

Blocks In Perl

Talk to a Teacher

<http://spoken-tutorial.org>

National Mission on Education through ICT

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Amol Brahmanekar

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Learning Objective

In this tutorial, we will learn



Learning Objective

In this tutorial, we will learn

- ▶ **Various BLOCKS available in Perl**



System Requirements

- ▶ **Ubuntu Linux 12.04 OS**



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- ▶ **Ubuntu Linux 12.04 OS**
- ▶ **Perl 5.14.2**



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- ▶ **Ubuntu Linux 12.04 OS**
- ▶ **Perl 5.14.2**
- ▶ **gedit Text Editor**



Pre-requisites

Basic knowledge of

- ▶ **Variables and Comments in Perl**



Pre-requisites

Basic knowledge of

- ▶ **Variables** and **Comments** in Perl
- ▶ **Data Structures** will be an added advantage



Pre-requisites

Basic knowledge of

- ▶ **Variables** and **Comments** in Perl
- ▶ **Data Structures** will be an added advantage
- ▶ For relevant tutorials, visit <http://spoken-tutorial.org>



BLOCKS

- ▶ PERL provides 5 special blocks



BLOCKS

- ▶ PERL provides 5 special blocks
- ▶ These blocks get executed at various stages of a PERL program



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are

► **BEGIN**



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are

- ▶ **BEGIN**
- ▶ **END**



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are

- ▶ **BEGIN**
- ▶ **END**
- ▶ **UNITCHECK**



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are

- ▶ **BEGIN**
- ▶ **END**
- ▶ **UNITCHECK**
- ▶ **CHECK**



BLOCKS In Perl

These blocks are

- ▶ **BEGIN**
- ▶ **END**
- ▶ **UNITCHECK**
- ▶ **CHECK**
- ▶ **INIT**



BEGIN Block

- ▶ **BEGIN block gets executed at the time of compilation**



BEGIN Block

- ▶ **BEGIN block gets executed at the time of compilation**
- ▶ **Code written inside this block gets executed first**



BEGIN Block

- ▶ **BEGIN block gets executed at the time of compilation**
- ▶ **Code written inside this block gets executed first**
- ▶ **We can have several BEGIN blocks inside a PERL script**



Multiple BEGIN Block

- ▶ These blocks will get executed in the order of declaration



Multiple BEGIN Block

- ▶ These blocks will get executed in the order of declaration
- ▶ That is in First define First execute **pattern**



BEGIN Block

Syntax:



BEGIN Block

Syntax:

```
BEGIN {  
# Piece of code to be executed  
at the time of compilation  
}
```



BEGIN Block

From the example it is evident that



BEGIN Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside BEGIN block gets executed first



BEGIN Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside BEGIN block gets executed first
- ▶ This is irrespective of the location of the BEGIN block inside the PERL script



BEGIN Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside BEGIN block gets executed first
- ▶ This is irrespective of the location of the BEGIN block inside the PERL script
- ▶ BEGIN blocks gets executed in the First In First Out manner



BEGIN Block

One of the use of BEGIN block is;

- ▶ To include files inside a PERL script before actual execution starts



END Block

- ▶ **END block gets executed at the end of a PERL program**



END Block

- ▶ **END block gets executed at the end of a PERL program**
- ▶ **Code written inside this block gets executed after PERL has finished executing the program**



END Block

- ▶ **END block gets executed at the end of a PERL program**
- ▶ **Code written inside this block gets executed after PERL has finished executing the program**
- ▶ **We can have several END blocks inside a PERL script**



Multiple END Block

- ▶ These blocks will get executed in reverse order of declaration



Multiple END Block

- ▶ These blocks will get executed in reverse order of declaration
- ▶ That is in Last define First execute pattern



END Block

Syntax:



END Block

Syntax:

```
END {  
# Piece of code to be executed  
at the end of the PERL script  
}
```



END Block

From the example it is evident that



END Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside **END block** gets executed at the end



END Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside **END** block gets executed at the end
- ▶ This is irrespective of the location of the **END** block inside PERL script



END Block

From the example it is evident that

- ▶ The code written inside **END** block gets executed at the end
- ▶ This is irrespective of the location of the **END** block inside PERL script
- ▶ **END blocks** gets executed in the Last In First Out manner



END Block

One of the use of `END` block is;

- ▶ To destroy the objects, if any are created in the script



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

- ▶ PERL **also has** UNITCHECK, CHECK and INIT blocks



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

- ▶ PERL **also has** UNITCHECK, CHECK **and** INIT **blocks**
- ▶ **These blocks are used rarely by developers**



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

These blocks are useful



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

These blocks are useful

- ▶ **To catch the transition between compilation and execution phase of the main program**



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

These blocks are useful

- ▶ To catch the transition between compilation and execution phase of the main program
- ▶ To perform some checks or initialisation after compilation and before execution



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

- ▶ **UNITCHECK** and **CHECK** blocks runs in Last in First out manner



UNITCHECK, CHECK, INIT Block

- ▶ **UNITCHECK** and **CHECK** blocks runs in Last in First out manner
- ▶ **INIT** block runs in First In First Out manner



UNITCHECK Block

Syntax:



UNITCHECK Block

Syntax:

```
UNITCHECK {  
# Piece of code to be executed  
}
```



CHECK Block

Syntax:



CHECK Block

Syntax:

```
CHECK {  
# Piece of code to be executed  
}
```



INIT Block

Syntax:



INIT Block

Syntax:

```
INIT {  
# Piece of code to be  
initialised  
}
```



Summary

In this tutorial we have learnt-

- ▶ BEGIN and END blocks in details



Summary

In this tutorial we have learnt-

- ▶ BEGIN and END blocks in details
- ▶ Introduction to UNITCHECK, CHECK and INIT blocks



Summary

In this tutorial we have learnt-

- ▶ **BEGIN and END blocks in details**
- ▶ **Introduction to UNITCHECK, CHECK and INIT blocks**
- ▶ **Using sample programs**



Assignment

```
#!/usr/bin/perl
END {
    @array = ();
    print "Length of an array inside END
block: ", $#array + 1, "\n"; }

print "Length of an array: ", $#array +
1, "\n";

BEGIN { @array = (1, 2, 3); }
```



About the Spoken Tutorial Project

- ▶ Watch the video available at http://spoken-tutorial.org/What_is_a_Spoken_Tutorial
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- ▶ Gives certificates to those who pass an online test
- ▶ For more details, please write to contact@spoken-tutorial.org



Acknowledgements

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- ▶ **It is supported by the National Mission on Education through ICT, MHRD, Government of India**
- ▶ **More information on this Mission is available at**

<http://spoken-tutorial.org/NMEICT-Intro>

