ZILF Reference Guide

Henrik Åsman et al.

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Table of Contents

ZIL Reference Guide	13
Introduction	13
Goal of document	13
Syntax	14
Regarding TRUE and FALSE	14
Regarding ATOMs and other primitive types	14
DECL and ADECL	16
Regarding OBLISTs	16
% and %%	16
Segments	17
What is the "new parser"?	17
MDL built-ins and ZIL library (use outside ROUTINE)	18
* (multiply)	18
+ (add)	18
- (subtract)	18
/ (divide)	19
0?	19
1?	19
==?	19
=?	20
ADD-TELL-TOKENS	20
ADD-WORD	21
ADJ-SYNONYM	23
AGAIN	24
ALLTYPES	24
AND	24
AND?	25
ANDB	25
APPLICABLE?	25
APPLY	26
APPLYTYPE	26
ASCII	26
ASK-FOR-PICTURE-FILE?	27
ASSIGNED?	27
ASSOCIATIONS	27
ATOM	28
AVALUE	28
BACK	28

BEGIN-SEGMENT	29
BIND	29
BIT-SYNONYM	30
BLOAT	30
BLOCK	30
BOUND?	31
BUZZ	31
BYTE	31
CHECK-VERSION?	32
CHECKPOINT	32
CHRSET	32
СНТҮРЕ	33
CLOSE	34
COMPILATION-FLAG	34
COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT	34
COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE	35
COMPILING?	35
COND	35
CONS	36
CONSTANT	36
CRLF	37
DECL-CHECK	37
DECL?	37
DEFAULT-DEFINITION	39
DEFAULTS-DEFINED	40
DEFINE	40
DEFINE-GLOBALS	41
DEFINE-SEGMENT	41
DEFINE20	41
DEFINITIONS	42
DEFMAC	42
DEFSTRUCT	43
DELAY-DEFINITION	45
DIR-SYNONYM	46
DIRECTIONS	46
EMPTY?	46
END-DEFINITIONS	46
END-SEGMENT	47
ENDBLOCK	47
ENDLOAD	47

ENDPACKAGE	47
ENDSECTION	48
ENTRY	48
EQVB	48
ERROR	48
EVAL	49
EVAL-IN-SEGMENT	49
EVALTYPE	50
EXPAND	50
FILE-FLAGS	50
FILE-LENGTH	51
FLOAD	51
FORM	52
FREQUENT-WORDS?	52
FUNCTION	52
FUNNY-GLOBALS?	53
G=?	53
G?	54
GASSIGNED?	54
GBOUND?	54
GC	54
GC-MON	55
GDECL	55
GET-DECL	56
GETB	57
GETPROP	57
GLOBAL	57
GROW	58
GUNASSIGN	58
GVAL	58
IFFLAG	59
ILIST	59
IMAGE	59
INCLUDE	60
INCLUDE-WHEN	60
INDENT-TO	61
INDEX	61
INDICATOR	61
INSERT	62
INSERT-FILE	63

ISTRING	63
ITABLE	63
ITEM	64
IVECTOR	64
L=?	65
L?	65
LANGUAGE	65
LEGAL?	65
LENGTH	66
LENGTH?	66
LINK	66
LIST	67
LONG-WORDS?	67
LOOKUP	68
LPARSE	68
LSH	68
LTABLE	69
LVAL	69
M-HPOS	69
MAKE-GVAL	70
MAPF	70
MAPLEAVE	71
MAPR	71
MAPRET	72
MAPSTOP	72
MAX	72
MEMBER	73
MEMQ	73
MIN	73
MOBLIST	73
MOD	74
MSETG	74
N==?	74
N=?	74
NEVER-ZAP-TO-SOURCE-DIRECTORY?	75
NEW-ADD-WORD	75
NEWTYPE	75
NEXT	76
NOT	76
NTH	76

OBJECT	77
OBLIST?	78
OFFSET	78
OPEN	79
OR	79
OR?	80
ORB	80
ORDER-FLAGS?	80
ORDER-OBJECTS?	81
ORDER-TREE?	81
PACKAGE	82
PARSE	83
PICFILE	84
PLTABLE	84
PNAME	84
PREP-SYNONYM	85
PRIMTYPE	85
PRIN1	85
PRINC	85
PRINT	85
PRINT-MANY	86
PRINTTYPE	86
PROG	87
PROPDEF	88
PTABLE	91
PUT	91
PUT-DECL	91
PUT-PURE-HERE	91
PUTB	92
PUTPROP	92
PUTREST	93
QUIT	93
QUOTE	94
READSTRING	94
REMOVE	94
RENTRY	95
REPEAT	95
REPLACE-DEFINITION	96
REST	96
RETURN	97

ROOM	97
ROOT	98
ROUTINE	99
ROUTINE-FLAGS	100
SET	100
SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS	101
SETG	101
SETG20	101
SORT	102
SPNAME	102
STRING	102
STRUCTURED?	103
SUBSTRUC	103
SUPPRESS-WARNINGS?	104
SYNONYM	104
SYNTAX	105
TABLE	106
TELL-TOKENS	107
TIME	107
TOP	108
TUPLE	108
TYPE	108
TYPE?	109
TYPEPRIM	109
UNASSIGN	109
UNPARSE	110
USE	110
USE-WHEN	111
VALID-TYPE?	111
VALUE	111
VECTOR	112
VERB-SYNONYM	112
VERSION	112
VERSION?	113
VOC	114
WARN-AS-ERROR?	116
XFLOAD	116
XORB	116
ZGET	117
ZIP-OPTIONS	117

ZPACKAGE	117
ZPUT	118
ZREST	118
ZSECTION	118
ZSTART	119
ZSTR-OFF	119
ZSTR-ON	119
ZZPACKAGE	119
ZZSECTION	119
Z-code built-ins (use inside ROUTINE)	120
*, MUL	120
+, ADD	120
-, SUB	120
/, DIV	121
0?, ZERO?	121
1?	121
=?, ==?, EQUAL?	121
AGAIN	122
AND	123
APPLY	123
ASH, ASHIFT	123
ASSIGNED?	124
BACK	124
BAND, ANDB	124
BCOM	125
BIND	125
BOR, ORB	126
BTST	126
BUFOUT	126
САТСН	127
CHECKU	127
CLEAR	128
COLOR	128
COND	128
CRLF	130
CURGET	130
CURSET	130
DCLEAR	131
DEC	131
DIRIN	132

DIROUT	132
DISPLAY	132
DLESS?	133
DO	133
ERASE	137
F?	137
FCLEAR	138
FIRST?	138
FONT	138
FSET	139
FSET?	139
FSTACK	139
G?, GRTR?	140
G=?	140
GET	140
GETB	140
GETP	141
GETPT	141
GVAL	141
HLIGHT	142
IFFLAG	142
IGRTR?	142
IN?	143
INC	143
INPUT	143
INTBL?	144
IRESTORE	144
ISAVE	145
ITABLE	145
L?, LESS?	146
L=?	146
LEX	146
LOC	146
LOWCORE-TABLE	147
LOWCORE	147
LSH, SHIFT	147
LTABLE	148
LVAL	148
MAP-CONTENTS	148
MAP-DIRECTIONS	149

MARCIN	1.50
MARGIN	150
MENU	150
MOD MOLISE DIFO	151
MOUSE-INFO	151
MOUSE-LIMIT	151
MOVE	152
N=?, N==?	152
NEXT?	152
NEXTP	153
NOT	153
OR	153
ORIGINAL?	154
PICINF	154
PICSET	154
PLTABLE	154
POP	155
PRINT	155
PRINTB	155
PRINTC	156
PRINTD	156
PRINTF	156
PRINTI	156
PRINTN	157
PRINTR	157
PRINTT	157
PRINTU	158
PROG	158
PTABLE	159
PTSIZE	159
PUSH	160
PUT	160
PUTB	160
PUTP	161
QUIT	161
RANDOM	161
READ	162
REMOVE	163
REPEAT	163
REST	163
RESTART	164

RESTORE	165
RETURN	165
RFALSE	166
RFATAL	166
RSTACK	166
RTRUE	166
SAVE	167
SCREEN	167
SCROLL	167
SET	168
SETG	168
SOUND	168
SPLIT	169
T?	169
TABLE	169
TELL	170
THROW	170
USL	171
VALUE	171
VERIFY	171
VERSION?	171
WINATTR	172
WINGET	172
WINPOS	173
WINPUT	173
WINSIZE	173
XPUSH	173
ZWSTR	173
Appendix A: Other Z-machine OP-codes	175
Appendix B – Field-spec for header	175
Ordinary header	176
Extended header	178
Appendix C - Reserved constants, globals & locals	179

ZIL Reference Guide

Introduction

Historically Zork (the mainframe version) was developed in MDL at M.I.T. on an PDP-10 ITS. When Infocom faced the task of moving Zork to 8-bit computers they created a virtual machine that was able to run a subset of MDL (just enough to get a stripped down version of Zork to run: the game we now call Zork I). This virtual machine is now often called a "Z-Machine", and exists in many versions on many platforms.

The Z-machine runs this subset of commands and reads the game data from a formatted data-structure suited for Interactive Fiction.

Infocom's development environment was always MDL on PDP-10. In this environment they had access to MDL and a library of FUNCTIONS designed to help build the data-structure. In the environment there was also ZILCH that compiled the code to a format that the Z-machine could understand.

This means that everything that is inside a ROUTINE is code that compiles to instructions that the Z-machine understands and everything that is outside the ROUTINE is MDL that is used to build the data-structure. There are two classes of commands. And some instructions to ZILCH, the compiler

The full developing environment for Infocom doesn't exist today, although parts exist in a PDP-10 ITS emulation project. As of today there is a MDL interpreter and some code of ZILCH, but primarily the MDL compiler is still missing. Efforts are underway to piece together the PDP-10 ITS environment from old tapes and eventually it may succeed.

Luckily there is now another way to write and compile ZIL: the compiler known as ZILF.

The ZILF environment contains a subset of MDL and the Infocom library of FUNCTIONS (to build the data-structure and ROUTINES). ZILF also can compile all this to a format that then can run in a Z-machine.

This document is divided in basically two parts.

The first part is the things that only work outside a ROUTINE. These commands are processed during compilation to build the data-structure. Here you need to pay attention to order and declare things before they are used.

The second part is things that only work inside a ROUTINE. These commands are processed by the Z-machine during runtime.

Sources:

Learning ZIL, Steve E. Meretzky ZIL Course, Marc S. Blank

Goal of document

[This NOT a manual on how to write games. The goal is to list all instructions and syntaxes with short examples to use when reading game code. It should also list syntax and behaviour that is specific for ZILF.]

Syntax

Typename	Size	Min-Max	Examples
FIX	32-bit signed integer	-2147483648 to 2147483648	616 *747* #2 10110111
CHARACTER	8-bit	0 to 255	!\A
ВҮТЕ	8-bit	0 to 255	65
FALSE			<>
<pre><chtype type="" value=""> <gval value=""> <list <lval="" value="" values)=""> <vector values=""> <quote value=""></quote></vector></list></gval></chtype></pre>	<pre>, value (values) .value</pre>		

Regarding TRUE and FALSE

True and false are handled differently depending on if you are "outside" or "inside" routines.

Outside routines FALSE is its own TYPE which evaluates to an empty list <>.

Inside routines the value 0 is considered FALSE, all other values are considered TRUE.

Example:

Regarding ATOMs and other primitive types

ZILF recognizes the following primitive types: ATOM, FIX, LIST, STRING, TABLE and VECTOR. Everything that ZILF encounters when it reads the code falls into one of these types (or derived types of these primitive ones).

FIX	32-bit signed integer. Any number is a FIX. CHARACTER and BYTE are examples of TYPEs whose PRIMTYPE is FIX.	616 *747* #2 10110111 !\A
LIST	Linked list (forward looking). A LIST is enclosed by parentheses. FORM, FUNCTION and MACRO are examples of TYPEs whose PRIMTYPE is LIST.	(1 2 3) <+ 1 2> <> #FUNCTION <() <+ 1 2>>
STRING	A continuous byte array containing	"Hello, world!"

	characters. A STRING is enclosed by double-quotes.	
TABLE	A continuous byte or word array. This TYPE is specific for ZIL and is a simplified VECTOR without any TYPE information about the individual elements. A TABLE is zero-based and element at index 0 can be specified to contain the length of the TABLE.	#TABLE [5 6 7] <table (byte)="" 5="" 6="" 7=""> <table (byte="" 5="" 6="" 7="" length)=""></table></table>
VECTOR	A continuous array of elements. A VECTOR is enclosed by square brackets. Each element holds information about its TYPE. MDL has a UVECTOR TYPE that contains uniform elements (same TYPE) but ZILF handles these as VECTORs.	[1 !\A "Hello" (1 2 3)] ![1 2 3 4 5!]

Everything that does not have one of the above as its PRIMTYPE is an ATOM. One can think of an ATOM as a variable that can hold one of the other TYPEs. Every ATOM can have a global value and a local value. Every ATOM also has a PNAME ("print name") that ZILF uses when it needs to print the name of the ATOM.

Examples:

```
;"Assign the global ATOM BAR the FIX 123"
<SETG BAR 123>
; "Assign the local ATOM BAR the VECTOR [1 2 3]"
<SET BAR [1 2 3]>
; "Assign the global ATOM BARBAR the global value of ATOM BAR"
<SETG BARBAR <GVAL BAR>>
, BARBAR
                               --> 123
; "Assign the local ATOM FOOBAR the ATOM BAR"
<SET FOOBAR BAR>
.FOOBAR
                                    BAR
<LVAL <LVAL FOOBAR>>
                               --> [1 2 3]
, . FOOBAR
                               --> 123
;"Assign the global ATOM FUNC a FUNCTION"
<DEFINE FUNC () <+ 1 2>>
;"Assign the global ATOM BAZ a FORM"
<SETG BAZ '<+ 1 2>>
,BAZ
                               --> <+ 1 2>
<EVAL ,BAZ>
                               -->
                                    3
```

DECL and ADECL

Regarding OBLISTs

[Short text explaining how OBLISTs are used for "Lexical Blocking", mostly from The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15. All references in the document to chapter 15 should refer to here instead.]

% and %%

When ZILF interprets MDL, either during compilation or when using ZILF in interpreter mode, it goes through three stages repeatedly, READ, EVAL and PRINT.

READ reads ASCII-text and when it has something enclosed in matching brackets the result is passed to EVAL for evaluation that in its turn passes the result of the evaluation to PRINT that prints the evaluated result. The flow is like below:

printable text \rightarrow READ \rightarrow [MDL objects] \rightarrow EVAL \rightarrow [MDL objects] \rightarrow PRINT \rightarrow printable text Consider a simple statement like: <+ 1 2>

READ reads from left to right and when it encounters the closing bracket the MDL object <+ 1 2>, a FORM, is passed to EVAL. EVAL evaluates this MDL object and the resulting MDL object, 3, is passed to PRINT for printing.

% and %% are "READ macros" that are used to modify this process. Whenever READ encounters % or %% it immediately passes the MDL object that follows the %, or %%, to EVAL before it continues the READ.

In case of % the result of the EVAL is inserted in place of the MDL object that follows the % and is used by the following READ.

In case of %% the result of the EVAL is ignored and nothing is inserted in place of the MDL object that follows the %% (eventual side effects of the EVAL remains, of course).

Example:

Segments

Segments are used to copy elements from one structure TYPE to another structure TYPE. Segments take the form !<function args ...!> where the second exclamation point is optional. The implicit form of LVAL and GVAL is legal. The segment is EVALuated and must be EVALuated inside another structure and the result of the EVAL must be a structure, otherwise an error is raised.

Examples:

What is the "new parser"?

[Explain what type of animal the new parser is.]

MDL built-ins and ZIL library (use outside ROUTINE)

The syntax for most of these commands are much like the syntax in MDL.

All these commands are possible to run, test and debug during the interactive mode of ZILF (start ZILF without any options).

Sources:

MDL built-in MDL built-in function. Part of MUDDLE.56 on ITS.

The MDL Programming Language, S. W. Galley and Greg Pfister

MUDDLE F/SUBRS (MUDMAN for MUDDLE 55),

P. David Lebling and S. W. Galley

MDL package system Support for lexical blocking.

The MDL Programming Environment, P. David Lebling

ZIL library Functions added through ZIL/ZILCH at Infocom to support

building of interactive fiction.

ZIL Language Guide, Jesse McGrew

ZILF source code and test cases, Jesse McGrew

Learning ZIL, Steven E. Meretzky

ZIL, Marc S. Blank

ZILF compiler directive

ZILF source code and test cases, Jesse McGrew

* (multiply)

MDL built-in

Multiply numbers.

Example:

+ (add)

MDL built-in

Add numbers.

Example:

- (subtract)

<- numbers ...>

Subtract first number by subsequent numbers

If only one number is provided, it's subtracted from zero (i.e. negated).

Examples:

/ (divide)

Divide first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

0?

<0? value>
MDL built-in

Predicate. True if value is 0 otherwise false.

1?

<1? value>
MDL built-in

Predicate. True if value is 1 otherwise false.

==?

```
<==? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

This is a predicate that returns TRUE if value1 and value2 is the same object, otherwise it returns FALSE.

For ATOMs whose TYPE are structured (for example LISTs and VECTORS) the ATOMs must refer (point) to the same structure to be considered ==. These ATOMs are actually pointers that point to an memory address and the two ATOMs must point to the same address to be ==.

For ATOMs whose TYPE is not structured the ATOMs are considered == if they are of the same TYPE and contain the same value.

ZILF defines "the same object" more loosely than MDL do:

- STRINGS are considered ==? if they contain the same text.
- LVALs and GVALs are considered ==? if they refer to the same ATOMs.

Examples:

This is a predicate that returns TRUE if value1 and value2 is of the same TYPE and structurally equal, otherwise it returns FALSE.

Examples:

ADD-TELL-TOKENS

```
<ADD-TELL-TOKENS {pattern form} ...>
ZIL library
```

Add a new pattern and form to the current TELL-TOKENS. These can then be used in TELL.

Each pattern starts with either:

- Any single ATOM except * (asterisk)
- A LIST of ATOMS, which will define them as synonyms

A simple pattern, like CR, consists of a name and nothing else. More often, patterns also define placeholders to match -- and optionally capture -- parameter values when the token is used inside a TELL. The rest of the pattern consists of any number of:

- An asterisk (*), to match and capture any value.
- An ADECL whose left side is an asterisk (like *:FIX), to match and capture any value that matches the DECL pattern on the right side.
- A GVAL (like , PRSO or equivalently <GVAL PRSO>), to match that exact GVAL without capturing it.

Each pattern is followed by a form that will be copied and inserted in place of the TELL when the

pattern is matched. Each element of the form must be either:

- An ATOM, FIX, STRING, or FALSE.
- An LVAL or GVAL
- An empty FORM

The form must contain exactly one LVAL for each element of the pattern that captures a value. These LVALs are positional placeholders that will be replaced by the captured values, in order. The specific ATOM referenced by each LVAL is ignored.

Example (zillib 0.9 adds these tokens):

```
<ADD-TELL-TOKENS
    T *
                        <PRINT-DEF .X>
   A *
                        <PRINT-INDEF .X>
   CT *
                        <PRINT-CDEF .X>
   CA *
                        <PRINT-CINDEF .X>
   NOUN-PHRASE *
                        <PRINT-NOUN-PHRASE .X>
   OBJSPEC *
                        <PRINT-OBJSPEC .X>
   SYNTAX-LINE * <PRINT-SYNTAX-LINE .X>
   WORD *
                        <PRINT-WORD .X>
   MATCHING-WORD * * * < PRINT-MATCHING-WORD .X .Y .Z>>
```

ADD-WORD

```
<ADD-WORD atom-or-string [part-of-speech] [value] [flags]>
ZIL parser library
```

ADD-WORD requires the new parser (<SETG NEW-PARSER? T>). Note that the standard library that's included with ZILF, zillib, doesn't support the new parser.

The new parser needs a couple of boot-strap FUNCTIONS, GVALS and DEFSTRUCTS to work.

```
CLASSIFIED

A global LIST that defines the part-of-speech and its value.

GET-CLASSIFICATION

A FUNCTION that can return the part-of-speech from CLASSIFIED.

VERB-DATA

VWORD

A DEFSTRUCT.

A DEFSTRUCT.
```

There also needs to be a call to SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS to set up the DEFSTRUCTs.

There's also two COMPILATION-FLAGs that control how the vocabulary is set up.

```
WORD-FLAGS-IN-TABLE Creates the GVAL WORD-FLAG-TABLE.

ONE-BYTE-PARTS-OF-SPEECH Control if the part-of-speech value should occupy a byte or a word (If the size of each entry in the vocabulary is 9 or 10 bytes)
```

INFOCOM only used the new parser in three published games (Arthur, Shogun and Zork Zero) and two unpublished projects (Abyss and Restaurant). ADD-WORD and NEW-ADD-WORD is in these games called with these values

part-of-sp	eech value	flags	flag-value				
ADJ	<>	FIRST-PERSON	8				
ADV	<voc string<="" th=""><td>> PLURAL-FLAG</td><td>16</td></voc>	> PLURAL-FLAG	16				
APOSTR		SECOND-PERSON	32				
ARTICLE		THIRD-PERSON	64				
ASKWORD		PRESENT-TENSE	256				
CANDO		PAST-TENSE	512				
COMMA		FUTURE-TENSE	1024				
END-OF-INP	UT	POSSESSIVE	16384				
MISCWORD							
NOUN							
OFWORD							
PARTICLE							
PREP							
QUANT							
QUOTE							
QWORD							
TOBE							
VERB							
Examples:							
<version 5<="" td=""><td colspan="7"><version 5=""></version></td></version>	<version 5=""></version>						
	<pre><compilation-flag t="" word-flags-in-table=""> <compilation-flag <="" one-byte-parts-of-speech="">></compilation-flag></compilation-flag></pre>						
<setg new-<="" td=""><td colspan="7"><setg new-parser?="" t=""></setg></td></setg>	<setg new-parser?="" t=""></setg>						
<setg clas<="" td=""><td colspan="7"><pre><setg '(adj="" 1="" 16<="" 2="" 4="" 8="" buzz="" classifications="" dir="" noun="" prep="" td=""></setg></pre></td></setg>	<pre><setg '(adj="" 1="" 16<="" 2="" 4="" 8="" buzz="" classifications="" dir="" noun="" prep="" td=""></setg></pre>						
	<pre><define "aux"="" (type="" get-classification="" p)<="" td=""></define></pre>						
<set-defst< td=""><th>RUCT-FILE-DEFAUL</th><td>TS ('START-OFFSET ('PUT ZPUT)</td><td>0)</td></set-defst<>	RUCT-FILE-DEFAUL	TS ('START-OFFSET ('PUT ZPUT)	0)				

<DEFSTRUCT VERB-DATA (TABLE ('INIT-ARGS (TEMP-TABLE)))</pre>

<DEFSTRUCT VWORD (TABLE ('INIT-ARGS (TEMP-TABLE)))</pre>

(VERB-ZERO ANY -1) (VERB-RESERVED FALSE)

(WORD-FLAGS FIX)

(VERB-ONE <OR FALSE TABLE>)
(VERB-TWO <OR FALSE TABLE>)>

(WORD-CLASSIFICATION-NUMBER FIX)

(WORD-LEXICAL-WORD ANY)

(WORD-SEMANTIC-STUFF ANY)
(WORD-VERB-STUFF ANY)

('NTH ZGET)>

```
(WORD-ADJ-ID ANY)
    (WORD-DIR-ID ANY)>
<SYNTAX SING = V-SING>
<ROUTINE V-SING () <>>
<SYNTAX ATTACK OBJECT WITH OBJECT = V-ATTACK>
<ROUTINE V-ATTACK () <>>
<add-word foo noun <> 12345>
<ADD-WORD BAR PREP>
<SYNONYM BAR BAZ>
<ROUTINE GO () <TEST-NEW-PARSER>>
<ROUTINE TEST-NEW-PARSER ("AUX" S)</pre>
     ; "Should affect VOCAB word size"
     <SET S <GETB , VOCAB <+ 1 <GETB , VOCAB 0>>>>
     <TELL "VOCAB word-size = " N .S CR>
     ;"Verbs should have verb data"
     <TELL "Verb data = " N <GET , W?SING 3> CR>
     ; "Should affect syntax format"
     <TELL "Verb WORD 3 (Byte 6-7) in VOCAB is pointer:" CR>
     <TELL " WORD 0 = " N <GET <GET , W?ATTACK 3> 0> CR>
     <TELL " WORD 1 = " N < GET < GET , W?ATTACK 3 > 1 > CR >
     <TELL " WORD 2 = " N <GET <GET , W?ATTACK 3> 2> CR>
     <TELL " WORD 3 = " N <GET <GET , W?ATTACK 3> 3> CR>
     ; "WORD-FLAG-TABLE should list words and flags"
     <TELL "WORD-FLAG-TABLE contain words and flags" CR>
     <TELL " Entry size = " N <GET , WORD-FLAG-TABLE 0> CR>
     <TELL "
             W?FOO = "N, W?FOO CR>
     <TELL " Word = " N <GET , WORD-FLAG-TABLE 1> CR>
     <TELL " Flag = " N <GET , WORD-FLAG-TABLE 2> CR>
     ; "Synonyms should use pointers, part-of-speech = 0"
     <TELL "SYNONYM points to parent" CR>
     <TELL " W?BAR = " N , W?BAR CR>
     <TELL " W?BAZ = " N ,W?BAR CR>
     <TELL " WORD 3 in W?BAR = " N <GET , W?BAR 3> CR>
     <TELL " WORD 3 in W?BAZ = " N <GET , W?BAZ 3> CR>
     <TELL " WORD 4 (PoS) in W?BAR = " N <GET , W?BAR 4> CR>
     <TELL " WORD 4 (PoS) in W?BAZ = " N <GET , W?BAZ 4> CR>
```

ADJ-SYNONYM

```
<ADJ-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

ADJ-SYNONYM creates one or more synonyms to the original adjective.

ZILF treats ADJ-SYNONYM as an alias to SYNONYM.

Note that due to the way words, especially adjectives and nouns, are stored in the vocabulary synonyms for adjectives only work in version 3 (ZIP) games.

AGAIN

```
<AGAIN [activation]>
MDL built-in
```

AGAIN means "start doing this again", where "this" is specified by the activation. If no activation is supplied AGAIN starts evaluating from the last automatically created activation (PROG and REPEAT automatically creates an activation). The evaluation is not redone completely: in particular, no re-binding (of arguments, "AUX" variables, etc.) is done.

Examples:

```
<DEFINE TEST-AUTO-ACT ()</pre>
     <PROG ((X 0))
          <SET X <+ .X 1>>
          <PRIN1 .X>
          <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN T>)>
          <AGAIN>
     >
>
<DEFINE TEST-NAMED-ACT-1 ACT ("AUX" (X 0))</pre>
     <SET X <+ .X 1>>
     <PRIN1 .X>
     <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN T .ACT>)>
     <AGAIN .ACT>
>
<DEFINE TEST-NAMED-ACT-2 ("NAME" ACT "AUX" (X 0))</pre>
     <SET X <+ .X 1>>
     <PRIN1 .X>
     <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN T .ACT>)>
     <AGAIN .ACT>
>
```

ALLTYPES

```
<ALLTYPES>
MDL built-in
```

returns a VECTOR containing the ATOMs which can currently be returned by TYPE or PRIMTYPE.

AND

```
<AND expressions...>
```

```
MDL built-in
```

Boolean AND. Requires that all expressions evaluate to true to return true. Exits on the first expression that evaluates to false (rest of expressions are not evaluated).

Because 0 is considered false and all other values are considered true inside a routine AND returns 0 if one expression is false or the value of the last expression if all expressions are true.

