

Examples in the RDA Toolkit

Honor Moody
Metadata Creation Manager, Harvard Library
RDA Examples Editor

Overview

- Understanding RDA Toolkit examples
- Developing new examples
- Future work



Understanding RDA Toolkit examples

- Principles underlying RDA Toolkit Examples
- Review of the 4 kinds of examples

RDA Toolkit Example Principles

Examples illustrate elements as appropriate for the language version of RDA in which they appear. A systematic transliteration may be used in examples for some elements when appropriate. For example, the [ALA-LC romanization tables](#) are used in the English RDA.

The data are correct in the context of the instruction, and may not necessarily reflect the forms found in databases of agents using RDA.

From [Introduction to RDA, Examples](#)

RDA Toolkit Example Basics

There are four types of examples in RDA:

- **Basic examples** illustrate an element using an applicable recording method. Basic examples may contain explanatory notes.
- **Recording methods examples** show multiple recording methods applied to the same instance of an element.
- **View as relationship examples** provide a linked data visualization of an element using RDA registry labels and IRIs.
- **View in context examples** contain a set of elements repeated throughout RDA to demonstrate how elements identify an entity. When a view in context example appears on an element page, that element name appears in bold. View in context examples use RDA registry labels.

From [Introduction to RDA, Examples](#)

Example preferences

- Views → Manage views

View

Settings

RDA Template
 ▼

Language
 ▼

Access
 ▼

Policies

BLPS

LC-PCC PS

MLA BP

NLNZ PS

Primary Policy
 ▼

Always open related policies with instruction

Examples

Show all

Basic

View as Relationship

View in Context

Recording Method

Unstructured

Structured

Identifier

IRI

Display

Always open element reference

Basic examples:

Single example with basic note

Two or more titles of manifestation

CONDITION

Two or more values of a title appears in sources of information.

CONDITION OPTION

Record the value that appears first.

 Example

MapEasy's guidemap to Philadelphia

Recording method: unstructured description

Note: Variant form of title appears second on source of information: Welcome to Philadelphia

Example box

Example

Recording method

Explanatory note

Basic examples:

Multiple examples

CONDITION

A work is a record of the collective thought of a corporate body (e.g., a report of a commission, committee; an official statement of position on external policies; a standard).

CONDITION OPTION

Record a value for a corporate body.

Example

Parti québécois

Recording method: structured description

VES source: Library and Archives Canada

Title of work: Restons forts

American National Standards Institute

National Information Standards Organization

Recording method: unstructured description

Title of work: American national standard for permanence of paper for publications and documents in libraries and archives

Example box

Example 1:
VES source always specified when recording method is “structured description” or identifier

Example 2:
Two values of corporate body recorded

Recording method examples

- Recording methods examples show multiple recording methods applied to the same instance of an element
 - Seen most often when
 - All 4 recording methods are applicable
 - The options are straightforward and limited in number

Recording method examples

Expression > language of expression

Instance of expression *has language of expression*:

- Chinese
 - unstructured description
- Chinese (language)
 - structured description from Getty AAT
- 300388113
 - Identifier, from Getty AAT
- <http://vocab.getty.edu/aat/300388113>
 - IRI

Recording method examples

Work > category of work

Instance of work *has category of work*:

- Play
 - unstructured description
- Drama
 - structured description from LCGFT
- Q25379
 - Identifier, from Wikidata
- <http://www.wikidata.org/entity/Q25379>
 - IRI

View as relationship examples

View as Relationship Example

👁 Example

Expression

Piave, Francesco Maria, 1810–1876. La traviata. English *has language of*
expression English

<https://viaf.org/viaf/315186343>

Access point for an instance of an expression equivalent to VIAF IRI

<http://rdaregistry.info/Elements/e/P20006>

Verbalized RDA element name equivalent to RDA Registry IRI

RDA element value presented as a text string and as IRI from LC vocabulary


<http://id.loc.gov/vocabulary/languages/eng>

R | D | A
Resource Description & Access

View in context examples

- View in context examples contain a set of elements repeated throughout RDA to demonstrate how elements identify an entity. When a view in context example appears on an element page, that element name appears in bold. View in context examples use RDA registry labels.

