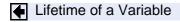# Keywords

MATLAB reserves certain words for its own use as keywords of the language. To list the keywords, type

```
iskeyword
ans =
    'break'
    'case'
    'catch'
    'continue'
    'else'
    'elseif'
    'end'
    'for'
    'function'
    'global'
    'if'
    'otherwise'
    'persistent'
    'return'
    'switch'
    'try'
    'while'
```

See the online function reference pages to learn how to use these keywords.

You should not use MATLAB keywords other than for their intended purpose. For example, a keyword should not be used as follows:

```
while = 5;
??? while = 5;
        |
Error: Expected a variable, function, or constant, found "="
```