

Code should be ~~self-documenting~~ self-explaining,
using plain language without **any** cryptic abbreviations!

<code>A = 86400;</code>	VERY BAD PROGRAMMING!
<code>A = 86400; // SPD</code>	Ahah, a comment, clearly saying it is SPD!
<code>A = 86400; // elhepnat's turnk</code>	But compilers do not check comments for errors in semantics, syntax, spelling, or whatever!
<code>SPD = 86400;</code>	Why did you call it A if it's actually SPD ?
<code>SPD = 86400; // scPrDy</code>	Now the code has become meaningful. Ahum.
<code>scPrDy = 86400;</code>	Why did you call it SPD if it's actually scPrDy ?
<code>scPrDy = 86400; // seconds per day</code>	Finally, we have something unambiguous!
<code>secondsPerDay = 86400;</code>	WHY not named secondsPerDay in 1 st instance?
<code>secondsPerDay = 24*60*60;</code>	Let the computer compute that silly number!
<code>secondsPerMinute = 60; minutesPerHour = 60; hoursPerDay = 24;</code>	Any value that can be considered constant should have its own non-cryptic self-explaining name in PLAIN language without any abbreviation!
<code>secondsPerDay = secondsPerMinute*minutesPerHour*hoursPerDay;</code>	

This final self-explaining code needs **NO** comments and **NO** maintenance at all, unless stupid politicians¹ would decide to modify the entire system of timekeeping.

¹ Do clever politicians exist?

I once had a colleague who had indeed learned to not use hard-coded values, but give them a name.

All *hir* programs started like:

```
one = 1;  
two = 2;  
three = 3;
```

Names should not tell the value,
but explain meaning and/or purpose!

If it's an **elephant**, then *call* it an **elephant**!

Not an **elpnt** and certainly not **grffe** or **crcdl**.²

Pl. b.a.t. t.m. abrs. m.y.c. unr. & incph., th. msk. errrrs.!

² Isn't it perfectly clear to everyone that *crcdl.* means *hippopotamus* ≠ *elephant*?