

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Dave Reser, LC Representative

SUBJECT: Language of the Family (10.8)

Background

In January of 2011, a proposal to add the 377 field to the *MARC 21 Format for Authority Data* was under review. The scope of the proposed MARC field included application to “language of the family” in addition to language of the person and corporate body. However, it was noted that RDA did not have an element for “language of the family,” nor did the *Functional Requirements for Authority Data* (FRAD). Glenn Patton, editor of FRAD, kindly added the attribute to FRAD (Section 4.2), and it was published in the “Modifications and Errata for the 2009 text” in November of 2011.

This proposal brings RDA into alignment with FRAD, following the same guidelines as Language of the Person (9.14) and Language of the Corporate Body (11.8). Introducing a new element in Chapter 10 will require renumbering of instructions that follow (current 10.8, 10.9, and 10.10). We feel that 10.8 is the most appropriate place to insert this new element to maintain consistency among chapters in Section 3.

Proposed Additions

Change 1: Add new instructions at 10.8 for Language of the Family. Double underlining is not shown, as all of the instruction is new, see subsequent changes below for the renumbering of current 10.8, 10.9, and 10.10.

10.8 Language of the Family

10.8.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Languages of the Family

10.8.1.1 Scope

Language of the family is a language the family uses when writing for publication, broadcasting, etc.

10.8.1.2 Sources of Information

Take information on the language of the family from any source.

10.8.1.3 Recording the Languages of the Family

Record the language or languages the family uses when writing for publication, broadcasting, etc. Use an appropriate term or terms in a language preferred by the agency creating the data. Select terms from a standard list of names of languages, if available.

Record a language used by the family as a separate element. Language is not recorded as part of an access point.

EXAMPLE

English

Language used by the Baroni family of Natchez, Mississippi

Spanish
English
Languages used by the Burgess family of Guatemala

Indicate the source of information by applying the instructions at [8.12.1.3](#).

Change 2: Renumber current 10.8 (Family History) to be 10.9 [changes not shown]

Change 3: Renumber current 10.9 (Identifier for the Family) to be 10.10 [changes not shown]

Change 4: Renumber current 10.10 (Constructing Access Points to Represent Families) to be 10.11 [changes not shown]

Change 5: Revise 10.0 (Purpose and scope) to reflect renumbering

10.0 Purpose and Scope

This chapter provides general guidelines and instructions on:

- a) choosing preferred names for families (see [10.2.2RDA](#))
- b) recording preferred and variant names for families (see [10.2RDA](#))
- c) recording other identifying attributes of families (see [10.3RDA--10.910RDA](#))
- d) constructing authorized access points representing families (see [10.4011.1\)RDA](#))
- e) constructing variant access points representing families (see [10.4011.2RDA](#)).

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

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- c) recording other identifying attributes of families (see [10.3RDA--10.10RDA](#))
- d) constructing authorized access points representing families (see [10.11.1\)RDA](#))
- e) constructing variant access points representing families (see [10.11.2RDA](#)).

[remainder of instruction unchanged]

Change 6: Revise 10.1.2 (Using Access Points to Represent Families) to reflect renumbering

10.1.2 Using Access Points to Represent Families

An authorized access point is one of the techniques used to represent either a family associated with a resource (see [18.4.1.2 RDA](#)) or a related family (see [31.1 RDA](#)).

When constructing authorized access points representing families, apply the guidelines at [10.4011.1 RDA](#).

When constructing variant access points representing families, apply the guidelines at [10.4011.2 RDA](#).

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When constructing authorized access points representing families, apply the guidelines at [10.11.1 RDA](#).

When constructing variant access points representing families, apply the guidelines at [10.11.2 RDA](#).

Change 7: Revise references in 10.3.1.3, 10.4.1.3, 10.5.1.3, and 10.6.1.3 to reflect renumbering of current 10.10 to 10.11 [changes not shown]

Change 8: Due to renumbering, references to old and new 10.8, old and new 10.9, old and new 10.10 and new 10.11 will need to be adjusted outside of Chapter 10:

8a. Instructions for constructing authorized and variant access points in Chapter 6

6.27.1.2

6.27.1.3

6.27.1.5

6.27.1.6

6.27.1.8

6.27.2.2

6.27.4.1

6.27.4.2

6.27.4.4

6.27.4.5

6.28.1.2

6.28.1.3.1

6.28.1.3.4

6.28.1.5.2

6.28.1.7

6.28.1.8

6.28.4.1
6.28.4.2
6.28.4.4
6.29.3.4
6.30.5.3

8b. Chapter 8: 8.7 and 8.12.1.3

8c. Chapter 16: 16.2.2.7

8d. Chapter 18: 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2

8e. Chapter 29: 29.4.2

8f. Adjustments to E.2.1 (Mapping of MARC 21 Authorities to RDA)

8g. New glossary term:

Language of the Family A language a family uses when writing for publication, broadcasting, etc.

8h. Numerous changes to the Index