

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Ebe Kartus, ACOC Representative  
**Subject:** Revision to instructions for devised titles in RDA 2.3.2.11

ACOC thanks the Library of Congress for this proposal.

ACOC supports the proposal subject to some minor revisions of wording:

1. In the first sentence following "then" at the beginning of 2.3.2.11 the word "descriptive" should be removed as in the revised list not all of the options are in fact descriptive.

2. ACOC does not find the wording of the paragraph immediately preceding the examples to be very clear. We suggest adding "for special types of resources" to the end of the first sentence, and in the second sentence changing "If this criterion does not apply" to say "If no one language or script is appropriate to the content of the resource being described". This would avoid possible confusion between the intent of this instruction and the Alternative.

#### Marked up version of the clean copy

### 2.3.2.11 Recording Devised Titles

*if:*

the resource itself has no title (see [2.3.2.10](#))

*and*

a title cannot be found in any of the other sources of information specified at [2.2.4](#)

*then:*

devise a brief ~~descriptive~~ title that includes one or more of the following:

- a) the nature of the resource (e.g., map, literary manuscript, diary, advertisement)
- b) its subject (e.g., names of persons, corporate bodies, objects, activities, events, geographical area and dates)
- c) the opening words of a text, etc.
- d) a brief descriptive phrase characterizing the resource.

Use the language and script appropriate to the content of the resource being described, except where instructed to use specific terminology for special types of resources. ~~If this criterion does not apply, If no one language or script is appropriate to the content of the resource being described,~~ record the title in the language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

#### EXAMPLE

Anarchist bombing, Union Square, New York City, March 1908

Typescript draft of chapters 3-20 of Natchez pilgrimage

Sydney Bicycle Club badge

Dance poster collection

Portrait of General Emiliano Zapata and his staff, Puebla, Mexico

**English language title devised for a painting**

Letters from Don Banks to Suzanne Gleeson

Ich bin gern allein

**Opening words of an unpublished poem**

I need a dollar

**Devised title proper for an untitled choreography by Christopher Dean that was used as the short program of figure skater Patrick Chan in multiple figure skating competitions; Chan skated the program to the song I need a dollar**

### **Alternative**

Devise a title in a language and script preferred by the agency preparing the description.

If the resource is a type that would normally have identifying information (e.g., a published book), make a note to indicate that the title has been devised (see [2.17.2.3](#)).

Apply these additional instructions for special types of resources, as applicable:

music (see [2.3.2.11.1](#))

cartographic resources (see [2.3.2.11.2](#))

moving image resources (see [2.3.2.11.3](#))

archival resources and collections (see [2.3.2.11.4](#)).

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