View in Context Example

 Example

Corporate Body

<i>has preferred name of corporate body</i>	League of Nations
<i>has date of termination</i>	1946
<i>has successor of corporate body</i>	United Nations
<i>has related corporate body of corporate body</i>	Permanent Court of International Justice
<i>has chief executive</i>	Drummond, Eric, 1876–1951
<i>has chief executive</i>	Avenol, Joseph, 1879–1952
<i>has chief executive</i>	Lester, Sean, 1888–1959

element page 

Latent examples

- A **latent example** is defined here as data illustrating RDA text but that is not itself an instruction, “e.g.,” “for example” or other such terms. The RDA Examples editor works with the RDA Secretary to update these when found in the RDA Toolkit.

11.2.2.10 Terms Indicating Incorporation and Certain Other Terms KBSP

Omit the following terms unless they are an integral part of the name or are needed to make it clear that the name is that of a corporate body:

- an adjectival term or abbreviation indicating incorporation (e.g., *Incorporated, e.V., Ltd.*)
- a term indicating state ownership of a corporate body
- a word or phrase, abbreviated or in full, indicating the type of incorporated entity (e.g., *Aktiebolaget, Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung, Kabushiki Kaisha, Società per azione*).

Terms indicating incorporation and certain other terms

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: **name of corporate body** includes an adjectival term or abbreviation indicating incorporation.

Example

Incorporated

e.V.

Ltd.

CONDITION

A value of Corporate Body: **name of corporate body** includes a word or phrase, abbreviated or in full, indicating the type of incorporated entity.

Example

Aktiebolaget

Gesellschaft mit beschränkter Haftung

Kabushiki Kaisha

Società per azione

R | D | A

Resource Description & Access



Developing new examples

- Moving examples for equivalent Original RDA Toolkit and Official RDA Toolkit instructions
- Creating examples
 - For instructions that never had examples in the Original RDA Toolkit
 - For elements not found in the Original RDA Toolkit

Moving examples from the Original RDA Toolkit to their equivalent instruction in the Official RDA Toolkit

- Identify corresponding instructions with examples in the original RDA Toolkit
 - Assess examples to confirm that they are still valid examples in the official RDA Toolkit, adjusting or replacing as needed
 - Some valid examples are replaced with equivalent examples to increase the diversity of resources and resource creators represented in the examples
 - If there are multiple equivalent examples, not all will be moved
 - Reformat text using DITA in RDA Toolkit content management system
 - Embed examples in the appropriate Toolkit file and location

From Original to Official:

Manifestation > title of manifestation is roughly equivalent to Original RDA 2.3.1

2.3.1.4 Recording Titles 2015/04

Transcribe a title as it appears on the source of information (see 1.7 [RDA](#)).

EXAMPLE

StarOffice

The 1919/1920 Breasted Expedition to the Far East

Sechs Partiten für Flöte

Drawing a blank, or, How I tried to solve a mystery, end a feud, and land the girl of my dreams

Instructor's guide and key for The American economy

IV informe de gobierno

4.50 from Paddington

I due Foscari

When Frank was four

Visitrend + visiplot

Tables of the error function and its derivative, [reproduction of equations for the functions]

The most of P.G. Wodehouse

Heirarchy in organizations

Title misspelled and should read: Hierarchy in organizations

new translations, interpretive notes, backgrounds, commentaries

Other title information

an encyclopedia of domestic architectural detail

Other title information

DITA Markup: Example file

Topic id="exampleTemplate2BasicSet" xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema- ..." Title **EX BS title**

of manifestation Title

Body Division outputclass="basic_set" id="div_kxv_3qc_zpb"

Draft Comment author="EE" **Comment by EE: set 1 typos, as is** Draft Comment

Division id="div_lxv_3qc_zpb" Paragraph id="p_mxv_3qc_zpb" Heirarchy in organizations Paragraph

Note id="note_nxv_3qc_zpb" type="other" othertype="Recording method" **Recording method:** unstructured description Note

Note id="note_oxv_3qc_zpb" **Note:** Title misspelled and should read: Hierarchy in organizations Note Division Division

Division outputclass="basic_set" id="div_m5w_3qc_zpb"

Draft Comment author="EE" **Comment by EE: set 2 typos, corrected** Draft Comment

Division id="div_n5w_3qc_zpb" Paragraph id="p_o5w_3qc_zpb" Hierarchy in organizations Paragraph

DITA Markup: Element File

Data name="citation_number" value="30.78.06.12" Data citation_number 30.78.06.12 Data Division

Division outputclass="if_option" id="div_p2c_bhx_jhb" Paragraph id="p_x5l_bhx_jhb" conkeyref="b_all/p_cgl_zgx_jhb"

Record a value that includes a typographical error.

