ESCI 386 – IDL Programming for Advanced Earth Science Applications
Exercise #1
Dr. DeCaria

1. Start with two variables that contain the following strings, EXACTLY as shown.

   a = ‘the quink BroWn   fox’
   b = ‘jumpedover the lzy dog ?’

Write an IDL main program that performs the following steps, in the exact order shown, using only IDL string functions to manipulate the strings or substrings. Your program should print the result from each step (i.e., Step A => ‘……..’, Step B => ‘……..’, etc.)

A. Concatenate the two variables, adding a white space between ‘fox’ and ‘jumpedover’.

B. Remove the extra whitespaces before ‘fox’ and after ‘dog’ (do not leave whitespace after the ‘?’).

C. Add whitespace between ‘jumped’ and ‘over’. (See Note)

D. Make all letters the correct case.

E. Correct any misspellings and typos. (See Note)

F. Change the question mark to a period.

When you are done, you will have one variable that contains the string

   ‘The quick brown fox jumped over the lazy dog.’

Print the contents of this variable as the final step in your program.

E-mail your final program to me as an attachment.

NOTES

- Do the steps in the exact order that is specified. I know there are multiple ways of getting to the end result, but for this exercise I want you to do it as stated above.

- Inserting characters into a string is a pain in IDL, because it won’t shift the remaining characters to the right as you would like, but instead overwrites them. See course notes for a tip on how to insert into a string.

- You can use journaling to keep track of your commands as you type them and experiment. Then, you can edit the script file and turn it into your program by removing any mistakes or unnecessary garbage, and by adding an END statement.

- I want to see some good commenting in your program.