Because false is its own TYPE outside a routine AND returns #FALSE if one of the expressions is false or the value of the last expression if all expressions are true.

Example:

AND?

```
<AND? expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

Returns the same result as AND with the difference that all expressions are evaluated.

Examples:

ANDB

```
<ANDB numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

Bitwise AND.

Examples:

```
<ANDB 33 96> --> 32 <ANDB 33 96 64> --> 0
```

APPLICABLE?

```
<APPLICABLE? value>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. Returns true if TYPE of value is of an applicable TYPE.

```
Applicable TYPEs:
```

FIX
FSUBR
FUNCTION
MACRO
OFFSET
SUBR

Example:

```
<DEFINE SQR (X) <* .X .X>>
<APPLICABLE? ,SQR> --> True
```

APPLY

```
<APPLY applicable args ...>
MDL built-in
```

Call the applicable with args. <aPPLY applicable args ...> is equivalent to <applicable args ...>. applicable must be an atom that APPLICABLE? evaluates to true (usually FUNCTION, SUBR, FSUBR & MACRO). APPLY is often used when the applicable to be called is resolved during run-time (dispatch-table).

Examples:

```
<CONSTANT DISPATCH-TBL <VECTOR FUNC1 FUNC2>>
<DEFINE FUNC1 (X) <* .X .X>>
<DEFINE FUNC2 (X) <* .X .X .X>>
<APPLY ,<NTH ,DISPATCH-TBL 1> 2> --> 4
<APPLY ,<NTH ,DISPATCH-TBL 2> 2> --> 8
```

APPLYTYPE

```
<APPLYTYPE atom [handler]>
MDL built-in
```

APPLYTYPE tells the TYPE atom how it should be applied in a FORM. If APPLYTYPE is called without a handler then the currently active handler is returned. If there is no active handler, FALSE is returned.

Note that it is possible to replace the handler with a new handler, even on the predefined TYPEs (see EVALTYPE for example on this).

See EVALTYPE, NEWTYPE and PRINTTYPE.

Example:

ASCII

```
<ASCII {number | character}>
MDL built-in
```

Converts number to character or character to number.

Examples:

```
<ascii !\a> --> 65
<ascii 65> --> !\a
```

ASK-FOR-PICTURE-FILE?

```
<ASK-FOR-PICTURE-FILE?>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

ASSIGNED?

```
<ASSIGNED? atom [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. Returns true if the atom has an LVAL (local value).

It is possible to supply an environment for ASSIGNED?. See EVAL for more about the environment.

Example:

```
<ASSIGNED? X> --> False
<SET X 1>
<ASSIGNED? X> --> True
```

ASSOCIATIONS

```
<ASSOCIATIONS>
MDL built-in
```

ASSOCIATIONS gives access to the association chain. ASSOCIATIONS returns the first entry in the chain or FALSE if the chain is empty. Each entry is of the TYPE ASOC. An ASOC contains three elements: ITEM, INDICATOR and VALUE. An ASOC looks like a LIST but behaves differently.

Note that ZILF adds new ASSOCIATIONS last in the chain instead of at the top that's usually done in MDL.

See AVALUE, GETPROP, INDICATOR, ITEM, NEXT and PUTPROP on how to extract, create and

traverse the chain.

Example:

ATOM

```
<a href="#">ATOM pname></a>
MDL built-in
```

ATOM returns a newly created ATOM with pname (string). The ATOM is not on any OBLIST and therefore has the trailer !-#FALSE () attached to it.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Examples:

AVALUE

```
<AVALUE asoc>
MDL built-in
```

 ${\tt AVALUE}\ returns\ the\ value\ part\ from\ an\ {\tt asoc}\ entry,\ of\ {\tt TYPE}\ {\tt ASOC},\ in\ the\ {\tt ASSOCIATION}\ chain.$

See ASSOCIATIONS, GETPROP, INDICATOR, ITEM, NEXT and PUTPROP.

Example:

BACK

```
<BACK array [count]>
MDL built-in
```

Moves count elements back in array. If count moves past the start of the array an error is raised. Default value for count is 1.

BACK only works on the structures VECTOR or STRING (arrays) and not on a LIST (a LIST is only pointing forward).

Note that the returned array is not a copy but pointing to the same array with another starting element.

Also see LENGTH, NTH, PUT, REST, SUBSTRUC and TOP.

Example:

BEGIN-SEGMENT

```
<BEGIN-SEGMENT>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

BIND

```
<BIND [activation] (bindings ...) [decl] expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

BIND defines a program block with its own set of bindings. BIND is similar to PROG and REPEAT but BIND doesn't create a default activation (like PROG and REPEAT) at the start of the block and don't have an automatic AGAIN at the end of the block (like REPEAT). If an activation is needed it must be specified. AGAIN and RETURN without specified activation inside a BIND-block will start over or return from the closest surrounding activation within the current function.

The decl is used to specify the valid TYPE of the variables. In its simplest form decl is formatted like: #DECL ((X) FIX), meaning that X must be of the TYPE FIX. For more information on how to format the decl see GDECL.

Also see AGAIN, PROG, REPEAT and RETURN for more details how to control program flow.

Example:

BIT-SYNONYM

```
<BIT-SYNONYM first synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

BIT-SYNONYM creates synonyms to flag-bits.

Example:

```
<BIT-SYNONYM TAKEBIT GETBIT PICKBIT>
<BIT-SYNONYM LIGHTBIT DAYBIT>
```

BLOAT

```
<BLOAT>
MDL built-in
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

BLOAT is used in MDL to temporarily expand available storage space to avoid unnecessary garbage collection when loading large files.

BLOCK

```
<BLOCK (oblist ...)>
MDL built-in
```

BLOCK pushes current binding of the local ATOM OBLIST and rebinds it with the LIST of oblist supplied as argument and returns the new <LVAL OBLIST>.. Usually you want <ROOT> as the last oblist in LIST. <ENDBLOCK> then restores the local ATOM OBLIST to its previous value.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Example:

```
<SETG FOO 111>

<SET BAR 222>

<DEFINE TEST-BLOCK () <PRINT "OUTSIDE BLOCK">>

<BLOCK (<MOBLIST NEW-OBLIST> <ROOT>)>

<SETG FOO 333>

<SET BAR 444>

<DEFINE TEST-BLOCK () <PRINT "INSIDE BLOCK">>

<GVAL FOO>

--> 333
```

BOUND?

```
<BOUND? atom [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

BOUND? is a predicate that returns true if the atom ever had a local value in the environment.

If no environment is supplied, the environment defaults to current scope. See EVAL for more about the environment.

Examples:

```
<SET X 42>
<ASSIGNED? X> --> True
<GBOUND? X> --> True
<GUNASSIGN X>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> False
<GBOUND? X> --> True
```

BUZZ

```
<BUZZ atoms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

BUZZ creates words in the vocabulary with the part-of-speech BUZZ. These are words that can be ignored by the parser or have special handling in the parser.

Example:

```
<br/> <BUZZ A AN AND ANY ALL EVERY EVERYTHING BUT EXCEPT OF ONE THE THEN UNDO OOPS \. \, \">
```

BYTE

```
<BYTE number>
#BYTE number ; "Alternative syntax (MDL built-in)"

<CHTYPE number BYTE> ; "Alternative syntax (MDL built-in)"

ZIL library
```

BYTE changes number of TYPE to #BYTE.

Examples:

```
#BYTE 42 --> #BYTE 42

<CHTYPE 42 BYTE> --> #BYTE 42
```

CHECK-VERSION?

```
<CHECK-VERSION? version-spec>
ZIL library
```

CHECK-VERSION? is a predicate that returns TRUE if current setting of VERSION is version-spec. Valid values for version-spec are ZIP, EZIP, XZIP, YZIP and the values 3-8.

Examples:

```
<VERSION XZIP>
<CHECK-VERSION? ZIP> --> #FALSE
<CHECK-VERSION? 5> --> T
```

CHECKPOINT

```
<CHECKPOINT>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

CHRSET

CHRSET can be used in version 5+ to replace one or more of the standard character alphabets.

The ZSCII alphabet table is divided up in three blocks of 26 characters each, totaling 78 characters. The default layout is:

```
Z-char 6789abcdef0123456789abcdef
current ------
A0 abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz
A1 ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ
A2 ^0123456789.,!?_#'"/\-:()
```

Text is then encoded into 2-byte words with 5-bits per character. The left-over bit is always 0 except on the last word where it is 1 to indicate that tis is the last 2-byte word in the text.

```
--first byte---- --second byte---
7   6 5 4 3 2 1 0 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0
bit --first-- --second--- --third--
```

Initially the A0 is the current alphabet. The characters 2, 3, 4 and 5 change alphabet according to

this table:

		from A0	from A1	from A2
Z-char	2	A1	A2	AO
Z-char	3	A2	ΑO	A1
Z-char	4	A1	A2	AO
Z-char	5	A2	A0	A1

Character 2 and 3 change the alphabet for the next character ("shift") and character 4 and 5 change the alphabet permanent ("shift lock").

CHARSET change one character in one alphabet or change an alphabet altogether.

Example:

```
; "
      1
  67890123456789012345678901
  zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba
        z=6 i=23 1=20
      1 00110 10111 10100"
<VERSION 5>
<CHRSET 0 "zyxwvutsrqponmlkjihgfedcba">
<CONSTANT ENCODED-TEXT <TABLE #2 1001101011110100>>
<CONSTANT MYTEXT "zil">
<ROUTINE GO () <TEST-CHRSET>>
<ROUTINE TEST-CHRSET ()</pre>
     <PRINTB ,ENCODED-TEXT> <CRLF>
     <PRINT ,MYTEXT> <CRLF>
     <PRINTN <GET ,ENCODED-TEXT 0>> <CRLF>
     <PRINTN <GET <* 4 , MYTEXT> 0>> <CRLF> ; "Multiply by 4 to
                                              get packed
                                              address in v 5."
     <PRINTN <- <GET <* 4 , MYTEXT> 0> <GET , ENCODED-TEXT 0>>>
     <CRLF>>
-->
     zil
     zil
     -25868
     -25868
     0
```

CHTYPE

```
<CHTYPE value type>
#type value ;"Alternative syntax"

MDL built-in
```

CHTYPE returns a new object that has TYPE type and the same "data part" as value. The

PRIMTYPE of value must be the same as the TYPEPRIM of type otherwise an error will be generated.

There is a abbreviated form to change type by typing #type value instead.

Examples:

```
<CHTYPE !\A FIX> --> 65
#FIX !\A --> 65
#LIST [1 2 3] --> ERROR
```

CLOSE

```
<CLOSE channel>
MDL built-in
```

CLOSE the channel opened by OPEN and returns the channel.

See READSTRING for example.

COMPILATION-FLAG

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG atom-or-string [value]>
ZIL library
```

This defines a COMPILATION-FLAG named atom-or-string with initialized to value. If no value is supplied it defaults to TRUE. The name of the flag can either be an ATOM or a STRING whose text becomes the ATOM.

The flag can then be read by COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE or used as a condition in IFFLAG.

A call to COMPILATION-FLAG with an already defined ATOM changes the value of the ATOM.

Examples:

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG MYFLAG>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> T
<COMPILATION-FLAG "MYFLAG" 123>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> 123
```

COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT atom-or-string value>
ZIL library
```

This defines a COMPILATION-FLAG named atom-or-string with initialized to value. If no value is supplied it defaults to TRUE. The name of the flag can either be an ATOM or a STRING whose text becomes the ATOM.

The flag can then be read by COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE or used as a condition in IFFLAG.

A call to COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT with an already defined ATOM doesn't change the value of the ATOM.

Examples:

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT MYFLAG T>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> T
<COMPILATION-FLAG "MYFLAG" 123>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> 123
<COMPILATION-FLAG-DEFAULT MYFLAG T>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> 123
```

COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE atom-or-string>
ZIL library
```

This returns the value of the COMPILATION-FLAG atom-or-string. If no atom-or-string is defined it returns FALSE.

Examples:

```
<COMPILATION-FLAG MYFLAG 123>
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE MYFLAG> --> 123
<COMPILATION-FLAG-VALUE ASDFGHJKL> --> #FALSE
```

COMPILING?

```
<COMPILING?>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns TRUE.

Presumably COMPILING? is used in the MDL environment to determine if the game is compiled with ZILCH or running in the interpreter.

COND

```
<COND (condition body ...) ...>
MDL built-in
```

COND ("conditional") evaluates condition in each (condition body ...) and if the condition is not FALSE it continues to evaluate all the body-parts in this LIST. COND only evaluates the first non-FALSE condition (it ignores the rest) and returns the value of the last performed evaluation.

Examples:

```
;"IF-THEN..."

<COND (<AND <=? 1 1> <=? 2 2>> <PRINC "IF-THEN ..."> <CRLF>)>
;"IF-THEN-ELSE..."
```

```
<COND (<AND <=? 1 1> <=? 2 2>>
     <PRINC "THEN ...">
     <CRLF>
)
(ELSE
                                   ;"ELSE = T, Catch-all"
     <TELL "ELSE ...">
     <CRLF>
) >
;"IF-THEN-ELSEIF-ELSEIF-ELSE... or SWITCH"
<SET SWITCH 2>
<COND
     (<=? .SWITCH 1>
          <PRINC "Variable SWITCH = 1"> <CRLF>)
     (<=? .SWITCH 2>
          <PRINC "Variable SWITCH = 2"> <CRLF>)
     (<=? .SWITCH 3>
          <PRINC "Variable SWITCH = 3"> <CRLF>)
     (T
          <PRINC "Variable SWITCH not in (1 2 3)"> <CRLF>)
>
;"Trigger on FIRST non-FALSE"
<COND (<SET A <>> <PRINC "Won't execute (always FALSE)">)
      (<SET A 3> <PRINC "Execute (SET returns non-FALSE)">)>
```

CONS

```
<CONS first list>
MDL built-in
```

CONS ("construct") adds first to the front of list, without copying list, and returns the resulting LIST. References to list are not affected.

Examples:

CONSTANT

```
<CONSTANT atom value>
ZIL library
```

CONSTANT defines an atom with value that will never be changed. The atom can is accessed inside a ROUTINE with GVAL (or ,) just like a GLOBAL atom. Defining a CONSTANT instead of a

GLOBAL when possible can be vital information the compiler can use for optimization.

MSETG is an alias for CONSTANT.

Example:

```
<CONSTANT MSG-CANT-DO-THAT "You can't do that!">
...
<TELL ,MSG-CANT-DO-THAT CR>
```

CRLF

```
<CRLF [channel]>
MDL built-in
```

Prints a carriage-return and a line-feed to channel (default for channel is <LVAL OUTCHAN>; the console). CRLF returns true.

Example:

```
<CRLF> --> "\n"
```

DECL-CHECK

```
<DECL-CHECK boolean>
MDL built-in
```

DECL-CHECK turns off or on type declaration checking. It is initially on.

Examples:

DECL?

```
<DECL? value pattern>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. DECL? returns TRUE if value checks against pattern, otherwise FALSE. For the format of the pattern, see GDECL.

```
;"Simple DECL"

<DECL? 1 FIX> --> T

<DECL? "hi" STRING> --> T

<DECL? FOO STRING> --> #FALSE

;"OR DECL"
```

```
<DECL? 1 '<OR FIX FALSE>>
                                                 --> T
<DECL? "hi" '<OR VECTOR STRING>>
                                                 --> T
<DECL? FOO '<OR STRING FIX>>
                                                 --> #FALSE
;"Structure DECL"
<DECL? '(1) '<LIST FIX>
                                                 --> T
<DECL? '(1) '<LIST ATOM>>
                                                 --> #FALSE
<DECL? '<1> '<LIST FIX>>
                                                  --> #FALSE
<DECL? '<1> '<<OR FORM LIST> FIX>>
<DECL? '<1> '<<OR <PRIMTYPE LIST> <PRIMTYPE STRING>> FIX>>
                                                  --> T
<DECL? '(1) '<<PRIMTYPE LIST> FIX>>
                                                 --> T
<DECL? '<1> '<<PRIMTYPE LIST> FIX>>
                                                 --> T
;"NTH DECL"
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING [4 FIX]>>
                                                  --> #FALSE
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING [3 FIX]>>
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR [3 FIX]>>
                                                --> #FALSE
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING [2 FIX]>>
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING [2 FIX] FIX>>
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING [2 FIX] ATOM>>
<DECL? '(1 MONEY 2 SHOW 3 READY 4 GO) '<LIST [4 FIX ATOM]>>
<DECL? '(1 MONEY 2 SHOW 3 READY 4 GO) '<LIST [4 FIX]>>
                                                 --> #FALSE
<DECL? '(1 MONEY 2 SHOW 3 READY 4 GO)</pre>
              '<LIST [3 FIX ATOM] FIX ATOM>>
<DECL? '(1 MONEY 2 SHOW 3 READY 4 GO) '<LIST [3 FIX ATOM]>>
                                                  --> T
;"REST DECL"
<DECL? '["hi" 456 789 1011] '<VECTOR STRING FIX [REST FIX]>>
<DECL? '(FOO BAR) '<LIST STRING [REST FIX]>>
                                                 --> #FALSE
<DECL? '(FOO BAR) '<LIST ATOM [REST FIX]>>
                                                --> #FALSE
<DECL? '(FOO BAR) '<LIST ATOM ATOM [REST FIX]>> --> T
;"OPT DECL"
<DECL? '(FOO BAR) '<LIST [OPT FIX FIX] [REST ATOM]>>
<DECL? '(1 FOO BAR) '<LIST [OPT FIX FIX] [REST ATOM]>>
<DECL? '(1 2 FOO BAR) '<LIST [OPT FIX] [REST ATOM]>>
                                                  --> #FALSE
```

```
<DECL? '(1 2 FOO BAR) '<LIST [OPT FIX FIX] [REST ATOM]>>
<DECL? '(1 2) '<LIST [OPT FIX FIX] [REST ATOM]>> -->
;"QUOTE DECL"
<DECL? FOO ''FOO>
                                                        Т
<DECL? FOO ''BAR>
                                                   -->
                                                        #FALSE
<DECL? '<OR FIX FALSE> ''<OR FIX FALSE>>
                                                   -->
                                                        Т
<DECL? 123 ''<OR FIX FALSE>>
                                                   -->
                                                        #FALSE
; "Segment DECL"
<DECL? '(1 2 3) '<LIST FIX FIX>>
                                                        Τ
<DECL? '(1 2 3) '!<LIST FIX FIX>>
                                                        #FALSE
<DECL? '(1 2) '!<LIST FIX FIX>>
                                                        Т
<DECL? '(1 2) '!<LIST [REST FIX FIX]>>
<DECL? '(1 2 3) '!<LIST [REST FIX FIX]>>
                                                        #FALSE
<DECL? '(1 2 3 4) '!<LIST [REST FIX FIX]>>
                                                   -->
;"LVAL/GVAL DECL"
<DECL? '.X LVAL>
                                                        Τ
<DECL? '.X GVAL>
                                                   -->
                                                        #FALSE
<DECL? ',X GVAL>
                                                        Т
<DECL? ',X LVAL>
                                                        #FALSE
<DECL? '.X '<PRIMTYPE ATOM>>
                                                        Т
                                                   -->
<DECL? ',X '<PRIMTYPE ATOM>>
                                                   -->
                                                        Т
```

DEFAULT-DEFINITION

```
<DEFAULT-DEFINITION name body ...>
ZIL library
```

This defines a "replaceable" block with the given name.

If neither DELAY-DEFINITION nor REPLACE-DEFINITION was previously called for the given name, then the body is evaluated, and this function returns the result of evaluating the last element of the body.

If the block was replaced (via REPLACE-DEFINITION), the replacement body supplied earlier is used instead.

If the block was delayed (via DELAY-DEFINITION), the body is ignored, and this function returns FALSE.

It is possible to do the same by setting REDEFINE to true. This actually makes it possible to change ALL definitions (it is the last one that becomes the one actually compiled).

See DELAY-DEFINITION and REPLACE-DEFINITION.

```
<TELL "Replaced version of MY-ROUTINE" CR>
     >
<DEFAULT-DEFINITION MY-ROUTINE</pre>
     <ROUTINE MY-ROUTINE ()</pre>
          <TELL "Original version of MY-ROUTINE" CR>
>
<MY-ROUTINE>
                     --> "Replaced version of MY-ROUTINE"
;"Alternative way"
<ROUTINE MY-ROUTINE ()</pre>
     <TELL "Original version of MY-ROUTINE" CR>
<SET REDEFINE T>
     <ROUTINE MY-ROUTINE ()</pre>
          <TELL "Replaced version of MY-ROUTINE" CR>
<SET REDEFINE <>>
<MY-ROUTINE>
                     --> "Replaced version of MY-ROUTINE"
```

DEFAULTS-DEFINED

```
<DEFAULTS-DEFINED>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

DEFINE

```
<DEFINE name [activation] arg-list [decl] expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

DEFINE assigns the global variable name with a FUNCTION. See FUNCTION for an explanation of activation, arg-list, decl and expressions.

<DEFINE name ...> is equivalent to <SETG name #FUNCTION ...> with the exception
that DEFINE protects from overwriting a name with a new FUNCTION (this behaviour can be
changed by setting REDEFINE to true, instead of false).

DEFINE-GLOBALS

```
<DEFINE-GLOBALS group-name
          (atom-or-adecl [{BYTE | WORD}] [initializer]) ...>
ZIL libary
```

Defines a set of macros that can be used for global storage in Z-code, similar to global variables.

Each atom-or-adecl becomes the name of a new macro which can be called with no arguments (to read the global value) or one argument (to write it). The optional initializer sets the initial value, as in GLOBAL. BYTE or WORD can be specified to set the global's size; WORD is the default.

ZILF ignores the group-name.

See FUNNY-GLOBALS? for a more convenient way to bypass the Z-machine's global variable limit. (In fact, ZILF implements DEFINE-GLOBALS by turning on FUNNY-GLOBALS? and defining a global variable for each macro.)

DEFINE-SEGMENT

```
<DEFINE-SEGMENT>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

DEFINE20

```
<DEFINE20 name [activation] arg-list [decl] expressions ...>
ZIL library
```

DEFINE 20 is an alias for DEFINE except that it isn't affected by MDL-ZIL mode: it always defines a MDL function.

DEFINE20 (and SETG20) are used in "MDL-ZIL"-files, where routines are defined with DEFINE instead of ROUTINE, global variables are created with SETG instead of GLOBAL, etc. Presumably that was a way to run the games in MDL during development to avoid recompiling them. SETG20 and DEFINE20 are aliases for the MDL versions of SETG and DEFINE.

DEFINITIONS

```
<DEFINITIONS package-name>
MDL package system
```

DEFINITIONS is exactly as PACKAGE except that there is no internal OBLIST with DEFINITIONS, every ATOM created inside the DEFINITIONS is on the external OBLIST automatically.

To activate a package-name INCLUDE or INCLUDE-WHEN is used.

See END-DEFINITIONS, INCLUDE, INCLUDE-WHEN, PACKAGE and RENTRY.

Examples:

```
; "Define PACKAGE"
     <REMOVE ANSWER> ;"Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
     <DEFINITIONS "FOO">
     <SETG ANSWER 42>
     <END-DEFINITIONS>
<TYPE? <GETPROP FOO!-PACKAGE OBLIST> OBLIST>
                                                             OBLIST
<GASSIGNED? ANSWER>
                                                        -->
                                                             #FALSE
<GASSIGNED? ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE>
                                                         -->
                                                             Т
, ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE
                                                        -->
                                                             42
<REMOVE ANSWER> ;"Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
<INCLUDE "FOO">
, ANSWER
                                                         --> 42
```

DEFMAC

```
<DEFMAC name [activation] arg-list [decl] expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

DEFMAC has the same syntax as DEFINE, but defines a MACRO instead of a FUNCTION. A MACRO is evaluated two times, the first evaluation inserts the arguments in the MACRO and creates an object that is evaluated during the second evaluation. The first evaluation is done at "top-level", in other words during compilation. EXPAND is used to perform the first evaluation.

Note that two identical calls to a MACRO always generate the same result from the first evaluation.

DEFSTRUCT

```
<DEFSTRUCT type-name
    {base-type | (base-type struct-options ...)}
    (field-name decl [field-options ...]) ...>

MDL built-in
```

DEFSTRUCT creates abstract record structures and creates an user-defined TYPE. In practice DEFSTRUCT builds a couple of MACROs that can be used to create and access instances of the structure.

type-name is the name of the new structure-type. There will also be a new TYPE with type-name and the MACRO, MAKE-[type-name] is created that can be used to create new instances of this new TYPE.

The base-type is the container TYPE for this new structure-type. It is usually a VECTOR, LIST or TABLE. The struct-options are used to change the default behaviour of the base-type. It is possible to change the default behaviour with SET-DEFSTRUCT-DEFAULT-FILE. The struct-options are:

'CONSTRUCTOR	Defines a new constructor for the MAKE-MACRO. See examples below on how to define a new constructor. If there is no definition specified after 'CONSTRUCTOR no MACRO will be created for this
	type-name.
'INIT-ARGS	Defines if there are arguments when the base-type is created. For
	example (PURE) when using TABLE as a container. Default is that
	there are no arguments.
'NODECL	Specifies that no TYPE-checking should occur when storing values in
	container base-type. Default is that there is TYPE-checking.
'NOTYPE	Specifies that no new TYPE is created for this type-name. Default
	is that a new TYPE is created.

Then follows all the fields in the record. Every field has a field-name and a TYPE declaration, decl. The decl follows the ordinary syntax for declarations, see GDECL. The field-options are optional, but they can be one or more of these:

default-value	A default value for this field. FUNCTION to read fields from the container. Default FUNCTION is
	NTH.
'OFFSET	Index in container to store this value.
	FUNCTION is NTH.
'PUT	FUNCTION to insert value in this field in the container. Default
	FUNCTION is PUT.

For every field in the record there is a MACRO created with the field-name that can be used to read and insert values in the field.