Paragraph

Division id="div_u1n_vnm_1qb" conkeyref="x_0098/div_kv_x_3qc_zpb"

Draft Comment author="EE" Comment by EE: set 1 typos, as is Draft Comment

Division id="div_lxv_3qc_zpb" Paragraph id="p_mxv_3qc_zpb" Heirarchy in organizations Paragraph

Note id="note_nxv_3qc_zpb" type="other" othertype="Recording method" Recording method: unstructured description Note

Note id="note_oxv_3qc_zpb" Note: Title misspelled and should read: Hierarchy in organizations

Note Division

Division

Data name="citation_number" value="46.49.04.16" Data citation_number 46.49.04.16 Data Division

Division outputclass="if_option" id="div_v3nngx_jhb" Paragraph id="p_emr_5gx_jhb" conkeyref="b_all/p_qsh_4gx_jhb"

Record a value that corrects a typographical error.

Paragraph

Official RDA Toolkit

CONDITION OPTION

Record a value that includes a typographical error.

Example

Heirarchy in organizations

Recording method: unstructured description

Title misspelled and should read: Hierarchy in organizations

Additional criteria for examples

- Currency
 - Many examples in the original Toolkit are carried over from AACR2, and some of them are *really* dated
- Representation
 - Do the resources used in examples represent the full diversity of cultural heritage resource creators?
 - Are the examples culturally appropriate?
- Examples can be made up, but I prefer to use real examples whenever possible
 - Cataloging standards are a posteriori constructs
 - The richness of the bibliographic universe is one of the things I like best about being a cataloger!

Creating New Examples

- New elements
 - Search for likely examples
 - WorldCat (via Connexion)
 - HOLLIS (Harvard Library catalog)
 - HathiTrust
 - VIAF
 - Wikidata/Wikipedia
 - Materials waiting to be cataloged at the office
 - Records I come across during the course of my day job



Future work

- Creation of new examples using Google Forms
- New and updated examples for authorized access points specifying the string encoding scheme used

Creation of new examples using Google Forms

The screenshot shows a Google Form titled "Suggest an RDA Example". At the top, it displays the user's email "honor@rdatoolkit.org (not shared)" with a "Switch account" link and a "Draft saved" indicator. A red asterisk indicates a required question. The first question is "Add example text *", with a text input field labeled "Your answer" and a red warning icon stating "This is a required question". The second question is "example language tag (IANA language codes, use script extension if applicable, required if language of example is not in English)", with a text input field labeled "Option 1". The third question is "Recording Method *", with four radio button options: "Unstructured description", "Structured description", "Identifier", and "IRI".

Draft form:

- Will likely require substantial testing and adjustments before it is fully operational
- The idea is simple, implementation is much harder!

The RSC Wants You!

RSC will be recruiting a new RDA Examples Editor later this year

- See [RSC/Operations/2 RSC Position Responsibilities \(pdf\)](#) for more information on position responsibilities
- Term begins January 2024, but there will be a 4-6 month training period to get you up to speed

Recruiting a new RDA Examples Editor

- Do you have these skills and knowledge?
 - Knowledge of RDA content and basic familiarity with the official RDA Toolkit
 - Knowledge of the practical interpretation and application of RDA
 - Comfort with bibliographic description for multiple formats (e.g., books, manuscripts, maps, etc.)
 - Experience in providing examples for cataloging documentation or training
 - Experience with XML and XML editors
 - Fluency in English and bibliographic knowledge of some other languages, ideally including a non-Latin script language
 - Good communication skills

Thank you!

Ending Q&A

Questions or suggestions for examples?

- Use the “Submit Feedback” link from within the RDA Toolkit
- Email the Examples Editor, honor@rdatoolkit.org