

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative
Subject: Parallel language elements (1.7.7)

ALA thanks CCC for this proposal to clarify and broaden the application of RDA.1.7.7. We generally support this proposal and offer the following comments and our own revision.

Comments

What is transcription supposed to accomplish?

CCC's proposal to expand 1.7.7 puts a sharper focus on the tension in RDA between:

- the principle of representation (“The data describing a resource should reflect the resource’s representation of itself.” – 0.4.3.4, 1st paragraph), and
- the exceptions to strict transcription in 1.7.

Clearly for CCC’s *50 ans, Code du travail* example, using preferred and variant titles will be the best way to provide access to our users, rather than relying on some form of transcription of the title.

Examples

ALA recommends retaining the existing example in 1.7.7.

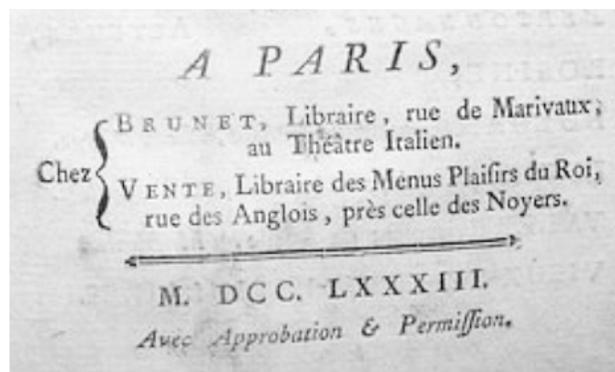
Additional examples

CCC recommended adding an example showing that this situation applies to more than just the title element. ALA agrees, and recommends adding examples to several different instructions to demonstrate the application of 1.7.7. We have included several possibilities in this response.

More than just parallel languages

ALA observes that the application of 1.7.7 goes beyond “parallel language elements”. For example, in Figure 1 “Chez” is intended to be read twice.

Figure 1



More than just letters, words, or numerals

ALA recommends expanding the scope of 1.7.7 to include symbols as well. We believe that CCC's *50 ans, Code du travail* example is not an example of a letter, numeral, or word intended to be read more than once. Instead, it is an example of a symbol that is meant to be read or interpreted in more than one way (the letter C and the numeral 0). We believe that this situation can be addressed by adding "symbol" to the title and text of the instruction, along with a specific paragraph about different interpretations of a single symbol, etc. We also recommend adding this particular resource as an example for that new paragraph.

Make a note

With the further expansion of 1.7.7, ALA recommends adding a new paragraph to allow for making a note. References to 2.17 already exist in 1.7.5 (Symbols) and 1.7.9 (Inaccuracies).

Design of the source of information

With the expansion of 1.7.7, it will become more important for catalogers to have a clear sense of how "the design of the source of information makes it clear that it [the letter, word, etc.] is intended to be read more than once." For example, if the parallel statements of responsibility are provided when describing Figure 2, would Brahms be transcribed once or twice?

Figure 2

Johannes Brahms

Klavierkonzert Nr. 2 B-dur Opus 83 Klavierauszug

Piano Concerto no. 2 in B \flat major
op. 83 · Piano Reduction

Herausgegeben von / Edited by
Johannes Behr

Klavierauszug von / Piano reduction by
Johannes Umbreit

Fingersatz von / Fingering by
Lars Vogt

A similar situation occurs in Figure 3, where Chopin's name could be transcribed both in the statement of responsibility and in the series statement.

Figure 3

FRYDERYK CHOPIN
C O M P L E T E W O R K S

IX

WALTZES

FOR PIANO

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

I. J. PADEREWSKI

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FOURTEENTH EDITION

Revision to RDA 1.7.1:

ALA notes that the reference to 1.7.7 in 1.7.1 will need to be updated with the revised sub-instruction title.

Proposed revision (marked-up copy based on current RDA 1.7.7)

1.7.7 Letters, Words, Numerals, or Symbols ~~or Words~~ Intended to Be Read More Than Once

If a one or more letters, words, numerals, or symbols ~~or word~~ appears only once but the design of the source of information makes it clear that ~~it is~~ they are intended to be read more than once, repeat the letters, words, numerals, or symbols ~~or word~~.

EXAMPLE

Canadian citations

Citations canadiennes

Source of information reads: Canadian CITATIONS canadiennes. **Intended readings recorded separately as title proper and parallel title proper**

If one or more letters, words, numerals, or symbols appears only once but the design of the source of information makes it clear that they are intended to be interpreted in more than one way, record each interpretation.

EXAMPLE

50 ans, Code du travail

In the source of information, the letter "C" is read both as the numeral zero in "50" and as the first letter of the word "code"

Make a note explaining the repeated letters, words, numerals, or symbols if considered important for identification or access (see [2.17](#)).

Clean copy:

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