0), then the next-defined object, whatever it is, is given the object number 1; the one after that is 2, etc. This is academic, however, as a programmer need never know what object number a particular object is--except for certain debugging situations--and can always refer to an object by its label <objectname>.

---

### III.a. THE OBJECT TREE

---

In order for objects to have a position in the game, i.e. to be in a room or contained in another object or beside another object, they must occupy a position in the object tree. The object tree is a map which represents the relationships between all objects in the game. The total number of objects is held in the global variable objects.

The nothing object is defined in the library as object 0. This is the root of the object tree, upon which all other objects are based.

When referring to object numbers, this manual is generally referring to the name given the object in the source code: i.e. <objectname>. The compiler automatically assigns each object an object number, and refers to it whenever a specified <objectname> is encountered.

(NOTE: When using the standard library routines, ensure that no objects (or classes, to be discussed later) are defined before HUGOLIB.H is included. Problems will arise if the first-defined object--object 0--is not the "nothing" object.)

Here is an example of an object tree:

```
Nothing
```

---

```

|
Room
|
Table-----Chair-----Book-----Player
|
Bowl           Bookmark
|
Spoon

```

A number of functions can be used to read the object tree.

```

parent
sibling
child
youngest
elder
eldest (same as child)
younger (same as sibling)

```

and

```

children

```

Each function takes a single object as its argument, so that

```

parent(Table) = Room
parent(Bookmark) = Book
parent(Player) = Room
child(Bowl) = Spoon
child(Room) = Table
child(Chair) = 0 (Nothing)
sibling(Table) = Chair

sibling(Player) = 0 (Nothing)
youngest(Room) = Player
youngest(Spoon) = 0 (Nothing)
elder(Chair) = Table
elder(Table) = 0 (Nothing)

```

and

```

children(Room) = 4
children(Table) = 1
children(Chair) = 0

```

(In keeping with the above explanation of object numbers and <objectname>, the functions in the first set actually return an integer number that refers to a particular <objectname>.)

To better understand how the object tree represents the physical world, the table, the chair, the book, and the player are all in the room. The bookmark is in the book. The bowl is on the table, and the spoon is on the bowl. The Hugo library will assume that the player object in the example is standing; if the player were seated, the object tree might look like:

```

Nothing

```

```

|
Room
|
Table-----Chair-----Book
|           |           |
...         Player      ...

```

and

```

child(Chair) = Player
parent(Player) = Chair
children(Chair) = 1

```

(Try compiling SAMPLE.HUG with the `-o` switch in order to see the object tree for the sample game. Or, if the `DEBUG` flag was set during compilation, use the `HugoFix` command

```
$ot
```

or

```
$ot <object>
```

during play to view the current state of the object tree during play.)

Logical tests can also be evaluated with regard to objects and children. The structure

```
<object> [not] in <parent>
```

will return true if `<object>` is in `<parent>` (or false if `NOT` is used).

To initially place an object in the object tree, use

```
in <parent>
```

in the object definition, or, alternatively

```
nearby <object>
```

or simply

```
nearby
```

to give the object the same parent as `<object>` or, if `<object>` is not specified, the same parent as the last-defined object.

If no such specification is given, the parent object defaults to 0--the nothing object as defined in the library. All normal room objects have 0 as their parent.

Therefore, the expanded basic case of an object definition is

```
object <objectname> "object name"
{

```

```
    in <parent object>
    ...
}
```

(Ensure that the opening brace "{" does not come on the same line as the "object" specifier.)

```
object <objectname> "object name" {...
```

is not permitted.)

The table in the example presumably had a definition like

```
object table "Table"
{
    in room
    ...
}
```

To put the suitcase object defined earlier into the empty room in SHELL.HUG

```
object suitcase "suitcase"
{
    in emptyroom
}
```

Objects can later be moved around the object tree using the MOVE command as in

```
move <object> to <new parent>
```

Which, essentially, disengages <object> from its old parent, makes the sibling of <object> the sibling of <object>'s elder, and moves <object> (along with all its possessions) to the new parent.

Therefore, in the original example, the command

```
move bowl to player
```

would result in altering the object tree to this:

```
Nothing
|
Room
|
Table-----Chair-----Book-----Player
|                                     |
|                                     |Bookmark  Bowl
|                                     |           |
|                                     |           |Spoon
```

There is also a command to remove an object from its position in the tree (although it may be returned later):

```
remove <object>
```

---



which is the same as

```
move <object> to 0
```

---

### III.b. ATTRIBUTES

---

Attributes are essentially qualities that every object either does or doesn't have. They are most useful for qualifying or disqualifying objects for or from consideration in any given instance.

An attribute is defined as

```
attribute <attribute name>
```

Up to 128 attributes may be defined. Those defined in HUGOLIB.H include:

known	if an object is known to the player
moved	if an object has been moved
visited	if a room has been visited
static	if an object cannot be taken
plural	for plural objects (i.e. some hats)
living	if an object is a character
female	if a character is female
unfriendly	if a character is unfriendly
openable	if an object can be opened
open	if it is open
lockable	if an object can be locked
locked	if it is locked
light	if an object is or provides light
readable	if an object can be read
switchable	if an object can be turned on or off
switchedon	if it is on
clothing	for objects that can be worn
worn	if the object is being worn
mobile	if the object can be rolled, etc.
enterable	if an object is enterable
container	if an object can hold other objects
platform	if other objects can be placed on it (NOTE: container and platform are mutually exclusive)
hidden	if an object is not to be listed
quiet	if container or platform is quiet (i.e. the initial listing of contents is suppressed)
transparent	if object is not opaque
already_listed	if object has been pre-listed (i.e. before a WhatsIn listing)
workflag	for system use
special	for miscellaneous use

Some of these attributes are actually the same attribute with different names. This is accomplished via

---

```
attribute <attribute2> alias <attributel>
```

where <attributel> has already been defined. For example, the library equates visited with moved (since, presumably, they will never apply to the same object), so:

```
attribute visited alias moved
```

In this case, an object which is visited is also, by default, moved. It is expected that attributes which are aliased will never both need to be checked under the same circumstances.

Attributes are given to an object during its definition as follows:

```
object <objectname> "object name"
{
    is [not] <attributel>, [not] <attribute2>, ...
    ...
}
```

NOTE: The NOT keyword in the object definition is important when using a class instead of the basic object definition, where the class may have predefined attributes that are undesirable for the current object.

Even if an object was not given a particular attribute in its object definition, it may be given that attribute at any later point in the program with the command

```
<object> is [not] <attribute>
```

where the NOT keyword clears the attribute instead of setting it.

Attributes can also be read using the IS and IS NOT structures. As a function,

```
<object> is [not] <attribute>
```

returns true (1) if <object> is (or is not, if NOT is specified) <attribute>. Otherwise, it returns false (0).

To give the suitcase object the appropriate attributes, expand the object definition to include

```
object suitcase "suitcase"
{
    in emptyroom
    is openable, not open
    ...
}
```

Now, the following equations hold true:

```
suitcase is openable = 1
suitcase is open = 0
suitcase is locked = 0
```

---

 III.c. PROPERTIES
 

---

Properties are considerably more complex than attributes. First, not every object may have every property; in order for an object to have a property, it must be specified in the object definition.

As well, properties are not simple on/off flags. They are sets of valid data associated with an object, where the values may represent almost anything, including object numbers, dictionary addresses, integer values, and addresses of executable code. The maximum number of attached values is undefined, but manageability and efficiency suggest eight or less.

These are some valid properties (using property names defined in HUGOLIB.H):

```
nouns "tree", "bush", "shrub", "plant"

size 20

found_in livingroom, entrancehall

long_desc
    {"Exits lead north and west.  A door is set
     in the southeast wall."}

short_desc
{
    "There is a box here.  It is ";
    if self is open
        print "open";
    else
        print "closed";
    print "."
}

before
{
    object DoGet
    {
        if Acquire(player, self)
            {"You pick up ";
             print Art(self); "."}
        else
            return false
    }
}
```

The nouns property contains 4 dictionary addresses; the size property is a single integer value; the found\_in property holds two object numbers; and the long and short description properties are both single values representing the address of the attached routine.

The before property is a special case. This complex property is

---

defined by the compiler and handled differently by the engine than a normal property routine. In this case, the property value representing the routine address is only returned if the globals object and verb routine contain the object in question and the address of the DoGet routine, respectively. If there is a match, the routine is executed before DoGet. (There is also an after routine, which is checked after the verb routine has been called.)

(Note for clarity: the Art routine from HUGOLIB.H prints the appropriate article, if any, followed by the name of the object. The Acquire routine returns true only if the first object's holding property plus the size property of the second object does not exceed the capacity property of the first object.)

All of this may be a little confusing for now. There will be more on property routines later. For now, think of a property as simply containing a value (or set of values).

A property is defined similarly to an attribute as

```
property <property name>
```

A default value may be defined for the property using

```
property <property name> <default value>
```

where <default value> is a constant or dictionary word. For objects without a given property, attempting to find that property will result in the default value. If no default is explicitly declared, it is 0.

The list of properties defined in HUGOLIB.H is:

name	the basic object name
before	pre-verb routines
after	post-verb routines
noun	noun(s) for referring to object
adjective	adjective(s) for describing object
article	"a", "an", "the", "some", etc.
preposition	"in", "inside", "outside of", etc.
pronoun	appropriate for the object in question
short_desc	basic "X is here" description
initial_desc	supersedes short_desc
long_desc	detailed description
found_in	in case of multiple locations
type	to identify the type of object
n_to	
ne_to	
e_to	
se_to	
s_to	
sw_to	(for rooms only, where an exit leads)
w_to	
nw_to	
u_to	
d_to	
in_to	

out_to	
cant_go	message if a direction is invalid
size	for holding/inventory
capacity	" " "
holding	" " "
reach	for limiting object accessiblity
list_contents	for overriding normal listing
door_to	for handling "Enter <object>"
key_object	if lockable, the proper key
when_open	supersedes short_desc
when_closed	" "
ignore_response	for characters
order_response	" "
contains_desc	instead of basic "inside X are..."
inv_desc	for special inventory descriptions
desc_detail	parenthetical detail for object listing
parse_rank	for differentiating like-named objects
exclude_from_all	for interpreting "all" in inputs
misc	for miscellaneous use

(For a detailed description of how each property is used, see

Appendix B: The Library  
.)

Property names may again be aliased by

```
property <property2> alias <property1>
```

where <property1> has already been defined.

The library aliases (among others) the following:

```
nouns alias noun
adjectives alias adjective
prep alias preposition
pronouns alias pronoun
```

A property is expressed as

```
<object>.<property>
```

The number of elements to the property with more than a single value can be found via

```
<object>.#<property>
```

and a single element is expressed as

```
<object>.<property> #<element number>
```

NOTE: <object>.<property> is simply the shortened version of <object>.<property> #1.

To add some properties to the suitcase object, expand the object definition to

```

object suitcase "big green suitcase"
{
    in emptyroom          ! done earlier
    is openable, not open !

    nouns "suitcase", "case", "luggage"
    adjective "big", "green", "suit"
    article "a"
    size 25
    capacity 100
}

```

Based on the engine rules for object identification, the suitcase object may now be referred to by the player as "big green suitcase", "big case", or "green suitcase" among other combinations. Even "big green" and "suit" may be valid, provided that these don't also refer to other objects within valid scope such as "a big green apple" or "your suit jacket".

(NOTE: The basic form for identification by the parser is

```
<adjective 1> <adj. 2> <adj. 3> <adj. 4> <noun>
```

where the maximum number of words is 5, and any subset of these elements is allowable. However, the noun must come last, and only one noun is recognized, so that

```
<noun> <noun> and <noun> <adjective>
```

as in

```
"luggage case" and "suitcase green"
```

are not recognized.)

One occasional source of befuddling code that doesn't behave the way the programmer intended is not allowing enough slots for a property on a given object. That is, if an object is originally defined with the property

```
found_in kitchen
```

and later, the program tries to set

```
<object>.found_in #2 = livingroom
```

it will have no substantial effect. That is, there will be no space initialized in <object>'s property table for a second value under found\_in. Trying to read <object>.found\_in #2 will return a value of 0--a non-existent property--not the number of the livingroom object.

To overcome this, if it is known that eventually a second (or third, or fourth, or ninth) value is going to be set--even if only one value is defined at the outset--use

```
found_in kitchen, 0[, 0, 0,...]
```

in the object definition.

(A useful shortcut for initializing multiple zero values is to use

```
found_in #4
```

instead of

```
found_in 0, 0, 0, 0
```

in the object definition.)

As might be expected, combinations of properties are read left-to-right, so that

```
location.n_to.name
```

is understood as

```
(location.n_to).name
```

---

### III.d. CLASSES

---

Classes are essentially objects that are specifically intended to be used as prototypes for one or more similar objects. Here is how a class is defined:

```
class <classname> ["<optional name>"]  
{  
  ...  
}
```

with the body of the definition being the same as that for an object definition, where the properties and attributes defined are to be the same for all members of the class.

For example:

```
class box  
{  
  noun "box"  
  long_desc  
    "It looks like a regular old box."  
  is openable, not open  
}  
  
box largebox "large box"  
{  
  article "a"  
  adjectives "big", "large"  
  is open  
}
```

```

box greenbox "green box"
{
    article "a"
    adjective "green"
    long_desc
        "It looks like a regular old box, except green."
}

```

(Beginning the `long_desc` property routine on the line below the property name is understood by the compiler as:

```

long_desc
{
    "It looks..."
}

```

Since the property is only one line--a single printing command--the braces are unnecessary.)

The definition of an object in a class is begun with the name of the prototype object instead of "object". All properties and attributes of the class are inherited (except for its position in the object tree), unless they have been explicitly defined in the new object.

That is, although the `box` class is defined without the `open` attribute, the `largebox` object will begin the game as `open`, since this is in the `largebox` definition. It will begin the game as `openable`, as well, as this is inherited from the `box` class.

And while the `largebox` object will have the `long_desc` of the `box` class, the `greenbox` object replaces the default property routine with a new description. (An exception to this is an `$ADDITIVE` property, to be discussed later, where new properties are added to those of previous classes.)

Since a class is basically an object, it is possible to define an object using a previous object as a class even though the previous object was not explicitly defined as a class. Therefore,

```

largebox largeredbox "large red box"
{
    adjectives "big", "large", "red"
}

```

is perfectly valid.

Occasionally, it may be necessary to have an object or class inherit from more than one previously defined class. This can be done using the "inherits" instruction.

```

<class1> <objectname> "name"
{
    inherits <class2>[, <class3>,...]
    ...
}

```

or even

---



```

object <objectname> "name"
{
    inherits <class1>, <class2>[, <class3>,...]
    ...
}

```

The precedence of inheritance is in the order of occurrence. In either example, the object inherits first from <class1>, then from <class2>, and so on.

The Hugo Object Library (OBJLIB.H) contains a number of useful class definitions for things like rooms, characters, scenery, vehicles, etc. Sometimes, however, it may be desirable to use a different definition for, say, the room class while keeping all the others in the Object Library.

Instead of actually editing the OBJLIB.H file, use:

```

replace <class> ["<optional name>"]
{
    (...completely new object definition...)
}

```

where <class> is the name of a previously defined object or class, such as "room". All subsequent references to <class> will use this object instead of the previously defined one. (Note that this means that the replacement must come BEFORE any uses of the class for other objects.)

## 1.5 HUGO PROGRAMMING

---

### IV. HUGO PROGRAMMING

---

#### IV.a. VARIABLES

---

Hugo supports two kinds of variables: global and local. Either type simply holds a 16-bit integer, so a variable can hold a simple value, an object number, a dictionary address, a routine address, or any other standard Hugo data type through an assignment such as:

```

a = 1
nextobj = parent(obj)
temp_word = "the"

```

Global variables are visible throughout the program. They must be defined similarly to properties and attributes as

```

global <global variable name>[ = <starting value>]

```

Local variables, on the other hand, are recognized only within the

---

routine in which they are defined. They are defined using

```
local <local variable name>[ = <starting value>]
```

Global variables must of course have a unique name, different from that of any other data object; local variables, on the other hand, may share the names of local variables in other routines.

In either case, global or local, the default starting value is 0 if no other value is given. For example,

```
global time_of_day = 1100
```

is equal to 1100 when the program is run, and is visible at any point in the program, by any object or routine. On the other hand, the variables

```
local a, max = 100, t
```

are visible only within the block of code where they are defined, and are initialized to 0, 100, and 0, respectively, each time that section of code (be it a routine, property routine, event, etc.) is run.

The compiler defines a set of engine globals: global variables that are referenced directly by the engine, but which may otherwise be treated like any other global variables. These are:

object	direct object of a verb action
xobject	indirect object
self	self-referential object
words	total number of words in command
player	the player object
actor	the player, or character obj. (for scripts)
verbroutine	specified by the command
endflag	if not false (0), run EndGame routine
prompt	for input; default is ">"
objects	the total number of objects
linelength	the maximum number of characters in a line
pagelength	the maximum number of lines in the window

The object and xobject routines are set up by the engine depending on what command is entered by the player. The self global is undefined except when an object is being referenced (as in a property routine). In that case, it is set to the number of that object. The player variable holds the number of the object that the player is controlling; the verbroutine variable holds the address of the routine specified in the grammar table and corresponding to the entered command; the endflag variable must be 0 unless something has occurred to end the game; and the prompt variable represents the dictionary word appearing at the start of an input line.

