

To: RDA Steering Committee
From: Bill Leonard, CCC Representative to RSC

Subject: Revision of 1.10.3 (Quotations in notes)

CCC thanks the European RDA community for provoking an examination of a practice that is second-nature for many. CCC disagrees with the proposal because it is based upon an assumption that everything following a colon is a quotation. Catalogue users do not interpret information following a colon as being quotations.

Two structures of notes are commonly used for different purposes.

Label Colon Data

Opening Quotation Data Closing Quotation Dash Dash Source of Information

The 'Label Colon Data' formulation is used to record elements, not necessarily to record the source of information on which the data was found. Information preceding the colon functions like the name or label of a data element. In these cases, it is assumed that the data is a complete transcription of the particular element, e.g., spine title, running title, half-title or cover title. The 'Label Colon Data' formulation is also used for unquoted data that might be a paraphrase, not necessarily a transcription.

The formulation that uses quotation marks is used to transcribe some, but not necessarily all, of the data from a particular source of information. This formulation does not necessarily include the name of the type of data. For example, this note communicates the audience level but the name of the data element is not included. While the source of information is included, it is understood that this note does not transcribe every word of the preface.

"For 3rd grade students"--Preface.

The formulation suggested in this proposal could easily be misunderstood as being a complete transcription of the preface.

Preface: For 3rd grade students.

RDA contains many notes with data following a colon which are understood not to be quotations. Relationship designators and display constants in many notes are separated from the data with a colon.

CCC suggests the following simple revision of 1.10.3 as a starting point for future discussion although we have concerns about embedding more punctuation instructions within RDA.

When recording quotations from the resource or from other sources, indicate that it is a quotation by using quotation marks or other punctuation. Give the source of the quotation if quotation marks are used. Omit the source if it is the preferred source of information for the identification of the resource (see [2.2.2 RDA](#)).