

TEI BY EXAMPLE



MODULE 2: THE TEI HEADER

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4. The Header of a Complex Text

Before we end, let's go back to where we left you: the library, in front of the library catalogue or computer screen. Prepared for the possibility that this copy of the book may be in loan, you find another reference to *The Wild Ass's Skin* in the record of La Comédie Humaine (look for “505 8 0 |gPhilosophic and analytic studies: v. 41. The|tmagic skin”; *The Magic Skin* is an alternative title for the English translation):

Holdings	Comments	Librarian's View	Copyright Status
000	03482cam a2200265 a 4500		
001	3724946		
005	20060802115229.0		
008	030626m18951900enkcf 000 1 eng d		
019 1	Ja24758250		
040	JaNU Jbeng JcNU JdANL		
041 1	Jaeng Jhfre		
100 1	JaBalzac, Honoré de, Jd1799-1850.		
240 1 0	JaComédie humaine. JIEnglish		
245 1 4	JaThe human comedy / Jcby Honoré de Balzac.		
260	JaLondon : JbCaxton, Jc1895-1900.		
300	Ja53 v. : Jbports. : Jc22 cm.		
500	JaEach volume has separate t-p.		
505 0 0	JgParisian life: v. 1-2. The Jtsplendors and miseries of courtesans Jg: The Jtway that girls love -- JtHow much love costs old men -- JgThe Jtend of bad roads -- JgThe Jtlast incarnation of Vautrin -- Jgv. 3-5 JtPoor relations JtCousin Bette -- JtCousin Pons -- Jgv. 6 JtHistory of the thirteen JtFerragus, Chief of the Devorants -- JgLa JtDuchesse de Langeais -- Jgv. 7 JtHistory of the grandeur and downfall of César Birotteau -- Jgv. 8. The Jtcivil service -- JtGaudissart II -- JgA Jtprince of Bohemia -- Jgv. 9. The Jthouse of Nucingen -- JgThe Jtsecrets of La Princesse de Cadignan -- JtSarrasine -- JtFacino Cane -- JgA Jtman of business -- JgThe Jtinvoluntary comedians -- Jgv. 10-11. The JtPetty bourgeois.		
505 8 0	JgPrivate life: v. 12. The Jthouse of the Cat and Racket -- JgThe Jtdance at Sceaux -- JgThe Jtpurse -- JgThe Jtvendetta -- Jgv. 13 JtMemoirs of two young wives -- Jgv. 14 JtModeste Mignon -- Jgv. 15. A Jtstart in life -- JtMadame Firmiani -- JgThe Jtmessage -- JgThe Jtatheist's mass -- Jgv. 16 JtAlbert Savarus -- JgA Jtdaughter of Eve -- Jgv. 17. The Jtmarriage contract -- JgLa Jtgrenadiere -- JtGobseck -- Jgv. 18. A Jtwoman of thirty -- JgThe Jtdeserted mistress -- v. 19. JtOld Goriot -- v. 20 JtHonorine -- JtColonel Chabert -- JgThe Jtinterdiction -- Jgv. 21 JtBeatrix -- Jgv. 22. A Jtdouble family -- JgThe Jtpeace of the household -- JgA Jtstudy of woman -- JtAnother study of woman -- JgThe Jtpretended mistress.		
505 8 0	JgProvincial life: v. 23 JtUrsule Mirouët -- Jgv. 24-25. The Jtcelibates JtPierrette -- JgThe JtCuré de Tours -- JgLa JtRabouilleuse -- Jgv. 26 JtEugénie Grandet -- Jgv. 27. The Jtlily of the valley -- Jgv. 28. The Jtillustrious Gaudissart -- JgThe Jtmuse of the department -- Jgv. 29. The Jtold maid -- JgThe Jtcabinet of antiquities -- Jgv. 30-32. JtLost illusions Jg: The Jtwo poets -- JgA Jtprovincial great man in Paris -- JgThe Jttrials of an inventor.		
505 8 0	JgMilitary and political life: v. 33. The JtChouans -- Jgv. 34. A Jtpassion in the desert -- JgAn Jtepisode under the reign of terror -- JgA Jtdark affair -- Jgv. 35 JtZ. Marcas -- JgThe Jtother side of contemporaneous history Jgfirst episode JtMadame de la Chanterie Jg; second episode: The Jtnovice -- Jgv. 36-37. The Jtdeputy from Arcis.		
505 8 0	JgCountry life: v. 38. The Jtcountry Doctor -- Jgv. 39. The Jtvillage Curé -- Jgv. 40. The Jtpeasants.		
505 8 0	JgPhilosophic and analytic studies: v. 41. The Jtmagic skin -- Jgv. 42. JtJesus Christ in Flanders -- Jgv. 43. The Jtunknown masterpiece -- JgThe JtMaranas -- JgA Jtseashore drama -- JgThe Jtred inn -- JtMaster Cornelius -- Jgv. 44 JtGambara -- JtMassimilla Doni -- JgThe Jtaccursed child -- Jgv. 46. The Jtquest of the absolute -- Jgv. 46 JtAdieu -- JgThe Jtconscript -- JgThe Jtexecutioner -- JgThe Jtexiles -- JtLouis Lambert -- Jgv. 47 JtCatherine de' Medici -- Jgv. 48-49 JtPhysiology of marriage -- JtPetty worries of conjugal life.		
505 8 0	Jgv. 50-51. The Jtreperory of La comédie humaine of Honoré de Balzac -- Jgv.52-53. Les Jtcontes drolatiques.		
600 1 0	JaBalzac, Honoré de, Jd1799-1850.		