The objects, linelength, and pagelength variables can be set by the player, but to no useful effect. The engine will reset them to the "real" value whenever they are referenced.

(NOTE: Setting endflag to a non-zero value forces an IMMEDIATE

break from the game loop. Statements following the endflag assignment even in the same function are not executed; control is passed directly to the engine, which calls the EndGame routine.)

---

#### IV.b. CONSTANTS

---

Constants are simply labels that represent a non-modifiable value.

```
constant FIRST_NAME "John"
constant LAST_NAME "Smith"

print LAST_NAME; ", "; FIRST_NAME
```

outputs:

```
Smith, John
```

Constants can, like any other Hugo data type, be integers, dictionary entries, object numbers, etc.

(It is not absolutely necessary that a constant be given a definite value if the constant is to be used as some sort of flag or marker, etc. Therefore,

```
constant THIS_RESULT
constant THAT_RESULT
```

will have unique values from each other, as well as from any other constant defined without a definite value.)

Sometimes it may be useful to enumerate a series of constants in sequence. Instead of defining them all individually, it is possible to use:

```
enumerate start = 1
{
    MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY
}
```

giving:

```
MONDAY = 1, TUESDAY = 2, WEDNESDAY = 3, THURSDAY = 4,
FRIDAY = 5
```

The start value is optional. If omitted, it is 0. Also, it is possible to change the current value at any point (therefore also affecting all following values).

```
enumerate
{
    A, B, C = 5, D, E
}
```

gives: A = 0, B = 1, C = 5, D = 6, E = 7.

---

Finally, it is possible to alter the step value of the enumeration using the "step" keyword followed by "+x", "-x", "\*x", or "/x", where x is a constant integer value. To count by twos:

```
enumerate step *2
{
    A = 1, B, C, D
}
```

gives: A = 1, B = 2, C = 4, D = 8.

NOTE: Enumeration of global variables is also possible, using the "global" specifier, as in:

```
enumerate globals
{
    <global1>, <global2>, ...
}
```

Otherwise the specifier "constants" is implied as the default.

---

#### IV.c. PRINTING TEXT

---

Text can be printed using two different methods. The first is the basic PRINT command, the simplest form of which is

```
print "<string>"
```

where <string> consists of a series of alphanumeric characters and punctuation.

The backslash control character ("\") is handled specially. It modifies how the character following it in a string is treated.

```
\ "  inserts quotation marks
\   insert a literal backslash character
\_  insert a forced space, overriding left-justification for
    the rest of the string
\n  insert a newline
```

As usual, a single "\" at the end of a line signals that the line continues with the following line.

Examples:

```
print "\"Hello!\""
    "Hello!"

print "Print a...\n...newline"

Print a...
...newline
```

---

```
print "One\two\tthree"

One\two\tthree

print "    Left-justified"
print "\_  Not left-justified"

Left-justified
    Not left-justified

print "This is a \
single line."

This is a single line.
```

(Although

```
print "This is a
single line."
```

will produce the same result, since the line break occurs within quotation marks.)

NOTE: These control-character combinations are valid for printing only; they are not treated as literals, as in, for example, expressions involving dictionary entries.

After each of the above print commands, a newline is printed. To avoid this, append a semicolon (";") to the end of the print statement.

```
print "This is a ";
print "single line."

This is a single line.
```

Print statements may also contain data types, or a combination of data types and strings. The command

```
print "The "; object.name; " is closed."
```

will print the word located at the dictionary address specified by `object.name`, so that if `object.name` points to the word "box", the resulting output would be:

```
The box is closed.
```

To capitalize the first letter of the specified word, use the `CAPITAL` modifier.

```
print "The "; capital object.name; " is closed."
```

```
The Box is closed.
```

To print the data type as a value instead of referencing the dictionary, use the `NUMBER` modifier. For example, if the variable

time\_left holds the value 5,

```
print "There are "; number time_left; " seconds remaining."
```

There are 5 seconds remaining.

If NUMBER were not used, the engine would try to find a word at the dictionary address 5, and the result will likely be garbage.

NOTE: Mainly for debugging purposes, the modifier HEX prints the data type as a hexadecimal number instead of a decimal one. If the variable val equals 127,

```
print number val; " is "; hex val; " in hexadecimal."
```

127 is 7F in hexadecimal.

The second way to print text is from the text bank, from which sections are loaded from disk only when they are needed by the program. This method is provided so that lengthy blocks of text--such as description and narration--do not take up valuable space in memory. The command consists simply of a quoted string without any preceding statement.

```
"This string would be written to disk."
```

This string would be written to disk.

or

```
"So would this one ";
```

```
"and this one."
```

So would this one and this one.

Notice that a semicolon at the end of the statement still overrides the newline. The in-string control-character combinations are still usable with these print statements, but since each command is a single line, data types and other modifiers may not be compounded. Because of that,

```
"\"Hello,\" he said."
```

will write

```
"Hello," he said.
```

to the .HEX file text bank, but

```
"There are "; number time_left; " seconds remaining."
```

is illegal.

The color of text may be changed using the COLOR command. The format is

```
color <foreground>[, <background>[, <input color>]]
```

---

where the background color is not necessary. If no background color is specified, the current one is assumed).

The input color is also not necessary--this refers to the color of player input.

The standard color set with corresponding values and constant labels is:

COLOR	CONSTANT VALUE	LABEL
Black	0	BLACK
Blue	1	BLUE
Green	2	GREEN
Cyan	3	CYAN
Red	4	RED
Magenta	5	MAGENTA
Brown	6	BROWN
White	7	WHITE
Dark gray	8	DARK_GRAY
Light blue	9	LIGHT_BLUE
Light green	10	LIGHT_GREEN
Light cyan	11	LIGHT_CYAN
Light red	12	LIGHT_RED
Light magenta	13	LIGHT_MAGENTA
Yellow	14	YELLOW
Bright white	15	BRIGHT_WHITE
Default foreground	16	DEF_FOREGROUND
Default background	17	DEF_BACKGROUND

(The labels are defined in HUGOLIB.H; when using the library, it is never necessary to refer to a color by its numerical value.)

It is expected that, regardless of the system, any color will print visibly on any other color. However, it is suggested for practicality that white (and less frequently bright white) be used for most text-printing.

Magenta printing on a cyan background is accomplished by

```
color MAGENTA, CYAN
```

or

```
color 5, 3          ! if not using HUGOLIB.H
```

A current line can be filled--with blank spaces in the current color--to a specified column (essentially a tab stop) using the PRINT TO structure as follows:

```
print "Time: "; to 40; "Date:"
```

where the value following TO does not exceed the maximum line length in the engine global linelength.

The resulting output will be something like:

```
Time:                               Date:
```

Text can be specifically located using the LOCATE command via

```
locate <column>, <row>
```

where

```
locate 1, 1
```

places text output at the top left corner of the screen. Once again, <column> must not exceed the `linelength` global. The <row> must not exceed the `pagelength`.

---

#### IV.d. MORE CONTROL CHARACTERS

---

As listed above, the following are valid control characters that may be embedded in printed strings:

```
\ "  quotation marks
\   a literal backslash character
\_  a forced space, overriding left-justification for the rest
    of the string
\n  a newline
```

The next set of control characters control the appearance of printed text by turning on and off boldface, italic, proportional, and underlined printing. Not all computers and operating systems are able to provide all types of printed output; however, the engine can be relied upon to properly process any formatting--i.e. proportionally printed text will still look fine even on a system that has only a fixed-width font, such as MS-DOS (although, of course, it won't be proportionally spaced).

```
\B  boldface on
\b  boldface off
\I  italics on
\i  italics off
\P  proportional printing on
\p  proportional printing off
\U  underlining on
\u  underlining off
```

(Print style can also be changed using the `Font` routine in `HUGOLIB.H`. Font-change constants can be combined as in:

```
Font (BOLD_ON | ITALICS_ON | PROP_OFF)
```

where the valid constants are `BOLD_ON`, `BOLD_OFF`, `ITALICS_ON`, `ITALICS_OFF`, `UNDERLINE_ON`, `UNDERLINE_OFF`, `PROP_ON`, and `PROP_OFF`.)

Special characters can also be printed via control characters. Note

---



that these characters are contained in the extended ASCII character set; if a particular system is incapable of displaying it, it will display the normal-ASCII equivalent. (The following examples, appearing in parentheses, may not display properly on all computers and printers.)

<code>\`</code>	accent grave	followed by a, e, i, o, or u e.g. "`a" will print an 'a' with an accent grave (à)
<code>\'</code>	accent acute	followed by a, e, i, o, u, or E e.g. "'E" will print an 'E' with an accent acute (é)
<code>\~...</code>	tilde	where '...' is an n or N e.g. "~n" will print an 'n' with a tilde (ñ)
<code>\^...</code>	circumflex	where '...' is a, e, i, o, or u e.g. "^i" will print an 'i' with a circumflex (î)
<code>\:</code>	umlaut	followed by a, e, i, o, u, y, O, U e.g. ":u" will print a 'u' with an umlaut (ü)
<code>\,</code>	cedilla	followed by c or C e.g. ",c" will print a 'c' with a cedilla (ç)
<code>\&lt; or \&gt;</code>	Spanish quotation marks	(« »)
<code>\!</code>	upside-down exclamation point	(¡)
<code>\?</code>	upside-down question mark	(¿)
<code>\ae</code>	ae ligature	(æ)
<code>\AE</code>	AE ligature	(Æ)
<code>\c</code>	cents symbol	(¢)
<code>\L</code>	British pound	(£)
<code>\Y</code>	Japanese Yen	(\$\yen\$)
<code>\-</code>	em dash	(—)
<code>\#xxx</code>	any ASCII character where xxx represents the three-digit ASCII number of the character to be printed e.g. "\#065" will print an 'A' (ASCII 65)	

NOTE: Because non- or extended-ASCII character values may not be the same on every system, it is recommended to always use control-character combinations to print these characters instead of typing them directly from the keyboard (on systems where this is possible).

-----  
EXAMPLE: MIXING TEXT STYLES  
-----

! Sample routine to print various typefaces and colors:

```
#include "hugolib.h"

routine PrintingSample
{
    print "Text may be printed in \Bboldface\b,
        \Iitalics\i, \Uunderlined\u, or \Pproportional\p
        typefaces."

    color RED                ! or color 4
    print "\nGet ready. ";
    color YELLOW             ! color 14
    print "Get set. ";
    color GREEN              ! color 2
    print "Go!"
}

```

The output will be:

```
Text may be printed in boldface, italics, underlined, or
proportional typefaces.
```

```
Get ready. Get set. Go!
```

with "boldface", "italics", "underlined", and "proportional" printed in their respective typefaces. "Get ready", "Get set", and "Go!" will all appear on the same line in three different colors.

Note that not all computers will be able to print all typefaces. The basic MS-DOS port, for example, uses color changes instead of actual typeface changes, and does not support proportional printing.

---

#### IV.e. OPERATORS AND ASSIGNMENTS

---

Hugo allows use of all standard math operators:

```
+   addition
-   subtraction
*   multiplication
/   integer division
```

Comparisons are also valid as operators, returning Boolean true or false (1 or 0) so that

```
2 + (x = 1)
5 - (x > 1)
```

evaluate respectively to 3 and 5 if x is 1, and 2 and 4 if x is 2 or greater.

Valid relational operators are

```
=   equal to
~=  not equal to
<   less than
```

---

```

>    greater than
<=   less than or equal to
>=   greater than or equal to

```

Logical operators (AND, OR, and NOT) are also allowed.

```

(x and y) or (a and b)
(j + 5) and not ObjectisLight(k)

```

AND returns true if both values are non-zero. OR returns true if either is non-zero. NOT returns true only if the following value is zero.

```

1 and 1 = 1
1 and 0 = 0
5 and 3 = 1
0 and 9 = 0
0 and 169 and 1 = 0
1 and 12 and 1233 = 1

```

```

1 or 1 = 1
35 or 0 = 1
0 or 0 = 0

```

```

not 0 = 1
not 1 = 0
not 8 = 0

```

```

1 and 7 or (14 and not 0) = 1
(0 or not 1) and 3 = 0

```

Additionally, bitwise operators are provided:

```

1 & 1 = 1      (Bitwise and)
1 | 0 = 1      (Bitwise or)
~0 = -1       (Bitwise not/inverse)

```

(A detailed explanation of bitwise operations is a little beyond the scope of this manual; programmers may occasionally use the "|" operator to combine bitmask-type parameters for certain library functions, but only advanced users should have to worry about employing bitwise operators to any great extent in practical programming.)

Any Hugo data type can appear in an expression, including routines, attribute tests, properties, constants, and variables. Standard mathematical rules for order of significance in evaluating an expression apply, so that parenthetical sub-expressions are evaluated first, followed by multiplication and division, followed by addition and subtraction.

Some sample combinations are:

```

10 + object.size          ! numerical constant and property
object is openable + 1    ! attribute test and constant
FindLight(location) + a   ! routine return val. and variable
1 and object is light     ! const., logical test, and attrib.

```

Expressions can be evaluated and assigned to either a variable or a property.

```
<variable> = <expression>
```

```
<object>.<property> [#<element>] = <expression>
```

In certain cases, the compiler may allow a statement where the left-hand side of the assignment is non-modifiable. I.e.

```
Function() = <expression>
```

or

```
<object>.#<property> = <expression>
```

may be compiled, but such statements will force a run-time error from the Hugo Engine.

---

#### IV.f. EFFICIENT OPERATORS

---

Something like

```
number_of_items = number_of_items + 1
if number_of_items > 10
{
    print "Too many items!"
}
```

can be coded more simply as

```
if ++number_of_items > 10
{
    print "Too many items!"
}
```

The "++" operator increases the following variable by one before returning the value of the variable. Similarly, "--" can precede a variable to decrease the value by one before returning it. Since these operators act before the value is returned, they are called "pre-increment" and "pre-decrement".

If "++" or "--" comes AFTER a variable, the value of the variable is returned and then the value is increased or decreased, respectively. In these usages, the operators are called "post-increment" and "post-decrement".

For example,

```
while ++i < 5          ! pre-increment
{
    print number i; " ";
}
```

---

will output:

```
1 2 3 4
```

But

```
while i++ < 5      ! post-increment
{
    print number i; " ";
}
```

will output:

```
1 2 3 4 5
```

Since in the second example, the variable is increased before getting the value, while in the first example, it is increased after checking it.

It is also possible to use the operators "+=", "-=", "\*=", and "/=". These can also be used to modify a variable at the same time its value is being checked. All of these, however, operate before the value in question is returned.

```
x = 5
y = 10
print "x = "; number x*=y; ", y = "; number y
```

Result:

```
x = 50, y = 10
```

When the compiler is processing any of the above lines, the efficient operator takes precedence over a normal (i.e., single-character) operator.

For example,

```
x = y + ++z
```

is actually compiled as

```
x = y++ + z
```

since the "++" is compiled first. To properly code this line with a pre-increment on the z variable instead of a post-increment on y:

```
x = y + (++z)
```

---

#### IV.g. ARRAYS AND STRINGS

---

Prior to this point, little has been said about arrays. Arrays are sets of values that share a common name, and where the elements are

---

referenced by number. Arrays are defined by

```
array <arrayname> [<array size>]
```

where <array size> must be a numerical constant.

An array definition reserves a block of memory of <array size> 16-bit words, so that, for example,

```
array test_array[10]
```

initializes 10 16-bit words (or 20 8-bit bytes) for the array.

Keep in mind that <array size> determines the size of the array, NOT the maximum element number. Elements begin counting at 0, so that test\_array, with 10 elements, has members numbered from 0 to 9. Trying to access test\_array[10] or higher would return a meaningless value. (Trying to assign it by mistake would likely overwrite something important, like the next-defined array.)

To prevent such out-of-bounds array reading/writing, an array's length may be read via:

```
array[]
```

where no element number is specified. Using the above example,

```
print test_array[]
```

would result in "10".

Array elements can be assigned more than one at a time, as in

```
<arrayname> = <element1>, <element2>, ...
```

where <element1> and <element2> can be expressions or single values.

Elements need not be all of the same type, either, so that

```
test_array[0] = (10 + 5) * x, "Hello!", FindLight(location)
```

is perfectly legal (although perhaps not perfectly useful). More common is a usage like

```
names[0] = "Ned", "Sue", "Bob", "Maria"
```

or

```
test_array[2] = 5, 4, 3, 2, 1
```

The array can then be accessed by

```
print names[0]; " and "; names[3]
```

```
Ned and Maria
```

or

---

```
b = test_array[3] + test_array[5]
```

which would set the variable `b` to `4 + 2`, or `6`.

Because array space is statically allocated by the compiler, all arrays must be declared at the global level. Local arrays are illegal, as are entire arrays passed as arguments. However, single elements of arrays are valid arguments.

Significantly, it is possible to pass an array address as an argument, and the routine can then access the elements of the array using the `ARRAY` modifier. For example, if `items` is an array containing:

```
items[0] = "apples"
items[1] = "oranges"
items[2] = "socks"
```

The following:

```
routine Test(v)
{
    print array v[2]
}
```

can be called using

```
Test(items)
```

to produce the output `"socks"`, even though `v` is an argument (i.e. local variable), and not an array. The line `"print array v[2]"` tells the engine to treat `v` as an array address, not as a discrete value.