```
;"Create new object"
<DEFSTRUCT BOOK LIST (TITLE STRING) (AUTHOR STRING)
(SUBJECT STRING) (BOOK-ID FIX)>
```

```
<SET BOOK1 <MAKE-BOOK 'TITLE "C Programming"</pre>
                     'AUTHOR "Nuha Ali"
                     'SUBJECT "C-Programming Tutorial"
                     'BOOK-ID 478>>
<SET BOOK2 <MAKE-BOOK 'TITLE "Telecom Billing"</pre>
                     'AUTHOR "Zara Ali"
                     'SUBJECT "C-Programming Tutorial"
                     'BOOK-ID 501>>
<TITLE .BOOK1>
                             --> "C Programming"
                             --> BOOK
<TYPE .BOOK1>
<1 .BOOK2>
                             --> "Telecom Billing"
<AUTHOR .BOOK2 "Paul Auster">
                             --> "Paul Auster"
<AUTHOR .BOOK2>
                             --> ("" "" ")
<MAKE-BOOK>
;"Put values into existing object"
<DEFSTRUCT POINT VECTOR (POINT-X FIX) (POINT-Y FIX)>
<SET MY-VECTOR [123 456 789 1011]>
<MAKE-POINT 'POINT .MY-VECTOR 'POINT-Y 999 'POINT-X 888>
                             --> [888 999 789 1011]
; "Use field value-default and offset"
<DEFSTRUCT RPOINT VECTOR (RPOINT-X FIX 'OFFSET 2)</pre>
                        (RPOINT-Y FIX 456 'OFFSET 1)>
<MAKE-RPOINT 'RPOINT-X 123> --> #RPOINT [456 123]
<RPOINT-Y #RPOINT [234 567]> --> 234
;"Create struct without creating TYPE"
<DEFSTRUCT PTNT (VECTOR 'NOTYPE) (PTNT-X FIX) (PTNT-Y FIX)>
<VALID-TYPE? PTNT>
                            --> #FALSE
<PTNT-X [123 456]>
                             --> 123
; "Create struct without declaration checks"
<DEFSTRUCT PTND (VECTOR 'NODECL) (PTND-X FIX) (PTND-Y FIX)>
<CHTYPE [FOO BAR] PTND>
                         --> [FOO BAR]
                            --> ERROR
<CHTYPE [FOO BAR] POINT>
; "Create struct with suppressed constructor"
<DEFSTRUCT P-C (VECTOR 'CONSTRUCTOR) (P-C FIX) (P-C-Y FIX)>
                            --> #FALSE
<GASSIGNED? MAKE-P-C>
<VALID-TYPE? P-C>
                            --> P-C
;"Create struct with INIT-ARGS"
<DEFSTRUCT PT-TBL (TABLE ('INIT-ARGS (PURE)))</pre>
     (PT-TBL-X FIX) (PT-TBL-Y FIX)>
; "Positional constructor arguments"
<DEFSTRUCT FOO VECTOR (FOO-A ATOM) (FOO-B <OR FIX FALSE>)>
<MAKE-FOO BAR>
                            --> #FOO [BAR #FALSE ()]
; "Custom constructor"
<SETG NEXT-ID 0>
```

```
('CONSTRUCTOR MAKE-RGBA
     ('RED 'GREEN 'BLUE "OPT" ('ALPHA 255)
     "AUX" (RGBA-ID '<SETG NEXT-ID <+ ,NEXT-ID 1>>))))
     (RED FIX) (GREEN FIX) (BLUE FIX) (ALPHA FIX)
     (RGBA-ID FIX)>
<RED <MAKE-RGBA 10 20 30>>
                                   --> 10
<RGBA-ID <MAKE-RGBA 11 22 33>>
                                  --> 1
<alpha <make-rgba 11 22 33>>
                                   --> 255
<alpha <make-rgba 11 22 33 44>>
                                  --> 44
; "Eval or not to eval arguments"
<DEFSTRUCT E-PT VECTOR (E-PT-X FIX) (E-PT-Y <OR FIX FORM>)>
<make-e-pt <+ 1 2> '<+ 3 4>>
                                  --> #E-PT [3 <+ 3 4>]
;"Explicit default values"
<DEFSTRUCT PT2 VECTOR (PT2-X FIX 123) (PT2-Y FIX 456)</pre>
                      (PT2-ID FIX <ALLOCATE-ID>)>
<SETG NEXT-ID 1>
<DEFINE ALLOCATE-ID ("AUX" (R ,NEXT-ID))</pre>
     <SETG NEXT-ID <+ ,NEXT-ID 1>> .R>
<PT2-ID <MAKE-PT2>>
                                        1
<PT2-ID <MAKE-PT2>>
                                   -->
                                       2
<PT2-ID <MAKE-PT2 'PT2-ID 1001>>
                                   --> 1001
<PT2-ID <MAKE-PT2>>
<PT2-X <MAKE-PT2 'PT2-Y 0>>
                                   --> 123
<PT2-Y <MAKE-PT2 'PT2-Y 0>>
                                   --> O
<PT2-ID <MAKE-PT2>>
                                   --> 6
```

<DEFSTRUCT RGBA (VECTOR 'CONSTRUCTOR</pre>

DELAY-DEFINITION

<DELAY-DEFINITION name>

ZIL library

DELAY-DEFINITION tells ZILF that a REPLACE-DEFINITION for name should be expected thus the DEFAULT-DEFINITION never is evaluated for the name. This means that REPLACE-DEFINITION can appear after the DEFAULT-DEFINITION.

DELAY-DEFINITION also means that the body of REPLACE-DEFINITION will be evaluated at the place of REPLACE-DEFINITION.

See DEFAULT-DEFINITION and REPLACE-DEFINITION.

DIR-SYNONYM

```
<DIR-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

DIR-SYNONYM creates one or more synonyms to the original direction.

ZILF treats DIR-SYNONYM as an alias to SYNONYM.

DIRECTIONS

```
<DIRECTIONS atoms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

DIRECTIONS creates words in the vocabulary with the part-of-speech DIRECTION. DIRECTIONS are often defined in the parser and the order is usually tightly tied to the parser. Be careful if you change these. You can use DIR-SYNONYM if you, for example, want to add FORE, AFT, PORT and STARBOARD.

Example:

<DIRECTIONS NORTH SOUTH EAST WEST NE NW SE SW IN OUT UP DOWN>

EMPTY?

```
<EMPTY? structure>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. Returns true if structure contains no elements, otherwise false.

structure must be an object that STRUCTURED? evaluates to true.

Examples:

```
<EMPTY? [1 2 3]> --> False
<EMPTY? []> --> True
```

END-DEFINITIONS

<END-DEFINITIONS>

```
MDL package system
```

END-DEFINITIONS is an alias to ENDBLOCK.

See DEFINITIONS.

END-SEGMENT

```
<END-SEGMENT>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

ENDBLOCK

```
<ENDBLOCK>
MDL built-in
```

ENDBLOCK pops back, rebinds and returns the local ATOM OBLIST to the state it had before the call to BLOCK. ENDBLOCK without previous BLOCK (or PACKAGE, DEFINITIONS, etc) results in an error.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Example:

```
XYZZY!-MY-OBLIST

<SETG FIRST!- FOO>

<BLOCK (<GETPROP MY-OBLIST OBLIST> <ROOT>)>

<SETG SECOND!- FOO>

<ENDBLOCK>
<=? ,FIRST!- ,SECOND!-> --> #FALSE
```

ENDLOAD

```
<ENDLOAD>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

ENDPACKAGE

```
<ENDPACKAGE>
MDL package system
```

ENDPACKAGE is an alias to ENDBLOCK.

See PACKAGE.

ENDSECTION

```
<ENDSECTION>
```

MDL package system

ENDSECTION is an alias to ENDBLOCK.

See DEFINITIONS.

ENTRY

```
<ENTRY atoms ...>
MDL package system
```

ENTRY creates/moves one or more ATOMs to the external OBLIST in a PACKAGE. ENTRY is only valid inside a PACKAGE, if it's used outside an error is raised.

See PACKAGE, RENTRY, USE, USE-WHEN.

Examples:

```
<REMOVE ANSWER> ; "Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
<PACKAGE "FOO">
<SETG ANSWER 42>
<1 .OBLIST> --> #OBLIST (("ANSWER" ANSWER))
<2 .OBLIST> --> #OBLIST (("IFOO" IFOO))
<ENTRY ANSWER>
<1 .OBLIST> --> #OBLIST ()
<2 .OBLIST> --> #OBLIST (("IFOO" IFOO) ("ANSWER" ANSWER))
<ENDPACKAGE>
,ANSWER --> 42
```

EQVB

```
<EQVB numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

Bitwise equivalence (inverse of exclusive "or"). Uses 32-bit.

Examples:

ERROR

```
<ERROR values ...>
```

```
MDL built-in
```

ERROR raises an error ([error MDL0001]) and listing values as resources. The values are usually a text explaining the error, offending ATOM, routine where it occurred and last any other information.

Example:

```
<SET A 616>
<ERROR "MY TYPE OF ERROR." .A>
-->
[error MDL0001] <stdin>:1: ERROR: "MY TYPE OF ERROR." 616
```

EVAL

```
<EVAL value [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

This evaluates value (usually a FORM created by FORM or QUOTE).

It is possible to supply an environment for EVAL. This tells EVAL from which environment EVAL should take variable bindings. See *The MDL Programming Language*, *chap.* 9.7 for more about the environment.

Examples:

EVAL-IN-SEGMENT

```
<EVAL-IN-SEGMENT dummy1 value[dummy2]>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores dummy1 and the optional dummy2. ZILF then calls EVAL on the value and returns its result.

```
<SET F '<+ 1 2>>
.F
<EVAL-IN-SEGMENT "HINTS" .F (1 2 3)> --> 3
```

EVALTYPE

```
<EVALTYPE atom [handler]>
MDL built-in
```

EVALTYPE tells the TYPE atom how it should be evaluated by EVAL. If EVALTYPE is called without a handler then the currently active handler is returned. If there is no active handler, FALSE is returned.

Note that it is possible to replace the handler with a new handler, even on the predefined TYPES

See APPLYTYPE, NEWTYPE and PRINTTYPE.

Example:

EXPAND

```
<EXPAND value>
MDL built-in
```

EXPAND performs the first EVAL of the value. In case the value is a MACRO only the first EVAL is done.

Example:

FILE-FLAGS

This sets flags to control how ZILF should compile. To clear, call FILE-FLAGS without any flags.

The flags are:

CLEAN-STACK? Tells the compiler to generate extra code to remove

unneeded values from the stack. Without it, the compiler will generate smaller code in some cases, at

the risk of potentially causing stack overflow at

runtime.

MDL-ZIL? Tells the compiler to treat SETG (at top-level) as

GLOBAL and DEFINE as ROUTINE (SETG20 and DEFINE20 always works as in MDL). Presumably that was a way to run the games in MDL during

development without recompiling them.

SENTENCE-ENDS? Tells the compiler (only version 6) to treat two spaces

after a period or a question mark as the end of a

sentence in TELL.

Note: a space followed by an embedded newline wil

produce two spaces instead of collapsing.

ZAP-TO-SOURCE-DIRECTORY? ZILF ignores this.

Examples:

FILE-LENGTH

```
<FILE-LENGTH channel>
MDL built-in
```

FILE-LENGTH returns the size, in bytes, of the file on channel. FILE-LENGTH returns FALSE if the file is closed.

Example:

```
;"ZILF ver 0.9"
<SET CH <OPEN "READ" "../zillib/parser.zil">>
<FILE-LENGTH .CH> --> 115629
<CLOSE .CH>
```

FLOAD

```
<FLOAD filename>
MDL built-in
```

ZILF ignores all but the first argument and treats FLOAD as an alias to INSERT-FILE.

FORM

```
<FORM values ...>
MDL built-in
```

This creates a FORM without evaluating it. This is analogous to LIST and VECTOR but with "<>" instead of "()" or "[]". In many cases it is possible to use QUOTE to achieve the same result.

Examples:

FREQUENT-WORDS?

```
<FREQUENT-WORDS?>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE. Frequent words table is built by ZAPF instead.

FUNCTION

```
<FUNCTION [activation] arg-list [decl] expressions ...>
#FUNCTION ([activation] arg-list [decl] expressions ...)
MDL built-in
```

This creates a FUNCTION. When a FUNCTION is called it evaluates all the expressions and returns the result of the last expression.

The arg-list is a LIST of arguments for the FUNCTION. Besides the arguments to the FUNCTION, arg-list can also contain these tokens (in this order):

"BIND"	Followed by an ATOM that binds the ATOM to the ENVIRONMENT			
	when the FUNCTION was applied. See EVAL for example on this.			
Arguments The required arguments for this FUNCTION. The argumen				
	bound to local variables inside this FUNCTION.			
"OPT"	The optional arguments for this FUNCTION. The arguments are			
	bound to local variables inside this FUNCTION and can be defined with			
	a default value. "OPTIONAL" is an alias for "OPT".			
"ARGS"	Followed by an ATOM that is bound a LIST of all remaining arguments,			
	unevaluated. If "ARGS" appears in arg-list, "TUPLE" should not appear.			
"TUPLE"	Followed by an ATOM that is bound a TUPLE of all remaining arguments,			
	evaluated. If "TUPLE" appears in arg-list, "ARGS" should not appear.			
	See TUPLE for example on this.			

"AUX" Followed by any number of ATOMs that becomes local variables inside this FUNCTION and can be defined with a default value. "EXTRA" is a alias for "AUX".

"NAME" Followed by an ATOM that becomes the activation for this FUNCTION. This is equivalent to naming the activation before the arg-list. "ACT" is an alias for "NAME". See AGAIN for example on this.

Default values for "OPT" and "AUX" are defined by a two-element LIST whose first element is the ATOM and the second element is assigned to.

```
<FUNCTION ("AUX" (X 1) (Y 2)) <+ .X .Y>>
```

Means that the local variables X and Y are initially assigned 1 and 2.

FUNCTION is its own TYPE and it is perfectly legal to, for example, use #FUNCTION instead to create a FUNCTION.

Usually a FUNCTION is assigned to a global variable. This can be done by assigning a global ATOM the FUNCTION with SETG (this is more commonly done with DEFINE).

Examples:

```
<<FUNCTION (X1 X2) <+ .X1 .X2>> 5 4>
<SETG SOUARE <FUNCTION (X) <* .X .X>>>
<SOUARE 5>
                                                25
<SETG POWER-TO <FUNCTION ACT (X "OPT" (Y 2))</pre>
     <COND (<=? .Y 0> <RETURN 1 .ACT>)>
     <REPEAT ((Z 1)(I 0))</pre>
          <SET Z <* .Z .X>>
          <SET I <+ .I 1>>
          <COND (<=? .I .Y> <RETURN .Z>)>
     >
>>
<POWER-TO 2 3>
<POWER-TO 3 4>
                                           ·-> 81
<POWER-TO 3 0>
```

FUNNY-GLOBALS?

```
<FUNNY-GLOBALS? [boolean]>
ZIL library
```

When enabled, "funny globals" mode lets the game define more than the usual 240 global variables.

If needed, ZILF will move the extra variables into a table (GLOBAL-VARS-TABLE) and generate table instructions to access them (PUT and GET, or in the case of BYTE globals created with DEFINE-GLOBALS, PUTB and GETB).

This translation is mostly transparent to game source code, but it can't be used for global variables that are ever referenced indirectly by number. ZILF uses a simple heuristic to try to identify those variables and reserve "real" global variable slots for them.

G=?

```
<G=? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. True if value1 is greater or equal than value2 otherwise false.

G?

```
<G? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. True if value1 is greater than value2 otherwise false.

GASSIGNED?

```
<GASSIGNED? Atom>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. Returns true if the atom has an GVAL (global value).

Example:

```
<GASSIGNED? X> --> False
<SETG X 1>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> True
```

GBOUND?

```
<GBOUND? atom>
MDL built-in
```

GBOUND? Is a predicate that returns true if the atom ever had a global value.

Examples:

```
<SETG X 42>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> True
<GBOUND? X> --> True
<GUNASSIGN X>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> False
<GBOUND? X> --> True
```

GC

```
<GC>
```

This causes garbage collection.

In ZILF GC ignores all arguments and always returns true. ZILF relies on the garbage collection in the NET framework and only implements this for compatibility.

Examples:

```
<GC> --> T
<GC 0 T 5> --> T
```

GC-MON

```
<GC-MON>
MDL built-in
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

GDECL

```
<GDECL (atoms ...) decl ...>
MDL built-in
```

GDECL declares the type/structure of the global value of ATOMs. GDECL pairs a LIST of atoms with a decl pattern, this can then be repeated indefinitely.

The decl pattern can contain the following:

A TYPE name	The atoms TYPE must be of this TYPE. This can be generalized slightly by using <primtype type="">, which means that the atoms TYPE must have the same PRIMTYPE as type.</primtype>			
ANY	The atom can be of any TYPE.			
STRUCTURED	Means that <structured? atom=""> must be TRUE (atom is for</structured?>			
	example a LIST, VECTOR or STRING).			
APPLICABLE	Means that <applicable? atom=""> must be TRUE (atom is for</applicable?>			
	example a FIX, FUNCTION or MACRO).			

If the decl pattern is STRUCTURED it is possible to specify a pattern for the structure. This has the following syntax:

A OUOTEd ATOM Means that the atom must be =? with the OUOTEd ATOM.

```
<structure patterns ...> This means that the structure must follow the defined pattern (so long it is defined). Items in the structure at positions beyond the defined pattern can be of any TYPE.
```

This means that, for example, <GDECL (X) <LIST FIX ANY FIX>> is declaring that X must be a LIST (at least of LENGTH 3), with a FIX in position 1 and 3 and any TYPE in position 2 and position 4 and beyond.

```
\langle SETG X (! A 2 3) \rangle is illegal
```

Normally the pattern for structures defines that the structure should at least contain these elements, but it can contain additional items. If you want to disallow additional items, a SEGMENT is used instead of a FORM. <GDECL (X) !<LIST FIX ANY FIX>> means that the LIST must have exactly LENGTH 3.

The pattern in this construction can in turn be defined to repeat itself by the syntax:

[number patterns]	Means that specified pattern should repeat itself
	number of times.
[REST patterns]	Means that specified pattern should repeat itself
	indefinitely. If this is defined it must be the last
	in the structure declaration.
[OPT patterns]	Means that this structure can either be empty or
	follow the defined pattern. Only a REST
	construction can follow OPT.

Finally, it is allowed to specify several possible decl to an atom with the compound decl OR.

<OR decl ...> This means that the atoms can be one of the specified decl. Each of the decl follow the same rules as above.

Examples:

See DECL? for more examples on how to format decl.

GET-DECL

```
<GET-DECL item>
MDL built-in
```

GET-DECL returns the pattern defined to the item. It returns FALSE if no item exists.

See DECL?, GDECL and PUT-DECL for more on declaration patterns.

```
<GET-DECL BOOLEAN> --> #FALSE
```

GETB

```
<GETB table index>
```

Returns BYTE-record (1 byte) stored at index.

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES. GETB is equivalent to the Z-code built-in GETB.

Also see PUTB, ZGET, ZPUT and ZREST.

Example:

GETPROP

```
<GETPROP item indicator [default-value]>
MDL built-in
```

GETPROP returns the property-value stored under indicator on item. If no value can be found GETPROP returns the default-value or FALSE if no default-value is given.

See ASSOCIATIONS, AVALUE, INDICATOR, ITEM, NEXT and PUTPROP.

Examples:

GLOBAL

```
<GLOBAL atom default-value [decl] [size]>
ZIL library
```

Declare a global variable atom, that later can be used inside a ROUTINE. The variable is initialized with default-value.

ZILF ignores the decl.

```
<GLOBAL MYVAR 0>
```

GROW

```
<GROW vector end beginning>
MDL built-in
```

GROW expands the vector with end and/or beginning number of elements to respectively end of the vector. Only non-negative values for end and beginning are valid. The new elements have FALSE as an initial value.

If elements are added to the beginning of a vector all old references to that vector have to use TOP or BACK to access the new elements.

Examples:

GUNASSIGN

```
<GUNASSIGN atom>
MDL built-in
```

Unassign global atom.

Example:

```
<SETG X 1>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> True
<GUNASSIGN X>
<GASSIGNED? X> --> False
```

GVAL

```
<GVAL atom>
,atom ;"Alternative syntax"

MDL built-in
```

Get the value of the global atom. More often used in its short form ", atom".

```
<SETG X 5>
```

```
<GVAL X> --> 5
,X --> 5
```

IFFLAG

```
<IFFLAG (condition body ...) ...>
ZIL library
```

Each condition is either:

- A STRING naming a compilation flag, to evaluate the corresponding body if the flag's value is true
- An ATOM whose PNAME names a compilation flag, to evaluate the corresponding body if the flag's value is true.
- A FORM, to evaluate the FORM after replacing any element ATOMs whose PNAMEs name compilation flags with the flag values, and then evaluate the corresponding body if the result is true.
- Any other value, to evaluate the corresponding body immediately.

As soon as any body is evaluated, the function returns the result. If no body is evaluated, the function returns FALSE.

Note: as a consequence of the evaluation rules above, undefined compilation flags are effectively TRUE.

Example:

ILIST

```
<ILIST count [init]>
MDL built-in
```

ILIST ("implicit" or "iterated") returns a LIST with count items all set to init.

Examples:

IMAGE

```
<IMAGE ch [channel]>
MDL built-in
```

IMAGE prints the actual raw character with number ch to channel. No extra characters are ever

printed. IMAGE returns ch.

Example:

INCLUDE

```
<INCLUDE package-name ...>
MDL package system
```

INCLUDE activates one or many package-names and makes its content available in the current OBLIST-path. In practice INCLUDE copies the OBLIST package-name and adds it last to the local OBLIST (<LVAL OBLIST>). This means that all ATOMS on the DEFINITIONS OBLIST becomes available in current environment.

If the package-name is not available in the current environment, INCLUDE tries to load "package-name.zil" from the current path.

INCLUDE only works together with DEFINITIONS and if the definition of the package-name is missing from the environment or no file is found containing that definition is found, an error is raised.

See DEFINITIONS and INCLUDE-WHEN.

Example:

INCLUDE-WHEN

```
<INCLUDE-WHEN condition package-name ...>
MDL package system
```

INCLUDE-WHEN is exactly like INCLUDE but only activates the package-name if the condition evaluates to TRUE.

See DEFINITIONS and INCLUDE.

```
<DEFINITIONS "FOO">
<SETG AAAA 1234>
<END-DEFINITIONS>
<GASSIGNED? AAAA> --> #FALSE
<REMOVE AAAA>; "Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
```

INDENT-TO

```
<INDENT-TO position [channel]>
ZIL library
```

INDENT-TO places the cursor at the position on channel. Default value for the channel is .OUTCHAN (the console).

Example:

```
<DEFINE PRINT-2-COL (LST)</pre>
     <REPEAT ((I 0))</pre>
          <SET I <+ .I 1>>
          <COND (<G? .I <LENGTH .LST>> <RETURN>)>
          <COND (<1? <MOD .I 2>>
                    <INDENT-TO 3>
                    <PRINC <.I .LST>>)
                 (T <INDENT-TO 15>
                    <PRINC <.I .LST>>
                     <CRLF>)>>
     <CRLF>>
<PRINT-2-COL ("Apple" "Banana" "Orange" "Lime")>
            Apple
                         Banana
             Orange
                         Lime
```

INDEX

```
<INDEX offset>
MDL built-in
```

INDEX returns the index-part of an OFFSET.

Example:

```
<SETG OFF3 <OFFSET 3 '<VECTOR> 'STRING>>
<INDEX ,OFF3> --> 3
```

INDICATOR

```
<INDICATOR asoc>
MDL built-in
```

INDICATOR returns the indicator part from an asoc entry, of TYPE ASOC, in the ASSOCIATION

chain.

See ASSOCIATIONS, AVALUE, GETPROP, ITEM, NEXT and PUTPROP.

Example:

INSERT

```
<INSERT atom | pname oblist>
MDL built-in
```

INSERT creates an ATOM with the pname and inserts it into oblist. INSERT returns the newly created ATOM (or raises an error if the ATOM already was on the oblist). First argument can also be an atom but this ATOM can not be on any OBLIST and therefore must be newly created by ATOM or recently REMOVEd.

INSERT requires that you specify oblist, if you want to create an ATOM on the standard OBLIST, usually <1 .OBLIST>, you can use <PARSE string> instead.

Note that you also can use trailers to both create the ATOM and the OBLIST (or one of them). atom! -oblist inserts the atom on the oblist and if one of them or both don't exist, they are created.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

```
<INSERT "FOO-1" <MOBLIST OB>>
                                             --> FOO-1!-OB
<INSERT <ATOM "FOO-2"> <MOBLIST OB>>
                                             --> FOO-2!-OB
<INSERT <REMOVE "FOO-2" <MOBLIST OB>> <MOBLIST OB2>>
                                             --> FOO-2!-OB2
<INSERT FOO-3 <MOBLIST OB>>
         Error (Interpreter already placed it on <1 .OBLIST>
;"Returns FOO from OB. Creates ATOM/OBLIST if needed."
<OR <LOOKUP "FOO" <MOBLIST OB>> <INSERT "FOO" <MOBLIST OB>>
                                             --> FOO!-OB
FOO! - OB
                                             --> FOO!-OB
BAR!-OB
                                             --> BAR!-OB
<MOBLIST OB> --> #OBLIST (("FOO" FOO!-OB) ("BAR" BAR!-OB))
```

INSERT-FILE

```
<INSERT-FILE filename>
ZIL library
```

Insert file with filename at this point. If extension is omitted, ".zil" is assumed.

The filename can have an absolute or relative path. If no path is given, the compiler looks in the current library and the libraries specified to the compiler with the -ip switch.

Note that path is specified like in Linux (forward slashes etc.) and uppercase/lowercase can be significant, depending on the host system.

ZILF ignores all but the first argument.

Examples:

ISTRING

```
<ISTRING count [init]>
MDL built-in
```

ISTRING ("implicit" or "iterated") returns a STRING with count items all set to init (character).

Examples:

ITABLE

```
<ITABLE [specifier] count [(flags...)] defaults ...>
ZIL library
```

Defines a table of count elements filled with default values: either zeros or, if the default list is specified, the specified list of values repeated until the table is full.

The optional specifier may be the atoms NONE, BYTE, or WORD. BYTE and WORD change the type of the table and also turn on the length marker (element 0 in the table contains the length of the table), This can also be done with the flags (see TABLE about flags).

```
<ITABLE 4 0> -->
```

Element ()	Element	1	Element	2	Element	3
WORD		WORD		WORD		WORD	
0	0 0		0		0		

<TABLE (BYTE LENGTH) 4 0> -->

Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	Element 4 BYTE
BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	
4	0	0	0	0

<TABLE BYTE 4 0> -->

Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	Element 4
BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE
4	0	0	0	0

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES.

ITEM

<ITEM asoc>
MDL built-in

ITEM returns the item part from an asoc entry, of TYPE ASOC, in the ASSOCIATION chain.

See ASSOCIATIONS, AVALUE, GETPROP, INDICATOR, NEXT and PUTPROP.

Example:

IVECTOR

<IVECTOR count [init]>
MDL built-in

IVECTOR ("implicit" or "iterated") returns a VECTOR with count items all set to init.

Examples:

```
<SET A 0>
<IVECTOR 4 '<SET A <+ .A 1>>> --> [1 2 3 4]
```

L=?

```
<L=? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. True if value1 is lower or equal than value2 otherwise false.

L?

```
<L? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. True if value1 is lower than value2 otherwise false.

LANGUAGE

```
<LANGUAGE name [escape-char] [change-chrset]>
ZIL library
```

The language setting changes how text is encoded in two ways: it lets you write language-specific characters in ZIL source code by adding a prefix to ASCII characters, and it changes the Z-machine alphabet to encode them more efficiently.

If change-chrset is false, the Z-machine character set won't be changed, so the language setting will only affect how source code is read.

The escape-char is !\% by default, meaning that language-specific characters may be used in strings or atoms by adding a percent sign prefix (e.g. %s for \(\beta \)).

The name may be GERMAN, or DEFAULT to stick with classic ZSCII.

GERMAN is defined as follows:

- Alphabet 0: abcdefghiklmnoprstuwzäöü.,
- Alphabet 1: ABCDEFGHIKLMNOPRSTUWZjqvxy
- Alphabet 2: 0123456789!?'-: () JÄÖÜß«»
- Special characters: ä(%a), Ö(%o), Ü(%u), ß(%s), Ä(%A), Ö(%O), Ü(%U), «(%<), »(%>)

LEGAL?

```
<LEGAL? value>
MDL built-in
```

LEGAL? is a predicate that returns TRUE if portion of the stack value occupies is still active, otherwise FALSE. Although LEGAL? works for all TYPEs, it's only useful for those TYPEs that live on the stack, like TUPLE, activation and environment, all other types always return

TRUE.

Examples:

```
; "Activation"
<DEFINE FOO ACT () <SETG ACT .ACT> <LEGAL? .ACT>>
              --> T
                         ; "ACT legal inside function"
<LEGAL? ,ACT> --> #FALSE ;"ACT illegal outside function"
; "Environment"
<DEFINE BAR () <BAZ>>
<DEFINE BAZ ("BIND" ENV) <SETG ENV .ENV> <LEGAL? .ENV>>
<BAR>
             --> T ; "Sets ENV to BARs environment"
<LEGAL? ,ENV> --> #FALSE ;"BARs environment illegal"
<BAZ>
             --> T
                         ; "Sets ENV to ROOT environment"
<LEGAL? ,ENV> --> T
                         ; "ROOTs environment always legal"
```

LENGTH

```
<LENGTH structure>
MDL built-in
```

Return the number of elements in structure.

structure must be an object that STRUCTURED? evaluates to true.