Figure 4. A [library catalogue record](#) for a complex work.

Now *that's* a record! If you thought the truckload of possibilities for the description of electronic texts in the TEI header set your head spinning already, imagine what an electronic edition of *La Comédie Humaine* might look like! Code 300 tells us that it has no less than 53 volumes, with different titles per volume.

One way of encoding this majestic work as a whole would be to treat *La Comédie Humaine* as a kind of “supertext” containing all different works. This can be done in TEI by treating the whole as a <teiCorpus>, containing each separate work in its own <TEI> text. As each of these <TEI> texts needs its own TEI header, you can imagine the amount of meta-information, much of which will have to be repeated. This can be avoided by placing the common meta-information in the <teiHeader> element of the <teiCorpus> element, while retaining all work-specific meta-information in the TEI header section of the respective <TEI> text. This mechanism allows you to be maximally expressive in the description of all texts in a TEI corpus, *and* maximally efficient in the reduction of common information in the individual TEI headers.

The following example gives an impression of what a TEI header for an electronic edition of *La Comédie Humaine* might look like:

```
<teiCorpus xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">
  <!-- general TEI header information or the entire corpus -->
  <teiHeader>
    <fileDesc>
      <titleStmt>
        <title>La Comédie Humaine</title>
        <author xml:id="HdB">Honoré de Balzac</author>
        <editor role="editor" xml:id="TBEcrew">The TBE crew</editor>
        <respStmt>
          <name xml:id="RvdB">Ron Van den Branden</name>
          <resp>transcription</resp>
          <resp>annotation</resp>
        </respStmt>
        <sponsor>Association for Literary and Linguistic Computing (ALLC)</sponsor>
        <sponsor>Centre for Data, Culture and Society, University of Edinburgh,
          UK</sponsor>
        <sponsor>Centre for Computing in the Humanities (CCH) - King's College
          London</sponsor>
        <sponsor>University College London (UCL)</sponsor>
        <funder>
          <address>
            <addrLine>Centre for Scholarly Editing and Document Studies (CTB)</addrLine>
            <addrLine>Royal Academy of Dutch Language and Literature</addrLine>
            <addrLine>Koningstraat 18</addrLine>
```

```

        <addrLine>9000 Gent</addrLine>
        <addrLine>Belgium</addrLine>
    </address>
    <email>ctb@kantl.be</email>
</funder>
<principal xml:id="EV">Edward Vanhoutte</principal>
<principal xml:id="MT">Melissa Terras</principal>
</titleStmt>
<extent>0.5 Gb</extent>
<publicationStmt>
    <publisher>Centre for Scholarly Editing and Document Studies (CTB)</publisher>
    <distributor>Centre for Computing in the Humanities (CCH) - King's College
        London</distributor>
    <pubPlace>Gent</pubPlace>
    <address>
        <name type="institution">Centre for Scholarly Editing and Document Studies (C
            TB)</name>
        <name type="institution">Royal Academy of Dutch Language and Literature</name>
        <street>Koningstraat 18</street>
        <postCode>9000</postCode>
        <name type="city">Gent</name>
        <name type="country">Belgium</name>
    </address>
    <idno type="ISBN">0-00-000000-9</idno>
    <availability status="free">
        <licence>Published under a <ref target="http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by
            -sa/3.0/">Creative Commons Attribution ShareAlike 3.0 License</ref>.</licence>
    </availability>
    <date when="2110-01-01">1 January 2110</date>
</publicationStmt>
<seriesStmt>
    <title>The TBE collection: sample texts encoded with TEI.</title>
    <respStmt>
        <name>Edward Vanhoutte</name>
        <resp>compiler</resp>
    </respStmt>
    <idno type="ISSN">0000-0001</idno>
</seriesStmt>