Array strings are also possible, and Hugo provides a way to store a dictionary entry in an array as a series of ASCII characters using the `STRING` command:

```
string(<array address>, <dictionary entry>, <max. length>)
```

(The `<max. length>` provision is required because the engine has no way of checking for array boundaries.)

For example,

```
string(a, word[1], 10)
```

will store up to 10 characters from `word[1]` into `a`.

NOTE: It is expected in the preceding example that `a` would have at least 11 elements, since `STRING` expects to store a terminating 0 or null character after the string itself.

For example,

```
x = string(a, word[1], 10)
```

---

will store up to 10 characters of `word[1]` in the array `a`, and return the length of the stored string to the variable `x`.

(The token `PARSE$` may be used in place of the dictionary entry address; see the section below on

Junction Routines: `ParseError`  
for a description.)

The library defines the functions `StringCopy`, `StringEqual`, `StringLength`, and `StringPrint`, which are extremely useful when dealing with string arrays.

`StringCopy` copies one string array to another array.

```
StringCopy(<new array>, <old array>[, <length>])
```

For example,

```
StringCopy(a, b)
```

copies the contents of `b` to `a`, while

```
StringCopy(a, b, 5)
```

copies only 5 characters of `b` to `a`.

```
x = StringEqual(<string1>, <string2>)  
x = StringCompare(<string1>, <string2>)
```

`StringEqual` returns true only if the two specified string arrays are identical. `StringCompare` returns 1 if `<string1>` is lexically greater than `<string2>`, -1 if `<string1>` is lexically less than `<string2>`, and 0 if the two strings are identical.

`StringLength` returns the length of a string array, as in:

```
len = StringLength(a)
```

and `StringPrint` prints a string array (or part of it).

```
StringPrint(<array address>[, <start>, <end>])
```

For example, if `a` contains "presto",

```
StringPrint(a)
```

will print "presto", but

```
StringPrint(a, 1, 4)
```

will print "res". (The `<start>` parameter in the first example defaults to 0, not 1--the first numbered element in an array is 0.)

An interesting side-effect of being able to pass array addresses as arguments is that it is possible to "cheat" the address, so that, for example,



```
StringCopy(a, b+2)
```

will copy b to a, beginning with the third letter of b (since the first letter of b is b[0]).

It should also be kept in mind that string arrays and dictionary entries are two entirely separate animals, and that comparing them directly is using StringCompare is not possible. That is, while a dictionary entry is a simple value representing an address, a string array is a series of values each representing a character in the string.

The library provides the following to overcome this:

```
StringDictCompare(<array>, <dict. entry>)
```

which returns the same values (1, -1, 0) as StringCompare, depending on whether the string array is lexically greater than, less than, or equal to the dictionary entry.

(There is a complement to the STRING command, the DICT function, that dynamically creates a new dictionary entry at runtime. Its syntax is:

```
x = dict(<array>, <maxlen>)
x = dict(parse$, <maxlen>)
```

where the contents of <array> or parse\$ are written into the dictionary, to a maximum of <maxlen> characters, and the address of the new word is returned.

However, since this requires extending the actual length of the game file, it is necessary to provide for this during compilation. Inserting

```
$MAXDICTEXTEND=<number>
```

at the start of the source file will write a buffer of <number> empty bytes at the end of the dictionary. (MAXDICTEXTEND is, by default, 0.)

Dynamic dictionary extension is used primarily in situations where the player may be able to, for example, name an object, then refer to that object by the new name. In this case, the new words will have to exist in the dictionary, and must be written using DICT.

However, a guideline for programmers is that there should be a limit to how many new words the player can cause to be created, so that the total length of the new entries never exceeds <number>, keeping in mind that the length of an entry is the number of characters plus one (the byte representing the actual length). That is, the word "test" requires 5 bytes.)

---

EXAMPLE: MANAGING STRINGS

---

```

-----

#include "hugolib.h"

array s1[32]
array s2[10]
array s3[10]

routine StringTests
{
    local a, len

    a = "This is a sample string."
    len = string(s1, a, 31)
    string(s2, "Apple", 9)
    string(s3, "Tomato", 9)

    print "a = \"; a; "\"
    print "(Dictionary address: "; number a; ")"
    print "s1 contains \"; StringPrint(s1); "\"
    print "(Array address: "; number s1;
    print ", length = "; number len; ")"
    print "s2 is \"; StringPrint(s2);
    print "\", s3 is \"; StringPrint(s3); "\"

    "\nStringCompare(s1, s2) = ";
    print number StringCompare(s1, s2)
    "StringCompare(s1, s3) = ";
    print number StringCompare(s1, s3)
}

```

The output will be:

```

a = "This is a sample string."
(Dictionary address = 887)
s1 contains "This is a sample string."
(Array address = 1625, length = 24)
s2 is "Apple", s3 is "Tomato"

StringCompare(s1, s2) = 1
StringCompare(s1, s3) = -1

```

As is evident above, a dictionary entry does not need to be a single word; any piece of text which must be treated as a value gets entered into the dictionary table.

The argument 31 in the first call to the STRING function allows up to 31 characters from a to be copied to s1, but since the length of a is only 24 characters, only 25 values (including the terminating 0) get copied, and the string length of s1 is returned in len.

Since "A(pple)" is lexically less than "T(his...)", comparing the two returns -1. As "To(mato)" is lexically greater than "Th(is...)", StringCompare returns 1.

-----

---

#### IV.h. CONDITIONAL EXPRESSIONS AND PROGRAM FLOW

---

Program flow can be controlled using a variety of constructions, each of which is built around an expression that evaluates to false (zero) or non-false (non-zero).

The most basic of these is the IF statement.

```
if <expression>
    {...conditional code block...}
```

NOTE: The enclosing braces are not necessary if the code block is a single line. Note also that the conditional block may begin (and even end) on the same line as the IF statement provided that braces are used.

```
if <expression>
    ...single line...
```

```
if <expression> {...conditional code block...}
```

If braces are not used for a single line, the compiler automatically inserts them, although special care must be taken when constructing a block of code nesting several single-line conditionals.

While

```
if <expression1>
    if <expression2>
        ...conditional code block...
```

may be properly interpreted,

```
if <expression1>
    for (...<expression2>...)
        if <expression3>
            ...conditional code block...
```

will not be. The compiler will misunderstand the end of the FOR loop construction because the enclosing conditional code block expects to end with the FOR expression. In turn the FOR expression does not properly differentiate the end of the conditional loop. The result would likely be a stack overflow error in the engine because the engine will continually nest the execution of recursive FOR loops until it runs out of stack space.

The proper way to structure that same section of code would be:

```
if <expression1>
{
    for (...<expression2>...)
    {
        if <expression3>
            ...conditional code block...
    }
}
```

NOTE: The best advice is to rely on braces to clarify code structure whenever using such complex constructions. This applies particularly to mixing IF, FOR, WHILE, and DO-WHILE expressions, especially when recursive function calls are involved. While the results may appear as intended, the method to produce them is incorrect, and any long-running such construction is almost guaranteed to crash the stack.

More elaborate uses of IF involve the use of ELSEIF and ELSE.

```
if <expression1>
  ...first conditional code block...
elseif <expression2>
  ...second conditional code block...
elseif <expression3>
  ...third conditional code block...
...
else
  ...default code block...
```

In this case, the engine evaluates each expression until it finds one that is true, and then executes it. Control then passes to the next non-if/elseif/else statement following the conditional construction. If no true expression is found, the default code block is executed. If, for example, <expression1> evaluates to a non-false value, then none of the following expressions are tested.

Of course, all three (IF, ELSEIF, and ELSE) need not be used every time, and simple IF-ELSEIF and IF-ELSE combinations are perfectly valid.

In certain cases, the IF statement may not lend itself perfectly to clarity, and the SELECT-CASE construction may be more appropriate. The general form is:

```
select <variable>
  case <value1>[, <value2>, ...]
    ...first conditional code block...
  case <value3>[, <value4>, ...]
    ...second conditional code block...
  ...
  case else
    ..default code block...
```

In this case, the engine quickly performs an evaluation that is essentially

```
if <variable> = <value1> [or <variable> = <value2> ...]
```

There is no limit on the number of values (separated by commas) that can appear on a line following CASE. The same rules for bracing multiple-line code blocks apply as with IF (as well as for every other type of conditional block).

NOTE: Cases do not "fall through" to the following case. Think of cases following the first as being ELSEIF statements rather than IF

---

statements; once a true case has been found, subsequent cases are ignored. (This is, in fact, the way the compiler codes them, and indeed how they will appear using runtime tracing.)

Basic loops may be coded using WHILE and DO-WHILE.

```
while <expression>
    ...conditional code block...

do
    ...conditional code block...
while <expression>
```

Each of these executes the conditional code block as long as <expression> holds true. It is assumed that the code block somehow alters expression so that at some point it will become false; otherwise the loop will execute endlessly.

```
while x <= 10
    x = x + 1

do
    {x = x + 1
    print "x is "; number x}
while x <= 10
```

The only difference between the two is that if <expression> is false at the outset, the WHILE code block will never run. The DO-WHILE code block will run at least once even if <expression> is false at the outset.

The most complex loop construction uses the FOR statement.

```
for (<assignment>; <expression>; <modifier>)
    ...conditional code block...
```

For example:

```
for (i=1; i<=15; i=i+1)
    print "i is "; number i
```

First, the engine executes the assignment setting  $i = 1$ . Then, it executes the print statement. Next, it checks to see if the expression holds true (if  $i$  is less than or equal to 15). If it does, it executes the print statement and the modifying assignment that increments  $i$ . It continues the loop until the expression tests false.

Not all elements of the FOR construction are necessary. For example, the assignment may be omitted, as in

```
for (; i<=15; i=i+1)
```

and the engine will simply use the existing value of  $i$ .

With

```
for (i=1;;i=i+1)
```

The loop will execute endlessly, unless some other means of exit is provided.

The modifying expression does not have to be an expression. It may be a routine that modifies a global variable, for example, which is then tested by the FOR loop.

(A second form of the FOR loop is:

```
for <var> in <object>
  ...conditional code block...
```

which loops through all the children of <object> (if any), setting the variable <var> to the object number of each child in sequence, so that

```
for i in suitcase
  print i.name
```

will print the names of each object in the suitcase object.)

The easiest way to picture the first form of a Hugo FOR loop is that

```
for (<assignment>; <expression>; <modifier>)
  ...conditional code block...
```

translates to the equivalent of

```
<assignment>
[while] <expression>
{
  ...conditional code block...
  <modifier>
}
```

which in turn translates the equivalent of

```
<assignment>
:<label1>
[if] <expression>
{
  ...conditional code block...
  <modifier>
  jump <label1>
}
```

(On the other hand, that isn't a particularly easy way to picture anything, and, in its awkwardness, perhaps justifies the existence of non-threatening WHILE, DO-WHILE, and FOR loops).

The benefit in knowing how a Hugo loop breaks down into a slip knot of IFs and JUMPs is that it is easier to monitor program flow using the Hugo Debugger (see

Appendix E  
)

As is now obvious by the above (possibly confusing) illustration, Hugo supports JUMP commands and labels. A label is simply a user-specified token preceded by a colon (":") at the beginning of a line. The label name must be a unique token in the program.

Use caution with JUMP, particularly when looping back to the same conditional statment over and over again. Each time an IF, SELECT-CASE, WHILE, DO-WHILE, or FOR statement executes, Hugo pushes data onto the stack; recklessly doing this over and over again will topple the stack and crash the engine.

In general, it may be best to try if at all possible to avoid using JUMP whenever possible.

It is also important to recognize--particularly with SELECT and WHILE or DO-WHILE statements--that the expression is tested each time the loop executes, or, in the case of a SELECT statement, for each corresponding case. The significance of this is seen in the following example

```
select test.prop_routine
  case 1
    {...}
  case 2
    {...}
  case 3
    {...}
```

where prop\_routine returns a value from 1 to 3. The property routine will be executed 3 separate times, once for each CASE statement. If prop\_routine has some other effect, such as modifying a global variable or printing output, then this will also occur 3 times.

If such an effect would be undesirable, try

```
local test_val          ! set up a local variable
test_val = test.prop_routine ! and assign it
select test_val
  case 1
    {...}
  ...
```

so that test.prop\_routine is called only once.

A similar case would be where

```
select random(3)
  case 1: {...}
  case 2: {...}
  case 3: {...}
```

would result in something akin to:

```
if random(3) = 1:    {...}
elseif random(3) = 2: {...}
```

```
elseif random(3) = 3: {...}
```

In other words, a different random value would be evaluated each time. A better choice would be:

```
local b
b = random(3)
select b
  case 1: {...}
  ...
```

One final keyword is important in program flow, and that is BREAK. At any point during a loop, it may be necessary to exit immediately (and probably prematurely). BREAK passes control to the statement immediately following the current loop.

In the example

```
do
{
  while <expression2>
  {
    ...
    if <expression3>
      break
    ...
  }
  ...
}
while <expression1>
```

the BREAK causes the immediately running WHILE <expression2> loop to terminate, even if <expression2> is true. However, the external DO-WHILE <expression3> loop continues to run.

It has been previously stated that lines ending in "and" or "or" are continued onto the next line in the case of long conditional expressions. A second useful provision is the ability to use a comma to separate options within a conditional expression. As a result,

```
if word[1] = "one", "two", "three"
while object is open, not locked
if a ~= 1, 2, 3
```

are translated into

```
if word[1] = "one" or word[1] = "two" or word[1] = "three"
while object is open and object is not locked
if suitcase not in livingroom, garage
if a ~= 1 and a ~= 2 and a ~= 3
```

respectively.

Note that with an "=" or "in" comparison, a comma results in an "or" comparison. With "~=" or an attribute comparison, the result is an "and" comparison.



## 1.6 ROUTINES AND EVENTS

---

### V. ROUTINES AND EVENTS

---

#### V.a. ROUTINES

---

Routines are blocks of code that may be called at any point in a program. A routine may or may not return a value, and it may or may not require a list of parameters (or arguments). (A number of routines have occurred in previous examples, but here is the formal explication.)

A routine is defined as

```
routine <routinename> [(<argument1>, <argument2>, ...)]
{
    ...
}
```

once again ensuring the the opening brace ("*{*") comes on a new line following the "routine" specifier.

(NOTE: To substitute a new routine for an existing one with the same name (such as in a library file), define the new one using REPLACE instead of ROUTINE.

```
replace <routinename> [(<argument1>, <argument2>, ...)]
```

For example,

```
routine TestRoutine(obj)
{
    print "The "; obj.name; " has a size of ";
    print obj.size; "."
    return obj.size
}
```

takes a single value as an argument, assigns it to a local variable *obj*, executes a simple printing sequence, and returns the property value: *obj.size*. The RETURN keyword exits the current routine, and returns a value if specified.

Both

```
return
```

and

```
return <expression>
```

---

are valid. If no expression is given, the routine returns 0. If no RETURN statement at all is encountered, the routine continues until the closing brace ("}"), then returns 0.

TestRoutine can be called several ways:

```
TestRoutine(suitcase)
```

will (assuming the suitcase object as been defined as previously illustrated) print

```
"The big green suitcase has a size of 25."
```

The return value will be ignored. On the other hand,

```
x = TestRoutine(suitcase)
```

will print the same output, but will assign the return value of TestRoutine to the variable x.

Now, unlike C and similar languages, Hugo does not require that routines follow a strict prototype. Therefore, both

```
TestRoutine
```

and

```
TestRoutine(suitcase, 5)
```

are valid calls for the above routine.

In the first case, the argument obj defaults to 0, since no value is passed. The parentheses are not necessary if no arguments are passed. In the second case, the value 5 is passed to TestRoutine, but ignored.

Arguments are always passed by value, not by reference or address. A local variable in one routine can never be altered by another routine. What this means is that, for example, in the following routines:

```
routine TestRoutine
{
    local a

    a = 5
    Double(a)
    print number a
}

routine Double(a)
{
    a = a * 2
}
```

Calling TestRoutine would print "5" and not "10" because the local

---

variable `a` in `Double` is only a copy of the variable passed to it as an argument.

These two routines would, on the other hand, print "10":

```

routine TestRoutine
{
    local a

    a = 5
    a = Double(a)
    print number a
}

routine Double(a)
{
    return a * 2
}

```

The local `a` in `TestRoutine` is reassigned with the return value from `Double`.

An interesting side-effect of a null (0) return value can be seen using the `PRINT` command. Consider the `The` routine in `HUGOLIB.H`, which prints an object's definite article (i.e. "the", if appropriate), followed by the object's name property.

```
print "You open "; The(object); "."
```

might result in

```
You open the suitcase.
```

Note that the above `PRINT` command itself really only prints

```
"You open "
```

and

```
."
```

It is the `The` routine that prints

```
the suitcase
```

Since `The` returns 0 (the null string, or ""), the `PRINT` command is actually displaying

```
"You open ", "", and "."
```

where the null string (") is preceded on the output line by `The`'s printing of "the " and the object name.

