

```
    for example:
```

```
int x;
string heading;
.
.
.
if ( x == 0 ) {
heading = "north";
}
else if ( x == 1 ) {
heading = "west";
}
else if ( x == 2 ) {
heading = "south";
}
else if ( x == 3 ) {
heading = "east";
}
```

```
which can be replaced with a switch statement, like this:
   int x;
    string heading;
    switch ( x ) {
      case 0:
        heading = "north";
        break;
      case 1:
        heading = "west";
        break;
      case 2:
        heading = "south";
        break;
      case 3:
        heading = "east";
        break;
   } // end of switch
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```

• note the new keywords:

- switch which begins the statement and indicates the name of the variable you want to compare
- $-\ensuremath{\operatorname{case}}$ which indicates the value that you want to compare the variable to
- break which ends the clause that gets executed for each matching "case", i.e., when the value of the variable matches that specified in the enclosing case

• note that if you don't use a break command, then the program control will keep going at the end of one case and go into the code for the next case (there are times when you want this behavior, but most of the time you don't)

- note that the default case, when the value of the variable does not match any of those in the specified cases, is called default
- you replace the case __ with default, like this:

switch(x) {
 case 0:
 heading = "north";
 break;
 case 2:
 heading = "south";
 break;
 default:
 heading = "ERROR";
 break;
} // end of switch

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