

Copula (Is) = . Local = : Global

The copula is used to assign a referent to a name, as in `a=: 3` and in `sum=: +/`. The copula `=.` is local as discussed under Explicit Definition (`:`), and `=:` is global. Copulas may also be used indirectly, with the name or names specified as a character list or a boxed list; moreover, if the character list begins with ``` then gerund referents are evoked.

For example:

```
f=: 3 : 0
a=. +:y.
b=: *:a
10*b
)
```

```
a=: b=: 678
a,b
678 678
```

```
f 3
360
a,b
678 36
```

```
x=: 'abc' ; 'c'
(x) =: 3 4 ; 5 6 7
abc
3 4
c
5 6 7
```

Note that the parentheses around the name `x` force it to be evaluated before the assignment specified by the copula is effected.

```
'alpha beta'=: i.2 4
alpha
0 1 2 3
beta
4 5 6 7
```

```
`sum sqrt'=: +/ ` %:
sum 3 1 4 2
10
sqrt 2
1.41421
```