Fall 2007 Handout 10

1\$ prog1 && prog2 2\$ prog1 || prog2

In Perl, a variable name *always* starts with a dollar sign: it's more consistent than the shell language. For example, **\$0** is the name of the perlscript, **\$!** is the error message that **strerror** would return, and **\$_** is the conventional variable for holding each successive line of input. As in the shell language, you can use variables within "double quotes" but not within 'single quotes':

```
3$ echo "Oh give me a $HOME"
Oh give me a /homel/a/abcl234
4$ echo 'Oh give me a $HOME'
Oh give me a $HOME
```