Note that TABLE is not a structure.

Also see BACK, NTH, PUT, REST, SUBSTRUC and TOP.

Example:

LENGTH?

```
<LENGTH? structure limit>
MDL built-in
```

LENGTH? is a predicate that returns false if LENGTH of structure is greater than limit, otherwise true (it actually returns LENGTH of structure).

LENGTH? answers the question: "is LENGTH of structure less or equal to limit?"

Examples:

LINK

```
<LINK value str oblist>
MDL built-in
```

LINK links a value to PNAME str. The PNAME is placed in the specified oblist. LINK has the effect that when the MDL encounters the str it immediately replaces it with the value. LINK is primarily used in interactive mode to replace phrases that are annoyingly long to type.

Example:

```
<LINK '<INSERT-FILE "HEDGEMAZE"> "H" <ROOT>>
H --> Tries to load the file "HEDGEMAZE"
```

LIST

```
<LIST values ...>
(values ...) ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Returns a list of containing values.

A list is a collection of items where each item has a pointer to the next item in the collection. This makes it easy to add and insert items in lists but a list is always forward looking. See more about LIST structure in *The MDL Programming Language, Appendix 1*.

Example:

```
<LIST 1 2 "AB" !\C> --> (1 2 "AB" !\C) (1 2 "AB" !\C) (1 2 "AB" !\C)
```

LONG-WORDS?

```
<LONG-WORDS? [boolean]>
ZIL library
```

The boolean, which defaults to true if omitted, tells the compiler whether to generate the CONSTANT LONG-WORDS-TABLE.

LONG-WORDS-TABLE contains an entry for each vocab word whose length exceeds the maximum word length for the selected Z-machine version (6 Z-characters for V3, or 9 Z-characters for V4+). The table is prefixed by the number of entries, and each entry consists of a word pointer followed by a string giving the printed form of the word.

For example, the table might be defined as equivalent to:

```
<VERSION 5>
<LONG-WORDS? T>
<OBJECT FOO (SYNONYM HEMIDEMISEMI)>
```

LOOKUP

```
<LOOKUP string oblist>
MDL built-in
```

LOOKUP returns the ATOM with PNAME string from oblist. It returns FALSE if no ATOM is found.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Examples:

LPARSE

```
<LPARSE text [10] [lookup-oblist]>
MDL built-in
```

LPARSE ("list parse") is just like PARSE with the exception that LPARSE returns a LIST of all the expressions in the text.

ZILF requires that the second argument is 10 if a lookup-oblist is given.

Examples:

LSH

<LSH number places>

```
MDL built-in
```

Bitwise shift. Shift number left when places is positive and right if it is negative. When right shifting the sign is not preserved (0 is always shifted in).

Examples:

```
<LSH 4 1> --> 8 <LSH 4 -2> --> 1
```

LTABLE

```
<LTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
ZIL library
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the LENGTH flag (see TABLE about LENGTH and other flags).

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES.

LVAL

```
<LVAL atom [environment]>
.atom ; "Alternative syntax"

MDL built-in
```

Get the value of the local atom. More often used in its short form ".atom".

It is possible to supply an environment for LVAL. See EVAL for more about the environment.

Example:

```
<SET X 5>
<LVAL X> --> 5
.X --> 5
```

M-HPOS

```
<M-HPOS channel>
ZIL library
```

M-HPOS returns the current horizontal cursor position on channel.

```
<PRINC "Hello"><M-HPOS .OUTCHAN> --> Hello5
```

MAKE-GVAL

```
<MAKE-GVAL atom>
ZIL library
```

MAKE-GVAL returns the atom as GVAL (, atom).

Example:

```
<SET FOO BAR>
<SETG BAR 123>
<MAKE-GVAL .FOO> --> ,BAR
<EVAL <MAKE-GVAL .FOO>> --> 123
```

MAPF

```
<MAPF finalf applicable structs ...>
MDL built-in
```

MAPF ("map first") traverses over all structs one element at a time until one of the structs is out of elements and calls the function applicable with the elements. In other words, the first iteration takes the first element from each of the structs and calls applicable, the second iteration takes the second element from each of the structs and calls applicable, and so on until one of the structs doesn't have any more elements. The intermediate results from each call to applicable is stored in a TUPLE.

The finalf can either be a FUNCTION or <> (FALSE). If it is FALSE the TUPLE with the intermediate result is thrown away, otherwise finalf is called with the TUPLE.

MAPF returns the result from finalf. If finalf is FALSE, MAPF returns the result from the last call to applicable. If applicable never was called (one of the structs was empty) MAPF returns FALSE.

One special case is if only finalf and applicable are given. In this case applicable is called indefinitely with no arguments until a MAPLEAVE or MAPSTOP is invoked. finalf is called if MAPSTOP is used to leave the iteration.

MAPLEAVE

```
<MAPLEAVE [value]>
MDL built-in
```

MAPLEAVE leaves the MAPF or the MAPR immediately and makes the MAPF or the MAPR return the value (TRUE by default). This means that an eventual finalf in the MAPF or the MAPR never will be invoked.

Example:

MAPR

```
<MAPR finalf applicable structs ...>
MDL built-in
```

MAPR ("map rest") works the same as MAPF but instead of sending one element at a time to applicable it sends the REST of the structs, starting with <REST struct 0>. In other words, the first iteration takes REST 0 from each of the structs and calls applicable, the second iteration takes REST 1 from each of the structs and calls applicable, and so on until one of the structs doesn't have any more elements. The intermediate results from each call to applicable is stored in a TUPLE.

The finalf can either be a FUNCTION or <> (FALSE). If it is FALSE the TUPLE with the intermediate result is thrown away, otherwise finalf is called with the TUPLE.

MAPR returns the result from finalf. If finalf is FALSE, MAPR returns the result from the last call to applicable. If applicable never was called (one of the structs was empty) MAPR returns FALSE.

One special case is if only finalf and applicable are given. In this case applicable is called indefinitely with no arguments until a MAPLEAVE or MAPSTOP is invoked. finalf is called if MAPSTOP is used to leave the iteration.

Example:

MAPRET

```
<MAPRET [value] ...>
MDL built-in
```

MAPRET leaves the current iteration of the MAPF or the MAPR and adds the specified values to the TUPLE of arguments used when the finalf is called. If no values are specified nothing is added to the TUPLE in this iteration. Note that the MAPF or the MAPR continues to run through the iterations until one of the structs is out of elements.

Example:

```
<SET FOO (65 66 67 68)>
<MAPF ,LIST
    #FUNCTION ((L)
    <MAPRET <ASCII .L>>) .FOO> --> (!\A !\B !\C !\D)
```

MAPSTOP

```
<MAPSTOP [value] ...>
MDL built-in
```

MAPSTOP is similar to MAPRET but after it adds the values to the TUPLE of arguments it directly calls finalf and aborts all remaining iterations.

Example:

MAX

```
<MAX numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

MAX returns the maximum number among numbers.

```
<MAX 2 3 4 1> --> 4
```

MEMBER

```
<MEMBER item structure>
MDL built-in
```

MEMBER iterates through structure and returns <REST structure i>, where i is the index of the first element in structure that is =? with item.

MEMBER returns false if the item is not found.

Examples:

MEMQ

```
<MEMQ item structure>
MDL built-in
```

MEMQ ("member quick") iterates through structure and returns <REST structure i>, where i is the index of the first element in structure that is ==? with item.

MEMQ returns false if the item is not found.

Examples:

```
<MEMQ "BC" "ABCD"> --> #FALSE <>
<MEMQ 2 (1 2 3 4)> --> (2 3 4)
<MEMO 0 (1 2 3 4)> --> #FALSE <>
```

MIN

```
<MIN numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

MIN returns the minimum number among numbers.

Example:

```
<MIN 2 3 4 1> --> 1
```

MOBLIST

```
<MOBLIST name>
MDL built-in
```

MOBLIST ("make oblist") creates and returns a new empty OBLIST named name. If an OBLIST with the name already exists the existing one is returned instead.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Example:

```
<INSERT "FOO" <MOBLIST NEW-OBLIST>> --> FOO!-NEW-OBLIST
FOO!-NEW-OBLIST;"This can also be done with trailer"
```

MOD

```
<MOD number1 number2>
MDL built-in
```

MOD divides number 1 with number 2, which must be non-zero, and returns the remainder.

Examples:

```
<MOD 3 2> --> 1
<MOD 3256 256> --> 184
```

MSETG

```
<MSETG atom value>
ZIL library
```

MSETG ("manifest set global") is an alias for CONSTANT.

MSETG (CONSTANT) defines an atom with value that will never be changed. The atom can is accessed inside a ROUTINE with GVAL (or ,) just like a GLOBAL atom. Defining a MSETG (CONSTANT) instead of a GLOBAL when possible can be vital information the compiler can use for optimization.

Example:

```
<MSETG MSG-CANT-DO-THAT "You can't do that!">
...
<TELL ,MSG-CANT-DO-THAT CR>
```

N==?

```
<N==? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. False if value1 and value2 is the same object, otherwise true. N==? is the opposite to ==?.

ZILF defines "the same object" more loosely than MDL, see ==?.

```
<SET X 1>
<N==? .X 1> --> False
<SET X (1 2 3)>
```

```
<N==? .X (1 2 3)> --> True
```

N=?

```
<N=? value1 value2>
MDL built-in
```

Predicate. False if value1 and value2 is of the same TYPE and structurally equal, otherwise true. N=? is the opposite to =?.

Examples:

NEVER-ZAP-TO-SOURCE-DIRECTORY?

```
<NEVER-ZAP-TO-SOURCE-DIRECTORY?>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

NEW-ADD-WORD

```
<NEW-ADD-WORD atom-or-string [type] [value] [flags]>
ZIL parser library
```

NEW-ADD-WORD is an alias to ADD-WORD.

NEWTYPE

```
<NEWTYPE name primtype-atom [decl]>
MDL built-in
```

NEWTYPE creates a new TYPE with the name, name and the same PRIMTYPE as primtype-atom. It returns the new TYPE. The name must be unique (<VALID-TYPE? name> is FALSE> otherwise NEWTYPE results in an error.

It is possible to specify a decl (see GDECL) for the new TYPE that is enforced when CHTYPE.

See APPLYTYPE, EVALTYPE and PRINTTYPE.

```
<NEWTYPE GARGLE CHARACTER>
<TYPEPRIM GARGLE> --> FIX
<SET A <CHTYPE 65 GARGLE>>
<TYPE .A> --> GARGLE
```

NEXT

```
<NEXT asoc>
MDL built-in
```

NEXT returns the next asoc entry, of TYPE ASOC, in the ASSOCIATION chain. If there are no more entries then FALSE is returned.

See ASSOCIATIONS, AVALUE, GETPROP, INDICATOR, ITEM and PUTPROP.

Example:

NOT

```
<NOT value>
MDL built-in
```

Boolean (logical) "not". NOT returns true if value is false (#FALSE <>), otherwise NOT returns false.

Examples:

NTH

```
<NTH structure index>
<index structure> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

```
MDL built-in
```

Returns the element at index in structure. Valid values for index are between 1 and <LENGTH structure>.

structure must be an object that STRUCTURED? evaluates to TRUE.

NTH can also be abbreviated as <index structure>.

Note that TABLE is not a structure.

Also see BACK, LENGTH, PUT, REST, SUBSTRUC and TOP.

Example:

OBJECT

```
<OBJECT name (property values ...) ...>
ZIL library
```

OBJECT creates an object with the internal objectname, name. After the name follows LISTs of properties for the OBJECT and the values for each property. Which properties that define up a OBJECT is determined by the parser and it's possible to add new properties with PROPDEF as long as the parser is modified to support the new property. Below is a list of common properties.

IN or LOC	This is the OBJECTs initial location. This could, for example, be a ROOM, another OBJECT (container) or the player (in its inventory). There are a
	couple of special locations like GLOBAL-OBJECTS for OBJECTs that the
	player can refer to everywhere, LOCAL-GLOBALS for OBJECTs the player
	can refer to in ROOMs that define this OBJECT in its GLOBAL list and
	GENERIC-OBJECTS for OBJECTs that are concepts more than objects (for
	example the murder or the new will in Deadline).
SYNONYMS	This lists all the nouns that can be used to refer to the OBJECT.
ADJECTIVE	This lists all the adjectives that can be used to refer to the OBJECT.
DESC	The short description text of the OBJECT. This is the text that is, for
	example, printed in the players inventory.
FLAGS	This lists all the flagbits that are set on this OBJECT.
FDESC	("first description"), this is the text that is used to describe the OBJECT until
	it is touched (picked up).
LDESC	("long description"), this is the text that is used to describe the OBJECT,
	when it is on the ground, after it is touched.
GLOBAL	Optional property. This is a LIST of all the OBJECTs that is IN the
	LOCAL-GLOBALS that are accessible from this ROOM. This could, for
	example, be a door that is accessible from two different ROOMs.
THINGS	Optional property. This creates one or more simple "pseudo-objects".
	Each object has three parts: a LIST of adjectives (FALSE if none), a LIST
	of nouns and the name of the action-routine to call when this object is
	accessed. In early Infocom games this property was called PSEUDO and had

a slightly different syntax.

ACTION Defined as (ACTION routine-name). This is the OBJECTS

action-routine. For OBJECTs action-routines there is no argument.

SIZE Size of OBJECT (for inventory handling).
VALUE Value of OBJECT (for scoring purpose).

DESCFCN This is used to define a function to handle the OBJECTs description. It is

called with an argument, ARG, that can be M-OBJDESC? or M-OBJDESC. If the routine returns FALSE during the M-OBJDESC? call, the OBJECT

defaults to standard descriptions with FDESC and LDESC, otherwise the

description is handled during the M-OBJDESC call.

CAPACITY Capacity of the OBJECT if it is a container.

CONTFCN This routine is called on the container when OBJECTs inside the container

are handled (used rarely).

See *Learning ZIL*, *Steve E. Meretzky* and *ZIL Course*, *Marc S. Blank* for more on properties, flagsbits and how to write and design games.

Examples:

OBLIST?

```
<OBLIST? atom>
MDL built-in
```

OBLIST? returns the OBLIST that contains the atom. If the atom is not in any OBLIST it returns FALSE.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Examples:

OFFSET

```
<OFFSET index structure-decl [value-decl]>
```

```
MDL built-in
```

OFFSET creates an OFFSET TYPE that is used with NTH and PUT to check that an element at index in the structure follows the specified pattern, structure-decl and value-decl.

The index is an integer and the structure-decl follow the normal rules for a decl (see GDECL). Because the OFFSET only specifies the decl for one element in the structure it is possible to split the decl in two parts where structure-decl specifies the structure and value-decl is the decl for this specific element.

Note that in ZILF can OFFSET only be used with NTH and PUT in the form <index-or-offset structure> and <index-or-offset structure value> respectively.

GET-DECL and PUT-DECL can be used to examine and change the decl of the OFFSET and INDEX returns the index of an OFFSET.

Example:

```
<SETG OFF1 <OFFSET 1 '<VECTOR FIX>>>
<SETG OFF2 <OFFSET 2 '<VECTOR FIX CHARACTER>>>
<SETG OFF3 <OFFSET 3 '<VECTOR> 'STRING>>
<GET-DECL ,OFF2>
                              --> <VECTOR FIX CHARACTER>
<SET V [1 !\A "BCD"]>
<OFF1 .V>
                              -->
<OFF3 .V>
                              --> "BCD"
<OFF2 .V !\B>
                                   [1 !\B "BCD"]
<OFF1 .V !\A>
                              --> ERROR
<2 .V 65>
<OFF2 .V>
                              --> ERROR
```

OPEN

```
<OPEN "READ" path>
MDL built-in
```

OPEN the file at path for input. The second argument must always be "READ" in ZILF and the path is specified like in Linux (forward slashes etc.) and uppercase/lowercase can be significant, depending on the host system.

Example:

```
;"ZILF ver 0.9"
<SET CH <OPEN "READ" "../zillib/parser.zil">>
<SET BUFFER <ISTRING 1000>>
<READSTRING .BUFFER .CH ";"> --> 124 ;"READ until first ;"
<CLOSE .CH>
```

OR

```
<OR expressions...>
```

```
MDL built-in
```

Boolean OR. Requires that one of the expressions evaluates to true to return true. Exits on the first expression that evaluates to true (rest of expressions are not evaluated).

Because false is its own TYPE outside a routine OR returns #FALSE if all expressions are false or the value of the first true expression.

Example:

OR?

```
<OR? Expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

Returns the same result as OR with the difference that all expessions are evaluated.

Examples:

ORB

```
<ORB numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

Bitwise OR.

Examples:

ORDER-FLAGS?

```
<ORDER-FLAGS? LAST objects ...>
ZIL library
```

Each of the objects is an atom naming a flag, as seen in the (FLAGS ...) clause of an OBJECT definition.

The only ordering allowed is LAST, which causes the named flags to be added to the list of "flags requiring high numbers", which are assigned the highest flag numbers so they may be distinguished from zero. Flags mentioned in the (FIND ...) clause of SYNTAX definitions are already added to this list by default.

ORDER-OBJECTS?

```
<ORDER-OBJECTS? atom>
ZIL library
```

This controls the order in which object numbers are assigned to objects.

Note that there are two ways the compiler can learn about an object: some objects are explicitly "defined" using ROOM or OBJECT, whereas the existence of others is merely implied when the objects are "mentioned" as part of another object's definition (in a LOC or direction property).

By default, if ORDER-OBJECTS? is not used, object numbers are assigned in reverse mention order. That is, the first object defined is given the highest number, and any other objects mentioned in its definition are given the next highest numbers (in order), whether or not those objects are explicitly defined later.

The atom is one of the following:

DEFINED	To assi	gn number	s to all	explicitly	defined	objects	in the ord	ler

of their definitions (starting at 1), then to all other mentioned

objects in the order of their mentions.

ROOMS-FIRST The same as DEFINED except that numbers are assigned to

rooms before non-rooms, so room numbers can be packed into

a byte array (assuming there are less than 256 of them).

ROOMS-LAST The same as DEFINED except that numbers are assigned to

non-rooms before rooms.

ROOMS-AND-LGS-FIRST The same as ROOMS-FIRST except that numbers are

assigned to rooms and local globals before the remaining

objects.

For the purpose of object ordering, "rooms" include all objects defined with ROOM (instead of OBJECT) as well as all objects whose initial LOC is an object named ROOMS. "Local globals" includes all objects whose initial LOC is an object named LOCAL-GLOBALS.

ORDER-TREE?

```
<ORDER-TREE? atom>
ZIL library
```

This controls the initial layout of the Z-machine object tree.

The object tree is defined by three fields on each object, named in the Z-Machine Standards Document as "parent", "child", and "sibling", which are read by the ZIL functions LOC, FIRST?, and NEXT?. Each object's parent field is specified by the (LOC ...) clause in the object definition, but the compiler has discretion to set the child and sibling fields as long as the tree remains well-formed.

The atom must be:

• REVERSE-DEFINED, to force objects to be linked in the reverse order of their definitions. That is, the child of an object X is the last object in the source code whose definition contains (LOC X); the sibling of that child is the next to last object in the source code that contains (LOC X); and so on.

By default, if ORDER-TREE? is not used, the order is the same as REVERSE-DEFINED except for the first defined child, which remains the first object linked. That is, the child of an object X is the first object in the source code whose definition contains (LOC X); the sibling of that child is the last object that contains (LOC X); the sibling of that child in turn is the next to last object that contains (LOC X); and so on.

PACKAGE

```
<PACKAGE package-name>
MDL package system
```

PACKAGE defines a group of ATOMs (i.e. variables and functions) with the package-name for potential later inclusion (via USE or USE-WHEN) in the project. A PACKAGE is often used to functionally group together library functions that can have a usage over many projects.

Internally an OBLIST named PACKAGE is used in conjunction with BLOCK and ENDBLOCK. When you define a PACKAGE the following is happening:

- 1. An external OBLIST, package-name, is created and added to the OBLIST PACKAGE (e.g. FOO!-PACKAGE).
- 2. An internal OBLIST, Ipackage-name, is created and added to the OBLIST package-name (e.g. IFOO!-FOO!-PACKAGE).
- 3. A BLOCK is started with the OBLISTs (in this order) Ipackage-name, package-name and <ROOT> (e.g. IFOO, FOO, <ROOT>).

This means that every ATOM that is created inside the PACKAGE ends up on the internal OBLIST first. If ENTRY is used the ATOM is created/moved to the external OBLIST and finally RENTRY creates/moves the ATOM to the ROOT OBLIST.

The PACKAGE definition is ended by END-PACKAGE (in fact an ENDBLOCK) which restores the OBLISTS to the state they had before the PACKAGE definition began.

When you decide to use a package by USE or USE-WHEN the OBLIST package-name is copied and added last to the local OBLIST (<LVAL OBLIST>). This means that all ATOMs on the external package OBLIST becomes available in current environment.

Note that a PACKAGE can be defined additive (i.e. multiple PACKAGE definitions with the same package-name is added together to one PACKAGE).

ZILF has three packages predefined in <MOBLIST PACKAGE>; NEWSTRUC, ZIL and ZILCH. They are all empty and are only there for compatibility (all ATOMs in these packages are already in ZILF).

See DEFINITIONS, ENDPACKAGE, ENTRY, RENTRY, USE and USE-WHEN.

```
; "Define PACKAGE"
```

```
<REMOVE ANSWER> ;"Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
<REMOVE DBL-ANSWER>
<REMOVE ROOT-ANSWER>
<REMOVE SECRET>
<PACKAGE "FOO">
<ENTRY ANSWER>
<SETG ANSWER 42>
<SETG SECRET 12345>
<RENTRY ROOT-ANSWER>
<SETG ROOT-ANSWER 21>
<ENDPACKAGE>
<TYPE? <GETPROP FOO!-PACKAGE OBLIST> OBLIST>
                                                --> OBLIST
<TYPE? <GETPROP IFOO!-FOO!-PACKAGE OBLIST> OBLIST>--> OBLIST
<GASSIGNED? ANSWER>
                                                   --> #FALSE
<GASSIGNED? ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE>
                                                   -->
                                                   --> T
<GASSIGNED? SECRET!-IFOO!-FOO!-PACKAGE>
, ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE
                                                        42
                                                   --> 12345
,SECRET!-IFOO!-FOO!-PACKAGE
, ROOT-ANSWER
                                                   --> 21
; "PACKAGEs can be defined additive"
<PACKAGE "FOO">
<SETG DBL-ANSWER <* ,ANSWER 2>>
<ENTRY DBL-ANSWER>
<ENDPACKAGE>
, ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE
                                                        42
, DBL-ANSWER!-FOO!-PACKAGE
                                                        84
; "USE adds external OBLIST to local OBLIST-path"
<REMOVE ANSWER> ;"Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
<LENGTH .OBLIST>
                                                        2
<USE "FOO">
<LENGTH .OBLIST>
                                                        3
                                                   -->
                                                   --> 42
, ANSWER
<GASSIGNED? SECRET>
                                                   --> #FALSE
, SECRET!-IFOO
                                                   --> 12345
```

PARSE

```
<PARSE text [10] [lookup-oblist]>
MDL built-in
```

PARSE takes a string, text, and returns the first MDL object encountered in it. If lookup-oblist is supplied, PARSE looks for potential ATOMs on this OBLIST. If no lookup-oblist is supplied, .OBLIST is used.

ZILF requires that the second argument is 10 if a lookup-oblist is supplied.

```
<PARSE "FOO">
                                        --> FOO
<PARSE "+">
                                        -->
<PARSE "+" 10 <GETPROP PACKAGE OBLIST>> --> +!-PACKAGE
<PARSE "23">
                                        -->
                                            23
<PARSE "(1 2 3)">
                                        --> (1 2 3)
<parse "<+ 12 34>">
                                        --> <+ 12 34>
<PARSE "%<+ 12 34>">
                                        --> 46
<parse "<+ .A .B>" 10 <moblist ob>>
          --> <+!-OB <LVAL!-OB A!-OB> <LVAL!-OB B!-OB>>
<PARSE " ">
                             --> ERROR (No expression)
<parse "1 2 3">
                             --> 1 (Only 1st expression)
```

PICFILE

<PICFILE>
ZIL library

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

PLTABLE

```
<PLTABLE [flags ...] values ...>
ZIL library
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the PURE and LENGTH flag (see TABLE about LENGTH, PURE and other flags).

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES.

PNAME

```
<PNAME atom>
MDL built-in
```

PNAME ("printed name") returns a newly created string copy of the atom's pname. PNAME never prints an ATOMs trailers, unlike UNPARSE, and is therefore quicker.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

PREP-SYNONYM

```
<PREP-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

PREP-SYNONYM creates one or more synonyms to the original preposition.

ZILF treats PREP-SYNONYM as an alias to SYNONYM.

PRIMTYPE

```
<PRIMTYPE value>
MDL built-in
```

evaluates to the primitive type of value. The primitive types are ATOM, FIX, LIST, STRING, TABLE and VECTOR.

Examples:

PRIN1

```
<PRIN1 value [channel]>
MDL built-in
```

Prints the evaluated representation of value to channel (default for channel is <LVAL OUTCHAN> - the console). PRIN1 also returns the evaluated representation of value.

Examples:

PRINC

```
<PRINC value [channel]>
MDL built-in
```

PRINC is just like PRIN1, except for STRING and CHARACTER where surrounding dubbel quote (") and initial ! \ is suppressed. PRINC returns the evaluated representation of value.

```
<PRINC !\A> --> A
<PRINC 42> --> 42
```

PRINT

```
<PRINT value [channel]>
MDL built-in
```

PRINT is just like PRIN1, except that it first prints a CRLF, then the evaluated representation of value and lastly a space. PRINT returns the evaluated representation of value.

Examples:

PRINT-MANY

```
<PRINT-MANY channel printer items ...>
ZIL library
```

PRINT-MANY prints multiple items to channel with the printer. The printer is usually PRINT, PRINC or PRIN1 but could actually be any FUNCTION that takes one argument. The printer is called repeatedly with one item at a time until the list of items is exhausted.

If PRMANY-CRLF is given as an item, a CRLF is printed at that position.

Examples:

```
<PRINT-MANY .OUTCHAN PRINC "Hello" !\! PRMANY-CRLF>
    --> Hello!\n

<PRINT-MANY .OUTCHAN PRIN1 "string" !\c PRMANY-CRLF>
    --> "string"!\c\n
```

PRINTTYPE

```
<PRINTTYPE atom [handler]>
MDL built-in
```

PRINTTYPE tells the TYPE atom how it should be printed (PRIN1-style). If PRINTTYPE is called without a handler then the currently active handler is returned. If there is no active handler, FALSE is returned.

Note that it is possible to replace the handler with a new handler, even on the predefined TYPEs.

See APPLYTYPE, EVALTYPE and NEWTYPE.