-----  
V.b. PROPERTY ROUTINES  
-----

---

Property routines are slightly more complex than those described so far, but follow the same basic rules. Normally, a property routine runs when the program attempts to get the value of a property that contains a routine.

That is, instead of

```
size 10
```

an object may contain the property

```
size
{
    return x + 5
}
```

Trying to read `object.size` in either case will return an integer value.

Here's another example. Normally, if `<object>` is the current room, then `<object>.n_to` would contain the object number of the room to the north. The library checks `<object>.n_to` to see if a value exists for it; if none does, the move is invalid.

Consider this:

```
n_to office
```

and

```
n_to
{"The office door is locked."}
```

or

```
n_to
{
    "The office door is locked. ";
    return false
}
```

In the first case, an attempt on the part of the player to move north would result in `parent(player)` being changed to the office object. In the second case, a custom invalid-move message would be displayed. In the third case, the custom invalid-move message would be displayed, but then the library would continue as if it had not found a `n_to` property for `<object>`, and it would print the standard invalid-move message (without a newline, thanks to the semicolon):

```
"The office door is locked. You can't go that way."
```

NOTE: While normal routines return false (or 0) by default, property routines return true (or 1) by default.

(For those wondering why the true return value in the second case doesn't prompt a move to object number 1, the library `DoGo` routine

---

assumes that there will never be a room object numbered one.)

Property routines may be run directly using the RUN command:

```
run <object>.<property>
```

If <object> does not have <property>, or if <object>.<property> is not a routine, nothing happens. Otherwise, the property routine executes. Property routines do not take arguments.

Remember that at any point in a program, an existing property may be changed using

```
<object>.<property> = <value>
```

A property routine may be changed using

```
<object>.<property> =  
{  
    ...  
}
```

where the new routine must be enclosed in braces.

It is entirely possible to change what was once a property routine into a simple value, or vice-versa, providing that space for the routine (and the required number of elements) was allowed for in the original object definition. Even if a property routine is to be assigned later in the program, the property itself must still be defined at the outset. A simple

```
<property> 0
```

or

```
<property> {return false}
```

will suffice.

There is, however, one drawback to this re-assignment of property values to routines and vice-versa. A property routine is given a "length" of one 16-bit word, which is the property address. When assigning a value or set of values to a property routine, the engine behaves as if the property was originally defined for this object with only one word of data, since it has no way of knowing the original length of the property data.

For example, if the original property specification in the object definition was:

```
found_in bedroom, livingroom, garage
```

and at some point the following was executed:

```
found_in = {return basement}
```

then the following would not subsequently work:

---

```
found_in #3 = attic
```

because the engine now believes `<object>.found_in` to have only one 16-bit word of data attached to it.

Finally, keep in mind that whenever calling a property routine, the global variable `self` is normally set to the object number. To avoid this, such as when "borrowing" a property from another object from within a different object, reference the property via

```
<object>..<property>
```

using `".."` instead of the normal property operator.

---

EXAMPLE: "BORROWING" PROPERTY ROUTINES

---

Consider a situation where a class provides a particular property routine. Normally, that routine is inherited by all objects defined using that class. But there may arise a situation where one of those objects must have a variation or expansion on the original routine.

```
class food
{
    bites_left 5
    eating
    {
        self.bites_left = self.bites_left - 1
        if self.bites_left = 0
            remove self          ! all gone
    }
}

food health_food
{
    eating
    {
        actor.health = actor.health + 1
        run food..eating
    }
}
```

(Assuming that `bites_left`, `eating`, and `health` are defined as properties, with `eating` being called whenever a food object is eaten.)

In this case, it would be inconvenient to have to retype the entire `food.eating` routine for the `health_food` object just because the latter must also increase `actor.health`. Using `".."` calls `food.eating` with `self` set to `health_food`, not the `food` class, so that `food.eating` affects `health_food`.

---

---

 V.c. BEFORE AND AFTER ROUTINES
 

---

The Hugo Compiler predefines two special properties: `before` and `after`. They are unique in that not only are they always routines, but they are much more complex (and versatile) than a standard property routine.

Complex properties like `before` and `after` are defined with

```
property <property name> $complex <default value>
```

as in:

```
property before $complex
property after $complex
```

Here is the syntax for the `before` property:

```
before
{
  <usage1> <verbroutine1>[, <verbroutine2>,...]
  {
    ...
  }
  <usage2> <verbroutine3>[, <verbroutine4>,...]
  {
    ...
  }
  ...
}
```

(The `after` property is the same, substituting "after" for "before".)

The `<usage>` specifier is a value against which the specified object is matched. Most commonly, it is "object", "xobject", "location", "actor", "parent(object)", etc. The `<verbroutine>` is the name of a verb routine to which the usage in question applies.

If `<object>.before` is checked, with the global `verbroutine` set to one of the specified `verboutines` in the `before` property, and `<usage>` in that instance is "object", then the following block of code is executed. If no match is found, `<object>.before` returns false.

Here is a clearer example using the `suitcase` object we have been developing:

```
before
{
  object DoEat
  {
    "You can't eat the suitcase!"
  }
}
```

```

after
{
    object DoGet
    {
        "With a vigorous effort, you pick up the suitcase."
    }
    xobject DoPutIn
    {
        "You put ";
        The(object)
        " into the suitcase."
    }
}

```

Each of these examples will return true, thereby overriding the engine's default operation (see the section on

The Game Loop  
). In

order to fool the engine into continuing normally, as if no before or after property has been found, return false from the property routine.

```

after
{
    object DoGet
    {"Fine. ";
    return false}
}

```

will result in:

```

>get suitcase
Fine. Taken.

```

Since the after routine returns false, and the library's default response for a successful call to DoGet is "Taken."

It is important to remember that, unlike other property routines, before and after routines are additive; i.e. a before (or after) routine defined in an inherited class or object is not overwritten by a new property routine in the new object. Instead, the definition for the routine is--in essence--added onto. An additive property is defined using the \$ADDITIVE qualifier, as in:

```
property <property name> $additive <default value>
```

All previously inherited before/after subroutines are carried over. However, the processing of a before/after property begins with the present object, progressing backward through the object's ancestry until a usage/verb-routine match is found; once a match is made, no further preceding class inheritances are processed (unless the property routine in question returns false).

NOTE: To force a before or after property routine to apply to ANY verb routine, do not specify a verb routine. (This has changed from Hugo v2.1 and earlier, where it was necessary to specify the Parse routine in place of a verb routine.)



For example,

```
before
{
    xobject
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

The specified routine will be run whenever the object in question is the xobject of ANY valid input.

If this non-specific block occurs before any block(s) specifying verbrouines, then the following blocks, if matched, will run as well so long as the block does not return true. If the non-specific block comes after any other blocks, then it will run only if no other object/verbrouine combination is matched.

A drawback of this non-specification is that all verbrouines are matched--both verbs and xverbs. This can be particularly undesirable in the case of location before/after properties, where a non-specific response will be triggered even for "save", "restore", etc.

To get around this, the library provides a function AnyVerb, which takes an object as its argument and returns that object number if the current verbrouine is not within the group of xverbs; otherwise it returns false. Therefore, it can be used via:

```
before
{
    AnyVerb(location)
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

instead of

```
before
{
    location
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

The former will execute the conditional block of code whenever the location global matches the current object and the current verbrouine is not an xverb. The latter (without using AnyVerb), will run for verbs and xverbs. (The reason for this, simply put, is that the location global always equals the location global(!). But AnyVerb(location) will only equal the location global if the verbrouine is not an xverb.)

---

---

EXAMPLE: BUILDING A COMPLEX OBJECT

---

At this point, enough material has been covered to develop a comprehensive example of a functional object that will serve as a summary of concepts introduced so far, as well as providing instances of a number of common properties from HUGOLIB.H.

```

object woodcabinet "wooden cabinet"
{
    in emptyroom
    article "a"
    nouns "cabinet", "shelf", "shelves", "furniture", \
        "doors", "door"
    adjectives "wooden", "wood", "fine", "mahogany"

    short_desc
        "A wooden cabinet sits along one wall."
    when_open
        "An open wooden cabinet sits along one wall."
    long_desc
    {
        "The cabinet is made of fine mahogany wood,
        hand-crafted by a master cabinetmaker. In front
        are two doors (presently ";
        if self is open
            print "open";
        else: print "closed";
        print ")."
    }
    contains_desc
        "Behind the open doors of the cabinet you
        can see";      ! note the semicolon--no line feed

    key_object cabinetkey      ! a cabinetkey object must
                                ! also be created

    holding 0                    ! starts off empty
    capacity 100

    before
    {
        object DoLookUnder
            {"Nothing there but dust."}
        object DoGet
            {"The cabinet is far too heavy to lift!"}
    }
    after
    {
        object DoLock
            {"With a twist of the key, you lock the
            cabinet up tight."}
    }

    is container, openable, not open, lockable, static
}

```

---

And for a challenge: how could the cabinet be converted into, say, a secret passage into another room?

ANSWER:

Add a `door_to` property, such as:

```
door_to secondroom ! a new room object
```

The cabinet can now be entered via: "go cabinet", "get into cabinet", "enter cabinet", etc.

---

V.d. INIT AND MAIN

---

At least two routines are typically part of every Hugo problem: INIT and MAIN. (The latter is required. The compiler will issue an error if no Main routine exists.)

INIT, if it exists, is called once at the start of the program (as well as during a RESTART command). The routine should configure all variables, objects, and arrays needed to begin the game.

MAIN is called every turn. It should take care of general game management such as moving ahead the counter, as well as running events and scripts.

---

V.e. EVENTS

---

Events are useful for bringing a game to life, so that little quirks, behaviors, and occurrences can be provided for with little difficulty.

Events are also routines, but their special characteristic is that they may be attached to a particular object, and they are run as a group by the RUNEVENTS command.

Events are defined as

```
event
{
    ...
}
```

for global events, and

```
event [in] <object>
{
    ...
}
```

---

for events attached to a particular object. (The "in" is optional, but may be useful for legibility.) If an event is attached to an object, it is run only when that object has the same grandparent as the player object (where grandparent refers to the last object before 0, the nothing object).

NOTE: If the event is not a global event, the self global is set to the number of the object to which the event is attached.

-----  
 EXAMPLE: BUILDING A CLOCK EVENT  
 -----

Suppose that there is a clock object in a room. Here is a possible routine:

```

event clock
{
    local minutes, hours

    hours = counter / 60
    minutes = counter - (hours * 60)

    if minutes = 0
    {
        print "The clock chimes ";
        select hour
            case 1: print "one";
            case 2: print "two";
            case 3: print "three";
            .
            .
            .
            case 12: print "twelve";
        print " o'clock."
    }
}

```

Whenever the player and the clock are in the same room (when a RUNEVENTS command is given), the event will run.

Now, suppose the clock should be audible throughout the entire house--i.e. at any point in the game map. Simply changing the event definition to

```

event                ! no object is given
{
    ...
}

```

will make the event a global one.

---

## 1.7 FUSES, DAEMONS, AND SCRIPTS

---

### VI. FUSES, DAEMONS, AND SCRIPTS

---

While all of the above mentioned elements of Hugo are programmed into the internal code of the engine, the means of running fuses, daemons, and scripts are written entirely in Hugo itself and contained in the library (HUGOLIB.H).

---

#### VI.a. FUSES AND DAEMONS

---

A daemon is the traditional name for a recurring activity. Hugo handles daemons as special events attached to objects that may be activated or deactivated (i.e. moved in and out of the scope of RUNEVENTS).

Since the daemon class is defined in the library, define a daemon itself using

```
daemon <name>
{}
```

The body of the daemon definition is empty. It is only needed to attach the daemon event to, so the daemon definition must be followed by

```
event <name>
{
    ...
}
```

Activate it by

```
Activate(<name>)
```

which moves the specified daemon object into scope of the player. This way, whenever a RUNEVENTS command is given (as it should be in the Main routine), the event attached to <name> will run.

Deactivate the daemon using

```
Deactivate(<name>)
```

which removes the daemon object from scope.

It can be seen here that a daemon is actually a special type of object which is moved in and out of the scope of RUNEVENTS, and that it is the event attached to the daemon that actually contains the code.

A fuse is the traditional name for a timer--i.e. any event set to

---

happen after a certain period of time. The fuse itself is a slightly more complex version of a daemon object, containing two additional properties as well as `in_scope`:

```
timer      - the number of turns before the fuse event runs
tick       - a routine that decrements timer and returns the
             number of turns remaining (i.e. the value of timer)
```

Similarly to a daemon, define a fuse in two steps

```
fuse <name>
{}

event <name>
{
    ...
    if not self.tick
    {
        ...
    }
}
```

and turn it on or off by

```
Activate(<name>, <setting>)
```

or

```
Deactivate(<name>)
```

where `<setting>` is the initial value of the timer property.

Note that it is up to the event itself to run the timer and check for its expiration. The line

```
if not self.tick
```

runs the `tick` property--which decrements the timer--and executes the following conditional block if `self.timer` is 0.

---

EXAMPLE: A SIMPLE DAEMON AND SIMPLER FUSE

---

The most basic daemon would be something like a sleep counter, which measures how far a player can go beginning from a certain rested state.

Assume that the player's amount of rest is kept in a property called `rest`, which decreases by 2 each turn.

```
daemon gettired
{}

event gettired
{
```

```

player.rest = player.rest - 2
if player.rest < 0
    player.rest = 0

select player.rest
case 20
    "You're getting quite tired."
case 10
    "You're getting \Ivery\i tired."
case 0
    "You fall asleep!"
}

```

Start and stop the daemon with `Activate(gettired)` and `Deactivate(gettired)`.

Now, as for a fuse, why not construct the most obvious example: that of a ticking bomb? (Assume that there exists another physical bomb object; `tickingbomb` is only the countdown fuse.)

```

fuse tickingbomb
{}

event tickingbomb
{
    if not self.tick
    {
        if Contains(location, bomb)
            "You vanish in a nifty KABOOM!"
        else
            "You hear a distant KABOOM!"
        remove bomb
    }
}

```

Start it (with a countdown of 25 turns) and stop it with `Activate(tickingbomb, 25)` and `Deactivate(tickingbomb)`.

---

## VI.b. SCRIPTS

---

Scripts are considerably more complex than fuses and daemons. The purpose of a script (also called a character script) is to allow an object--usually a character--to follow a sequence of actions turn-by-turn, independent of the player.

Up to 16 scripts may be running at once. It is up to the programmer not to overflow this limit.

A script is represented by two arrays: `SCRIPTDATA` and `SETSCRIPT`. The latter was named for programming clarity than for what it actually contains. Here's why:

To define a script, use the following notation:

---

```

setscript[Script(<object>, <number>)] = &CharRoutine, obj,
                                         &CharRoutine, obj,
                                         ...

```

(remembering that a hanging comma at the end of a line of code is a signal to the compiler that the line continues onto the next unbroken.)

Notice that SETSCRIPT is actually an array, taking its starting element from the return value of the SCRIPT routine, which has <object> and <number> as its arguments.

SCRIPT returns a pointer within the large SETSCRIPT array where the <number> steps of a script for <object> may reside. A single script may have up to 32 steps. A step in a script consists of a routine and an object--both are required, even if the routine does not require an object. (Use the nothing object (0); see the CharWait routine in HUGOLIB.H for reference.)

The custom in HUGOLIB.H is that character script routines use the prefix "Char" although this is not required. Currently, routines provided include:

```

CharMove      (requiring a direction object)
CharWait      (using the nothing object)
CharGet       (requiring a takeable object)
CharDrop      (requiring an object held by the character)

```

as well as the special routine

```

LoopScript    (using the nothing object)

```

which indicates that a script will continually execute. (It is the responsibility of the programmer to ensure that the ending position of the character or object is suitable to loop back to the beginning if LoopScript is used. That is, if the script consists of a complex series of directions, the character should always return to the same starting point.)

The sequence of routines and objects for each script is stored in the SETSCRIPT array.

Scripts are run using the RunScripts routine, similar to RUNEVENTS, the only difference being that RUNEVENTS is an engine command while RunScripts is contained entirely in HUGOLIB.H.

The line

```

RunScripts

```

will run all active object/character scripts, one turn at a time, freeing the space used by each once it has run its course.

Here is a sample script for a character named "Ned":

```

setscript[Script(ned, 4)] = &CharMove, s_obj,
                           &CharGet, cannonball,

```



```

        &CharMove, n_obj,
        &CharDrop, cannonball

```

Ned will go south, retrieve the cannonball object, and bring it north again. (The character script routines provided in the library are relatively basic; for example, CharGet assumes that the specified object will be there when the character comes to get it.)

Other script-management routines in HUGOLIB.H include:

```

CancelScript(obj)    to immediately halt execution of the
                    script for <obj>

PauseScript(obj)    to temporarily pause execution of the
                    script for <obj>

ResumeScript(obj)   to resume execution of a paused script

SkipScript(obj)     skips the script for <obj> during the next
                    call to RunScripts only

```

The RunScripts routine also checks for before and after properties. It continues with the default action--i.e. the character action routine specified in the script--if it finds a false value.

To override a default character action routine, include a before property for the character object using the following form:

