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**ETSI Standard**

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# 25 External actions

In some testing situations some interface(s) to the SUT may be missing or unknown a priori (e.g. management interface) but it may be necessary that the SUT is stimulated to carry out certain actions (e.g. send a message to the test system). Also certain actions may be required from the test executing personnel (e.g. to change the environmental conditions of testing like the temperature, voltage of the power feeding, etc.).

The **action** statement provides the means to write one or more log items e.g. to some displaying device. Items to be displayed shall be identified by a comma‑separated list in the argument of the **action** statement. Items may be individual language elements specified in table 18 or expressions composed of such items.

***Syntactical Structure***

**action** "(" { ( *FreeText* | *TemplateInstance* ) [","] } ")"

***Semantic Description***

External actions can be used in test cases, functions and altsteps.

There is no specification of what is done to or by the SUT to trigger this action, only an informal description of the required action itself.

***Restrictions***

No specific restrictions in addition to the general static rules of TTCN‑3 given in clause 5 and shown in table 18.

***Examples***

 **var charstring** v\_myString:= " now."

 **var integer** v\_myInt:= 1

 **action**("Send ", v\_myInt, " on lower PCO", v\_myString); // Informal description of
 // the external action

 // Send 1 on lower PCO now. – will be displayed