```



```

<notesStmt>
  <note>OCR scanning done at KANTL, Ghent.</note>
</notesStmt>
<sourceDesc>
  <bibl><title>La Comédie Humaine</title> by <author>Honoré
    de Balzac</author>. <pubPlace>London</pubPlace>
    : <publisher>Caxton</publisher>, <date from="1895" to="1900">1895
    -1900</date>. <extent>53 v.</extent>.</bibl>
</sourceDesc>
</fileDesc>
<encodingDesc>
  <editorialDecl>
    <correction method="markup">
      <p>Apparent errors have been corrected using the <gi>sic</gi> <gi>corr</gi>
        elements, wrapped in a <gi>choice</gi> element.</p>
    </correction>
    <normalization method="markup" source="http://www.oed.com/">
      <p>Spelling has been modernised using the <gi>orig</gi> / <gi>reg</gi>
        elements, wrapped in a <gi>choice</gi> element.</p>
    </normalization>
    <quotation marks="all">
      <p>Diplomatic transcription, all original quotation marks have been retained
        and normalised to double quotation marks.</p>
    </quotation>
    <hyphenation eol="none">
      <p>End-of-line hyphenation has been removed. All other hyphenation has been
        retained.</p>
    </hyphenation>
    <interpretation>
      <p>Thematic analysis added, studying the main motifs.</p>
      <p>Names and dates are marked.</p>
    </interpretation>
  </editorialDecl>
  <projectDesc>
    <p>Text encoded for <soCalled>The TBE collection: sample texts encoded with T
      EI</soCalled>, aiming at providing a collection of prime exemplar TEI encoded
      materials.</p>
  </projectDesc>

```

```

<refsDecl>
  <p>The paragraphs in the text are numbered with the <att>n</att> attribute.
  Each number consists of four digits; numbering is consecutive throughout the
  book. For example: <val>0203</val> numbers the 203th paragraph throughout the
  book.</p>
  <p>Each chapter is identified with a formal identification code inside
  the <att>xml:id</att> attribute. Chapters are numbered using arabic numerals.
  The codes are composed by concatenating the identification codes for all
  ancestor text divisions down to the chapter level, with the dot as separation
  marker. For example: <val>I.2.3</val> identifies the third chapter of the
  second book of the first volume.</p>
</refsDecl>
<classDecl>
  <taxonomy xml:id="DDC">
    <bibl>
      <title>Dewey Decimal Classification</title>
      <edition>Abridged Edition 14</edition>
      <ptr target="http://www.oclc.org/dewey/versions/abridgededition14/default
      .htm"/>
    </bibl>
  </taxonomy>
  <taxonomy xml:id="lcsch">
    <bibl>
      <title>Library of Congress Subject Headings</title>
    </bibl>
  </taxonomy>
</classDecl>
<metDecl>
  <metSym value="-">long syllable</metSym>
  <metSym value="u">short syllable</metSym>
  <metSym value="|">foot boundary</metSym>
  <metSym value="/">line boundary</metSym>
</metDecl>
<variantEncoding method="parallel-segmentation" location="internal"/>
</encodingDesc>
<profileDesc>
  <langUsage>
    <language ident="en" usage="98">English</language>