```

before
{
    actor CharRoutine
    {
        ...
    }
}

```

where CharRoutine is CharWait, CharMove, CharGet, CharDrop, etc.

---

#### VI.c. A NOTE ABOUT THE event\_flag GLOBAL:

---

The library routines--particularly the DoWait... verb routines--expect the event\_flag global variable to be set to a non-false value if something happens (i.e. in an event or script) so that the player may be notified and given the opportunity to quit waiting. For instance, the character script routines in HUGOLIB.H set event\_flag whenever a character does something in the same location as the player.

If HUGOLIB.H is to be used, the convention of setting event\_flag after every significant event should be adhered to.

---

## 1.8 GRAMMAR AND PARSING

---

### VII. GRAMMAR AND PARSING

---



---

#### VII.a. GRAMMAR DEFINITION

---

Every valid player command must be specified. More precisely, each usage of a particular verb must be detailed in full by the source code.

Grammar definitions must ALWAYS come at the start of a program, preceding any objects or executable code. That is, if several additional grammar files are to be included, or new grammar is to be explicitly defined in the source code, it must be done before any files containing executable code are included, or any routines, objects, etc. are defined.

The syntax used is:

```
[x]verb "<verb1>" [, "<verb2>", "<verb3>",...]
* <syntax specification 1>           <VerbRoutine1>
* <syntax specification 2>           <VerbRoutine2>
...
```

Now, what does that mean? Here are some examples from the library grammar file GRAMMAR.G:

```
verb "get"
*                               DoVague
* "up"/"out"/"off"             DoExit
* "outof"/"offof"/"off" object DoExit
* "in"/"on" object             DoEnter
* multinotheld "from"/"off" parent DoGet
* multinotheld "offof"/"outof" parent DoGet
* multinotheld                 DoGet

verb "take"
*                               DoVague
* "off" multiheld               DoTakeOff
* multiheld "off"               DoTakeOff
* multinotheld                 DoGet
* multinotheld "from"/"off" parent DoGet
* multinotheld "offof"/"outof" parent DoGet

xverb "save"
*                               DoSave
* "game"                         DoSave
```

---

```

verb "read", "peruse"
  *                               DoVague
  * readable                       DoRead

verb "unlock"
  *                               DoVague
  * lockable                       DoUnLock
  * lockable "with" held          DoUnLock

```

Each VERB or XVERB header begins a new verb definition. An XVERB is a special signifier that indicates that the engine should not call the MAIN routine after successful completion of the action. XVERB is typically used with non-action, housekeeping-type verbs such as saving, restoring, quitting, and restarting.

Next in the header comes one or more verb words. Each of the specified words will share the following verb grammar EXACTLY. This is why "get" and "take" in the above examples are defined separately, instead of as

```
verb "get", "take"
```

In this way, the commands

```
get up
```

and

```
take off hat
```

are allowable, while

```
take up
```

and

```
get off hat
```

won't make any sense.

Each line beginning with an asterisk ("\*") is a separate valid usage of the verb being defined. (Every player input line must begin with a verb. Exceptions, where a command is directed to an object as in

```
Ned, get the ball
```

will be dealt with later.)

Up to two objects and any number of dictionary words may make up a syntax line. The objects must be separated by at least one dictionary word.

Valid object specifications are:

```

object          any visible object (the direct object)
object          the indirect object

```

<attribute>	any visible object that is <attribute>
parent	an xobject that is the parent of the object
held	any object possessed by the player object
noheld	an object explicitly not held
anything	any object, held or not, visible or not
multi	multiple visible objects
multiheld	multiple held objects
multinoheld	multiple noheld objects
number	a positive integer number
word	any dictionary word
string	a quoted string
(RoutineName)	a routine name, in parentheses
(objectname)	a single object name, in parentheses

(If a number is specified in the grammar syntax, it will be passed to the verb routine in the object global. If a string is specified, it will be passed in the engine's parse\$ variable, which can then be turned into a string array using the STRING function.)

Dictionary words that may be used interchangeably are separated by a slash ("/").

Two or more dictionary words in sequence must be specified separately. That is, in the input line:

```
take hat out of suitcase
```

the syntax line

```
* object "out" "of" container
```

will be matched, while

```
* object "out of" container
```

would never be recognized, since the engine will automatically parse "out" and "of" as two separate words; the parser will never find a match for "out of".

Regarding object specification within the syntax line: Once the direct object has been found, the remaining object in the input line will be stored as the xobject. That is, in the example immediately above, a valid object in the input line with the attribute container will be treated as the indirect object by the verb routine.

NOTE: An important point to remember when mixing dictionary words and objects within a syntax line is that, unless directed differently, the parser may confuse a word-object combination with an invalid object name. Consider the following:

```
verb "pick"
  * object                DoGet
  * "up" object           DoGet
```

This definition will result in something like

```
>pick up box
```

You haven't seen any "up box", nor are you likely to in the near future even if such a thing exists.

(assuming that "up" has been defined elsewhere as part of a different object name, as in OBJLIB.H), because the processor processes the syntax

```
* object
```

and determines that an invalid object name is being used; it never gets to

```
* "up" object
```

The proper verb definition would be ordered like

```
verb "pick"
  * "up" object          DoGet
  * object               DoGet
```

so that both "pick <object>" and "pick up <object>" are valid player commands.

To define a new grammar condition that will take precedence over an existing one--such as in GRAMMAR.G--simply define the new condition first (i.e. before including GRAMMAR.G).

A single object may be specified as the only valid object for a particular syntax:

```
verb "rub"
  * (magic_lamp)         DoRubMagicLamp
```

will produce a "You can't do that with..." error for any object other than the magic\_lamp object.

Using a routine name to specify an object is slightly tricky: the engine calls the given routine with the object specified in the input line as its argument; if the routine returns true, the object is valid--if not, a parsing error is expected to have been printed by the routine.

---

## VII.b. THE PARSER

---

Immediately after an input line is received, the engine calls the parser, and the first step taken is to identify any invalid words, i.e. words that are not in the dictionary table.

NOTE: One non-dictionary word or phrase is allowed in an input line, providing it is enclosed in quotation marks (""). If the command is successfully parsed and matched, this string is passed to parse\$. More than one non-dictionary word or phrase (even if the additional phrases are enclosed in quotes) are not allowed.

---

The next step is to break the line down into individual words. Words are separated by spaces and basic punctuation (including "!" and "?") which are removed. All characters in an input line are converted to lower case.

The next step is to process the three types of special words which may be defined in the source code.

REMOVALS are the simplest. These are simply words that are to be automatically removed from any input line, and are basically limited to words such as "a" and "the" which would, generally speaking, only make grammar matching more complicated and difficult.

The syntax for defining a removal is:

```
removal "<word1>"[, "<word2>", "word<3>",...]
```

as in

```
removal "a", "an", "the"
```

SYNONYMS are slightly more complex. These are words that will never be found in the parsed input line; they are replaced by the specified word for which they are a synonym.

```
synonym "<synonym>" for "<word>"
```

as in

```
synonym "myself" for "me"
```

The above example will replace every occurrence of "myself" in the input line with "me". Usage of synonyms will likely not be extensive, since of course it is possible to, particularly in the case of object nouns and adjectives specify synonymous words which are still treated as distinct.

COMPOUNDS are the final type of special word, specified as:

```
compound "<word1>", "<word2>"
```

as in

```
compound "out", "of"
```

so that the input line

```
get hat out of suitcase
```

would be parsed to

```
get hat outof suitcase
```

Depending on the design of grammar tables for certain syntaxes, the use of compounds may make grammar definition more straightforward, so that by using the above compound,

---

```
verb "get"
* multinotheld "outof"/"offof"/"from" parent
```

is possible, and likely more desirable to

```
verb "get"
* multinotheld "out"/"off" "of" parent
* multinotheld "from" parent
```

When the parser has finished processing the input line, the result is a specially defined (by the Hugo Engine) array called `word`, where the number of valid elements is held in the global variable `words`.

Therefore, in

```
get the hat from the table
```

the parser--using the removals defined in HUGOLIB.H--will produce the following results:

```
word[1] = "get"
word[2] = "hat"
word[3] = "from"
word[4] = "table"

words = 4
```

NOTE: Multiple-command input lines are also allowed, provided that the individual commands are separated by a period (".").

```
get hat. go n. go e.
```

would become

```
word[1] = "get"
word[2] = "hat"
word[3] = ""
word[4] = "go"
word[5] = "n"
word[6] = ""
word[7] = "go"
word[8] = "e"
word[9] = ""

words = 9
```

(See the Parse routine in HUGOLIB.H for an example of how

```
get hat then go n
```

is translated into:

```
word[1] = "get"
word[2] = "hat"
word[3] = ""
word[4] = "go"
word[5] = "n")
```

---

A maximum of thirty-two words is allowed. The period is in each case converted to the null dictionary entry ("", address = 0), which is a signal to the engine that processing of the current command should end here.

NOTE: The parsing and grammar routines also recognize several system words, each in the format "~word". These are:

~and	referring to:	multiple specific objects
~all	" "	multiple objects in general
~any	" "	any one of a list of objects
~except	" "	an excluded object
~oops	to correct an error in the previous input line	

To allow an input line to access any of these system words, a synonym must be defined, such as

```
synonym "and" for "~and"
```

The library defines several such synonyms.

## 1.9 JUNCTION ROUTINES

---

### VIII. JUNCTION ROUTINES

---

Because, simply put, the engine is unaware of such things as attributes, properties, and objects in anything but a technical sense, there are provided a number of routines to facilitate communication between the engine and the program proper.

Along with these, there are certain global variables and properties that are pre-defined by the compiler and accessed by the engine. These are:

GLOBALS:	object	the direct object of a verb
	xobject	the indirect object
	self	self-referential object
	words	total number of words
	player	the player object
	location	location of the player
	verbroutine	the verb routine address
	endflag	if not false (0), call EndGame
	prompt	for input line

PROPERTIES:	name	basic object name
	before	pre-verb routines
	after	post-verb routines
	noun	noun(s) for referring to object
	adjective	adjective(s) for referring to object
	article	"a", "an", "the", "some", etc.

(As well as the aliases nouns and adjectives

---



for noun and adjective, respectively)

Junction routines are not required. The engine has built-in default routines, although these will likely not be satisfactory for most programmers. Therefore, HUGOLIB.H contains each of the following routines which fully implement all the features of the library. If a different routine is desired in place of a provided one, the routine should be substituted with REPLACE.

---

#### VIII.a. PARSE

---

The Parse routine, if one exists, is called by the engine parser. Here, the program itself may modify the input line before grammar matching is attempted. What happens is:

1. The input line is split into words (by the engine).
2. The Parse routine, if it exists, is called.
3. Control returns to the engine for grammar matching.

For example, the Parse routine in HUGOLIB.H takes care of such things as pronouns ("he", "she", "it", "them") and repeating the last legal command (with "again" or simply "g").

Returning true from the Parse routine calls the engine parser again; returning false continues normally. This is useful in case the Parse routine has changed the input line substantially, requiring a reconfiguration of the already split words.

NOTE: Since the library's Parse routine is rather extensive, a provision is made for a PreParse routine--which in the library is defined as being empty--which may more easily be REPLACED for additional parsing.

---

#### VIII.b. PARSEERROR

---

The ParseError routine is called whenever a command is invalid. ParseError is called in the form

```
ParseError(<errornumber>, <object>)
```

where <object> is the object number (if any) of the object involved in the error.

NOTE: The engine also sets up a special variable called PARSE\$, usable only in a print statement (or in conjunction with STRING), which represents the illegal component of an input line, whether it is the verb itself, an object name, a partial object name, or any other word combination. For example:

```
print "The illegal word was: "; parse$; "."
```

---

The default responses provided by the engine parse error routine are:

ERROR NUMBER	RESPONSE
0	"What?"
1	"You can't use the word <parse\$>."
2	"Better start with a verb."
3	"You can't <parse\$> multiple objects."
4	"Can't do that."
5	"You haven't seen any <parse\$>, nor are you likely to in the near future even if such a thing exists."
6	"That doesn't make any sense."
7	"You can't use multiple objects like that."
8	"Which <parse\$> do you mean,...?"
9	"Nothing to <parse\$>."
10	"You haven't seen anything like that."
11	"You don't see that."
12	"You can't do that with the <parse\$>."
13	"You'll have to be a little more specific."
14	"You don't see that there."
15	"You don't have that."
16	"You'll have to make a mistake first."
17	"You can only correct one word at a time."

The `ParseError` routine in `HUGOLIB.H` provides several customized responses that take into account such things as, for example, whether or not an object is a character or not, and if so, if it is male or female, etc.

If the `ParseError` routine does not provide a response for a particular `<errornumber>`, it should return `false`. Returning `false` is a signal that the engine should continue with the default message.

**NOTE:** If custom error messages are desired for user parsing routines, REPLACE the routine `CustomError` with a new routine (called with the same parameters as `ParseError`), providing that `<errornumber>` is greater than or equal to 100.

---

 VIII.c. ENDGAME
 

---

The EndGame routine is called immediately whenever the global variable endflag is non-zero, regardless of whether or not the current function has not yet been terminated.

HUGOLIB.H's EndGame routine behaves according to the value to which endflag is set:

endflag	RESULT
1	Player wins
2	Player's demise
(3	Other ending--not provided for by default PrintEndGame routine)

Returning false from Endgame terminates the game completely; returning non-false restarts.

NOTE: To modify only the message displayed at the end of the game (defaults: "\*\*\* YOU'VE WON THE GAME! \*\*\*" and "\*\*\* YOU ARE DEAD \*\*\*"), REPLACE the PrintEndGame routine.

---

 VIII.d. FINDOBJECT
 

---

The FindObject routine takes into account all the relevant properties, attributes, and object hierarchy to determine whether or not a particular object is available. For example, the child of a parent object may be available if the parent is a platform, but unavailable if the parent is a container (and closed)--although internally, the object hierarchy is the same.

FindObject is called via:

```
FindObject(<object>, <location>)
```

where <object> is the object in question, and <location> is the object where its availability is being tested. (Usually <location> is a room, unless a different parent has been specified in the input line.)

FindObject returns true (1) if the object is available, false (0) if unavailable. It returns 2 if the object is visible but not physically accessible.

The FindObject routine in HUGOLIB.H considers not only the location of <object> in the object tree, but also tests the attributes of the parent to see if it is open or closed. As well, it checks the

---

found\_in property, in case <object> has been assigned multiple locations instead of an explicit parent, and then scans the in\_scope property of the object (if one exists).

Finally, the default behavior of FindObject requires that a player have encountered an object for it to be valid in an action, i.e. it must have the known attribute set. To override this, REPLACE the routine ObjectIsKnown with a routine that returns an unconditional true value.

There is one special case in which the engine expects the FindObject routine to be especially helpful: that is if the routine is called with <location> equal to 0. This occurs whenever the engine needs to determine if an object is available AT ALL--regardless of any rules normally governing object availability--such as when an "anything" grammar token is encountered, or the engine needs to disambiguate two or more seemingly identical objects.

---

#### VIII.e. SPEAKTO

---

The SpeakTo routine is called whenever an input line begins with a valid object name instead of a verb. This is so the player may direct commands to (usually) characters in the game. For example:

```
Professor Plum, drop the lead pipe
```

It is up to the SpeakTo routine to properly interpret the instruction.

SpeakTo is called via:

```
SpeakTo(<character>)
```

where <character> in the above example would be the Professor Plum object.

The globals object, xobject, and verbroutine are all set up as normal. For the above example, then, these would be

```
object      leadpipe
xobject     nothing
verbroutine &DoDrop
```

when SpeakTo is called.

HUGOLIB.H's SpeakTo routine provides basic interpretation of questions, so that

```
Professor Plum, what about the lead pipe?
```

may be directed to the proper verb routine, as if the player had typed:

```
ask Professor Plum about the lead pipe
```

---

Imperative commands are, such as

```
Colonel Mustard, stand up
```

are first directed to the `order_response` property of the character object in question. It is subsequently up to `<character>.order_response` to analyze `verbroutine` (as well as `object` and `xobject`, if applicable) to see if the request is a valid one. If no response is provided, `order_response` should return `false`.

