

## CoCoA-5 - Support #915

### When is a semicolon needed to end a statement/command?

20 Aug 2016 22:04 - John Abbott

|                        |                    |                        |             |
|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------|
| <b>Status:</b>         | New                | <b>Start date:</b>     | 20 Aug 2016 |
| <b>Priority:</b>       | Low                | <b>Due date:</b>       |             |
| <b>Assignee:</b>       |                    | <b>% Done:</b>         | 0%          |
| <b>Category:</b>       | Parser/Interpreter | <b>Estimated time:</b> | 0.00 hour   |
| <b>Target version:</b> | CoCoA-5.?.?        | <b>Spent time:</b>     | 0.35 hour   |

#### Description

Some commands do not need a semicolon to make them happen.

```
if 1 > 0 then println "bigger" endif
```

The line above will execute even though there is no semicolon! Is this a bug or a feature?

I can understand that the ending semicolon is necessary in commands whose last part is an expression.

It is not clear to me why a semicolon is needed after ciao, continue and break (and maybe some others too).

#### History

##### #1 - 22 Aug 2016 16:42 - John Abbott

This question came to me as I was writing the tutorials for CoCoA-5. I actually thought that the final semicolon was obligatory except for manual searches. I did know that the semicolon could be skipped inside some compound statements (e.g. if...then...endif).

##### #2 - 28 Feb 2024 21:27 - John Abbott

- Priority changed from Normal to Low

It'd be nice if there were a clean answer to this question, but it is also quite unimportant. I don't recall ever having had a problem related to this. Shall we just **close** or **reject**?