```
<DEFINE ROMAN-PRINT (ROMAN "AUX" (RNUM <CHTYPE .ROMAN FIX>))
     <COND (<OR <L=? .RNUM 0> <G? .RNUM 3999>>
           <PRINC <CHTYPE .NUMB TIME>>)
           <RCPRINT </ .RNUM 1000> '![!\M]>
           <RCPRINT </ .RNUM 100> '![!\C !\D !\M]>
           <RCPRINT </ .RNUM 10> '![!\X !\L !\C]>
                     .RNUM
                                  '![!\I !\V !\X]>)>>
           <RCPRINT
     <DEFINE RCPRINT (MODN V)</pre>
     <SET MODN <MOD .MODN 10>>
     <COND (<==? 0 .MODN>)
           (<==? 1 .MODN> < PRINC < 1 .V>>)
           (<==? 2 .MODN> <PRINC <1 .V>> <PRINC <1 .V>>)
           (<==? 3 .MODN> < PRINC < 1 .V>> < PRINC < 1 .V>>
                                         <PRINC <1 .V>>)
           (<==? 4 .MODN> < PRINC < 1 .V>> < PRINC < 2 .V>>)
           ( \le = ? 5 .MODN > PRINC < 2 .V > )
           (<==? 6 .MODN> <PRINC <2 .V>> <PRINC <1 .V>>)
           (<==? 7 .MODN> < PRINC < 2 .V>> < PRINC < 1 .V>>
                                         <PRINC <1 .V>>)
           (<==? 8 .MODN> <PRINC <2 .V>> <PRINC <1 .V>>
                          <PRINC <1 .V>> 
           (<==? 9 .MODN> <PRINC <1 .V>> <PRINC <3 .V>>)>>
     <NEWTYPE ROMAN FIX>
     <PRINTTYPE ROMAN ,ROMAN-PRINT>
     <==? <PRINTTYPE ROMAN> ,ROMAN-PRINT>
     #ROMAN 1984
                                              --> MCMLXXXIV
     <NEWTYPE ROMAN2 FIX>
     <PRINTTYPE ROMAN2 ROMAN> ; "Copies active handler, if exists"
     #ROMAN2 2020
                                              -->
                                                  XXMM
     <PRINTTYPE ROMAN FIX>
     <=? <PRINTTYPE ROMAN> <>>
                                              -->
                                                  Т
     #ROMAN 2020
                                              --> 2020
     ; "Change in ROMAN doesn't affect ROMAN2"
     #ROMAN2 2020
                                              --> MMXX
     <PRINTTYPE FIX ,ROMAN-PRINT> ;"Works on built-in too!"
     23
                                              --> XXIII
     <PRINTTYPE FORM <FUNCTION (F) <PRIN1 <CHTYPE .F LIST>>>>
     <FORM + 1 2>
                                              --> (+ I II)
PROG
     <PROG [activation] (bindings ...) [decl] expressions ...>
    MDL built-in
```

PROG defines a program block with its own set of bindings. PROG is similar to BIND and REPEAT but unlike BIND it creates a default activation (like REPEAT) at the start of the block and doesn't have an automatic AGAIN at the end of the block (like REPEAT). It is possible to name an atom to the activation but it is not necessary. AGAIN and RETURN inside a PROG-block will start the block over or return from the block.

The decl is used to specify the valid TYPE of the variables. In its simplest form decl is formatted like: #DECL ((X) FIX), meaning that X must be of the TYPE FIX. For more information on how to format the decl see GDECL.

Also see AGAIN, BIND, REPEAT and RETURN for more details how to control program flow.

Example:

PROPDEF

```
<PROPDEF atom default-value [spec-patterns ...]>
ZIL library
```

PROPDEF defines a property, atom, with a default-value for OBJECTs (and ROOMs). The default-value is the value that GETP will return if the property is not defined for the given OBJECT.

For the more complex properties it is possible to define a spec-pattern according to:

The spec-pattern consists of two parts divided by an equal sign. The left side is the pattern and the right side is the rules on how to store the property.

```
This is the property. DIR is a special case that is used for DIRECTIONS.

"MANY"

This means that the pattern of var: type repeats itself. If "MANY" is defined on the left side of the equal sign there must be a matching
```

on the right side. This means that the pattern after is optional. "OPT" This can be tokens like IF, ELSE, TO. [phrase] This is a variable name, var, and its type. Usually FIX, STRING var:type or ROOM. The length (records) of the form. The form-len is optional and can form-len also be given as <>. <fnc-size var> The fnc-size can be a call with var to either BYTE, WORD, STRING, OBJECT, ROOM, GLOBAL, NOUN, ADJ, or VOC. This stores var or derivative of var and adds to the vocabulary and/or creates a GVAL. (ptr <fnc-size This creates a GVAL, ptr, that contains the address-pointer relative to the property. var>) (const value) This creates a CONSTANT, name, containing value.

```
; "Ordinary property"
<PROPDEF HEIGHT 72>
<OBJECT OBJ1>
<OBJECT OBJ2 (HEIGHT 80)>
;"Implies, inside routine"
<GETP ,OBJ1 ,P?HEIGHT>
                                   --> 72
<GETP ,OBJ2 ,P?HEIGHT>
                                   --> 80
; "Basic pattern"
<PROPDEF HEIGHT <>
     (HEIGHT FEET:FIX FOOT INCHES:FIX = 2 <WORD .FEET>
                                           <BYTE .INCHES>)
     (HEIGHT FEET:FIX FT INCHES:FIX = 2 < WORD .FEET>
                                         <BYTE .INCHES>)>
<OBJECT GIANT (HEIGHT 10 FT 8)>
;"Implies, inside routine"
<=? <GET <GETPT ,GIANT ,P?HEIGHT> 0> 10>
<=? <GETB <GETPT ,GIANT ,P?HEIGHT> 2> 8>
; "Basic pattern with OPT"
<PROPDEF HEIGHT <> (HEIGHT FEET:FIX FT "OPT" INCHES:FIX =
               <WORD .FEET> <BYTE .INCHES>)>
<OBJECT GIANT1 (HEIGHT 100 FT)>
<OBJECT GIANT2 (HEIGHT 50 FT 11)>
;"Implies, inside routine"
<=? <PTSIZE <GETPT ,GIANT1 ,P?HEIGHT>> 3>
<=? <GET <GETPT ,GIANT1 ,P?HEIGHT> 0> 100>
<=? <GETB <GETPT ,GIANT1 ,P?HEIGHT> 2> 0>
<=? <PTSIZE <GETPT ,GIANT2 ,P?HEIGHT>> 3>
<=? <GET <GETPT ,GIANT2 ,P?HEIGHT> 0> 50>
<=? <GETB <GETPT ,GIANT2 ,P?HEIGHT> 2> 11>
; "Basic pattern with MANY"
<PROPDEF TRANSLATE <> (TRANSLATE "MANY" A:ATOM N:FIX =
               "MANY" <VOC .A BUZZ> <WORD .N>)>
```

```
<OBJECT NUMBERS (TRANSLATE ONE 1 TWO 2)>
; "Implies, inside routine"
<=? <PTSIZE <GETPT ,NUMBERS ,P?TRANSLATE>> 8>
<=? <GET <GETPT , NUMBERS , P?TRANSLATE> 0> , W?ONE>
<=? <GET <GETPT ,NUMBERS ,P?TRANSLATE> 1> 1>
<=? <GET <GETPT , NUMBERS , P?TRANSLATE> 2> , W?TWO>
<=? <GET <GETPT , NUMBERS , P?TRANSLATE> 3> 2>
;"Pattern with constants"
<PROPDEF HEIGHT <> (HEIGHT FEET:FIX FT INCHES:FIX =
     (HEIGHTSIZE 3) (H-FEET <WORD .FEET>)
     (H-INCHES <BYTE .INCHES>))>
<=? ,HEIGHTSIZE 3>
<=? , H-FEET 0>
<=? ,H-INCHES 2>
;"DIR sets pattern for all DIRECTIONS"
<PROPDEF DIRECTIONS <> (DIR GOES TO R:ROOM =
     (MY-UEXIT 3) <WORD 0> (MY-REXIT <ROOM .R>))>
<DIRECTIONS NORTH SOUTH>
<OBJECT HOUSE (SOUTH GOES TO WOODS)>
<OBJECT WOODS (NORTH GOES TO HOUSE) >
;"Implies, inside routine"
<=? <PTSIZE <GETPT ,HOUSE ,P?SOUTH>> ,MY-UEXIT>
<=? <GETB <GETPT , HOUSE , P?SOUTH> , MY-REXIT> , WOODS>
;"DIR sets implicit DIRECTIONS"
<PROPDEF DIRECTIONS <> (DIR GOES TO R:ROOM =
     (MY-UEXIT 3) <WORD 0> (MY-REXIT <ROOM .R>))>
<DIRECTIONS NORTH SOUTH>
<OBJECT HOUSE (EAST GOES TO WOODS)>
<OBJECT WOODS (WEST GOES TO HOUSE) >
;"Implies, inside routine"
<=? <PTSIZE <GETPT ,HOUSE ,P?EAST>> ,MY-UEXIT>
<=? <GETB <GETPT , HOUSE , P?EAST> , MY-REXIT> , WOODS>
<BAND <GETB ,W?EAST 4> ,PS?DIRECTION>
;"VOC in pattern adds word to vocabulary"
<PROPDEF FOO <> (FOO A:ATOM = <VOC .A PREP>)>
<OBJECT BAR (FOO FOO)>
;"Implies, inside routine"
<=? <GETP ,BAR ,P?FOO> ,W?FOO>
; "Complex PROPDEF (DIRECTIONS from Zork Zero)"
<PROPDEF DIRECTIONS <>
     (DIR TO R:ROOM = (UEXIT 1) (REXIT < ROOM .R>))
     (DIR S:STRING = (NEXIT 2) (NEXITSTR <STRING .S>))
     (DIR SORRY S:STRING = (NEXIT 2) (NEXITSTR <STRING .S>))
     (DIR PER F:FCN = (FEXIT 3)
                       (FEXITFCN <WORD .F>) <BYTE 0>)
     (DIR TO R:ROOM IF F:GLOBAL "OPT" ELSE S:STRING =
          (CEXIT 4) (REXIT < ROOM .R>) (CEXITFLAG < GLOBAL .F>)
```

```
(CEXITSTR <STRING .S>))
(DIR TO R:ROOM IF O:OBJECT IS OPEN "OPT" ELSE S:STRING =
    (DEXIT 5) (DEXITOBJ <OBJECT .O>)
    (DEXITSTR <STRING .S>) (DEXITRM <ROOM .R>))>
```

PTABLE

```
<PTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
ZIL library
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the PURE flag (see TABLE about PURE and other flags).

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES.

PUT

```
<PUT structure index new-value>
MDL built-in
```

Sets the element at index in structure to new-value. Valid values for index are between 1 and <LENGTH structure>.

structure must be an object that STRUCTURED? evaluates to true.

Note that TABLE is not a structure.

Also see BACK, LENGTH, NTH, REST, SUBSTRUC and TOP.

Example:

PUT-DECL

```
<PUT-DECL item pattern>
MDL built-in
```

PUT-DECL defines an alias, item, for a pattern. See DECL?, GDECL and GET-DECL for more on declaration patterns.

Examples:

```
<DECL? T BOOLEAN> --> Error
<PUT-DECL BOOLEAN '<OR ATOM FALSE>>
<DECL? T BOOLEAN> --> T
<DECL? "Hi" BOOLEAN> --> #FALSE
```

PUT-PURE-HERE

```
<PUT-PURE-HERE>
```

```
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

PUTB

```
<PUTB table index new-value>
ZIL library
```

Put a byte new-value in the table at byte position index. Actual address is table-address+index.

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES. PUTB is equivalent to the Z-code built-in PUTB.

Also see GETB, ZGET, ZPUT and ZREST.

Example:

PUTPROP

```
<PUTPROP item indicator [value]>
MDL built-in
```

PUTPROP stores value as an association on the item under the indicator and returns the item. If no value is specified PUTPROP returns the value and then clears the association.

In ZILF there is a special indicator, PROPSPEC, that has a special meaning inside OBJECTs. A PROPSPEC property is defined:

```
<PUTPROP item PROPSPEC [function]>
```

When an item defined in this way is used in an OBJECT, the function is invoked during the compilation with the LIST (containing the item) as an argument. The return value from the function must be a LIST and it is stored as value under PROPSPEC on the item. If no function is specified the PROPSPEC for the item is cleared. See examples below.

See ASSOCIATIONS, AVALUE, GETPROP, INDICATOR, ITEM and NEXT.

```
(ADJECTIVE SMALL CURIOUS)
     (MYBUZZ "ABCD" "BAR" "BAZ")>
<DEFINE MYBUZZ-PROP (L)</pre>
     <SET L <REST .L>>
                         ;"Ignore MYBUZZ in LIST"
     <MAPF ,LIST <FUNCTION (W) <VOC .W BUZZ>> .L>>
<PUTPROP MYBUZZ PROPSPEC MYBUZZ-PROP>
<ROUTINE GO () <TEST-PROPSPEC>>
<ROUTINE TEST-PROPSPEC ("AUX" W)</pre>
     <TELL "Part-of-Speech, 4 = BUZZ" CR>
     <SET W W?ABCD>
     <TELL "ABCD = " N <GETB .W 6> CR>
     <SET W W?BAR>
     <TELL "BAR = " N <GETB .W 6> CR>
     <SET W W?BAZ>
     <TELL "BAZ = " N <GETB .W 6> CR>>
```

PUTREST

```
<PUTREST list new-rest>
MDL built-in
```

PUTREST replaces the REST of list with new-rest and returns list. In other words, list is assigned the first element of list and then all the elements from new-rest. Note that this actually changes the list.

Examples:

```
<PUTREST (1 2 3) (A B)> --> (1 A B)
<SET L1 [<SET L2 (1 2 3)>]>
<PUTREST .L2 (A B)>
.L1
                              --> [(1 A B)]
<SET L1 [1 2 3]>
<SET L2 <PUTREST (!.L1) (A B)>>
.L1
                              --> [1 2 3]
                                   (1 A B)
.L2
                              -->
<SET L1 (1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9)>
<putrest <REST .L1 3> <REST .L1 7>>
                              --> (1 2 3 4 8 9)
.L1
```

QUIT

```
<QUIT [exit-code]>
MDL built-in
```

QUIT exits ZILF (interpreter mode) and returns to the operating system with exit-code.

<QUIT>

QUOTE

```
<QUOTE value>
'value ;"Alternative syntax"
MDL built-in
```

QUOTE returns value unevaluated.

Examples:

READSTRING

```
<READSTRING buffer-str channel [max-length-or-stop-chars]>
MDL built-in
```

READSTRING reads bytes from the channel into buffer-str and returns the number of bytes read into buffer-str. The buffer-str needs to have room for the input. For each call to READSTRING it either reads bytes to fill up the buffer-str or until max-length-or-stop-chars is reached. The max-length-or-stop-chars can be a FIX number of bytes or a STRING that halts input.

READSTRING returns the actual number of bytes read and returns 0 when the EOF is reached.

Example:

```
;"ZILF ver 0.9"
<SET CH <OPEN "READ" "../zillib/parser.zil">>
<SET BUFFER <ISTRING 10>>
<READSTRING .BUFFER .CH>
                                   -->
                                        10
                                       "\"Library h"
<LVAL BUFFER>
<READSTRING .BUFFER .CH 6>
                                        "eader\"ry h"
<LVAL BUFFER>
<READSTRING .BUFFER .CH "ZIL">
                                   --> 10
<LVAL BUFFER>
                                   --> "\n\n<SETG "
<CLOSE .CH>
                                        ;"\n = CR+LF"
```

REMOVE

```
<REMOVE pname oblist>
<REMOVE atom>
MDL built-in
```

This REMOVES the ATOM with pname from oblist. It returns FALSE If the ATOM is not on the

oblist.

<REMOVE atom> REMOVEs the atom from its OBLIST. FALSE is returned if it's not on its OBLIST

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

Examples:

```
FOO
<1 .OBLIST>
                         --> (... ("FOO" FOO))
<REMOVE FOO>
<1 .OBLIST>
                         --> FOO is removed from <1 .OBLIST>
F00-1!-0B
FOO-2!-OB
<MOBLIST OB>
                              --> FOO-1, FOO-2 on OB
<REMOVE "FOO-1" <MOBLIST OB>> --> FOO-1!-#FALSE ()
<MOBLIST OB>
                              --> Only FOO-1 on OB
<REMOVE FOO-2!-OB>
<MOBLIST OB>
                              --> OB is empty
```

RENTRY

```
<RENTRY atoms ...>
MDL package system
```

RENTRY creates/moves one or more ATOMs to <ROOT> in a PACKAGE or DEFINITION. RENTRY is only valid inside a PACKAGE or DEFINITION, if it's used outside an error is raised.

See DEFINITIONS, ENTRY, INCLUDE, INCLUDE-WHEN, PACKAGE, USE, USE-WHEN.

Examples:

```
<REMOVE ANSWER> ;"Secure that ATOM not on any OBLIST"
<PACKAGE "FOO">
<SETG ANSWER 42>
<RENTRY ANSWER>
<ENDPACKAGE>

,ANSWER --> 42 ;"Accessible without previous USE"
```

REPEAT

```
<REPEAT [activation] (bindings ...) [decl] expressions ...>
MDL built-in
```

REPEAT defines a program block with its own set of bindings. REPEAT is similar to BIND and PROG but unlike BIND it creates a default activation (like PROG) at the start of the block but unlike PROG it also has an automatic AGAIN at the end of the block. It is possible to name an atom to the activation but it is not necessary. A REPEAT-block repeatedly executes expressions until it encounters a RETURN statement that will exit the block.

The decl is used to specify the valid TYPE of the variables. In its simplest form decl is

formatted like: # DECL ((X) FIX), meaning that X must be of the TYPE FIX. For more information on how to format the decl see GDECL.

Also see AGAIN, BIND, PROG and RETURN for more details how to control program flow.

Example:

REPLACE-DEFINITION

```
<REPLACE-DEFINITION name body ...>
ZIL library
```

This tells the compiler this block of code defined by name should replace a later DEFAULT-DEFINITION block of code with the same name.

This is usually used when there is a library that is inserted (like "parser.zil") where some definitions are possible to override.

Note that the REPLACE-DEFINITION is required to appear before the DEFAULT-DEFINITION.

It is possible to do the same by setting REDEFINE to true. This actually makes it possible to change ALL definitions (it is the last one that becomes the one actually compiled).

See DEFAULT-DEFINITION and REPLACE-DEFINITION...

REST

```
<REST structure [count]>
MDL natvive
```

Return structure without its first count elements (count is default 1). Note that this is not a copy of the structure, it is pointing to the same structure with another starting element.

structure must be an object that STRUCTURED? evaluates to true.

Note that TABLE is not a structure.

Also see BACK, LENGTH, NTH, PUT, SUBSTRUC and TOP.

Example:

RETURN

```
<RETURN [value] [activation]>
MDL built-in
```

This returns value from program-block defined by activation. True is returned if no value is specified. If activation is not specified RETURN will exit the current defined program-block where an automatic activation was created (PROG and REPEAT creates automatic activations, BIND does not).

In practice RETURN exits current program-block and returns value to outer program-block defined by BIND (needs activation), PROG or REPEAT.

See AGAIN, BIND, PROG and REPEAT for more examples of using RETURN and details how to control program flow.

Examples:

ROOM

```
<ROOM name (property value ...) ...>
ZIL library
```

ROOM creates a room-object with the internal objectname, name. After the name follows LISTs of properties for the ROOM and the values for each property. Which properties that define up a ROOM is determined by the parser and it's possible to add new properties with PROPDEF as long as the parser is modified to support the new property. Usually the below properties are understood by the parser and the properties IN (or LOC), DESC and FLAGS are required, the others are optional.

IN or LOC	Required property. The value is always ROOMS for ROOM-objects.
DESC	Required property. The short description text of the ROOM. This is the
	text that is, for example, printed in the statusbar.
FLAGS	Required property. This lists all the flagbits that are set on this ROOM.
LDESC	Optional property. The long description of the ROOM. This is the text
	that is printed, for example, the first time the player visits the ROOM
(dir)	Optional property. List a direction, dir and where it leads. There is 5

different types of EXITS:

UEXIT ("unconditional exit"). The syntax is (dir TO room-name). If the player moves in this direction he is moved unconditionally to room-name.

NEXIT ("non-exit"). The syntax is (dir "text-why-not"). The text-why-not is printed when the player tries to move in this direction. Use this only if you want a different text than the standard message, typically something like "You can't move in that direction!". CEXIT ("conditional exit"). The syntax is (dir TO room-name IF gval [ELSE "text-why-not"]). This moves the player if the global value, gval, is TRUE. The ELSE-part is optional and the standard message is printed if it is not supplied.

DEXIT ("door-exit"). The syntax is (dir TO room-name IF door-name IS OPEN). This is a special case of CEXIT that moves the player to room-name if the door-name has the OPENBIT set. FEXIT ("function-exit"). The syntax is (dir PER routine-name). This moves the player to the ROOM returned by the ROUTINE, routine-name. If the routine returns FALSE it is presumed that the routine has printed an appropriate message.

Optional property. This is a LIST of all the OBJECTs that is IN the LOCAL-GLOBALS that are accessible from this ROOM. This could, for example, be a door that is accessible from two different ROOMs.

Optional property. This creates one or more simple "pseudo-objects". Each object has three parts: a LIST of adjectives (FALSE if none), a LIST of nouns and the name of the action-routine to call when this object is accessed. In early Infocom games this property was called PSEUDO and had a slightly different syntax.

Optional property. The syntax is (ACTION routine-name). This ROUTINE takes one argument, by convention call RARG ("room-argument"), and is called more than once during a turn with different values to RARG. M-BEG, the routine-name is called with this value to RARG before any OBJECTs or verb action-routines.

M-END, the routine-name is called with this value to RARG after any OBJECTs or verb action-routines.

M-LOOK, the routine-name is called with this value to RARG when the player LOOKs.

M-ENTER, the routine-name is called with this value to RARG when the player enters the ROOM (before any room description).

Note that ROOMs can just as easily be created with OBJECT as long as they are (IN ROOMS).

See *Learning ZIL*, *Steve E. Meretzky* and *ZIL Course*, *Marc S. Blank* for more on properties, flagsbits and how to write and design games.

Example:

THINGS

ACTION

<ROOM INSIDE-HOUSE
 (DESC "Inside House")
 (IN ROOMS)
 (LDESC</pre>

"You are standing inside the rotting house. The house is

ROOT

```
<ROOT>
```

MDL built-in

ROOT returns the OBLIST containing names of primitives (the same as <2 .OBLIST>). Initially it contains all predefined SUBRs or FSUBRs, as well as OBLIST, DEFAULT, T, etc.

See The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

ROUTINE

```
<ROUTINE name [activation-atom] arg-list body ...>
ZIL library
```

The ROUTINEs are the central building block in a ZIL-program. Inside the ROUTINE it is only possible to use the reduced instruction set that can be executed on the Z-machine. It is the instructions inside the ROUTINEs that are compiled to the actual ZIP-program.

ROUTINE defines a program block with its own set of bindings. It is possible to specify an activation—atom to use as an argument to control the RETURN statement inside the ROUTINE.

The arg-list is formatted the same way as FUNCTION, but the legal tokens is reduced to these:

Arguments	The required arguments for this ROUTINE. The arguments are		
	bound to local variables inside this ROUTINE.		
"OPT"	The optional arguments for this ROUTINE. The arguments are		
	bound to local variables inside this ROUTINE and can be defined with		
	a default value. "OPTIONAL" is an alias for "OPT".		
"AUX"	Followed by any number of ATOMs that becomes local variables inside		
	this ROUTINE and can be defined with a default value. "EXTRA"		
	is a alias for "AUX".		
"NAME"	Followed by an ATOM that becomes the activation-atom for this		
	ROUTINE. This is equivalent to naming the activation-atom before		

```
the arg-list. "ACT" is an alias for "NAME".
```

Default values for "OPT" and "AUX" are defined by a two-element LIST whose first element is the ATOM and the second element is assigned to.

```
<ROUTINE TEST ("AUX" (X 1) (Y 2)) <+ .X .Y>>
```

Means that the local variables X and Y are initially assigned 1 and 2.

After the arg-list follows the ZIL-instructions that makes up the body of the ROUTINE.

Example:

ROUTINE-FLAGS

```
<ROUTINE-FLAGS CLEAN-STACK?>
ZIL library
```

This sets flags to control how ZILF should compile. To clear, call FILE-FLAGS without any flags. The flags are:

CLEAN-STACK?

Tells the compiler to generate extra code to remove unneeded values from the stack. Without it, the compiler will generate smaller code in some cases, at the risk of potentially causing stack overflow at runtime.

Examples:

```
<FILE-FLAGS CLEAN-STACK?>
```

SET

```
<SET atom value [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

Assign value to the local atom.

It is possible to supply an environment for SET. See EVAL for more about the environment. Example:

SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS

```
<SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS args ...>
MDL built-in
```

SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS is used to change the default behaviour of the struct-option and the field-option tokens in DEFSTRUCT.

The newly defined defaults are only active in the same file as they were defined. If a file is loaded via, for example, FLOAD or INSERT-FILE the defaults are the built-in defaults inside these files.

If SET-DEFSTRUCT-FILE-DEFAULTS is called without any arguments the built-in default behaviour is restored.

The tokens that can have changed default behaviour are:

'CONSTRUCTOR	Replace the default constructor (MAKE-).
'INIT-ARGS	Replace the init arguments to the base-type. This is empty by default.
'NODECL	Use 'NODECL, to get 'NODECL by default.
'NOTYPE	Use 'NOTYPE, to get 'NOTYPE by default.
'NTH	Default ATOM for this is NTH. Change to other with
	('NTH MY-NTH).
'PRINTTYPE	Change the default ATOM for PRINTTYPE with
	('PRINTTYPE MY-PRINTTYPE).
'PUT	Default ATOM for this is PUT. Change to other with
	('PUT MY-PUT).
'START-OFFSET	Default value is 1. Change with ('START-OFFSET value).

See DEFSTRUCT for more on user defined structures.

Example:

SETG

```
<SETG atom value>
MDL built-in
```

Assign value to the global atom. If an atom already is assigned a value, it is changed.

Example:

```
<SETG MYVAR 42>--> Store 42 in global atom MYVAR
```

SETG20

```
<SETG20 atom value>
```

```
ZIL library
```

Assign value to the global atom. If an atom already is assigned a value, it is changed. SETG20 is an alias for SETG

Example:

```
<SETG20 MYVAR 42> --> Store 42 in global atom MYVAR
```

SORT

```
<SORT predicate vector [record-size] [key-offset]
        [vector [record-size] ...]>
MDL built-in
```

SORT can sort a VECTOR (or TUPLE). The predicate can either be <> or a FUNCTION that takes two keys and returns TRUE if the two records are correctly sorted and FALSE if they are incorrectly sorted. For example , G? will sort keys in ascending order and , L? will sort keys in descending order. If the predicate is <> the keys must be of the same TYPE and the vector will be sorted in ascending order.

The record-size is the length of each record (default value is 1) and the key-offset is the offset in the record to the value to use as the sort key (default value is 0).

If additional vectors are supplied all vectors can have their own record length but each vector must have the same number of records. Records in the additional vectors are interchanged based on how the main vector is sorted.

SORT returns the first sorted vector.

Examples:

SPNAME

```
<SPNAME atom>
MDL built-in
```

SPNAME ("shared printed name") should return the same string of the atom's pname that is in its OBLIST (i.e. pointing to the same storage and therefore not able to change or modify).

ZILF treats SPNAME as an alias to PNAME and returns a string copy of the atom's pname.

See PNAME and The MDL Programming Language, chapter 15.

STRING

```
<STRING values ...>
MDL built-in
```

STRING returns a concatenated string of all values. values can be character or string.

A string is a block of contiguous bytes where each byte holds a character. See more about STRING structure in *The MDL Programming Language, Appendix 1*.