```
order_response
{
    if verbroutine = &DoGet
        "I would, but my back is too sore."
    else
        return false
}
```

## 1.10 THE GAME LOOP

---

### XI. THE GAME LOOP

---

This the paradigm that the Hugo Engine follows during program execution:

(INIT: The `Init` routine is called only when the program is first run, or when a `RESTART` command is issued.)

MAIN: At the start of the game loop, the engine calls the `Main` routine. The routine should--as in the provided sample programs--take care of advancing the turn counter, executing the `RUNEVENTS` command, and calling such library routines as `RunScripts` and `PrintStatusLine`.

INPUT: Keyboard input is received.

PARSING: The input line is checked for validity, synonyms and other special words are checked, and the user `Parse` routine (if any) is called.

#### GRAMMAR MATCHING:

The engine attempts to match the input line with a valid verb and syntax in the grammar table. If no match is found, the engine loops back to `INPUT`.

Otherwise, a successful grammar match results in at least the `verbroutine` global being set, as well as potentially `object` and `xobject`.

#### BEFORE ROUTINES:

If any objects were specified in the input line, their before properties are checked in the following

---

order, for each object:

```

player.before
location.before
xobject.before      (if applicable)
object.before       (if applicable)

```

If any of these property routines returns true, the engine skips the verb routine.

#### VERB ROUTINE:

If no before property routine returns true, the verb routine is run.

If an action is successfully completed, the verb routine should return true. Returning false negates any remaining commands in the input line.

The engine does not run any after property routines for object or xobject; that is up to the verb routine. It does run both player.after and location.after if the verb routine returns true.

When finished, the engine loops back to MAIN:, calling the Main routine only if the last verb matched was not an XVERB.

Setting the global endflag at any point to a non-zero value will terminate the game loop and run the EndGame junction routine.

NOTE: Undo information recalled by UNDO is saved each turn only during the Main routine (including any commands or functions called within, such as events, fuses and daemons, or character scripts) and verb routines (unless the verb was an xverb). It is therefore recommended that no other routines change any significant game data, because it will not be recoverable with UNDO.

## 1.11 ADVANCED FEATURES

---

### X. ADVANCED FEATURES

---



---

#### X.a. READING AND WRITING FILES

---

There may be times when it will be useful to store data in a file for later recovery. The most basic way of doing this involves

```
x = save
```

and

---

```
x = restore
```

where the SAVE and RESTORE functions return a true value to x if successful, or a false value if for some reason they fail. In either case, the entire set of game data--including object locations, variable values, arrays, attributes, etc.--is saved or restored, respectively.

Other times, it may be desirable to save only certain values. For example, a particular game may allow a player to create certain player characteristics that can be restored in the same game or in different games. (This tends toward the idea behind many role-playing games.)

To accomplish this, use the WRITEFILE and READFILE operations.

The structure

```
writefile <filename>
{
    ...
}
```

will, at the start of the writefile block, open <filename> for writing and position the filename to the start of the (empty) file. (If the file exists, it will be cleared.) At the conclusion of the block, the file will be closed again.

Within a writefile block, write individual values using

```
writeval <value1>[, <value2>, ...]
```

where one or more values can be specified.

To read the file, use the structure

```
readfile <filename>
{
    ...
}
```

which will contain the assignment

```
x = readval
```

for each value to be read, where x can be any storage type such as a variable, property, etc.

For example,

```
local count, test

count = 10
writefile "testfile"
{
    writeval count, "telephone", 10
    test = FILE_CHECK
}
```

```

        writeval test
    }
    if test ~= FILE_CHECK    ! an error has occurred
    {
        print "An error has occurred."
    }

```

will write the variable `count`, the dictionary entry `"telephone"`, and the value 10 to `"testfile"`. Then,

```

local a, b, c, test

readfile "testfile"
{
    a = readval
    b = readval
    c = readval
    test = readval
}
if test ~= FILE_CHECK    ! an error has occurred
{
    print "Error reading file."
}

```

If the `readfile` block executes successfully, `a` will be equal to the former value `count`, `b` will be `"telephone"`, and `c` will be 10.

The constant `FILE_CHECK`, defined in `HUGOLIB.H`, is useful because `writefile` and `readfile` provide no explicit error return to indicate failure. `FILE_CHECK` is a unique two-byte sequence that can be used to test for success.

In the `writefile` block, if the block is exited prematurely due to an error, `test` will never be set to `FILE_CHECK`. The `IF` statement following the block tests for this.

In the `readfile` block, `test` will only be set to `FILE_CHECK` if the sequence of `readval` functions finds the expected number of values in `"testfile"`. If there are too many or too few values in `"testfile"`, or if an error forces an early exit from the `readfile` block, `test` will equal a value other than `FILE_CHECK`.

## 1.12 APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF KEYWORDS AND COMMANDS

---

APPENDIX A: SUMMARY OF KEYWORDS AND COMMANDS

---

AND

DESCRIPTION: Logical and.

SYNTAX: `x = <value1> and <value2>`

RESULT: `x` will be true if `<value1>` and `<value2>` are

---



both non-zero, false if one or both is zero.

#### ANYTHING

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that any nameable object in the object tree is valid.

#### ARRAY

DESCRIPTION: When used as a data type modifier, specifies that the following value is to be treated as an array address.

EXAMPLE: `<var1> = array <var2>[5]`

The variable `<var2>` will be treated as an array address.

#### BREAK

DESCRIPTION: Terminates the immediate enclosing loop.

EXAMPLE: 

```
while <expression1>
{
    while <expression2>
    {
        if <expression3>
            break
        ...
    }
    ...
}
```

The break statement, if encountered, will terminate the innermost loop.

#### CALL

DESCRIPTION: Calls a routine indirectly, i.e. when the routine address has been stored in a variable, object property, etc.

SYNTAX: `call <value>[(<argument1>, <argument2>,...)]`

where `<value>` is a valid data type holding the routine address.

RETURN VALUE: When used as a function, returns the value returned by the specified routine.

#### CAPITAL

---

DESCRIPTION: Print statement modifier, indicating that the next word should be printed with the first letter capitalized.

SYNTAX: `print capital <address>`

where <address> is any dictionary word, such as, for example, an `object.name` property.

## CASE

DESCRIPTION: Specifies a conditional case in a SELECT structure.

SYNTAX: `select <val>`  
`case <case1>[, <case2>, ...]`  
`...`  
`case <case3>[, <case4>, ...]`  
`...`

where <val> is value such as a variable, routine return value, object property, array element, etc., and each <case> is a single value for comparison (not an expression).

## CHILD

SYNTAX: `x = child(<parent>)`

RETURN VALUE: The object number of the immediate child object of <parent>, or 0 if <parent> has no children.

## CHILDREN

SYNTAX: `x = children(<parent>)`

RETURN VALUE: The number of objects possessed by <parent>.

## CLS

DESCRIPTION: Clears the screen (i.e. the text window) and repositions the output coordinates at the bottom left of the text window.

SYNTAX: `cls`

## COLOR

DESCRIPTION: Sets the display colors for text output.

---

SYNTAX: color <foreground>[, <background>]

where <background> is optional

PARAMETERS: Standard color values for <foreground> and <background> are:

0	Black
1	Blue
2	Green
3	Cyan
4	Red
5	Magenta
6	Brown
7	White
8	Dark gray
9	Light blue
10	Light green
11	Light cyan
12	Light red
13	Light magenta
14	Light yellow
15	Bright white

## DICT

DESCRIPTION: Dynamically creates a new dictionary entry at runtime.

SYNTAX: x = dict(<array>, <maxlen>)

x = dict(parse\$, <maxlen>)

where <array> or parse\$ holds the string to be written into the dictionary, and <maxlen> represents the maximum number of characters to be written. Returns the new dictionary address. (NOTE: Space should be reserved for any dictionary entries to be created at runtime using the \$MAXDICTEXTEND setting during compilation.)

## DO

DESCRIPTION: Marks the starting point of a DO-WHILE loop.

SYNTAX: do  
{  
    ...  
}  
while <expr>

The loop will continue to run as long as <expr> holds true.

---

## ELDER

SYNTAX: `x = elder(<object>)`

RETURN VALUE: The object number of the object preceding <object> on the same branch in the object tree. The reverse of SIBLING.

## ELDEST

Same as  
CHILD  
.

## ELSE

DESCRIPTION: In an IF-ELSEIF-ELSE conditional block, indicates the default operation if no previous condition has been met.

SYNTAX: `if <condition>`  
    `...`  
    `else`  
    `...`

## ELSEIF

DESCRIPTION: In an IF-ELSEIF-ELSE conditional block, indicates a condition that will be checked only if no preceding condition has been met.

SYNTAX: `if <condition1>`  
    `...`  
    `elseif <condition2>`  
    `...`  
    `elseif <condition3>`  
    `...`

## FALSE

DESCRIPTION: A predefined constant value: 0.

## FOR

DESCRIPTION: Loop construction.

SYNTAX: `for (<initial>; <test>; <mod>)`  
    `{`  
        `...`  
    `}`

---

```
for <var> in <object>
{
    ...
}
```

For the first form, where <initial> is the initial assignment expression (e.g. `a = 1`), <test> is the test expression (e.g. `a < 10`), and <mod> is the modifying expression (e.g. `a = a + 1`). The loop will execute as long as <test> holds true.

The second form loops through all the children of <object> (if any), setting <var> to each child object in sequence.

## GRAPHICS

Turns on graphics mode; not supported in Hugo v2.x.

## HELD

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that any single object possessed by the player object is valid.

## HEX

DESCRIPTION: Print statement modifier signifying that the following value is not a dictionary address, but should be printed as a hexadecimal number.

SYNTAX: `print hex <var>`

where, for example, <var> is equal to 26, will print "1A".

## IF

DESCRIPTION: A conditional expression.

SYNTAX: `if <condition>`  
    ...

where <condition> is an expression or value, will run the following statement block only if <condition> is true.

## IN

---

DESCRIPTION: When used in an object definition, places the object in the object tree as a possession of the specified parent. When used in an expression, returns true if the object is in the specified parent.

SYNTAX: in <parent>  
  
or  
  
<object> [not] in <parent>

## INPUT

DESCRIPTION: Receive input from keyboard, storing the dictionary addresses of the individual words in the word array. Unrecognized words are given a value of 0.

SYNTAX: input

## IS

DESCRIPTION: Attribute assignment/testing.

SYNTAX: <object> is [not] <attribute>

USAGE: When used as an assignment on its own, will set (or clear, if NOT is used) the specified attribute for the given object. May also be used in an expression.

RETURN VALUE: When used in an expression, returns true if <object> has the specified attribute set (or cleared, if NOT is used). Otherwise, it returns false.

## JUMP

DESCRIPTION: Jumps to a specified label.

SYNTAX: jump <label>

where a unique <label> exists on a separate line somewhere in the program, in the form:

:<label>

## LOCAL

DESCRIPTION: Defines one or more variables local to the current routine.

---

SYNTAX: local <var1>[, <var2>, <var3>,...]

## LOCATE

DESCRIPTION: Sets the cursor position.

SYNTAX: locate(<row>, <column>)

NOTE: Screen size limits are undefined by the engine.

## MOVE

DESCRIPTION: Moves an object with all its possessions to a new parent.

SYNTAX: move <object> to <new parent>

## MULTI

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that multiple available objects are valid.

## MULTIHELD

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that multiple objects possessed by the player object are valid.

## MULTINOTHELD

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that multiple objects explicitly not held by the player object are valid.

## NEARBY

DESCRIPTION: Used in an object definition to place the object in the specified position in the object tree.

SYNTAX: nearby <object>

Gives the current object the same parent as <object>.

nearby

Gives the current object the same parent as the

---

last-defined object.

#### NEWLINE

DESCRIPTION: Print statement modifier, indicating that a line feed and carriage return should be issued if the current output position is not already at the start of a blank line.

SYNTAX: print newline

#### NOT

DESCRIPTION: Logical not.

SYNTAX: x = not <value>

<object> is not <attribute>

RESULT: In the first example, x will be true if <value> is false, or false if <value> is true.

In the second, the specified attribute will be cleared for <object> when used alone as an assignment. As part of an expression, it will return true only if <object> does not have <attribute> set.

#### NOTHELD

DESCRIPTION: Object specifier in grammar syntax line, indicating that a single object explicitly not held by the player object is valid.

#### NUMBER

DESCRIPTION: When used in a grammar syntax line, indicates that a single positive integer number is valid.

When used as a print statement modifier, indicates that the following value is not a dictionary address, but should be printed as a positive integer number.

SYNTAX: (for usage as a print statement modifier)

print number <val>

where, for example, <val> is equal to 100, will print "100" instead of the word beginning at the address 100 in the dictionary table.

---



## OBJECT

DESCRIPTION: Global variable holding the object number of the direct object, if any, specified in the input line.

When used in a grammar syntax line, indicates that a single available object is valid.

## OR

DESCRIPTION: Logical or.

SYNTAX: `x = <value1> or <value2>`

RESULT: `x` will be true if either `<value1>` or `<value2>` is non-false, false if both are false.

## PARENT

(Usage 1)

SYNTAX: `x = parent(<object>)`

RETURN VALUE: The object number of `<object>`'s parent object.

(Usage 2)

DESCRIPTION: When used in a grammar syntax line, indicates that the domain for validating the availability of the specified direct object should be set to the parent object specified in the input line.

## PARSE\$

DESCRIPTION: Engine variable, usable only in a PRINT statement or in conjunction with STRING or DICT, which contains either the offending portion of an invalid input line or any section of the input line enclosed in quotes.

SYNTAX: `print parse$`

## PAUSE

DESCRIPTION: Pauses until a key is pressed. The ASCII value of the key is stored in `word[0]`.

---

## PLAYBACK

DESCRIPTION: Plays back recorded commands from a file in place of keyboard input.

SYNTAX: `x = playback`

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## PRINT

DESCRIPTION: Print text output.

SYNTAX: `print <output>`

where <output> can consist of both test strings enclosed in quotation marks ("..."), and values representing dictionary addresses, such as object names. Separate components of <output> are separated by a semicolon (";"). Each component may also be preceded by a modifier such as CAPITAL, HEX, or NUMBER.

## PRINTCHAR

DESCRIPTION: Prints an ASCII character or series of characters at the current cursor position. No newline is printed.

SYNTAX: `printchar <val1>[, <val2>, ...]`

## QUIT

DESCRIPTION: Terminates the game loop.

SYNTAX: `quit`

## RANDOM

DESCRIPTION: Engine function which generates a random number.

SYNTAX: `x = random(<val>)`

RETURN VALUE: Where <val> is a positive integer number, will return a random number between 1 and <val>, inclusively.

## READFILE

DESCRIPTION: A structure that allows values to be read from a file written using writefile.

```
SYNTAX:  readfile <filename>
        {
            ...
        }
```

The file is opened and positioned to the start at the beginning of the readfile block, and closed at the end.

## READVAL

DESCRIPTION: Reads a value in a readfile block.

```
SYNTAX:  x = readval
```

RETURN VALUE: The value read, or 0 in the case of an error. Use the FILE\_CHECK constant defined in HUGOLIB.H to determine if a readfile block has been executed successfully. See the section above on

Reading and Writing Files

.

## RECORDOFF

DESCRIPTION: Ends recording commands to a file.

```
SYNTAX:  x = recordoff
```

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## RECORDON

DESCRIPTION: Begins recording commands to a file.

```
SYNTAX:  x = recordon
```

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## REMOVE

DESCRIPTION: Removes an object from the object tree.

```
SYNTAX:  remove <object>
```

(The same as: move <object> to 0)

## RESTART

---

DESCRIPTION: Reloads the initial game data and calls the Init routine.

SYNTAX: x = restart

NOTE: RESTART does not technically restart the engine; the game loop continues uninterrupted after Init is called, only with the game data restored to its initial state.

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## RESTORE

DESCRIPTION: Restores a saved game by calling the engine's restore routine.

SYNTAX: x = restore

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## RETURN

DESCRIPTION: Returns from a called routine.

SYNTAX: return [<expression>]

RETURN VALUE: Returns <expression> if provided, otherwise returning false.

## RUN

DESCRIPTION: Runs an object property routine if one exists.

SYNTAX: run <object>.<property>

RETURN VALUE: None; any value returned by the property routine is discarded.

## RUNEVENTS

DESCRIPTION: Calls all events which are either global or currently within the event scope of the player object.

SYNTAX: runevents

## SAVE

DESCRIPTION: Saves the current game position by calling

---

the engine's save routine.

SYNTAX: x = save

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

#### SCRIPTOFF

DESCRIPTION: Turns transcription off.

SYNTAX: x = scriptoff

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

#### SCRIPTON

DESCRIPTION: Turns transcription on by calling the engine's transcription routine.

SYNTAX: x = scripton

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

#### SELECT

DESCRIPTION: Specifies the value for comparison in a SELECT-CASE conditional structure.

