

Overview

help50 is a command-line program that makes an effort to translate some of the more arcane error messages that other tools, such as **clang** or **valgrind**, sometimes spit out. In this way, it serves as a “virtual TF” of sorts, hopefully helping nudge students in the right direction, so that they needn’t wait for a staff member at office hours when a little bit of translation of the error message is really all that’s needed to move on.

Key Terms

- **help50**
- **command-line**

Usage

To run **help50**, open a terminal in the CS50 IDE and type **help50 <commands_giving_you_errors>**.

Example Output

Say you made changes to **hello.c**, but for some reason when you run **make hello**, you get

```
make: `hello' is up to date.
```

If you run **help50** on **make hello** to help figure out why this is happening you’ll likely get what’s on the right.

```
~/workspace/ $ help50 make hello
make: `hello' is up to date.

Helping with...

make: `hello' is up to date.

Looks like you already compiled hello and haven't made any changes to hello.c since. Or did you forget to save hello.c before running make?
```

Say you try to compile **hello.c** and run into an error. Running **help50 make hello** will help shed some light on the error.

```
~/workspace/ $ help50 make hello
clang -fsanitize=integer -fsanitize=undefined -ggdb3 -O0 -std=c11
-Wall -Werror -Wextra -Wno-sign-compare -Wshadow hello.c
-lcrypt -lcs50 -lm -o hello
hello.c:6:29: error: expected ';' after expression
    printf("hello, world\n")
                          ^
                          ;

1 error generated.
make: *** [hello] Error 1

Helping with...

hello.c:6:29: error: expected ';' after expression

Try including a semicolon at the end of line 6 of hello.c.
```