Example:

```
<STRING !\A <ASCII 66> "CD"> --> "ABCD"
```

STRUCTURED?

```
<STRUCTURED? value>
MDL built-in
```

STRUCTURED? is a predicate and returns true if value is of a structured TYPE. The structured TYPEs are:

CHANNEL
DECL
FALSE
FORM
FUNCTION
LIST
MACRO
OBLIST
SEGMENT
SPLICE
STRING
VECTOR

Examples:

SUBSTRUC

```
<SUBSTRUC structure-from [rest] [amount] [structure-to]>
MDL built-in
```

Copies an amount number of elements, starting at rest, from structure-from. The result is copied into structure-to, if supplied, otherwise a new structure is returned.

Default value for rest is 0 and default value for amount is LENGTH – rest (in other words, copies from rest to end of structure-from).

structure—from must be of PRIMTYPE LIST, VECTOR or STRING and structure—to must be of the same PRIMTYPE as struture—from and have enough room for the SUBSTRUC to fit.

Also see BACK, LENGTH, NTH, PUT, REST and TOP.

Examples:

SUPPRESS-WARNINGS?

```
<SUPPRESS-WARNINGS? all | none | codes ...>
ZILF compiler directive
```

SUPPRESS-WARNINGS? tells the compiler how to treat warnings. NONE is the default.

ALL Suppress all warnings.

NONE Don't suppress any warnings. codes Suppress listet warning codes.

Examples:

```
;"Examples must be compiled with -w, otherwise warnings is
  always suppressed."
;"Compiles with warnings"
<SUPPRESS-WARNINGS? NONE>
<ROUTINE GO () <TELL N .X>>
;"Compiles with suppressed warnings"
<SUPPRESS-WARNINGS? ALL>
<GLOBAL X 5>
<ROUTINE GO () <TELL N .X>>
;"Compiles with suppressed warnings"
<SUPPRESS-WARNINGS? "ZIL0204">
<GLOBAL X 5>
<ROUTINE GO () <TELL N .X>>
```

SYNONYM

```
<SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

SYNONYM creates one or more synonyms to the original verb, adjective, preposition or direction. Instead of SYNONYM it is also possible to use VERB-SYNONYM, ADJ-SYNONYM, PREP-SYNONYM and DIR-SYNONYM for verbs, adjectives, prepositions and directions respectively, ZILF handles them all like aliases to SYNONYM.

Note that due to the way words, especially adjectives and nouns, are stored in the vocabulary synonyms for adjectives only work in version 3 (ZIP) games.

Examples:

```
<SYNONYM NORTH FORE>
<SYNONYM SOUTH AFT>
<SYNONYM WEST PORT>
<SYNONYM EAST STARBOARD>
<SYNTAX PUT OBJECT = V-INSERT>
<VERB-SYNONYM PUT SLIDE DIP SOAK>
```

SYNTAX

SYNTAX defines a verb-phrase and specifies which action-routine-name should be called when an input matches this verb-phrase. A SYNTAX must contain a verb and an action-routine-name. Optionally it can contain one direct noun-phrase, the first token OBJECT, and one indirect noun-phrase, the second token OBJECT. Each noun-phrase can also have a corresponding preposition, prep1 and prep2 respectively.

The noun-phrases can have FIND and search, search-flags, conditions defined. The token FIND means that the OBJECT must have the flag-name bit set. If there is only one OBJECT in the scope that meets the FIND condition the parser makes a GWIM ("Get what I mean"). For example if there is only one doore in the room with the DOORBIT set an OPEN assumes that you mean that door.

One special case of FIND is when there is no indirect OBJECT but the SYNTAX ends with a preposition. In these cases a special bit, KLUDGEBIT (or ROOMBIT), is used so that the player can type sentences like "turn machine on" (<SYNTAX TURN OBJECT (FIND DEVICEBIT) ON OBJECT (FIND KLUDGEBIT) = V-TURN-ON>).

The search-flags HAVE, MANY and TAKE define the following rules for the OBJECT:

HAVE	The OBJECT must be in the player's inventory (or inside open containers in the player's inventory). If the OBJECT is not in the inventory the parser fails and prints something like "You don't have the x,".
MANY	It is possible to use multiple OBJECTs with this verb.
TAKE	If the OBJECT is not in the player's inventory but takeble the parser attempts to take the OBJECT, an so called implicit take is performed, before
	continuing (the OBJECT is moved to the player's inventory and the parser
	prints something like "[Taken.]").

The search-flags CARRIED, HELD, IN-ROOM and ON-GROUND can be seen as hints to the parser where to first look for the OBJECT. These flags define the scope for the search. Note that these flags are only hints to the parser and if the OBJECT is not in the defined scope the parser continues the search in the other scopes before it fails. The default value for scope is that all flags

are set.

CARRIED	Search for the OBJECT inside open containers in the player's inventory.			
HELD	Search for the OBJECT in the player's inventory at top-level (not inside			
	other containers).			
IN-ROOM	Search for the OBJECT inside containers on the ground.			
ON-GROUND	Search for the OBJECT on the ground at the top-level.			

Finally after the token = (equal-sign) there is one or two ROUTINE-names specified, action-routine-name and preaction-routine-name (optional). By convention these handlers are usually named V-verb and PRE-verb, respectively.

The preaction-routine-name is fired before the OBJECTs action-routine and the action-routine-name is fired after the OBJECTs action-routine. The preaction is usually used to check the prerequisites for the verb, for example that you have a weapon before attacking something so you don't have to check that in every attackable OBJECTs action-routine. The action-routine-name is usually used to handle response when the OBJECTs action-routine fails.

Each occurrence of an action-routine-name together with an optional preaction-routine-name must always have the same pattern (same action-routine-name can't exist with different preaction-routine-names).

It is possible to replace the search-flags with the GVAL NEW-SFLAGS. This is used with the new parser in Arthur, Shogun and Zork Zero where the search-flags ALL, ROOM, HELD, CARRIED, IN-ROOM, ON-GROUND, EVERYWHERE, MOBY and ADJACENT are defined.

Examples:

TABLE

```
<TABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
ZIL library
```

Defines a table containing the specified values.

These flags control the format of the table:

- WORD causes the elements to be 2-byte words. This is the default.
- BYTE causes the elements to be single bytes.
- LEXV causes the elements to be 4-byte records. If default values are given to ITABLE with this flag, they will be split into groups of three: the first compiled as a word, the next

- two compiled as bytes. The table is also prefixed with a byte indicating the number of records, followed by a zero byte
- STRING causes the elements to be single bytes and also changes the initializer format. This flag may not be used with ITABLE. When this flag is given, any values given as strings will be compiled as a series of individual ASCII characters, rather than as string addresses.

These flags alter the table without changing its basic format:

- LENGTH causes a length marker to be written at the beginning of the table, indicating the number of elements that follow. The length marker is a byte if BYTE or STRING are also given; otherwise the length marker is a WORD. This flag is ignored if LEXV is given
- PURE causes the table to be compiled into static memory (ROM).

The flags LENGTH and PURE are implied in LTABLE, PTABLE or PLTABLE.

Examples:

<table 1="" 2="" 3="" 4="">></table>					
	Element 0 WORD	Element 1 WORD	Element 2 WORD	Element 3 WORD	
	1	2	3	4	

<table (by<="" th=""><th colspan="8"><table (byte="" 1="" 2="" 3="" 4="" length)="">></table></th></table>	<table (byte="" 1="" 2="" 3="" 4="" length)="">></table>							
Element 0 BYTE	Element 1 BYTE	Element 2 BYTE	Element 3 BYTE	Element 4 BYTE				
4	1	2	3	4				

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES.

TELL-TOKENS

```
<TELL-TOKENS {pattern form} ...>
ZIL library
```

Replace current TELL-TOKENS with the specified list of pattern and form. These can then be used in TELL. See ADD-TELL-TOKEN for a description of pattern and form.

Example (from Infocom's Trinity):

```
<TELL-TOKENS
(CR CRLF)
              <CRLF>
(N NUM) *
             <PRINTN .X>
(C CHAR CHR) * <PRINTC .X>
(D DESC) *
            <PRINTD .X>
             <PRINTA .X>
(A AN) *
THE *
             <THE-PRINT .X>
CTHE *
            <CTHE-PRINT .X>
THEO
             <THE-PRINT>
CTHEO
             <CTHE-PRINT>
             <CTHEI-PRINT>
CTHEI
```

```
THEI <THEI-PRINT>>
```

TIME

```
<TIME>
MDL built-in
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns 1.

TOP

```
<TOP array>
MDL built-in
```

Returns array with all elements put back in array.

TOP only works on the structures VECTOR or STRING (arrays) and not on a LIST (a LIST is only pointing forward).

Note that the returned array is not a copy but pointing to the same array with another starting element.

Also see BACK, NTH, PUT, REST and SUBSTRUC.

Example:

TUPLE

```
<TUPLE values ...>
MDL built-in
```

TUPLE is just like a VECTOR with the only difference that a TUPLE should live on the control stack. The advantage of a TUPLE over a VECTOR is that a TUPLE doesn't need to be garbage collected, the disadvantage is that a TUPLE only lives during the execution of the function where it was declared. It is only valid to declare a TUPLE in the "AUX" or "OPTIONAL" part of a functions definition or as a "TUPLE" in a functions definition.

The above is not entirely true for ZILF. In ZILF, TUPLE is treated as an alias to VECTOR.

A TUPLE defined in the "AUX" or "OPT" is just like a VECTOR. A "TUPLE" definition makes it possible to have a variable number of arguments to a FUNCTION.

TYPE

```
<TYPE value>
MDL built-in
```

evaluates to the type of value. See also ALLTYPES.

Examples:

```
<TYPE !\A> --> CHARACTER

<TYPE <+1 2>> --> FIX

<TYPE #BYTE 42> --> BYTE
```

TYPE?

```
<TYPE? value type-1 ... type-N>
MDL built-in
```

Evaluates to type-i only if $\le=$? type-i > is true. It is faster and gives more information than ORing tests for each TYPE. If the test fails for all type-i's, TYPE? returns #FALSE ().

Examples:

```
<TYPE? !\A CHARACTER FIX> --> CHARACTER <TYPE? <+1 2> CHARACTER FIX> --> FIX <TYPE? #BYTE 42 CHARACTER FIX> --> #FALSE ()
```

TYPEPRIM

```
<TYPEPRIM type>
MDL built-in
```

evaluates to the primitive type of type. The primitive types are ATOM, FIX, LIST, STRING, TABLE and VECTOR.

```
<TYPEPRIM CHARACTER> --> FIX
<TYPEPRIM FORM> --> LIST
<TYPEPRIM BYTE> --> FIX
```

UNASSIGN

```
<UNASSIGN atom [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

Unassign global atom.

It is possible to supply an environment for ASSIGNED?. See EVAL for more about the environment.

Example:

```
<SET X 1>
<ASSIGNED? X> --> True
<UNASSIGN X>
<ASSIGNED? X> --> False
```

UNPARSE

```
<UNPARSE value>
MDL built-in
```

UNPARSE returns a STRING representation of value. Unlike PNAME, UNPASE prints an ATOMS trailers if required.

Examples:USE

USE

```
<USE package-name ...>
MDL package system
```

USE activates one or many package-names and makes its content available in the current OBLIST-path. In practice USE copies the OBLIST package-name and adds it last to the local OBLIST (<LVAL OBLIST>). This means that all ATOMs on the external package OBLIST becomes available in current environment.

If the package-name is not available in the current environment, USE tries to load "package-name.zil" from the current path.

USE only works together with PACKAGE and if the definition of the package-name is missing from the environment or no file is found containing that definition is found, an error is raised.

See PACKAGE and USE-WHEN.

Example:

USE-WHEN

```
<USE-WHEN condition package-name ...>
MDL package system
```

USE-WHEN is exactly like USE but only activates the package-name if the condition evaluates to TRUE.

See PACKAGE and USE.

Example:

VALID-TYPE?

```
<VALID-TYPE? atom>
MDL built-in
```

VALID-TYPE? returns the TYPE if the atom is a valid name of a TYPE (the atom name is in ALLTYPES), otherwise FALSE.

Examples:

```
<VALID-TYPE? VECTOR> --> VECTOR

<VALID-TYPE? FOO> --> #FALSE

<NEWTYPE FOO FIX>
<VALID-TYPE? FOO> --> FOO
```

VALUE

```
<VALUE atom [environment]>
MDL built-in
```

VALUE returns the value of an atom. If the atom has an LVAL then the LVAL is returned, otherwise the GVAL of the atom is returned.

It is possible to supply an environment for VALUE. See EVAL for more about the environment.

Example:

```
<SETG X 3>
<SET X 4>
<VALUE X> ;"--> 4
<UNASSIGN X>
<VALUE X> ;"--> 3
```

VECTOR

```
<VECTOR values ...>
[values ...] ;"Alternative syntax"
MDL built-in
```

This returns a VECTOR of containing values.

A VECTOR is a collection of items that occupies a continuous block of memory. This makes it easy to traverse a VECTOR both forward and backward but costly to add or insert items in the VECTOR. See more about VECTOR structure in *The MDL Programming Language, Appendix 1*.

Note that in MDL there is another type of vector, UVECTOR (uniform vector). In an UVECTOR every item is of the same TYPE which makes an UVECTOR more space efficient. ZILF does not support UVECTOR but treats short form definitions of an UVECTOR as a ordinary VECTOR

```
(![1 \ 2 \ 3!] \longrightarrow [1 \ 2 \ 3]).
```

Examples:

VERB-SYNONYM

```
<VERB-SYNONYM original synonyms ...>
ZIL parser library
```

VERB-SYNONYM creates one or more synonyms to the original verb.

ZILF treats VERB-SYNONYM as an alias to SYNONYM.

VERSION

```
<VERSION {ZIP | EZIP | XZIP | YZIP | number} [TIME]>
ZIL library
```

This tells the compiler which Z-machine version that this program is targeting.

Version	Description
3 or ZIP	Version 3 (file extension *.z3). Almost all classical Infocom games are in this version. You are limited to 255 objects (rooms+items) and the game can't be bigger than 128K.
4 or EZIP	Version 4 (file extension *.z4). Infocom's "plus" games – AMFV, Bureaucracy, Nord and Bert and Trinity. This format supports 65535 objects and a game size up to 256K.
5 or XZIP	Version 5 (file extension *.z5). Infocom's Beyond Zork, Border Zone, Sherlock and the Solid Gold versions of older games. This version adds things like UNDO, COLOR and timed input. This format supports 65535 objects and a game size up to 256K.
6 or YZIP	Version 6 (file extension *.z6). Infocom's Arthur, Journey, Shogun and Zork Zero. This version primarily adds graphics. This version supports game size up to 512K.
7	Version 7 (file extension *.z7). Post Infocom version. This version supports game size up to 512K. Rarely used version that is superseded by version 8.
8	Version 8 (file extension *.z8). Post Infocom version. This version supports game size up to 512K.

In version ZIP the status line is drawn by the interpreter and the argument TIME specifies that the status line should display hh:mm instead of score and moves. Global variable 2, usually SCORE, holds the hour-part and global variable 3, usually MOVES, holds the minute-part.

Examples:

VERSION?

```
<VERSION? (version-spec body ...) ...>
ZIL library
```

VERSION? Tell the compiler to use different code-blocks depending on the setting of VERSION. The version-spec can be:

```
3 ZIP
4 EZIP
5 XZIP
6 YZIP
7
8 ELSE/T
```

Example:

```
<VERSION?
  (ZIP <ROUTINE RTN-ZIP () ...>)
  (XZIP <ROUTINE RTN-XZIP () ...>)
  (ELSE <ROUTINE RTN-OTHER () ...>)
>
```

VOC

```
<VOC string [part-of-speech]>
ZIL parser library
```

VOC inserts the string in the game vocabulary (dictionary). Normally there is no need to define the vocabulary with VOC, the vocabulary is automatically updated with words when you define ROOMS, OBJECTS, SYNTAX, etc.

What follows below is a description of the vocabulary when you use the standard parser library. The vocabulary description for the new parser (<SETG NEW-PARSER? T>) is in ADD-WORD.

The part-of-speech can be one of the following:

part-of-speech	Value	Description
<>	0	None
BUZZ	4	Buzz-word
PREP	8	Preposition
DIR	16	Direction
ADJ or ADJECTIVE	32	Adjective
VERB	64	Verb
NOUN or OBJECT	128	Noun

The vocabulary then occupies 6 or 9 bytes, depending on version, per entry distributed as follows.

Version 3

Byte 0	Byte 1	Byte 2	Byte 3	Byte 4	Byte 5	Byte 6
Word up to 6 Z-characters (5 bit)			PoS	Value	V2	

Version 4-

Byte 0	Byte 1	Byte 2	Byte 3	Byte 4	Byte 5	Byte 6	Byte 7	Byte 8
--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------

Byte 6 (or byte 4) contains the part-of-speech value (as above) plus if the word is defined as a first part-of-speech in the first 2 bytes.

- 0 None
- 1 Verb first
- 2 Adjective first
- 3 Direction first

V1 Byte 7 (or byte 5) contains the words value (id). Each part-of-speech can have 255 (65535 for NOUNs) unique words (synonyms have the same value as parent).

V2 Byte 8 is used for NOUNS (V1 & V2 gives 2 bytes, 1-65535 OBJECTS).

The different part-of-speech and first definitions have all global values defined as:

P1?OBJECT	0
P1?VERB	1
P1?ADJECTIVE	2
P1?DIRECTION	3
PS?BUZZ-WORD	4
PS?PREPOSITION	8
PS?DIRECTION	16
PS?ADJECTIVE	32
PS?VERB	64
PS?OBJECT	128

```
<VERSION XZIP>
<VOC "FALSE" <>>
<VOC "NOUN" NOUN>
<VOC "BUZZ" BUZZ>
<VOC "VERB" VERB>
<VOC "ADJECTIVE" ADJ>
<VOC "PREP" PREP>
<ROUTINE GO () <TEST-VOC> <INPUT 1>>
<ROUTINE TEST-VOC ("AUX" P)</pre>
     <SET P W?FALSE>
          <TELL "FALSE: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>
     <SET P W?NOUN>
          <TELL "NOUN: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>
     <SET P W?BUZZ>
          <TELL "BUZZ: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>
```

```
<SET P W?VERB>
          <TELL "VERB: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>
     <SET P W?ADJECTIVE>
          <TELL "ADJECTIVE: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>
     <SET P W?PREP>
          <TELL "PREP: Pos=" N <GETB .P 6>
               ", V1=" N <GETB .P 7>
               ", V2=" N <GETB .P 8> CR>>
-->
FALSE: Pos=0, V1=0, V2=0
NOUN: Pos=128, V1=1, V2=0
BUZZ: Pos=4, V1=255, V2=0
VERB: Pos=65, V1=255, V2=0
ADJECTIVE: Pos=32, V1=0, V2=0
PREP: Pos=8, V1=255, V2=0
```

WARN-AS-ERROR?

```
<WARN-AS-ERROR? value>
ZILF compiler directive
```

WARN-AS-ERROR? set to TRUE, tells the compiler to convert compiler warnings to errors. The default value is FALSE.

Examples:

```
;"Compiles with warning [ZIL0204]"
<WARN-AS-ERROR? <>>
<GLOBAL X 5>
<ROUTINE GO () <TELL N .X>>
;"Don't compile with error [ZIL0204]"
<WARN-AS-ERROR? T>
<GLOBAL X 5>
<ROUTINE GO () <TELL N .X>>
```

XFLOAD

```
<XFLOAD filename>
```

ZILF ignores all but the first argument and treats XFLOAD as an alias to INSERT-FILE.

XORB

```
<XORB numbers ...>
MDL built-in
```

Bitwise exclusive "or".

Examples:

```
<XORB 250 245> --> 11111010 XOR 11110101 = 00001111 (15)
```

ZGET

```
<ZGET table index>
```

Returns WORD-record (2 bytes) stored at index.

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES. ${\tt ZGET}$ is equivalent to the Z-code built-in ${\tt GET}$.

Also see GETB, PUTB, ZPUT and ZREST.

Example:

```
<ZGET <TABLE 0 1 2 3> 2> --> 2
```

ZIP-OPTIONS

```
<ZIP-OPTIONS {BIG | COLOR | DISPLAY | MENU | MOUSE | SOUND | UNDO} ...>

ZIL library
```

ZIP-OPTIONS sets the corresponding bits in the header. This tells the Z-machine that runs the game, the interpreter, that the game intends to use these functions. The interpreter can, if it is unable to provide the requested functionality, clear the bits in return.

Option	Ver	Description
BIG	X	ZILF ignores this.
COLOR	5-	Sets bit 6 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).
DISPLAY	5-	Sets bit 3 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).
MENY	6-	Sets bit 8 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).
MOUSE	5-	Sets bit 5 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).
SOUND	5-	Sets bit 7 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).
UNDO	5-	Sets bit 4 of byte 16 (Flags 2) in header (see Appendix B).

Example (From zillib/parser.zil in ZILF 0.9):

```
;"Use UNDO and COLOR if version is 5+"
<VERSION?
    (ZIP)
    (EZIP)</pre>
```

```
(ELSE <ZIP-OPTIONS UNDO COLOR>)>
```

ZPACKAGE

```
<ZPACKAGE package-name>
ZIL library
```

ZPACKAGE is an alias to PACKAGE.

ZPUT

```
<ZPUT table index new-value>
```

Put a 16-bit WORD new-value in the table at word position index. Actual address is table-address+index*2.

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES. ZPUT is equivalent to the Z-code built-in PUT.

Also see GETB, PUTB, ZGET and ZREST.

Examples:

```
<ZPUT ,MYTABLE 1 123> --> Stores 123 at position 1 in MYTABLE
```

ZREST

```
<ZREST table bytes>
```

Return table without its first bytes. Note that this is not a copy of the table, it is pointing to the same table with another starting address.

TABLE is a ZIL-specific structure that can be used both outside and inside ROUTINES. ZREST is equivalent to the Z-code built-in REST.

Also see GETB, PUTB, ZGET and ZPUT.

Example:

ZSECTION

```
<ZSECTION package-name>
```

```
ZIL library
```

ZSECTION is an alias to DEFINITIONS.

ZSTART

```
<ZSTART atom>
```

Default starting ROUTINE for a compiled ZIL program is the ROUTINE GO. ZSTART can move to ZIL entry point to another ROUTINE.

Example:

```
<ZSTART MAIN> --> Starts with ROUTINE MAIN instead of GO
```

ZSTR-OFF

```
<ZSTR-OFF>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

ZSTR-ON

```
<ZSTR-ON>
ZIL library
```

ZILF ignores this and always returns FALSE.

ZZPACKAGE

```
<ZZPACKAGE package-name>
ZIL library
```

ZZPACKAGE is an alias to PACKAGE.

ZZSECTION

```
<ZZSECTION package-name>
```

ZZSECTION is an alias to DEFINITIONS.

Z-code built-ins (use inside ROUTINE)

Sources:

ZIP: Z-language Interpreter Program, Joel M. Berez, Marc S. Blank and P. David Lebling

The Z-Machine Standards Document, Graham Nelson

The Inform Designer's Manual, Graham Nelson

ZIL Language Guide, Jesse McGrew

*, MUL

```
<* numbers ...>
<MUL numbers ...> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

MUL mul

Multiply numbers.

Example:

+, ADD

```
<+ numbers ...>
<ADD numbers ...> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

ADD add

All versions

Add numbers.

Example:

-, SUB

```
<- numbers ...>
<SUB numbers ...> ;"Alternative syntax"
<BACK number1 number2> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

SUB sub

All versions

Subtract first number by subsequent numbers.

If only one number is provided, it's subtracted from zero (i.e. negated).

Note that it is possible to use BACK as an alias for SUB.

Example:

<-8 3 4> --> 1
 <-4>
$$\rightarrow$$
 -4
 --> 1
 (Defaults to 1)

 --> -1

/, DIV

All versions

Divide first number by subsequent numbers.

Example:

0?, ZERO?

Zapf syntax Inform syntax ZERO? Jz

All versions

Predicate. True if value is 0 otherwise false.

Example:

1?

<1? value>

Predicate. True if value is 1 otherwise false.

Example:

=?, ==?, EQUAL?

<=? value1 value2...valueN>

Predicate. True if value1 is equal to any of the values value2 to valueN.

Examples:

```
<=? 1 1> --> TRUE
<=? 1 2> --> FALSE
<=? 1 2 1> --> TRUE
```

AGAIN

```
<AGAIN [activation]>
```

AGAIN means "start doing this again", where "this" is activation. If no activation is supplied the most recent is used. In practice AGAIN is used to restart a program block (BIND, DO, PROG, REPEAT or ROUTINE) again from the top. Note that arguments and variables for a ROUTINE are reinitialized (to starting value, if supplied) otherwise they keep values between iterations. BIND, DO, PROG and REPEAT don't reinitialize variables.

Also see BIND, DO, PROG, REPEAT and RETURN for more details how to control program flow.

```
<ROUTINE TEST-AGAIN-1 ("AUX" X)</pre>
     <SET X <+ .X 1>>
     <TELL N .X " ">
     <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN>)>
     <AGAIN> ; "Start routine again, X keeps value"
<TEST-AGAIN-1> --> "1 2 3 4 5"
<ROUTINE TEST-AGAIN-2 ("AUX" (X 0))</pre>
     <SET X <+ .X 1>>
     <TELL N .X " ">
     <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN>)> ; "Never reached"
     <AGAIN> ;"Start routine again, X reinitialize to 0"
<TEST-AGAIN-2> --> "1 1 1 1 1 ..."
<ROUTINE TEST-AGAIN-3 ()</pre>
     <BIND ACT1 ((X 0))
          <SET X <+ .X 1>>
          <TELL N .X " ">
          <COND (<=? .X 5> <RETURN>)>
     <AGAIN .ACT1> ; "Start block again from ACT1,"
                     ;"X keeps value"
```

AND

```
<AND expressions...>
```

Boolean AND. Requires that all expressions evaluate to true to return true. Exits on the first expression that evaluates to false (rest of expressions are not evaluated).

Because 0 is considered false and all other values are considered true inside a routine AND returns 0 if one expression is false or the value of the last expression if all expressions are true.

Example:

APPLY

```
<APPLY routine values...>
```

Call the routine with values. <APPLY routine values ...> is equivalent to <routine values ...>, but APPLY is often used when the routine to be called is resolved during run-time (dispatch-table).

Examples:

ASH, ASHIFT

```
<ASH number places>
<ASHIFT number places> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

```
ASHIFT art_shift

Versions: 5-
```

Arithmetic shift. Shift number left when places is positive and right if it is negative. When right shift the sign is preserved (if bit 15 is 1 a 1 is shifted in, otherwise a 0 is shifted in).

Also see LSH.

Examples:

```
<ASH 4 1> --> 8
<ASH 4 -2> --> 1
```

ASSIGNED?

```
<ASSIGNED? Name>
```

Predicate. Can test if an optional argument named name is supplied in call to routine.

Example:

BACK

```
<BACK table [bytes]>
```

Return table with address moved bytes back. If the count moves past the start of the table no error is raised. Default value for bytes is 1.

Note that this is not a copy of the table, it is pointing to the same table with another starting address.

Also see GET, GETB, PUT, PUTB and REST.

BAND, ANDB

```
<BAND numbers ...>
<ANDB numbers ...> ;"Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax BAND and

All versions

Bitwise AND.

Examples:

```
<BAND 33 96> --> 32 <BAND 33 96 64> --> 0
```

BCOM

<BCOM value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax not

All versions

Bitwise NOT. Reverse all bits in the WORD value (16 bits).

Examples:

BIND

```
<BIND [activation] (bindings...) expressions...>
```

BIND defines a program block with its own set of bindings. BIND is similar to PROG but BIND doesn't create a default activation at the start of the block. If an activation is needed it must be specified. AGAIN and RETURN without specified activation inside a BIND-block will start over or return from the previous activation (most probably the ROUTINE).

Also see AGAIN, DO, PROG, REPEAT and RETURN for more details how to control program flow.