```
SYNTAX:  select <val>
          case <case1>[, <case2>, ...]
          ...
          case <case3>[, <case4>, ...]
          ...
```

where <val> is value such as a variable, routine return value, object property, array element, etc., and each <case> is a single value for comparison (not an expression).

#### SERIAL\$

DESCRIPTION: Engine variable, usable only in a print statement, which contains the serial number as written by the compiler.

SYNTAX: print serial\$

#### SIBLING

SYNTAX: x = sibling(<object>)

RETURN VALUE: The number of the object next to <object>

---

on the same branch of the object tree.

## STRING

**DESCRIPTION:** When used in a grammar syntax line, indicates that a string array enclosed in quotation marks is valid.

When used as a function, stores a dictionary entry in a string array.

**SYNTAX:** `x = string(<array>, <dict>, <maxlen>)`

`x = string(<array>, parse$, <maxlen>)`

where <array> is an array address, stores the either the dictionary entry given by <dict> or the contents of parse\$ as a series of ASCII characters, to a maximum of <maxlen> characters. Returns the length of the string stored in <array>.

## TEXT

Turns on text mode; not supported in Hugo v2.x.

`text to <val>` Sends text to the array table, beginning at address <val>.

`text to 0` Restores normal printing.

## TO

**DESCRIPTION:** In a PRINT statement, prints blank spaces in the current background color to the specified position.

**SYNTAX:** `print to <val>`

where <val> is a positive integer less than or equal to the maximum column position

## TRUE

**DESCRIPTION:** Predefined constant: 1.

## UNDO

**DESCRIPTION:** Attempts to recover the state of the game data before the last player command.

**SYNTAX:** `x = undo`

---

RETURN VALUE: True if successful, false if not.

## VERB

DESCRIPTION: Begins definition of a regular verb. Upon returning true from the verb routine, Main is called.

SYNTAX: verb "<word1>"[, "<word2>",...]

## WHILE

DESCRIPTION: Component of WHILE or DO-WHILE loop construct.

SYNTAX: while <expr>  
    ...

(or)

do  
    ...  
while <expr>

where the loop will run as long as <expr> holds true.

## WINDOW

DESCRIPTION: Switches output to the status window.

SYNTAX: window  
    {  
        ...  
    }

where the routine in braces following WINDOW will send its output to the status window, beginning at the top-left corner of the screen. The current output position upon exiting the window routine will become the new bottom of the window.

## WRITEFILE

DESCRIPTION: A structure that writes values to a file that may be read using readfile.

SYNTAX: writefile <filename>  
    {  
        ...  
    }

---

The file is opened and positioned to the start at the beginning of the writefile block, and closed at the end.

#### WRITEVAL

DESCRIPTION: Writes one or more values in a writefile block.

SYNTAX: writefile value1[, value2, ...]

#### XOBJECT

DESCRIPTION: Global variable holding the object number of the indirect object, if any, specified in the input line.

When used in a grammar syntax line, indicates that a single available object is valid.

#### XVERB

DESCRIPTION: Begins definition of non-action verb. Upon returning from the verb routine, Main is not called.

SYNTAX: xverb "<word1>"[, "<word2>", ...]

#### YOUNGER

Same as  
SIBLING  
.

#### YOUNGEST

SYNTAX: x = youngest(<parent>)

RETURN VALUE: The number of the object most recently added to parent <parent>.

---



## 1.13 APPENDIX B: THE LIBRARY (HUGOLIB.H)

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### APPENDIX B: THE LIBRARY (HUGOLIB.H)

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#### ATTRIBUTES

---

known	if an object is known to the player
moved	if an object has been moved
visited	if a room has been visited
static	if an object cannot be taken
plural	for plural objects (i.e. some hats)
living	if an object is a character
female	if a character is female
unfriendly	if a character is unfriendly
openable	if an object can be opened
open	if it is open
lockable	if an object can be locked
locked	if it is locked
light	if an object is or provides light
readable	if an object can be read
switchable	if an object can be turned on or off
switchedon	if it is on
clothing	for objects that can be worn
worn	if the object is being worn
mobile	if the object can be rolled, etc.
enterable	if an object is enterable
container	if an object can hold other objects
platform	if other objects can be placed on it (NOTE: container and platform are mutually exclusive)
hidden	if an object is not to be listed
quiet	if container or platform is quiet (i.e. the initial listing of contents is suppressed)
transparent	if object is not opaque
already_listed	if object has been pre-listed (i.e. before, for example, a WhatsIn listing)
workflag	for system use
special	for miscellaneous use

---

#### GLOBALS, CONSTANTS, AND ARRAYS

---

GLOBALS:

---

The first 10 globals are pre-defined by the compiler:

object	direct object of a verb action
xobject	indirect object
self	self-referential object
words	total number of words
player	the player object
actor	player, or another char. (for scripts)
location	location of the player object
verbroutine	the verb routine
endflag	if not false (0), run EndGame
prompt	for input line
objects	the total number of objects
linelength	the maximum length of a line of text
pagelength	the maximum number of lines in the window
MAX_SCORE	total possible score
MAX_RANK	up to x levels of player ranking
FORMAT	specifies text-printing format
DEFAULT_FONT	usually 0; could be, for example, PROP_ON
STATUSTYPE	0=none, 1=score/turns, 2=time
DISPLAYTYPE	0=text, 1=graphics
TEXTCOLOR	normal text color
BGCOLOR	normal background color
BOLDCOLOR	color for boldface printing
SL_TEXTCOLOR	statusline text color
SL_BGCOLOR	statusline background color
INDENT_SIZE	for paragraph indenting
AFTER_PERIOD	number of spaces following a full-stop
counter	elapsed turns (or time, as desired)
score	accumulated score
verbosity	for room descriptions
nest	used by ListObjects
light_source	in location
event_flag	set when something happens
speaking	if the player is talking to a char.
old_location	whenever location changes
obstacle	if something is stopping the player
best_parse_rank	for differentiating like-named objects
customerror_flag	true once CustomError is called
need_newline	true when newline should be printed
override_indent	true if no indent should be printed
number_scripts	number of active character scripts
it_obj	to reference objects via pronouns
them_obj	
him_obj	
her_obj	
general	for general use

#### ARRAYS:

replace_pronoun[4]	for it_obj, him_obj, etc.
oldword[MAX_WORDS]	for "again" command
scriptdata[48]	for object scripts
array setscript[1024]	the actual scripts
array ranking[10]	in tandem with scoring

## CONSTANTS:

BANNER                    should be printed in every game header  
 MAX\_SCRIPTS               that may be active at one time  
 MAX\_WORDS                 in a parsed input line

## Color constants:

BLACK	DARK GRAY
BLUE	LIGHT_BLUE
GREEN	LIGHT_GREEN
CYAN	LIGHT_CYAN
RED	LIGHT_RED
MAGENTA	LIGHT_MAGENTA
BROWN	YELLOW
WHITE	BRIGHT_WHITE

## Printing format masks (for setting FORMAT global):

LIST_F	print itemized lists, not sentences
NORECURSE_F	do not recurse object contents
NOINDENT_F	do not indent listings
DESCFORM_F	alternate room description formatting
GROUPPLURALS_F	list plurals together where possible

## Font style masks (for use with the Font routine):

BOLD_ON	BOLD_OFF	boldface
ITALIC_ON	ITALIC_OFF	italics
UNDERLINE_ON	UNDERLINE_OFF	underline
PROP_ON	PROP_OFF	proportional printing

## Additional constants:

UP_ARROW	LEFT_ARROW	for reading keystrokes	
DOWN_ARROW	ENTER_KEY		
RIGHT_ARROW	ESCAPE_KEY		
AND_WORD	("and")	IN_WORD	("in")
ARE_WORD	("are")	IS_WORD	("is")
HERE_WORD	("here")	ON_WORD	("on")

FILE\_CHECK                for verifying writefile/readfile  
 operations

(The following are used only by specific routines:

## ARRAYS:

_temp_array[256]	used by string manipulation functions
menuitem[11]	required by the Menu function

## GLOBALS:

```

MENU_TEXTCOLOR      normal menu text color
MENU_BGCOLOR        normal menu background color
MENU_SELECTCOLOR    menu highlight color
MENU_SELECTBGCOLOR  menu highlight background color)

```

---

PROPERTIES

---

The first 6 properties are pre-defined by the compiler:

```

name                basic object name
before              pre-verb routines
after               post-verb routines
noun (nouns)        noun(s) for referring to object
adjective (adjectives) adjective(s) describing object
article             "a", "an", "the", "some", etc.

preposition (prep)  "in", "inside", "outside of", etc.,
                    used generally for room objects in
                    order to give a grammatically
                    correct description if necessary;
                    also for containers and platforms

pronoun             "he", "him", "his" or equivalent, so
                    that an object is properly referred
                    to

short_desc          routine; basic "X is here"
                    description

initial_desc        routine; same as above, but if
                    object has not been moved and an
                    initial_desc exists, it is called in
                    place of short_desc

long_desc           routine; detailed description

found_in            in case of multiple parents,
                    found_in may hold one or more object
                    numbers; in this case, an IN
                    <object> specifier should not be
                    included in the object definition

type                to identify the type of object, used
                    primarily by class definitions in
                    OBJLIB.H

size                for holding/inventory purposes,
                    contains a value representing the
                    size of an individual object

capacity            contains a value representing the
                    capacity of a container or platform

holding             contains a value representing the

```

---

---

	current encumbrance of a container or platform
reach	for enterable objects such as chairs, vehicles, etc., if the accessibility of objects outside the object in question is limited, reach contains a list of the objects which may be accessed; if access is limited to the object in question only, reach must still contain at least one non-false value (i.e. the parent object itself)
list_contents	a routine that overrides the normal contents listing for a room or object; normal listing is only carried out if it returns false
in_scope	contains a list of actors or objects to which the object is accessible beyond the use of the object tree or the found_in property; generally contains either the player object (or, less commonly, another character) and is set or cleared using PutInScope or RemoveFromScope
parse_rank	when there is ambiguity between similarly named objects, the parser will choose the one with a higher parse_rank over one with a lower (or non-existent) value
exclude_from_all	returns true if the object should be excluded from actions such as "get all"
misc	miscellaneous use

For room objects only:

n_to	If a player can move to another room object in direction X, then X_to holds the new room object
ne_to	
e_to	
se_to	
s_to	
sw_to	
w_to	
nw_to	
u_to	
d_to	
in_to	
out_to	
cant_go	routine; message instead of default

---

"You can't go that way."

For non-room objects only:

door_to	for handling "Enter <object>", holds the object number of the object to which an object enters (where the latter behaves as a door or portal)
key_object	if lockable, contains the object number of the key
when_open when_closed	routines; short descriptions for openable objects  If they exist, the appropriate when_open/when_closed routine is called instead of short_desc (if an initial_desc does not exist, or if the object has been moved)
ignore_response	for characters, a routine that runs if the character ignores a player's question, request, etc., instead of the default "X ignores you."
order_response	also for characters, a routine that processes an imperative command addressed to the character by the player; it should return false if no response is provided
contains_desc	a routine that prints the introduction to a list of child objects, instead of the default "Inside <object> are..." or "<character> has..."; contains_desc should always conclude with a semicolon (";") instead of a new line
inv_desc	a routine that prints a special description when the object is listed as part of the player's inventory; inv_desc should conclude with a semicolon (";")
desc_detail	a routine that prints a parenthetical detail following an object listing, such as: " (which is open)"; the leading space is expected, as are the parentheses, and the print statement should conclude with a semicolon (";")

NOTE: It is recommended for property routines that print a

---

description--such as `short_desc`, `initial_desc`, etc.--that the routine not simply return true without printing anything as a means of "hiding" the object; such a method may throw text formatting into disarray. The proper means of omitting an object from a list is to set the hidden attribute.

---

## ROUTINES

---

### VERB ROUTINES

HUGOLIB.H contains a fairly extensive set of basic actions, each of which takes the form `Do<verb>`, so that the action for taking an object is `DoGet`, the action for basic player movement is `DoGo`, etc.

Each is called by the engine when a grammar syntax line specifying the particular verb routine is matched. `Globals object` and `xobject` are set up by the engine, and the routine is called with no parameters.

Here is a list of the provided verb routines for action verbs:

`DoAsk`, `DoAskQuestion`, `DoClose`, `DoDrop`, `DoEat`, `DoEnter`, `DoExit`,  
`DoGet`, `DoGive`, `DoGo`, `DoHit`, `DoInventory`, `DoListen`, `DoLock`,  
`DoLook`, `DoLookAround`, `DoLookIn`, `DoLookThrough`, `DoLookUnder`,  
`DoMove`, `DoOpen`, `DoPutIn`, `DoShow`, `DoSwitchOff`, `DoSwitchOn`,  
`DoTakeOff`, `DoTalk`, `DoTell`, `DoUnlock`, `DoVague`, `DoWait`,  
`DoWaitforChar`, `DoWaitUntil`, `DoWear`

Here are the non-action verb routines:

`DoBrief`, `DoQuit`, `DoRestart`, `DoRestore`, `DoSave`, `DoScore`,  
`DoScriptOnOff`, `DoSuperbrief`, `DoVerbose`,

(NOTE: A set of verb stub routines is also available, including the actions:

`DoBurn`, `DoClimb`, `DoCut`, `DoDig`, `DoHelp`, `DoJump`, `DoKiss`, `DoNo`,  
`DoPull`, `DoPush`, `DoSearch`, `DoSleep`, `DoSmell`, `DoSorry`, `DoSwim`,  
`DoThrowAt`, `DoTie`, `DoTouch`, `DoUntie`, `DoUse`, `DoWake`,  
`DoWakeCharacter`, `DoWave`, `DoWaveHands`, `DoYell`, `DoYes`

The default response for each of these stub routines is a more colorful variation of "Try something else." Any more meaningful response must be incorporated into before property routines.

To use these verbs, include the file `VERBSTUB.G` with the other grammar files, and `VERBSTUB.H` after `HUGOLIB.H`. `HUGOLIB.H` and `GRAMMAR.G` do this automatically if the `VERBSTUBS` flag is set.)

### UTILITY ROUTINES, ETC.

Routines may be treated as procedures or functions, given the idea that procedures are more like commands, while functions are expected

---

to return a value, as in:

```
Procedure(a, b)
x = Function(y)
if Function()...
```

Library routines that do not return a value are generally meant to be treated as procedures; those that do return a value may be treated as either functions or procedures.

First, the junction routines:

EndGame	called by the engine via: EndGame(end_type)
	If end_type = 1, the game is won; if 2, the game is lost. (Since endflag may be any value, a value of, for example, 3 will still call EndGame, but with no additional effects via the default PrintEndGame routine.) The global endflag is cleared upon calling. Returning false from EndGame terminates the Hugo Engine.
	Also calls: PrintEndGame and PrintScore
FindObject	called by the engine via: FindObject(object, location)
	Returns true (1) if the specified object is available in the specified location, or false (0) if it is not. Returns 2 if the object is visible but not physically accessible.
	Also calls: ObjectisKnown, ExcludeFromAll
Parse	called by the engine via: Parse()
	Returning true forces the engine to re-parse the modified input line.
	Also calls: PreParse, AssignPronoun and SetObjWord
ParseError	called by the engine via: ParseError(errornumber, object)
	Returning false signals the engine to print the default error message
	May also call: CustomError
SpeakTo	called by the engine via: SpeakTo(character)
	Globals object, xobject, and verbroutine are set up as in a normal verb routine call.



Also calls: AssignPronoun

And the routines for grammatically-correct printing:

The                    calling form: The(object)  
  
Prints the definite article form of the object name, e.g. "the apple"

Art                    calling form: Art(object)  
  
Prints the indefinite article form of the object name, e.g. "an apple"

CThe                   calling form: CThe(object)  
  
Prints the capitalized definite article form of the object name, e.g. "The apple"

CART                   calling form: CART(object)  
  
Prints the capitalized indefinite article form of the object name, e.g. "An apple"

IsorAre                calling form: IsorAre(object[, formal])  
where the parameter formal is optional  
  
Depending on whether or not the specified object is plural or singular, prints "'re" or "'s", respectively (or " are" or " is" if the formal parameter is specified as true).

MatchSubject        calling form: MatchSubject(object)  
  
Matches a verb to the given subject <object>. If the object is plural, nothing is printed; if the object is singular, an "s" is printed.

NOTE: None of the above printing routines prints a carriage return, and all return 0 (the null string). Therefore, either of the following usages are valid:

