

assign a numeric value to a string variable, or a string value to a numeric variable. A TM error will also occur if you use a numeric value as an argument to a function which should have a string argument, or vice versa.

You can also assign a new value to a string variable with the READ and INPUT commands. The DATA or INPUT values you specify may be either quoted or unquoted strings. Of course you must enclose DATA or INPUT items in quotes to include a comma in a string, since commas are used to separate DATA and INPUT items. Leading spaces are also removed from unquoted strings. The following example illustrates these points.

```
NEW
OK
10 INPUT "Name, Salary" A$, I
20 PRINT "The salary of "; A$; " is $"; I
30 PRINT
40 GOTO 10
RUN
Name, Salary? Carter, 200000
The salary of Carter is $ 200000
```

```
Name, Salary? Jones, John, 3.65
RED0? "Jones, John", 3.65
The salary of Jones, John is $ 3.65
```

```
Name, Salary? ^C
BREAK AT LINE 10
OK
```

Notice that Extended XYBASIC prompted with RED0? after the second line typed in response to the INPUT command of line 10, as the string "Jones" was INPUT for A\$ and the string "John" could not be assigned to the numeric variable I. Enclosing "Jones, John" in quote marks in the following line made the problem disappear.

LEN

The function LEN returns the length of its string argument, which is the number of characters the string contains. Its value is an integer between 0 and 255. For example:

```
NEW
OK
10 INPUT A$
20 PRINT LEN (A$)
30 GOTO 10
RUN
? "CAT"
3
? Dog house
9
```