```
<SET X 2>
           <TELL N .X " ">
                                            ;"--> 2 (Inner X)"
     <TELL N .X " ">
                                            ;"--> 1 (Outer X)"
     <TELL "END" CR>
--> "START 2 1 END"
<ROUTINE TEST-BIND-2 ()
     <TELL "START ">
     <BIND (X)
           \langle SET X \langle + .X 1 \rangle \rangle
           <TELL N .X " ">
           <COND (<=? .X 3> <RETURN>)> ;"--> exit routine"
                                          ;"--> top of routine"
           <AGAIN>
     <TELL "END" CR>
                                          ;"Never reached"
--> "START 1 START 2 START 3 "
```

BOR, ORB

```
<BOR numbers ...>
<ORB numbers ...> ;"Alternative syntax"
```


DOTC O.

All versions

Bitwise OR.

Examples:

```
<BOR 33 96> --> 97
<BOR 33 96 64> --> 97
```

BTST

<BTST value1 value2>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax
BTST test

All versions

Predicate. Binary test. Evaluates to true if all value2 bits are set in value1. Could be expressed as <=? <BAND value1 value2> value2>.

```
<BTST 64 64> --> TRUE
<BTST 64 63> --> FALSE
```

```
<BTST 97 33> --> TRUE
```

BUFOUT

<BUFOUT value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax BUFOUT buffer_mode

Versions: 4-

Flag that controls if output is buffered (to enable proper word-wrap). value can be true or false.

Examples:

```
<BUFOUT <>> --> Turns off buffering(disables word-wrap) 
<BUFOUT T> --> Turns on buffering
```

CATCH

<CATCH>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

CATCH catch

Versions: 5-

Used in conjunction with THROW. CATCH returns the current state of the stack (the "stack frame"). Also see THROW.

Example:

CHECKU

<CHECKU character>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax CHECKU check unicode

Versions: 5-

Checks if a given unicode character can be printed and/or received from the keyboard. Return is in bit 0 and 1 so the return result is either 0, 1, 2 or 3.

- 0 = character can not be printed and not received from keyboard
- 1 = character can be printed but not received from keyboard
- 2 = character can not be printed but received from keyboard
- 3 = character can both be printed and received from keyboard

```
<CHECKU 65> --> 3
```

CLEAR

<CLEAR window-number>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax CLEAR erase_window

Versions: 4-

Clears window with given window-number. If window-number is -1 it unsplit all windows and then clears the resulting window. If window-number is -2 it clears all windows without unsplitting.

Example:

```
<CLEAR 0> --> Clears window 0 (the "main"-window)
```

COLOR

Zapf syntax Inform syntax COLOR set_colour

Versions: 5-

Print text in given fg-color and bg-color from this point on (flushing out text in buffer in old colors first). Version 6 supports a third argument, window-number. The colors available (if interpreter supports it) are:

0	Current color
1	Default color
2	Black
3	Red
4	Green
5	Yellow
6	Blue
7	Magenta
8	Cyan
9	White

Example:

<COLOR 2 9> --> Set black text against white background

COND

```
<COND (condition expressions...)...>
```

Test condition (predicate) and if condition evaluates to true expressions are executed. IF-THEN style:

COND evaluates each condition in turn and executes the expressions directly after the first condition that evaluates to true. ELSE is an alias for T so if the first condition is false the second is always true and is executed.

SWITCH style:

Note that only one of the (conditions expressions ...) is executed, the conditions after a condition that evaluates to true is skipped.

In this case conditions for 1, 2 & 3 is never executed and should result in a compiler warning.

COPYT

```
<COPYT src-table dest-table length>
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax COPYT copy_table

Versions: 5-

Copies length number of bytes from src-table to dest-table. The tables are allowed to overlap. If length is positive then the copy is done without corrupting the src-table. If length is negative the copy is always forward from src-table to dest-table (the absolute length number of bytes) even if this corrupts src-table.

Example:

CRLF

<CRLF>

All versions

Prints carriage return and line feed.

Example:

<CRLF> --> Moves cursor to position 1 on new line

CURGET

<CURGET table>

Versions: 4-

Zapf syntax Inform syntax GURGET get_cursor

CURGET puts current cursor row in record 0 and current cursor column in record 1 of the supplied table. Both row and column are WORD (16-bit).

```
<GLOBAL CURTABLE <TABLE 0 0>>
```

CURSET

```
<CURSET row column> ; "Versions: 4-5"
<CURSET row column [window-number]> ; "Versions: 6-"
Versions: 4-
```

CURSET moves cursor to row and column in current window (or supplied window-number). In versions 4-5 it is only possible to move the cursor in the upper window (window-number = 1). In versions 6-, if row is -1 then the cursor is turned off (-2 turns it back on).

Example:

DCLEAR

```
<DCLEAR picture-number [row] [column]>
```

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
DCLEAR	erase_picture

Versions: 6-

Clears (draw background color) area covered by picture-number, starting at row and column. Also see DISPLAY.

Example:

DEC

<DEC name>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax DEC dec

All versions

Decrease variable (signed) name with 1.

```
<ROUTINE TEST-DEC (X) <DEC .X>>
```

```
<TEST-DEC 45> --> 44
<TEST-DEC 0> --> -1
```

DIRIN

<DIRIN stream-number>

nform syntax
nput_stream

All versions

Select input stream. Only stream-number 0 and 1 are valid.

0	Keyboard
1	File on host

Example:

DIROUT

```
<DIROUT stream-number [table]> ; "Versions -5"
<DIROUT stream-number [table] [width]> ; "Versions 6-"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax DIROUT output_stream

Directs output to one or more output streams (multiple streams can be active simultaneously). Turn on stream with positive stream-number and turn off stream with negative stream-number.

If stream 3 is active a table must be supplied. WORD 0 in table holds number of printed characters and byte 2 onward holds the characters printed. DIROUT can overrun table if not enough space is allocated.

Later versions can format output text to width (number of characters if width is positive or number of pixels if width is negative).

1	Screen
2	File on host (transcript)
3	Table
4	File of commands on host

Example:

```
<DIROUT 3> --> Turns on output to file 
<DIROUT -3> --> Turns off output to file
```

DISPLAY

```
<DISPLAY picture-number [row] [column]>
```

Draw picture-number at coordinates row and column. If row and column are omitted the current cursor position is used.

Example:

DLESS?

Predicate. Decrease variable (signed) name with 1 and returns true if variable name is lower than value, otherwise returns false.

Example:

DO

```
<DO (name start end [step])
[(END expressions ...)] expressions ...>
```

A quirk of the DO statement, which can be thought of as a cross between a Pascal-style "for" statement and a C-style "for" statement.

Pascal-style "for" statements loop over a range of values:

```
// Pascal
for i := 1 to 10 do ...
for j := 10 downto 1 do ...
// ZIL
<DO (I 1 10) ...>
<DO (J 10 1 -1) ...>
```

C-style "for" statements initialize some state, then mutate it and repeat until a condition becomes false. In ZIL, the condition is reversed - the loop exits when it becomes true:

```
// C
for (i = first(obj); i; i = next(i)) { ... }
// ZIL
<DO (I <FIRST? .OBJ> <NOT .I> <NEXT? .I>) ...>
```

Notice that every Pascal-style loop can be transformed into a C-style loop:

```
// Pascal-style loops
<DO (I 1 10) ...>
<DO (J 10 1 -1) ...>
// C-style equivalents
<DO (I 1 <G? .I 10> <+ .I 1>) ...>
<DO (J 10 <L? .J 1> <- .J 1>) ...>
```

The quirk is that the behavior of DO depends on the syntax you use for each part.

If the third value inside the parens is a complex FORM -- meaning one that isn't a simple LVAL or GVAL, like '.MAX' is -- it's assumed to be a "C-style" exit condition, otherwise it's assumed to be a "Pascal-style" upper/lower bound. Likewise, the optional fourth value is treated as either a C-style mutator or a Pascal-style step size.

More of the DO statement's quirks are demonstrated here:

```
<ROUTINE GO ()
    <TEST-PASCAL-STYLE>
    <TEST-C-STYLE>
    <TEST-MIXED-STYLE>
    <QUIT>>
<CONSTANT C-ONE 1>
<CONSTANT C-TEN 10>
<ROUTINE TEST-PASCAL-STYLE ("AUX" (ONE 1) (TEN 10))</pre>
    <TELL "== Pascal style ==" CR>
    <TELL "Counting from 1 to 10...">
    ;"1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10"
    <DO (I 1 10)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from 1 to 10 with step 2...">
    ;"1 3 5 7 9"
    <DO (I 1 10 2)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from 10 to 1...">
    ;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
    <DO (I 10 1)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
```

```
<TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from 10 to 1 with step -2...">
    ;"10 8 6 4 2"
    <DO (I 10 1 -2)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from .ONE to .TEN...">
    ;"1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10"
    <DO (I .ONE .TEN)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from .TEN to .ONE...">
    ;"10"
    ; "Since the loop bounds aren't FIXes (numeric
literals), ZILF doesn't know the loop is meant
     to count down, and it compiles a loop that counts
up and exits after the first iteration. A DO loop
whose condition is a constant or simple FORM always
runs at least once."
    <DO (I .TEN .ONE)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from 10 to .ONE...">
    ;"10"
    ; "See above."
    <DO (I 10 .ONE)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from .TEN to 1...">
    ;"10"
    ; "See above."
    <DO (I .TEN 1)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from .TEN to .ONE with step -1...">
    ;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
    <DO (I .TEN .ONE -1)
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from ,C-TEN to ,C-ONE...">
    ; "Even defining the loop bounds as CONSTANTs won't
```

```
tell ZILF that the loop needs to run backwards."
    <DO (I ,C-TEN ,C-ONE)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from %, C-TEN to %, C-ONE...">
    ;"10 9 8 7 5 4 3 2 1"
    ; "The % forces , C-TEN to be evaluated at read time,
so the loop bounds are specified as FIXes, allowing
ZILF to determine that the loop runs backwards."
    <DO (I %,C-TEN %,C-ONE)</pre>
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <CRLF>>
<OBJECT DESK
    (DESC "desk")>
<OBJECT MONITOR</pre>
    (DESC "monitor")
    (LOC DESK) >
<OBJECT KEYBOARD</pre>
    (DESC "keyboard")
    (LOC DESK) >
<OBJECT MOUSE
    (DESC "mouse")
    (LOC DESK) >
<ROUTINE TEST-C-STYLE ()</pre>
    <TELL "== C style ==" CR>
    <TELL "Counting from 10 down to 1...">
    ;"10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1"
    <DO (I 10 <L? .I 1> <- .I 1>)
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
    <TELL "Counting from 10 up (!) to 1...">
    ; "Nothing is printed, because the exit condition
is initially true. A DO loop whose condition is
a complex FORM can exit before the first iteration."
    <DO (I 10 <G? .I 1> <+ .I 1>)
        (END <CRLF>)
        <TELL " " N .I>>
```

Highlights:

- Loops can include subsequent code in an (END ...) clause for brevity, e.g. to print a newline after a list.

A Pascal-style DO can *sometimes* determine when it needs to run backwards, even if no step size is provided.

Pascal and C style can be mixed in the same loop, e.g. <DO (I 1 1000 <* .I 2>) ...> to count powers of 2 up to 1000.

ERASE

<ERASE value>

Versions 4 and 5: if the value is 1, erase from the current cursor position to the end of its line in the current window. If the value is anything other than 1, do nothing.

Version 6: if the value is 1, erase from the current cursor position to the end of the its line in the current window. If not, erase the given number of pixels minus one across from the cursor (clipped to stay inside the right margin). The cursor does not move.

Example:

F?

<F? expression>

Predicate. Test if expression evaluates to false.

Example:

FCLEAR

<FCLEAR object flag>

Zapf syntax
FCLEAR
fCLEAR

All versions
Inform syntax
clear_attr

Removes flag from object.

Example:

FIRST?

<FIRST? object>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax FIRST? get_child

All versions

Returns the first object inside (contained) in the object. Returns 0 (false) if no object exists. Example:

FONT

 ; "Version 5"
 ; "Versions 6-"

Zapf syntax
FONT
set font

Versions: 5-

Sets current font to number. Returns old fonts number. If the font number is not available 0 (false) is returned.

1	Normal font
	Character graphics font (see §16 in <i>The Z-Machine Standards Document</i>)
4	Monospace (fixed-pitch) font

Example:

 --> Sets fixed-pitch font. In version 3-4 this is done by setting bit 1 of Flags 2 in header <PUT 0 8 <BOR <GET 0 8> 2>>

FSET

<FSET object flag>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

FSET set attr

All versions

Add flag to object.

Example:

<FSET ,TRAP-DOOR ,OPENBIT> --> Marks the trap-door as open

FSET?

<FSET? object flag>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax FSET?

test attr

All versions

Predicate. Tests if the flag is set on the object.

Example:

<FSET? ,TRAP-DOOR ,OPENBIT> --> True if OPENBIT is set

FSTACK

<FSTACK number [stack]>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax FSTACK pop / pop stack

Versions: 6-

Removes number of items from system stack or given stack (table).

Example:

G?, GRTR?

<G? value1 value2>
<GRTR? Value1 value2> ;Alternative syntax"

Zapf syntax Inform syntax GRTR? Jg

All versions

Predicate. Returns true if value1 is greater than value2, otherwise false.

Examples:

G=?

<G=? value1 value2>

Predicate. Returns true if value1 is greater or equal to value2, otherwise false.

Examples:

GET

<GET table offset>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax GET loadw

All versions

Returns WORD-record (2 bytes) stored at offset.

Note: table is an address in memory so the WORD that is returned is at table+offset*2. It is legal to use, for example, 0 as an address to retrieve information from the header.

Also see BACK, GETB, PUT, PUTB and REST.

Example:

GETB

<GETB table offset>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

GETB loadb

All versions

Returns BYTE-record (1 byte) stored at offset.

Note: table is an address in memory so the BYTE that is returned is at table+offset. It is legal to use, for example, 0 as an address to retrieve information from the header.

Also see BACK, GET, PUT, PUTB and REST.

Example:

GETP

<GETP object property>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

GETP get_prop

All versions

Get property from the object. Returns default value if property is not declared in the object.

Example:

```
<OBJECT MYOBJ (MYPROP 123)>
<GETP ,MYOBJ ,P?MYPROP> --> 123
```

GETPT

<GETPT object property>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax GETPT get_prop_addr

All versions

Get property address from object. Returns 0 (false) if property is not declared in the object.

```
<OBJECT MYOBJ (MYPROP 123)>

<GET <GETPT ,MYOBJ ,P?MYPROP> 0> --> 123

<GETPT ,MYOBJ ,P?MYPROP2> --> 0
```

GVAL

Get value of global variable name. More often used in its short form ", name".

Example:

HLIGHT

<HLIGHT style>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax HLIGHT set_text_style

Versions: 4-

Set text to style. It is possible to combine styles.

0	Normal
1	Inverse
2	Bold
4	Italic
8	Monospace

Example:

IFFLAG

```
<IFFLAG (compilation-flag-condition expressions...) ...>
```

IFFLAG inside a ROUTINE have the same behaviour as IFFLAG outside. See IFFLAG (outside ROUTINE) for more information.

IGRTR?

<IGRTR? name value>

Zapf syntax
IGRTR?

Inform syntax
inc_chk

Predicate. Increase variable (signed) name with 1 and returns true if variable name is lower than value, otherwise returns false.

Example:

IN?

```
<IN? object1 object2>
```


Predicate. Returns true if object1 is in object2 (object1 has object2 as parent), otherwise false.

Example:

```
<OBJECT ANIMAL>
<OBJECT CAT (LOC ANIMAL)>
<IN? ,CAT ,ANIMAL> --> T
<IN? ,ANIMAL ,CAT> --> <>
```

INC

<INC name>

All versions

Zapf syntax Inform syntax INC inc

Increment name by 1. (This is signed, so -1 increments to 0)

```
<GLOBAL X 5>
<INC ,X> --> X=6
```

INPUT

```
<INPUT 1 [time] [routine]>
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax read_char

Versions: 4-

INPUT reads a single character from the keyboard. Calls routine every time*0.1 s. If routine returns true input is aborted.

Examples:

INTBL?

```
<INTBL? value table length [rec-spec]> ; "Version 5, 7-"
<INTBL? value table length> ; "Version 4, 6"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax INTBL? scan_table

Versions: 4-

INTBL? is a predicate that returns the address of value if value is in table of length, otherwise 0.

In version 5, 7 and 8 the rec-spec describes the field where bit 7 is set for words and clear for bytes, rest defines the length of the field.

```
<T <INTBL? 3 <TABLE 1 2 3 4> 4>> --> T
<T <INTBL? 6 <TABLE 1 2 3 4> 4>> --> #FALSE

;"Search byte-table with record length 3 (ver 5, 7-)"
<T <INTBL? 8 <TABLE (BYTE) 2 0 1 4 0 1 8 0 1> 9 3>> --> T
<T <INTBL? 1 <TABLE (BYTE) 2 0 1 4 0 1 8 0 1> 9 3>> --> <>
;"Search word-table with record length 3 (ver 5, 7-)"
<T <INTBL? 8 <TABLE 2 0 1 4 0 1 8 0 1> 9 131>> --> T
```



IRESTORE

<IRESTORE>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax IRESTORE restore undo

Versions: 5-

Restores game state saved to memory by ISAVE (undo).

ISAVE

<ISAVE>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax SAVE save_undo

Versions: 5-

Save game state to memory that later can be restored by IRESTORE (undo). Returns 0 if ISAVE fails, 1 if it is successful and -1 if the interpreter does not handle undo.

ITABLE

<ITABLE [specifier] count [(flags...)] defaults ...>

Defines a table of count elements filled with default values: either zeros or, if the default list is specified, the specified list of values repeated until the table is full.

The optional specifier may be the atoms NONE, BYTE, or WORD. BYTE and WORD change the type of the table and also turn on the length marker (element 0 in the table contains the length of the table), This can also be done with the flags (see TABLE about flags).

Examples:

<TABLE 4 0> -->

	•		
Element 0	Element 1	Element 2 WORD	Element 3
0	0	0	0

<ITABLE (BYTE LENGTH) 4 0> -->

Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	Element 4
BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE
4	0	0	0	0

<TABLE BYTE 4 0> -->

Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	Element 4
BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE
4	0	0	0	0

L?, LESS?

<L? value1 value2> <LESS? Value1 value2>

;Alternative syntax"

Zapf syntax

Inform syntax

LESS?

Jl

All versions

Predicate. Returns true if value1 is less than value2, otherwise false.

Examples:

L=?

<L=? value1 value2>

Predicate. Returns true if value1 is less or equal to value2, otherwise false.

Examples:

LEX

<LEX text parse [dictionary] [flag]>

Zapf syntax

Inform syntax

LEX

tokenise

Versions: 4-

Parse the text into parse. See READ for more info about parsing. The game dictionary is used if not a dictionary table (LTABLE) is supplied. If the length of the dictionary is negative, the dictionary can be unsorted. If the flag is set (true), unrecognized words are not written to parse but their slot is left unmodified. This makes it possible to run LEX against different dictionaries serially. Also see READ.

```
<GLOBAL TEXTBUF <TABLE (BYTE) !\c !\a !\t>>
<GLOBAL PARSEBUF <ITABLE 1 (LEXV) 0 0>>
<OBJECT CAT (SYNONYM CAT)>
```

```
<LEX ,TEXTBUF ,PARSEBUF>
<PRINTB <GET ,PARSEBUF 1>> --> "cat"
```

LOC

<LOC object>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax LOC get_parent

All versions

Returns parent to object.

Examples:

```
<OBJECT ANIMAL>
<OBJECT CAT (LOC ANIMAL)>
<=? <LOC ,CAT> ,ANIMAL> --> T
<LOC ,ANIMAL> --> 0
```

LOWCORE-TABLE

<LOWCORE-TABLE field-spec length routine>

LOWCORE-TABLE reads the length number of bytes from field-spec and calls routine between each byte. See appendix B for list of valid values for field-spec.

Example:

LOWCORE

```
<LOWCORE field-spec [new-value]>
```

LOWCORE reads and in some cases writes to the header information fields. See appendix B for list of valid values for field-spec.

Examples:

LSH, SHIFT

```
<LSH number places>
<SHIFT number places> ;Alternative syntax"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax SHIFT log_shift

Versions: 5-

Bitwise shift. Shift number left when places is positive and right if it is negative. When right shifting the sign is not preserved (0 is always shifted in).

Also see ASH.

Examples:

```
<LSH 4 1> --> 8 <LSH 4 -2> --> 1
```

LTABLE

```
<LTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the LENGTH flag (see TABLE about LENGTH and other flags).

LVAL

```
<LVAL name>
.name ;Alternative syntax"
```

Get value of local variable name. More often used in its short form ".name".

Example:

```
<SET X 5>
<LVAL X> --> 5
.X --> 5
```

MAP-CONTENTS

```
<MAP-CONTENTS (name [next] object)
[(END expressions ...)] expressions ...>
```

Loop over all objects that have an object as parent (all children to object). For ech iteration name is assigned the current child-object and next the child-object that will be name in the next iteration (0 if current name is the last child).

For each iteration the expressions are evaluated and, if supplied, the (END expressions ...) is evaluated last after all iterations.

```
<OBJECT SURVIVAL-KIT
(DESC "adventure survival kit") (WEIGHT 10)>
<OBJECT SWORD
(IN SURVIVAL-KIT) (DESC "sword") (WEIGHT 10)>
```

```
<OBJECT LAMP
(IN SURVIVAL-KIT) (DESC "brass lamp") (WEIGHT 5)>
<OBJECT SPOON</pre>
(IN SURVIVAL-KIT) (DESC "chrome spoon") (WEIGHT 2)>
<ROUTINE TEST-MAP-CONTENTS ()</pre>
    <TELL "Your " D , SURVIVAL-KIT " contains: " CR>
    <MAP-CONTENTS (F ,SURVIVAL-KIT)</pre>
        <TELL " a " D .F CR>
    >
    <TELL "Your " D , SURVIVAL-KIT " contains: " CR>
    <MAP-CONTENTS (F N ,SURVIVAL-KIT)</pre>
        <TELL "
                  a " D .F >
        <COND (.N <TELL " (next item is the " D .N ")">)>
        <TELL CR>
    < BIND ((W 0))
        <SET W <GETP ,SURVIVAL-KIT ,P?WEIGHT>>
        <MAP-CONTENTS (F ,SURVIVAL-KIT)</pre>
            (END <TELL "Total weight is = " N .W CR>)
            <SET W <+ .W <GETP .F ,P?WEIGHT>>>
        >
    >
>
<TEST-MAP-CONTENTS>
Your adventure survival kit contains:
    a sword
    a chrome spoon
    a brass lamp
Your adventure survival kit contains:
         a sword (next item is the chrome spoon)
         a chrome spoon (next item is the brass lamp)
         a brass lamp
Total weight is = 27
```

MAP-DIRECTIONS

```
<MAP-DIRECTIONS (name pt room)
[(END expressions ...)] expressions ...>
```

Loop over all directions in a room. For each iteration name is assigned the current direction and pt is the room the direction leads to.

For each iteration the expressions are evaluated and, if supplied, the (END expressions . . .) is evaluated last after all iterations.

```
<DIRECTIONS NORTH SOUTH EAST WEST>
<OBJECT CENTER (DESC "center room")</pre>
     (NORTH TO N-ROOM)
     (WEST TO W-ROOM) >
<OBJECT N-ROOM (DESC "north room")>
<OBJECT W-ROOM (DESC "west room")>
<ROUTINE TEST-MAP-DIRECTIONS ()</pre>
     <TELL "You're in the " D , CENTER>
     <TELL CR "Obvious exits:" CR>
     <MAP-DIRECTIONS (D P ,CENTER)</pre>
          (END <TELL "Room description done." CR>)
          <COND (<EQUAL? .D ,P?NORTH> <TELL "</pre>
                                                 North">)
                 (<EQUAL? .D , P?SOUTH> <TELL "
                                                  South">)
                 (<EQUAL? .D ,P?EAST> <TELL "
                                                  East">)
                 (<EQUAL? .D ,P?WEST> <TELL "
                                                 West">)
          <VERSION?
                (ZIP <TELL " to the " D <GETB .P ,REXIT> CR>)
                (ELSE <TELL " to the " D <GET .P ,REXIT> CR>)
          >
     >
```

MARGIN

```
<MARGIN left right [window-number]>
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax MARGIN set_margins

Versions: 6-

Set left and right margin (in pixels) in the given window-number. If no window-number is specified MARGIN sets margins in window-number 0.

Example:

```
<MARGIN 1 1> --> set 1 pixel margin in window 0
```

MENU

<MENU number table>

Controls menu 3- (not menu 0-2, they are system menus). The table is a LTABLE of LTABLE. Item 1 being the menu name. Item 2- are the entries.

Example (from Journey):

MOD

<MOD number1 number2>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax MOD mod

All versions

Returns remainder of 16-bit signed division. number 2 is not allowed to be 0 ("Division by zero"). Examples:

MOUSE-INFO

<MOUSE-INFO table>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax MOUSE-INFO read_mouse

Versions: 6-

Reads mouse information into table. The table is 4 WORDS (2 bytes) long.

0	Y coordinate	
1	X coordinate	
2	Button bits (host dependent)	
3	Menu (number*256+entry)	

Example (from Journey):

```
<GLOBAL MOUSE-INFO-TBL <TABLE 0 0 0 0>>
```

MOUSE-LIMIT

<MOUSE-LIMIT window-number>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax MOUSE-LIMIT mouse_window

Versions: 6-

Restricts mouse movement to window-number. If window-number is -1 all restrictions are removed. 1 is default window-number.

Example:

MOVE

<MOVE object1 object2>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax MOVE insert_obj

All versions

Move object1 to be the first child of object2. Children of object1 move with it.

Example:

```
<OBJECT ANIMAL>
<OBJECT CAT>

<MOVE ,CAT ,ANIMAL>
<IN? ,CAT ,ANIMAL> --> T
```

N=?, N==?

```
<N=? value1 value2...valueN>
<N==? value1 value2...valueN> ;Alternative syntax"
```

Predicate. True if value1 is not equal to any of the values value2 to valueN.

Examples:

NEXT?

```
<NEXT? object>
```

```
Zapf syntax Inform syntax 
NEXT? get_sibling
```

All versions

Returns object after object in object-list (sibling). Returns 0 (false) if no object exists.

Example:

```
<OBJECT ANIMAL>
<OBJECT CAT>
<OBJECT DOG>

<MOVE ,CAT ,ANIMAL>
<MOVE ,DOG ,ANIMAL>
<=? <NEXT? ,DOG> ,CAT> --> T
```

NEXTP

```
<NEXTP object property>
```

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
NEXTP	get_next_prop

All versions

Returns the property that comes after property on the object. Returns 0 if there are no more properties after property. If property is 0 then NEXTP returns first property on object.

Example:

NOT

```
<NOT expression>
```

Returns the boolean NOT of expression.

Examples:

```
<NOT <=? 1 2>> --> True (1)
```

OR

```
<OR expressions...>
```

Boolean OR. Requires that one of the expressions evaluates to true to return true. Exits on the first expression that evaluates to true (rest of expressions are not evaluated).

Because 0 is considered false and all other values are considered true inside a routine OR returns 0 if all expressions are false or the value of the first true expression.

Example:

ORIGINAL?

<ORIGINAL?>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax ORIGINAL? piracy

Versions: 5-

Predicate. Tests if the game disc is an original. Almost all modern interpreters always return true.