```
CThe(apple)
print " is here."
```

or

```
print CThe(apple); " is here."
```

Other routines:

Acquire                calling form:  
Acquire(parent, object)

---

	<p>Checks to see if <code>parent.capacity</code> is greater than or equal to <code>parent.holding</code> plus <code>object.size</code>. If so, it moves <code>object</code> to the specified parent, and returns <code>true</code>. If the object cannot be moved, <code>Acquire</code> returns <code>false</code>.</p> <p>Also calls: <code>CalculateHolding</code></p>
<code>AnyVerb</code>	<p>calling form: <code>AnyVerb(object)</code></p> <p>Returns <code>object</code> if the current verb routine is not an <code>xverb</code>; otherwise it returns <code>false</code>.</p>
<code>AssignPronoun</code>	<p>calling form: <code>AssignPronoun(object)</code></p> <p>Sets the appropriate global <code>it_obj</code>, <code>them_obj</code>, <code>him_obj</code>, or <code>her_obj</code> to the specified object.</p>
<code>CalculateHolding</code>	<p>calling form: <code>CalculateHolding(object)</code></p> <p>Properly recalculates <code>object.holding</code> based on the sizes of all held objects.</p>
<code>CenterTitle</code>	<p>calling form: <code>CenterTitle(text)</code></p> <p>Clears the screen and centers the text given by the specified dictionary entry in the top window.</p>
<code>CheckReach</code>	<p>calling form: <code>CheckReach(object)</code></p> <p>Checks to see if the specified object is within reach of the player object. Returns <code>true</code> if accessible; returns <code>false</code>--and prints an appropriate message--if not.</p>
<code>Contains</code>	<p>calling form: <code>Contains(parent, object)</code></p> <p>Returns <code>&lt;object&gt;</code> if the specified object is present as a possession of the specified parent, even as a grandchild.</p>
<code>CustomError</code>	<p>calling form: <code>CustomError(errornumber, object)</code></p> <p>REPLACE if custom error messages are desired. Is called by <code>ParseError</code> whenever</p>

---

errornumber is greater than or equal to 100, specifying a user parser error. Should return false if no user message is found.

DarkWarning

calling form:  
DarkWarning

Is called by MovePlayer whenever the player object is moved into a location without a light source. The default library routine simply prints a message; for a more sinister response, such as the death of the player, REPLACE the default with a new DarkWarning routine.

DeleteWord

calling form:  
DeleteWord(wordnumber[, number])

Deletes the number of words given by the second argument--or only one word if no second argument is given--starting with word[wordnumber]. Returns the number of words deleted.

DescribePlace

calling form:  
DescribePlace(location[, long])

Prints the location name and, when appropriate, a location description. Including a non-false long parameter will force a location description.

ExcludeFromAll

calling form:  
ExcludeFromAll(object)

Returns true if, based on the current circumstances (verb routine, etc.), the supplied object should be excluded from actions using "all"--such as multi, multiheld, and multinotheld grammar tokens.

FindLight

calling form:  
FindLight(location)

Checks to see if a light source is available in the player's location; if so, it sets the global light\_source to the object number of the source and returns that value.

Also calls: ObjectIsLight

Font

calling form:  
Font(bitmask)

---

	<p>Sets the current font attributes as specified by bitmask, where bitmask is one or more font-style constants (see library constants</p> <p>, above) combined with " " or "+".</p>
GetInput	<p>calling form: GetInput([prompt string])</p> <p>Receives input from the keyboard, storing individual words in the word array; unknown words--i.e. those that are not in the dictionary--are assigned the null string, 0 or "". If an argument is passed, it is assumed to be a dictionary address for the prompt string. If no argument is passed, no prompt is printed.</p>
HoursMinutes	<p>calling form: HoursMinutes(counter)</p> <p>Prints the time in hh:mm format given that the global counter represents the time in minutes from 12:00 a.m.</p>
Indent	<p>calling form: Indent</p> <p>If the NOINDENT_F bit is not set in the FORMAT mask, Indent prints two spaces without printing a newline</p>
InList	<p>calling form: InList(object, property, value)</p> <p>If &lt;value&gt; is in the list of values held in &lt;object&gt;.&lt;property&gt;, returns the number of the (first) property element equal to &lt;value&gt;; otherwise returns 0.</p>
InsertWord	<p>calling form: InsertWord(wordnumber[, number])</p> <p>Makes space for either the number of words given by the number argument--or one word if no second argument is given--if possible, at word[wordnumber], shifting upward all words from that point to the end of the input line. Returns the number of words inserted.</p>
ListObjects	<p>calling form: ListObjects(object)</p> <p>Lists all the possessions of the specified</p>

---

object in the appropriate form (according to the global FORMAT). Possessions of possessions are listed recursively if FORMAT does not contain the NORECURSE\_F bit. Format masks are combined, as in:

```
FORMAT = LIST_F | NORECURSE_F | ...
```

Also calls: WhatsIn

#### Menu

calling form:  
Menu(number, [width])

Prints a menu, given that the possible choices (up to 10) are contained in the menuitem array, with menuitem[0] is the title of the menu. Returns the number of the item selected, or 0 if none is chosen.

Also calls: CenterTitle

#### Message

calling form:  
Message(&routine, num, a, b)

Used by most routines in HUGOLIB.H for text output, so that the bulk of the library text is centralized in one location. Message number num for the specified routine is printed; a and b are optional parameters that may represent objects, dictionary entries, or any other value.

#### MovePlayer

calling form:  
MovePlayer(location[, silent[, none]])  
MovePlayer(direction[, silent[, none]])

Moves the player to the new location, properly setting all relevant variables and attributes. If <silent> is specified (as a true value), no room description is printed following the move.

A direction object (i.e. n\_obj, d\_obj) may be specified instead of a location; in this instance, MovePlayer moves in that direction from the player object's present location.

If <none> is true, before/after routines are not run.

Can be checked in a location's before or after property as "location MovePlayer" to catch a player's exit from or entrance to a location.

---

Returns the object number of the player object's new parent.

NOTE: MovePlayer does not check to see if a move is valid; that must be done before calling the routine.

May also call: DarkWarning

#### NumberWord

calling form:  
NumberWord(number[, true])

Prints a number in non-numerical word format, where <number> is between -32767 to 32767. Always returns 0 (the null string). If a second (true) argument is supplied, the word is capitalized.

#### ObjectIs

calling form:  
ObjectIs(object)

Lists certain attributes, such as providing light or being worn, of the given object in parenthetical form.

#### ObjectIsKnown

calling form:  
ObjectIsKnown(object)

Returns true if the object is known to the player.

#### ObjectIsLight

calling form:  
ObjectIsLight(object)

Returns true if the object or one of its visible possessions is providing light. If so, it also sets the global light\_source the object number of the source.

#### ObjWord

calling form:  
ObjWord(word, object)

Returns either adjective or noun (i.e. the property number) if the given is either an adjective or noun of the specified object.

#### Perform

calling form:  
Perform(&routine, [object], [xobject])

Sets the verbroutine global (as well as object and xobject, if specified), and then calls the routine. Calls before and after routines in accordance with the game loop. Returns the value returned by the routine, after resetting verbroutine, object, and xobject to their previous

---

---

	values.
PreParse	calling form: PreParse  Provided so that, if needed, this routine may be REPLACED instead of the more extensive library Parse routine. The default routine defined in the library is empty.
PrintEndGame	calling form: PrintEndGame(end_type)  Depending on whether end_type is 1 or 2, prints "*** YOU'VE WON THE GAME! ***" or "*** YOU ARE DEAD ***".
PrintScore	calling form: PrintScore(end_of_game)  Prints the score in the appropriate form, depending on whether or not end_of_game is true.
PrintStatusLine	calling form: PrintStatusLine  Prints the status line in the appropriate format, according to the global STATUSTYPE.
PropertyList	calling form: PropertyList(obj, property)  Lists the objects held in obj.property (if any), returning the number of objects listed.
PutInScope	calling form: PutInScope(object, actor)  Makes <object> accessible to <actor>, regardless of their respective locations, and providing that the in_scope property of <object> has at least one empty slot--i.e. one that equals 0. Returns true if successful.
RemoveFromScope	calling form: RemoveFromScope(object, actor)  Removes <object> from the scope of <actor>. Returns true if successful, or false if <object> was never in scope of <actor> to begin with.

---

SetObjWord	<p>calling form: SetObjWord(position, object)</p> <p>Inserts the specified object in the word array in the format: "adjective1 adjective2...noun"</p>
ShortDescribe	<p>calling form: ShortDescribe(object)</p> <p>Prints the short description of the given object, first checking to see if it should run initial_desc, when_open, or when_closed, as appropriate. Then, if no short_desc property exists, it prints a default "X is here."</p> <p>Also calls: WhatsIn</p>
SpecialDesc	<p>calling form: SpecialDesc(object)</p> <p>Checks each child object of &lt;object&gt;, running any appropriate initial_desc or inv_desc property routines. Sets the global variable list_count to the number of remaining (i.e. non-listed) objects.</p>
WhatsIn	<p>calling form: WhatsIn(parent)</p> <p>Lists the possessions of the specified parent, according the form given by the global FORMAT. Returns the number of objects listed.</p> <p>Also calls: SpecialDesc, ListObjects</p>
YesorNo	<p>calling form: YesorNo</p> <p>Checks to see if the just-received input is "yes", "y", "no", or "n". If none of the above, it prompts for a yes or no answer. Once a valid answer is received, it returns true (if yes) or false (if no).</p>

#### AUXILIARY MATH ROUTINES

higher	<p>calling form: higher(a, b)</p> <p>Returns the higher number of &lt;a&gt; or &lt;b&gt;.</p>
lower	<p>calling form:</p>



lower(a, b)

Returns the lower number of <a> or <b>.

mod

calling form:  
mod(a, b)

Returns the remainder of <a> divided by <b>.

pow

calling form:  
pow(a, b)

Returns <a> to the power of <b>. (The return value is unpredictable if the result is outside the boundary of -32767 to 32767.)

## STRING ARRAY ROUTINES

StringCompare

calling form:  
StringCompare(array1, array2)

Returns 1 if <array1> is lexically greater than <array2>, -1 if <array1> is lexically less than <array2>, and 0 if the strings are identical.

StringCopy

calling form:  
StringCopy(new, old[, len])

Copies the contents of the array at the address given by <old> to the array at <new>, to a maximum of <len> characters if <len> is given, or the length of <old> if it isn't.

StringDictCompare

calling form:  
StringDictCompare(array, dictentry)

Performs a StringCompare-like comparison of a string array given by <array> and the dictionary entry <dictentry>, returning 1, -1, or 0 if <array> is lexically greater than, less than, or equal to <dictentry>, respectively.

StringEqual

calling form:  
StringEqual(array1, array2)

Returns true only if <array1> and <array2> are identical.

StringLength

calling form:  
StringLength(array)

Returns the length of the string stored as <array>.

StringPrint

calling form:  
StringPrint(array[, start, end])

Prints the string stored as <array>, beginning with <start> and ending with <end> if given.

#### FUSE/DAEMON ROUTINES

(See the earlier section on fuses and daemons for more information.)

Activate

calling form:  
Activate(object[, setting])

Activates the specified fuse or daemon object. The setting value is only specified for fuses, where it represents the initial value of the timer property.

Deactivate

calling form:  
Deactivate(object)

Deactivates the specified fuse or daemon object.

#### CHARACTER SCRIPT ROUTINES

(See the earlier section on character scripts for more information.)

CancelScript

calling form:  
CancelScript(character)

Immediately cancels the character script associated with the object <character>. Returns true if successful, i.e. if a script for <character> is found.

PauseScript

calling form:  
PauseScript(character)

Temporarily pauses the character script associated with the object <character>. Returns true if successful.

ResumeScript

calling form:  
ResumeScript(character)

	Resumes execution of a paused script. Returns true if successful.
SkipScript	calling form: SkipScript(character)  Skips execution of the script for <character> during the next call to RunScripts only.
Script	calling form: Script(character, steps)  Initializes space for the requested number of steps in the setscript array, sets up the data for the script in the scriptdata array, and returns the location of the script in setscript. Returns -1 if MAX_SCRIPTS is exceeded.
RunScripts	calling form: RunScripts  Runs all active scripts, calling them in the form:  CharRoutine(character, object)

#### CHARACTER ACTION ROUTINES

As a starting point, the library also provides a limited number of routines for character objects to use in scripts. They are:

&CharWait, 0

&CharMove, direction\_object (requires OBJLIB.H)

&CharGet, object

&CharDrop, object

and

&LoopScript, 0

---

#### CONDITIONAL COMPILATION

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A number of compiler flags may be set which exclude certain portions of HUGOLIB.H from compilation if these functions or objects are not required.

FLAG:	EXCLUDES:
-------	-----------

---

NO_AUX_MATH	Auxiliary math routines
NO_FUSES	Fuses AND daemons
NO_MENUS	Use of the Menu function
NO_OBJLIB	OBJLIB.H
NO_RECORDING	Command recording functions
NO_SCRIPTS	Character scripting routines
NO_STRING_ARRAYS	String array functions
NO_VERBS	All action verbs
NO_XVERBS	All non-action verbs

## 1.14 APPENDIX C: LIMIT SETTINGS

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### APPENDIX C: LIMIT SETTINGS

---

NOTE: The default settings for the complete set of limits may be obtained by invoking the compiler via:

```
hc $list
```

(The following limits are static and non-modifiable, since they reflect the internal configuration of the Hugo Engine:

MAXATTRIBUTES	The maximum number of definable attributes, not counting aliases
MAXGLOBALS	The maximum number of definable global variables
MAXLOCALS	The maximum number of local variables allowed in a routine, including arguments passed to the routine)

The following are the modifiable settings, which may be setting using:

```
$<setting>=<new limit>
```

either in the invocation line or in the source code.

MAXALIASES	The maximum number of aliases that may be defined for attributes and/or properties
MAXARRAYS	The maximum number of arrays that may be defined (not the total array space, which is automatically reserved)
MAXCONSTANTS	The maximum number of constants
MAXDICT	The maximum number of entries that the compiler can enter into the dictionary table

---

MAXDICTEXTEND	The total number of bytes (not the total number of entries) available for dynamic dictionary extension during runtime
MAXEVENTS	The maximum number of global or object-linked events
MAXFLAGS	The maximum number of compiler flags that may be set at one time to control conditional compilation
MAXLABELS	The maximum number of labels that may be defined in an entire program
MAXOBJECTS	The maximum number of objects and/or classes that may be created
MAXPROPERTIES	The maximum number of properties that may be defined
MAXROUTINES	The maximum number of stand-alone routines (not property routines) that may be defined

## 1.15 APPENDIX D: PRECOMPILED HEADERS

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### APPENDIX D: PRECOMPILED HEADERS

---

It is possible to compile files that would normally be included using the `#include` directive into a precompiled header file that may be linked using `#link`, as in:

```
#link "<filename.HLB>"
```

The advantage of doing this is primarily one of faster compilation speed; files that are used over and over again without alteration (such as `HUGOLIB.H`) may be precompiled so that they are not recompiled every time.

The `#link` directive must come after any grammar, but before any definitions of attributes, properties, globals, objects, synonyms, etc. Grammar is illegal in a precompiled header.

To create a precompiled header, use the `-h` directive when invoking the Hugo Compiler. The file `HUGOLIB.HUG` serves as a good example. Compile it via

```
hc -h hugolib.hug
```

in order to generate `HUGOLIB.HLB`.

Next, change occurrences of

---

```
#include "hugolib.h"
```

in Hugo programs to

```
#link "hugolib.hlb"
```

Change the definition for the main routine from

```
routine main  
{...
```

to

```
replace main  
{...
```

since HUGOLIB.HUG contains a temporary main routine.

NOTE: Any conditional compilation flags set in the Hugo program will have no effect on the compiled code in HUGOLIB.HLB, since the routines included in or excluded from HUGOLIB.HLB are determined by the flags set in HUGOLIB.HUG. It is recommended that a Hugo user using precompiled headers compile a version of HUGOLIB.HUG that includes HUGOFIX.H and/or VERBSTUB.H as desired.

It is generally not possible to include multiple precompiled .HLB headers compiled in separate passes via subsequent #links in the same source file. Because of the absolute references assigned to data such as dictionary addresses, attribute numbers, etc., such an attempt will produce an "Incompatible precompiled headers" error.

However, for games that are composed of separate sections that can be combined into distinct files, it may make sense to precompile one .HUG file containing all the common elements that will be used by the separate sections--such as the player object, etc.--and which #includes or #links the library in it. Then, this new .HLB file can be #linked in each of the separate sections during development and testing. Of course, each of the separate sections will have to be #included in a single master file for building the full release version.

Finally, it is advisable that precompiled headers be used only in building .HEX files during the design/testing stage in order to facilitate faster development. The reason is that the linker does not selectively include routine calls; the entire .HLB file is loaded during the link phase. As a result, Hugo files produced using precompiled headers--especially if existing routines in the .HLB file are replaced in the source--tend to be larger and therefore less economical in their memory usage. For this reason, it is recommended that #include be used for building release versions instead of #linking the corresponding precompiled header.

## 1.16 APPENDIX E: THE HUGO DEBUGGER

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APPENDIX E: THE HUGO DEBUGGER

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The Hugo Debugger is a valuable part of the Hugo design system. It allows a programmer to monitor all aspects of program execution, including watching expressions, modifying values, moving objects, etc.--all things expected of a modern source-level debugger.

The Hugo Debugger is not technically a source-level debugger, however. During its development, its author has referred to it as a source(ish) level debugger--what the debugger does, in effect, is to "decompile" compiled code into the tokens and symbols that comprise each line of code.

In order to be used with the debugger, a Hugo program must be compiled using the `-d` switch in order to create an `.HDX` debuggable file with additional data such as names for objects, variables, properties, etc.

(Note that `.HDX` files can be run by the engine, but `.HEX` files cannot be run by the debugger because of the additional data required.)

The MS-DOS convention for running the debugger is

```
hd <filename>
```

The debugger will begin on the debugging screen. Switch back-and-forth from the actual game screen by pressing `TAB`.

At this point, it is probably best to select "Shortcut Keys" from the Help menu, since the actual keystrokes for running the debugger may vary from system to system. (It is possible to operate the debugger entirely through menus, but this soon becomes tedious for operations like stepping line-by-line.)

The file `HDHELP.HLP` should be in the same directory as `HD.EXE`--this is the online help file for the debugger, containing information on such things as:

- Printing

- Windows and Views, including

- Code Window
  - Watch Window
  - Calls
  - Breakpoints
  - Local Variables
  - Property/Attribute Aliases
  - Auxiliary Window
  - Output

- Running a program

- Finish Routine
  - Stepping Through Code

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Skipping Over Code  
Stepping Backward

Searching Code  
Watch Expressions  
Setting or Modifying Values  
Breakpoints  
Object Tree  
Moving Objects

Setup

## 1.17 Copyright

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Hugo Compiler, Engine, Debugger, Library, and the Hugo Manual

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## 1.18 AmigaGuide® version

This AmigaGuide® version of the Hugo v2.3 Programming Manual was made by Paolo Vece.

The text is unchanged from the original ASCII version of this manual made by Kent Tessman.

I've just added the links to each paragraph, the Index of Keywords and Commands and this short note.

This is my little contribution to the great work of Kent Tessman, (and David Kinder for his Amiga port).

Paolo Vece  
pvece@mclink.it

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## 1.19 INDEX

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INDEX OF KEYWORDS AND COMMANDS

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