Syntax:

```
\begin{aligned} & local \\ & val~a = \dots \\ & fun~f~z = \dots \\ & val~k = \dots \\ & in \\ & fun~foo~n~m = f~(a+k~*~(m-n)) \\ & end; \end{aligned}
```

Functions and variables bound between the keywords "local" and "in" are visible only to the expressions evaluated between "in" and "end." The values bound between "in" and "end" are accessible to expressions outside the local - in - end framework. Similar syntax applies for let - in - end

foo 3 4;

Lists:

Given list L.

hd L returns first *element* in the list

tl L return *list* containing everything but the first element

Merge Sort:

```
fun merge p([], ys) = ys
                                                   fun split [] = ([],[])
   merge p(xs,[]) = xs
                                                        split [x]=([x],[])
   merge p (x::xs,y::ys) =
                                                        split (x::y::L) =
          if x::(merge p (xs,y::ys))
                                                              let
          else if p(y,x)
                                                                val(L1,L2) = split L
              then y::(merge p (x::xs,ys))
                                                              in
              else x::y::(merge p (xs,ys))
                                                                (x::L1,y::L2)
                                                              end
fun sort p [] = []
    sort p[x] = [x]
    sort p L =
          let
             val(L1,L2) = split L
          in
             merge p (sort p L1, sort p L2)
          end
```