and their assignments are displayed. A variable is not displayed if a semicolon is typed instead of a comma. For example, the assignments of the variables `a`, `B`, and `C` above can all be done in the same line.

```
>> a=12, B=4; C=(a-B)+40-a/B*10
a =
    12
C =
    18
```

The variable `B` is not displayed because a semicolon is typed at the end of the assignment.

- A variable that already exists can be reassigned a new value. For example:

```
>> ABB=72;
>> ABB=9;
>> ABB
ABB =
     9
>>
```

A value of 72 is assigned to the variable `ABB`.

A new value of 9 is assigned to the variable `ABB`.

The current value of the variable is displayed when the name of the variable is typed and the **Enter** key is pressed.

- Once a variable is defined it can be used as an argument in functions. For example:

```
>> x=0.75;
>> E=sin(x)^2+cos(x)^2
E =
     1
>>
```

1.6.2 Rules About Variable Names

A variable can be named according to the following rules:

- Must begin with a letter.
- Can be up to 63 characters long.
- Can contain letters, digits, and the underscore character.
- Cannot contain punctuation characters (e.g., period, comma, semicolon).
- MATLAB is case-sensitive: it distinguishes between uppercase and lowercase letters. For example, `AA`, `Aa`, `aA`, and `aa` are the names of four different variables.
- No spaces are allowed between characters (use the underscore where a space is desired).
- Avoid using the name of a built-in function for a variable (i.e., avoid using `cos`, `sin`, `exp`, `sqrt`, etc.). Once a function name is used to for a variable name, the function cannot be used.