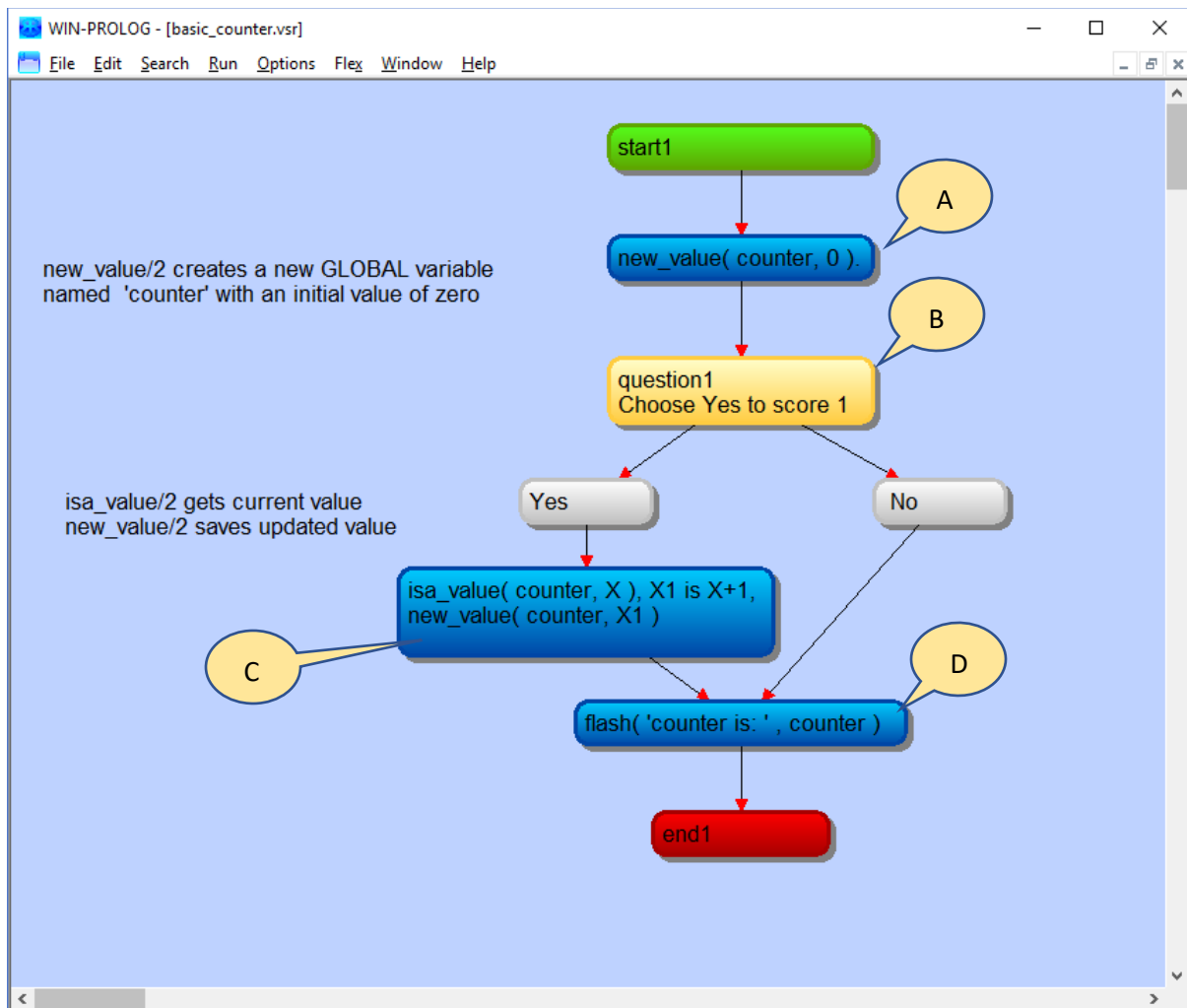


## Basic Counter



### Basic Counter example

- 1 single choice question
- 2 expressions
- 3 code boxes
- 1 conclusion

This example shows how to use Global Variables to maintain a counter using Flex utility routines.

#### A] code box

This use new\_value/2 to establish a new global variable.

```
new_value( counter, 0 )
```

Sets the value of the global variable, counter, to 0

#### B] question1

This is a single choice question which has 2 expressions – Yes and No

### C] code box

This updates the global variable by first picking up the current value using `isa_value/2`, then adding 1 to it and then updating the stored value using `new_value/2`.

```
isa_value( counter, X ), X1 is X+1,  
new_value( counter, X1 )
```

`isa_value/2`, `new_value/2` are Flex predicates

`isa_value( counter, X )` retrieves the current value stored in the global variable, `counter`, and places it in the logical variable `X` (which can be updated easily by Prolog)

`is/2` is Prolog's mathematical expression evaluator whereby the left hand side is 'bound' to the computed value created by evaluating the RHS

`X1 is X+1` assigns to the logical variable `X1` the result of adding 1 to `X`

`X` and `X1` are local logical variables whose scope is this piece of code in the statement box

`X` is used to retrieve the current value of the counter and pass it into the arithmetic expression  
`X1` is used to store the computed value and pass it into the new value storage call

`new_value( counter, X1 )` copies the value from `X1` into the global variable, `counter`

### D] code box

This uses `flash` to display the current value of the global variable named 'counter'

```
flash( 'counter is: ' , counter )
```

`flash/2` here has 2 arguments; the first is static text and the second is the name of a global variable, `counter`. `flash/?` will replace this with the actual value of this variable.