1. Comment-Based Help

PowerShell provides a mechanism for programmers to document their scripts using special comment directives. Comments using such syntax are called help comments. The cmdlet Get-Help (§13.19) generates documentation from these directives.

* 1. Introduction

A help comment contains a help directive of the form .name followed on one or more subsequent lines by the help content text. The help comment can be made up of a series of single-line-comments or a delimited-comment (§2.2.3). The set of comments comprising the documentation for a single entity is called a help topic.

* 1. Help directives
     1. .DESCRIPTION

Syntax:

.DESCRIPTION

* + 1. .EXAMPLE

Syntax:

.EXAMPLE

* + 1. .EXTERNALHELP

Syntax:

.EXTERNALHELP <XMLHelpFilePath>

.

1. Grammar

This appendix contains summaries of the lexical and syntactic grammars found in the main document.

* 1. Lexical grammar

input:  
input-elementsopt signature-blockopt

* + 1. Line terminators

new-line-character:  
Carriage return character (U+000D)  
Carriage return character (U+000D) followed by line feed character (U+000A)

* + 1. Comments

comment:  
delimited-comment

* + 1. White space

whitespace:  
Any character with Unicode class Zs, Zl, or Zp  
Horizontal tab character (U+0009)

* 1. Syntactic grammar
     1. Basic concepts

script-file:  
script-block

* + 1. Statements

script-block:  
param-blockopt statement-terminatorsopt script-block-bodyopt

* + 1. Expressions

expression:  
logical-expression

1. References

ANSI/IEEE 754−2008, Binary floating-point arithmetic for microprocessor systems.

ECMA-334, C# Language Specification, 4th edition (June 2006), <http://www.ecma-international.org/publications/standards/Ecma-334.htm>. [This Ecma publication is also approved as ISO/IEC 23270:2006.]