PICINF

<PICINF picture-number table>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PICINF picture_data

Versions: 6-

Writes picture data from picture-number into table. Word 0 of table holds picture width and word 1 holds picture height. Then follows the picture data.

If picture-number is 0, the number of available pictures is written into word 0 of table and release number of picture file is written into word 1.

Example:

```
<GLOBAL MYPIC <ITABLE 2048 0>>
<PICINFO 1 ,MYPIC> --> Writes picture data into MYPIC
```

PICSET

<PICSET table>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PICSET picture_table

Versions: 6-

Give the interpreter a table of picture numbers that the interpreter can then unpack from disc and

cache in memory.

PLTABLE

```
<PLTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the PURE and LENGTH flag (see TABLE about LENGTH, PURE and other flags).

POP

```
<POP [stack]>
```

Versions: 6-

Pops value of stack. If no stack is given, a value is popped from the game stack.

Example:

```
<PUSH 123>
<POP> --> 123

<GLOBAL MY-STACK <TABLE 3 0 0 123>>
<POP ,MY-STACK> --> 123
```

PRINT

<PRINT packed-string>

Print packed-string from high memory (packed address).

Example:

```
<GLOBAL MSG "Hello, sailor!">
<PRINT ,MSG> --> "Hello, sailor!"
```

PRINTB

<PRINTB unpacked-string>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PRINTB print_addr

All versions

All versions

Print unpacked-string from dynamic or static memory (unpacked address).

Example:

```
<OBJECT MYOBJECT (SYNONYM HELLO)>
<PRINTB <GETP ,MYOBJECT ,P?SYNONYM>> --> "hello"
```

PRINTC

<PRINTC character>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PRINTC print_char

Print character.

Example:

<PRINTC 65> --> A

PRINTD

<PRINTD object>

All versions

All versions

Print description of object.

Example:

```
<GLOBAL MYOBJECT (DESC "sword">
<PRINTD ,MYOBJECT> --> "sword"
```

PRINTF

<PRINTF table>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PRINTF print_form

Versions: 6-

Print a formatted table. Each line starts with a WORD that is the number of characters that follows. Last byte in each line is 0.

PRINTI

<PRINTI string>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PRINTI print

All versions

Print string.

Example:

<PRINTI "Hello, sailor!"> --> "Hello, sailor!"

PRINTN

<PRINTN number>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PRINTN print_num

All versions

Print number.

Example:

<PRINTN <+ 1 3>> --> 4 <PRINTN -42> --> -42

PRINTR

<PRINTR string>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PRINTR print ret

All versions

Print string and then CRLF.

Example:

<PRINTR "Hello, Sailor!"> --> "Hello, sailor!\n"

PRINTT

<PRINTT table width [height] [skip]>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax PRINTT print table

Versions: 5-

Print table (string) in rectangle defined by width and height. Default height is 1. If skip is given then that number of characters is skipped between lines.

Examples:

PRINTU

<PRINTU number>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
PRINTU	<pre>print_unicode</pre>
Versions: 5-	

Print unicode-character number.

Examples:

```
<PRINTU 65> --> A
<PRINTU 196> --> Ä
```

PROG

```
<PROG [activation] (bindings...) expressions...>
```

PROG defines a program block with its own set of bindings. PROG is similar to BIND but PROG automatically creates a default activation at the start of the block which you optionally can name. This means that AGAIN moves program execution to this activation. RETURN exits this PROG-block.

Note that there is a special variable, DO-FUNNY-RETURN?, that controls how RETURN with value should be handled. If DO-FUNNY-RETURN? is true then RETURN value returns from ROUTINE, otherwise it returns from PROG. DO-FUNNY-RETURN? is default false in version 3-4 and default true in versions 5-.

Also see AGAIN, BIND, DO, REPEAT and RETURN for more details how to control program flow. AGAIN and RETURN have examples on how activation and DO-FUNNY-RETURN? works.

```
<TELL N .X>
                            ;"Outer X"
    <TELL " END" CR CR>
--> "START: 1 2 END"
; "AGAIN, Bare RETURN without ACTIVATION"
<ROUTINE TEST-PROG-2 ()</pre>
<TELL "START: ">
<PROG (X) ;"X is not reinitialized between iterations.</pre>
        Default ACTIVATION created."
        \langle SET X \langle + .X 1 \rangle \rangle
        <TELL N .X " ">
        <COND (<=? .X 3> <RETURN>)>
                                           ; "Bare RETURN without
                                           ACTIVATION will exit
                                           BLOCK"
        <AGAIN> ;"AGAIN without ACTIVATION will redo BLOCK"
    <TELL "RETURN EXIT BLOCK" CR CR>
--> "START: 1 2 3 RETURN EXIT BLOCK"
;"AGAIN, RETURN with value but without ACTIVATION"
<ROUTINE TEST-PROG-3 ()</pre>
    <TELL "START: ">
    <PROG ((X 0))
                    ;"X is not reinitialized between
                     iterations. Default ACTIVATION created."
        \langle SET X \langle + .X 1 \rangle \rangle
        <TELL N .X " ">
        <COND (<=? .X 3>
             <COND (,FUNNY-RETURN?</pre>
           <TELL "RETURN EXIT ROUTINE" CR CR>)>
             <RETURN T>)> ; "RETURN with value but without
                        ACTIVATION will exit ROUTINE
                       (FUNNY-RETURN = TRUE)"
        <AGAIN> ; "AGAIN without ACTIVATION will redo BLOCK"
    <TELL "RETURN EXIT BLOCK" CR CR>
--> "START: 1 2 3 RETURN EXIT ROUTINE"
```

PTABLE

```
<PTABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values and with the PURE flag (see TABLE about PURE and other flags).

PTSIZE

<PTSIZE property-address>

All versions

Get size in bytes of property at property-address.

Example:

<OBJECT MYOBJECT (FOO 1 2 3)>
<PTSIZE <GETPT ,MYOBJECT ,P?FOO>> --> 6

PUSH

<PUSH value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PUSH push

All versions

Push value on game stack.

Example:

<PUSH 123>

PUT

<PUT table offset value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PUT storew

All versions

Put a 16-bit WORD value in the table at word position offset. Actual address is table-address+offset*2.

Note that table can be a byte-address in dynamic memory.

Also see BACK, GET, GETB, PUTB and REST.

Examples:

PUTB

<PUTB table offset value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PUTB storeb

All versions

Put a byte value in the table at byte position offset. Actual address is table-address+offset.

Note that table can be a byte-address in dynamic memory.

Also see BACK, GET, GETB, PUT and REST.

Example:

PUTP

<PUTP object property value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

PUTP put_prop

All versions

Put value into property on the object.

Example:

<OBJECT MYOBJ (MYPROP 123)>

<PUTP ,MYOBJ ,P?MYPROP 456> --> Stores 456 in property MYPROP on MYOBJ

QUIT

<QUIT>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

QUIT quit

All versions

Halts game execution. No questions asked.

RANDOM

<RANDOM range>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

RANDOM random

All versions

Returns a random number between 1 and range. If range is negative the randomizer is reseeded with -range (absolute value of range).

Example:

```
<- <RANDOM 101> 1> --> Generates random number
                        between 0-100
```

READ

```
<READ text parse>
                                        ;"Versions 1-3"
<READ text parse [time] [routine]>
                                        ;"Version 4"
<READ text [parse] [time] [routine]>
                                        ;"Versions 5-"
Zapf syntax
                    Inform syntax
READ
                    aread / sread
All versions
```

Read text from the keyboard and parse it. Result is stored in two byte-tables. Byte 0 in text must contain the max-size of the buffer and if parse is supplied, byte 0 of it must contain a max number of words that will be parsed.

After READ, text contains:

- Max number of chars read into the buffer
 - 1 Actual number of chars read into the buffer
 - 2-The typed chars all converted to lowercase

parse contains:

- Byte 0 Max number of words parsed
 - Actual number of words parsed 1
 - 2-3 Address to first word in dictionary (0 if word is not in it)
 - 4 Length of first word
 - Start position (in text) of first word
 - 6-9 Second word

```
<GLOBAL READBUF <ITABLE BYTE 63>>
<GLOBAL PARSEBUF <ITABLE BYTE 28>>
<ROUTINE READ-TEST ("AUX" WORDS WLEN WSTART WEND)</pre>
<PUTB , READBUF 0 60>
<PUTB , PARSEBUF 0 6>
<READ , READBUF , PARSEBUF>
<SET WORDS <GETB , PARSEBUF 1>> ;"# of parsed words"
<DO (I 1 .WORDS)</pre>
     <SET WLEN <GETB .PARSEBUF <* .I 4>>>
```

See *The Inform Designer's Manual* (ch. §2.5, p. 44-46) for more details about READ.

REMOVE

<REMOVE object>

Remove object from parent. See MOVE how to reattach it to another object.

Example:

```
<OBJECT ANIMAL>
<OBJECT CAT (LOC ANIMAL)>
<REMOVE ,CAT> --> Detach CAT from ANIMAL
```

REPEAT

```
<REPEAT [activation] (bindings...) expressions...>
```

REPEAT defines a program block with its own set of bindings. REPEAT is very similar to PROG the only difference is that at the end of the block is an automatic AGAIN. REPEAT automatically creates a default activation at the start of the block which you optionally can name. This means that AGAIN moves program execution to this activation. RETURN exits this REPEAT-block.

Note that there is a special variable, DO-FUNNY-RETURN?, that controls how RETURN with value should be handled. If DO-FUNNY-RETURN? is true then RETURN value returns from ROUTINE, otherwise it returns from REPEAT. DO-FUNNY-RETURN? is default false in version 3-4 and default true in versions 5-.

Also see AGAIN, BIND, DO, PROG and RETURN for more details how to control program flow. AGAIN and RETURN have examples on how activation and DO-FUNNY-RETURN? works.

```
;"Bare RETURN without ACTIVATION"
<ROUTINE TEST-REPEAT-1 ()
<TELL "START: ">
```

```
;"X is not reinitialized between iterations.
             Default ACTIVATION created."
        \langle SET X \langle + .X 1 \rangle \rangle
        <TELL N .X " ">
        <COND (<=? .X 3> <RETURN>)> ; "Bare RETURN without
                                            ACTIVATION will exit
                                            BLOCK"
    >
    <TELL "RETURN EXIT BLOCK" CR CR>
--> "START: 1 2 3 RETURN EXIT BLOCK"
; "RETURN with value but without ACTIVATION"
<ROUTINE TEST-REPEAT-2 ()</pre>
    <TELL "START: ">
    <REPEAT ((X 0)) ;"X is not reinitialized between</pre>
                      iterations. Default ACTIVATION created."
        \langle SET X \langle + .X 1 \rangle \rangle
         <TELL N .X " ">
        <COND (<=? .X 3>
             <COND (,FUNNY-RETURN?</pre>
           <TELL "RETURN EXIT ROUTINE" CR CR>)>
             <RETURN T>)> ; "RETURN with value but without
                        ACTIVATION will exit ROUTINE
                        (FUNNY-RETURN = TRUE)"
    <TELL "RETURN EXIT BLOCK" CR CR>
--> "START: 1 2 3 RETURN EXIT ROUTINE"
```

REST

```
<REST table [bytes]>
```

Return table without its first bytes (bytes is default 1). Note that this is not a copy of the table, it is pointing to the same table with another starting address.

Also see BACK, GET, GETB, PUT and PUTB.

Example:

RESTART

<RESTART>

Restarts the game. No questions asked. The only things that survive a restart are bit 0 and bit 1 of Flags 2 in the header (setting for transcribing and monospace).

RESTORE

RESTORE a game to a previously saved state. All questions about filename and path are asked by the interpreter.

If RESTORE fails, game execution continues with the next statement after RESTORE.

If RESTORE is successful game execution continues from where the SAVE was issued (SAVE returns 2 in this case).

See *The Inform Designer's Manual* (ch. §42, p. 319) and *The Z-machine Standards Document* for a description about how to SAVE and RESTORE auxiliary files.

Example:

RETURN

RETURN ret

All versions

RETURN from current routine with value. Returns 1 (true) if no value is given.

RETURN is also used in commands that control program flow to exit program blocks. Also see AGAIN, BIND, DO, PROG and REPEAT for more details how to control program flow.

Examples:

RFALSE

<RFALSE>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

RFALSE rfalse

All versions

RFALSE always exits routine and returns false (0). Note that this differs from RETURN that can both exit program blocks and routines.

RFATAL

<RFATAL>

RFATAL always exits routine and returns FATAL-VALUE (2). Note that this differs from RETURN that can both exit program blocks and routines.

RSTACK

<RSTACK>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax RSTACK ret_popped

All versions

Pops value from game stack and returns that value.

Example:

<PUSH 42>
<RSTACK> --> Returns 42

RTRUE

<RTRUE>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

RTRUE rtrue

All versions

RTRUE always exits routine and returns true (1). Note that this differs from RETURN that can both exit program blocks and routines.

SAVE

SAVE a game state that later can be restored. All questions about filename and path are asked by the interpreter.

SAVE returns 0 if SAVE fails and 1 if it is successful.

SAVE also can return 2. That means this is a continuation from a successful RESTORE.

See RESTORE on code example on SAVE and RESTORE.

See *The Inform Designer's Manual* (ch. §42, p. 319) and *The Z-machine Standards Document* for a description about how to SAVE and RESTORE auxiliary files.

SCREEN

```
<SCREEN window-number>
```

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
SCREEN	set_window
Versions: 3-	

Select window-number for text output.

Note that in versions 3-5 only the lower screen (window-number = 0) has text-buffering and word-wrap.

Example:

SCROLL

<SCROLL window-number pixels>

Zapf syntax	Inform	syntax
SCROLL	scroll	window

```
Versions: 6-
```

Scrolls window-number up (pixels is positive) or down (pixels is negative) the number of pixels supplied. The new lines are empty (background color).

SET

<SET name value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

SET store

All versions

Store value in local variable name.

Example:

<SET MYVAR 42> --> Store 42 in local variable MYVAR

SETG

<SETG name value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

SET store

All versions

Store value in global variable name. The name variable must be declared with GLOBAL outside the ROUTINE.

Example:

<SETG MYVAR 42>--> Store 42 in global variable MYVAR

SOUND

```
<SOUND number [effect] [volrep]> ; "Versions 3-4"
<SOUND number [effect] [volrep] [routine]> ; "Versions 5-"
```

Zapf syntax Inform syntax SOUND sound_effect

Versions: 3-

Plays sound number (1 = high-pitch beep, 2 = low-pitch beep and 3- is user defined).

Valid entries for effect are 1 = prepare, 2 = start, 3 = stop and 4 = finished with.

The volrep is calculated as 256 * repetitions + volume. Repetitions can be 0-255 (255 = infinite) and volume 1-8, 255 (1 = quiet, 8 = loud, 255 = loudest possible.

If routine is supplied it is called after sound is finished.

See *The Inform Designer's Manual* (ch. §42, p. 315-316 and ch. §43) and *The Z-machine Standards Document* for a description about how to include sound in games.

SPLIT

<SPLIT number>

Zapf syntax	Inform syntax
SPLIT	split_window
Versions: 3-	

SPLIT screen in two parts with the upper part having number rows. If number is 0 the screen is unsplit. The upper screen is window-number 1 and the lower screen is window-number 0.

See SCREEN for example on how to use SPLIT.

T?

```
<T? expression>
```

Predicate. Test if expression evaluates to true (not 0).

Example:

```
<T? <=? 1 1>> --> True
<T? <=? 1 2>> --> False
```

TABLE

```
<TABLE [(flags ...)] values ...>
```

Defines a table containing the specified values.

These flags control the format of the table:

- WORD causes the elements to be 2-byte words. This is the default.
- BYTE causes the elements to be single bytes.
- LEXV causes the elements to be 4-byte records. If default values are given to ITABLE with this flag, they will be split into groups of three: the first compiled as a word, the next two compiled as bytes. The table is also prefixed with a byte indicating the number of records, followed by a zero byte
- STRING causes the elements to be single bytes and also changes the initializer format. This flag may not be used with ITABLE. When this flag is given, any values given as strings will be compiled as a series of individual ASCII characters, rather than as string addresses.

These flags alter the table without changing its basic format:

- LENGTH causes a length marker to be written at the beginning of the table, indicating the number of elements that follow. The length marker is a byte if BYTE or STRING are also given; otherwise the length marker is a WORD. This flag is ignored if LEXV is given
- PURE causes the table to be compiled into static memory (ROM).

The flags LENGTH and PURE are implied in LTABLE, PTABLE or PLTABLE.

Examples:

111111111111111111111111111111111111111				
Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	
1	2	3	4	

<TABLE (BYTE LENGTH) 1 2 3 4> -->

Element 0	Element 1	Element 2	Element 3	Element 4
BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE	BYTE
4	1	2	3	4

TELL

```
<TELL token-commands ...>
```

Print formatted text to screen. There is a set built-in tokens that can be replaced with TELL-TOKENS or expanded with ADD-TELL-TOKENS.

The built-in tokens are:

Pattern	Form	Description
(CR CRLF)	<crlf></crlf>	Print CR
D *	<printd .x=""></printd>	Print object-description
N *	<printn .x=""></printn>	Print number
C *	<printc .x=""></printc>	Print character
В *	<printb .x=""></printb>	Print unpacked-string

Example:

THROW

<THROW value stack-frame>

Zapf syntax
THROW
throw

Versions: 5-

Used in conjunction with CATCH. THROW sets the stack to stack-frame and returns value (the result is that execution returns from the routine where the stack-frame was "caught" with value as the routines return value. Also see CATCH.

USL

<USL>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax USL show_status

Versions: 3

Update status line. In other versions than 3 this command is ignored.

VALUE

<VALUE name/number>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

VALUE load

All versions

Load name/number. Command is mostly redundant and rarely used.

Examples:

VERIFY

<VERIFY>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax

VERIFY verify

All versions

Returns true if sum(\$0040:PLENTH\$ (byte 26-27 in header)) MOD \$10000 = PCHKSUM\$ (byte 28-29 in header), otherwise false.

VERSION?

```
<VERSION? (name/number expressions...)...>
```

VERSION? Lets the game use different logic depending on which version the game is compiled in. The version is read from ZVERSION (byte 0-1) in the header. Valid name/number are:

```
3 ZIP
4 EZIP
5 XZIP
6 YZIP
7
8 ELSE/T
```

Example:

```
<VERSION?
    (ZIP <SET X 1> <SET Y 1>)
    (XZIP <SET X 2> <SET Y 2>)
    (ELSE <SET X 3> <SET Y 2>)
>
```

WINATTR

<WINATTR window-number flags operation>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax WINATTR window_style

Versions: 6-

Change flags for window-number. The flags are:

Bit 0: Keep text inside margins
Bit 1: Scroll when reaching bottom
Bit 2: Copy text to stream 2 (printer)
Bit 3: Buffer text and word-wrap

The opertions are:

0: Set to flags

1: Set bits supplied (BOR)

2: Clear bits supplied

3: Reverse bits supplied

WINGET

<WINGET window-number property>

Reads property on window-number.

WINPOS

<WINPOS window-number row column>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax WINPOS move_window

Versions: 6-

Move window-number to position row column (pixels). (1, 1) is in the top left corner.

WINPUT

<WINPUT window-number property value>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax WINPUT put_wind_prop

Versions: 6-

Writes value to property window-number.

WINSIZE

<WINSIZE window-number height width>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax WINSIZE window_size

Varsions: 6-

Changes size on window-number.

XPUSH

<XPUSH value stack>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax XPUSH push_stack

Versions: 6-

Push value on stack.

```
<GLOBAL MY-STACK <TABLE 1 0 0 0>>
<XPUSH 123 ,MY-STACK> --> MY-STACK <TABLE 2 0 123 0>
```

ZWSTR

<ZWSTR src-table length offset dest-table>

Zapf syntax Inform syntax ZWSTR encode_text

Varsions: 5-

Encode length characters starting at offset from ZSCII word zscii-text and stores result in 6-byte Z-encoded dest-table.

```
<GLOBAL SRCBUF <TABLE (STRING) "hello">> <GLOBAL DSTBUF <TABLE 0 0 0>> 

<ZWSTR ,SRCBUF 5 1 ,DSTBUF> <PRINTB ,DSTBUF> --> "hello"
```

Appendix A: Other Z-machine OP-codes

These OP-codes don't have direct ZIL-equivalent (they are used to call routines and control the program counter).

Sources:

The Z-Machine Standards Document, Graham Nelson

ZAPF syntax	Inform Syntax	Description (Z specifikations 1.0)			
CALL1	call_1s	Executes routine() and stores resulting return value.			
CALL2	call_2s	Executes routine(arg1) and stores resulting return value			
CALL	call_vs	The only call instruction in Version 3. It calls the routine with 0, 1, 2 or 3 arguments as supplied and stores the resulting return value. (When the address 0 is called as a routine, nothing happens and the return value is false.)			
ICALL1	call_1n	Executes routine() and throws away the result.			
ICALL2	call_2n	Executes routine(arg1) and throws away the result.			
ICALL	call_vn	Like CALL, but throws away the result.			
IXCALL	call_vn2	CALL with a variable number (from 0 to 7) of arguments, then throw away the result. This (and call_vs2) uniquely have an extra byte of opcode types to specify the types of arguments 4 to 7. Note that it is legal to use these opcodes with fewer than 4 arguments (in which case the second byte of type information will just be \$FF).			
JUMP	jump	Jump (unconditionally) to the given label. (This is not a branch instruction and the operand is a 2-byte signed offset to apply to the program counter.) It is legal for this to jump into a different routine (which should not change the routine call state), although it is considered bad practice to do so and the Txd disassembler is confused by it.			
NOOP	nop	Probably the official "no operation" instruction, which, appropriately, was never operated (in any of the Infocom datafiles): it may once have been a breakpoint.			
XCALL	call_vs2	Like IXCALL, but stores the resulting value.			

Appendix B – Field-spec for header

The information here is mostly from *The Z-Machine Standards Document, Graham Nelson* and ZILF Source Code. See *The Z-Machine Standards Document* for a more detailed discussion. The field-spec is used in LOWCORE and LOWCORE-TABLE.

Ordinary header

Field-spec	Byte	Ver	R/W	Description	
ZVERSION	0-1	1-	R	Byte 0 Version number	
		1-3	_	Byte 1 Flag 1	
			R	Bit 1: Status line type: 0=score/turns, 1=hh:mm	
			R	Bit 2: Story file split over two discs	
			R Bit 3: Tandy-bit		
			R	Bit 4: Status line not available	
			R	Bit 5: Screen-splitting available	
			R	Bit 6: Is a proportional font the default	
		4 –	_	*01 Flag 1	
			R	Bit 0: Colors available	
			R	Bit 1: Picture displaying available	
			R	Bit 2: Bold available	
			R	Bit 3: Italic available	
			R	Bit 4: Monospace (fixed) font available	
			R	Bit 5: Sound effects available	
			R	Bit 7: Timed keyboard input available	
ZORKID/RELEASEID	2-3	1-	R	Release number (word). Note: Traditionally in Infocom only 11 bits are used for release-id (binary and *3777*). That suggests that the higher 5 bits sometime was used or reserved for other information.	
ENDLOD	4-5	1-	R	Base of high memory (byte address)	
START	6-7	1-5	R	Initial value of program counter (byte address)	
		6	R	Packed address of initial "main" routine	
VOCAB	8-9	1-	R	Location of dictionary (byte address)	
OBJECT	*10-11	1-	R	Location of object table (byte address)	
GLOBALS	*12-13	1-	R	Location of global variables table(byte address)	
PURBOT	*14-15	1-	R	Base of static memory (byte address)	
FLAGS	*16-17	_	_	Flags 2:	
		1-	R/W	Bit 0: Set when transcripting is on	
		3-	R/W	Bit 1: Set to force printing in monospace font	
		6-	R/W	Bit 2: Int sets to request screen redraw, game	

	1	1	1		
				clears when it complies with this	
		5-	R	Bit 3: If set, game wants to use pictures	
		3	R	Bit 4: Amigs ver of "The Lurking Horror" sets this probably sound.	
		5-	R	Bit 4: If set, game wants to use UNDO	
		5-	R	Bit 5: If set, game wants to use mouse	
		5-	R	Bit 6:If set, game wants to use colors	
		5-	R	Bit 7: If set, game wants to use sound	
		6	R	Bit 8: If set, game wants to use menu	
SERIAL	18-19	3-	R	Serial number, YY-part	
SERI1	20-21	3-	R	Serial number,MM-part	
SERI2	22-23	3-	R	Serial number,DD-part	
FWORDS	24-25	2-	R	Location of abbreviations table (byte address)	
PLENTH	26-27	3-	R	Length of file	
PCHKSUM	28-29	3-	R	File checksum	
INTWRD	30-31	4-	R	Interpreter number and version	
INTID	30	4 –	R	Interpreter number	
INTVER	31	4 –	R	Interpreter version	
SCRWRD	32-33	4-	R	Screen width and height	
SCRV	32	4-	R	Screen height(lines), 255 = infinite	
SCRH	33	4-	R	Screen width (characters)	
HWRD	34-35	5-	R	Screen width in units	
VWRD	36-37	5-	R	Screen height in units	
FWRD	38-39	_	R	Font width and height	
	38	5	R	Font width in units (width of '0')	
		6-	R	Font height in units	
	39	5	R	Font height in units	
		6-	R	Font width in units (width of '0')	
LMRG / FOFF	40-41	5-	R	Routines offset (divided by 8)	
RMRG / SOFF	42-43	5	R	Static strings offset(divided by 8)	
CLRWRD	44-45	5-	R	Default background and foreground color	
	44	5-	R	Default background color	
	45	5-	R	Default foreground color	
<u> </u>					

TCHARS	46-47	5-	R	Address of terminating characters table (bytes)	
CRCNT	48-49	5	R/W	???	
TWID	48-49	6-	R	Total width in pixels of text sent to output stream 3	
CRFUNC /STDREV	50-51	1-	R/W	Standard revision number	
CHRSET	52-53	5 -	R	Alphabet table address (bytes), or 0 for default	
EXTAB	54-55	5-	R	Header extension table address (bytes)	

Extended header

Field-spec	Byte	Ver	R/W	Description	
	0-1	_	R	Number of further words in table	
MSLOCX	2-3	5-	R	X-coordinate of mouse after a click	
MSLOCY	4-5	5-	R	Y-coordinate of mouse after a click	
MSETBL / UNITBL	6-7	5-	R/W	Unicode translation table (optional)	
MSEDIR / FLAGS3	8-9	5-	R/W	Flags 3: Bit 0: If set, game wants to use transparency	
MSEINV / TRUFGC	10-11	5-	R/W	True default foreground colour	
MSEVRB / TRUBGC	12-13	5-	R/W	True default background colour	
MSEWRD	14-15	5-	R/W		
BUTTON	16-17	5-	R/W		
JOYSTICK	18-19	5-	R/W		
BSTAT	20-21	5-	R/W		
JSTAT	22-23	5-	R/W		

Appendix C - Reserved constants, globals & locals

Name	Туре	Default value	Description
CRLF-CHARACTER	GVAL	1	
DO-FUNNY-RETURNS?	GVAL	<pre><> Versions 3-4 T Versions 5-</pre>	
FALSE-VALUE	CONSTANT	0	
FATAL-VALUE	CONSTANT	2	
IN-ZILCH	COMPILATION-FLAG	<>	
NEW-PARSER?	GVAL	Not defined	<setg new-parser="" t=""> to use new parser</setg>
NEW-SFLAGS	GVAL		
PRESERVE-SPACES?	GVAL	<>	
REDEFINE	LVAL	<>	
SENTENCE-ENDS?	FILE-FLAG		