```

```

    <language ident="fr" usage="1">French</language>
    <language ident="ar" usage="1">Arabic</language>
  </langUsage>
</profileDesc>
<revisionDesc>
  <change when="2109-12-20" who="#Rvdb">final proofing</change>
  <change when="2009-03-08" who="#MT">addition of thematic analysis</change>
  <change when="2009-03-08" who="#Rvdb">addition of explanatory notes</change>
  <change when="2008-10-25" who="#Rvdb">spell check</change>
  <change when="2008-08-25" who="#Rvdb">addition of phrase level markup</change>
  <change when="2008-08-20" who="#Rvdb">file creation</change>
</revisionDesc>
</teiHeader>
<!-- ... -->
<TEI>
  <!-- specific TEI header information for the distinct TEI documents -->
  <teiHeader>
    <fileDesc>
      <titleStmt>
        <title>The Wild Ass's Skin: an electronic edition</title>
        <editor role="translator" xml:id="EM">Ellen Marriage</editor>
        <editor role="preface" xml:id="GS">George Saintsbury</editor>
      </titleStmt>
      <editionStmt>
        <edition n="2.0">
          <title>Version 2.0, enriched with thematic annotations.</title>
          <date when="2010">2010</date>
        </edition>
        <respStmt>
          <name>Melissa Terras</name>
          <resp>Added thematic annotations.</resp>
        </respStmt>
      </editionStmt>
      <extent>572 Kb</extent>
      <publicationStmt>
        <idno type="ISBN">0-00-000000-0</idno>
        <date when="2010-01-01">1 January 2010</date>
      </publicationStmt>
    </fileDesc>
  </teiHeader>
</TEI>

```

```

<sourceDesc>
  <bibl><title>The Wild Ass's Skin</title> by <author>Honoré
    de Balzac</author>. <pubPlace>London</pubPlace>
    : <publisher>Dent</publisher>, <date when="1906">1906</date>. <extent>xv</extent>, <extent>28
    p.</extent>. Translated by <editor role="translator">Ellen Marriage</editor>
    ; preface by <editor role="preface">George Saintsbury</editor>.</bibl>
</sourceDesc>
</fileDesc>
<profileDesc>
  <creation>Original written in <date when="1831">1831</date>
    in <name type="city">Paris</name>.</creation>
  <langUsage>
    <language ident="en" usage="98">English</language>
    <language ident="fr" usage="1">French</language>
    <language ident="ar" usage="1">Arabic</language>
  </langUsage>
  <textClass>
    <keywords scheme="#lcsb">
      <list>
        <item>Literature</item>
        <item>Fiction and juvenile belles lettres</item>
        <item>Literature--Translations into English</item>
      </list>
    </keywords>
    <classCode scheme="#DDC">843.7</classCode>
    <catRef target="#BCS.phil" scheme="#BCS"/>
  </textClass>
  <handNotes>
    <handNote xml:id="JH" scribe="JamesHarding" script="hand" medium="ink
    .blue">handwriting in blue ink by James Harding, previous owner of the
    book</handNote>
    <handNote xml:id="ar" script="arabic">Arabic script</handNote>
  </handNotes>
</profileDesc>
<revisionDesc>
  <change when="2009-03-08" who="#MT">addition of thematic analysis</change>
  <change when="2009-03-08" who="#RvdB">addition of explanatory notes</change>
  <change when="2008-10-25" who="#RvdB">spell check</change>

```

```

    <change when="2008-08-25" who="#RvdB">addition of phrase level markup</change>
    <change when="2008-08-20" who="#RvdB">file creation</change>
  </revisionDesc>
</teiHeader>
<text>
  <!-- ... -->
</text>
</TEI>
<!-- ... -->
</teiCorpus>

```

Example 39. Encoding common metadata of a composite work in the `<teiHeader>` of a `<teiCorpus>` element.

1

SUMMARY

A complex text encoded as a `<teiCorpus>` should have a `<teiHeader>` in its own right. This TEI header on the corpus level can contain the general descriptive information about all corpus texts embedded as `<TEI>` documents. Each corpus text then should have its own `<teiHeader>`, describing only those aspects that are specific to that text.

.....

1 The TEI Guidelines provide refined ways of associating contextual information with specific (parts of) texts. See section [15.3 Associating Contextual Information with a Text](#) for more information.