

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Marg Stewart, CCC representative  
**Subject:** **Initial articles – Revision of RDA 0.5; 6.2.1.7; 9.2.2.25; 9.2.2.26; 11.2.2.8; Appendix C: Initial articles**

CCC agrees in principle and supports the revision proposals relating to initial articles.

However, CCC disagrees with the proposed wording at 6.2.1.7 and proposes a rewording. 6.2.1.7 should align with the instructions at 6.2.1.4-6.2.1.6 and 6.2.1.8-6.2.1.9. The instructions at 6.2.1.4-6.2.1.6 are the same as 1.7.2 and 1.8.1 and the instructions at 6.2.1.8-6.2.1.9 are the same as 1.7.4, 1.7.6 and 1.7.8 in recognition of the fact that the title of the manifestation is also the title of the work in most cases.

CCC also proposes some revised wording for 0.5, 9.2.2.25, 9.2.2.26 and 11.2.2.8; as well as a revision and reordering of text at Appendix C.1.

CCC notes a typographical error in the second example at 9.2.2.25 (Military Chaplin, instead of Military Chaplain). This error also appears in the RDA Toolkit. CCC also notes a correction to the French example at 9.2.2.25 (both at the instruction and at the alternative). The CCC representative will submit the correction via the fast-track process.

CCC notes that if the proposed revision at 9.2.2.25 is approved, the examples at A.2.3 will need to be reviewed.

1. 0.5 Structure

Appendix C lists ~~initial~~ articles in a ~~selected~~ number of languages.

2. 6.2.1.7 Initial Articles

~~Transcribe the title for a work as it appears on the source of information, without modification. Do not omit an initial article. When recording a title for a work, do not omit an initial article.~~

Example

The hinvisible Man

Der seidene Faden

Eine kleine Nachtmusik

La vida plena

The most of P.G. Wodehouse

Alternative

Omit an initial article (see appendix C) unless the title for a work is to be accessed under that article (e.g., a title that begins with the name of a person or place, ~~or which is originated from an inflected language~~).

CCC notes that with the recommendation to remove “or which is originated from an inflected language, the two proposed examples (Eines ... and Der goldene ...) should not be included and the example “Kleine Nachtmusik” should be retained.

3. 9.2.2.25 Characterizing word or phrase

~~Record a characterizing word or phrase as it appears on the source of information, without modification. Record a characterizing word or phrase applying the general guidelines on recording names given under 8.5.~~

Record the phrase in direct order. Do not omit an initial article.

Consider such a word or phrase to be the name for a person if that person is commonly identified by it in resources associated with the person and in reference sources.

Example

A Physician

**Statement of responsibility: by a Physician**

A Military ~~Chaplin~~ Chaplain

**Statement of responsibility: by a Military ~~Chaplin~~ Chaplain**

A Teacher of Book-keeping

**Statement of responsibility: by a Teacher of Book-keeping**

The Daughter of a Wesleyan Minister

**Statement of responsibility: by the Daughter of a Wesleyan Minister**

Une ~~F~~femme de ménage

**Statement of responsibility: par une ~~F~~femme de ménage**

Alternative

~~Record a characterizing word or phrase applying the general guidelines on recording names given under 8.5.~~

~~Record the phrase in direct order. Omit an initial article (see appendix C).~~

~~Consider such a word or phrase to be the name for a person if that person is commonly identified by it in resources associated with the person and in reference sources.~~

Example

Physician

**Statement of responsibility: by a Physician**

Military ~~Chaplin~~ Chaplain

**Statement of responsibility: by a Military ~~Chaplin~~ Chaplain**

Teacher of Book-keeping

**Statement of responsibility: by a Teacher of Book-keeping**

Daughter of a Wesleyan Minister

Statement of responsibility: by the Daughter of a Wesleyan Minister

Femme de ménage

Statement of responsibility: par une Femme de ménage

4. 9.2.2.26 Phrase Naming Another Work by the Person

Record a phrase naming another work by the person applying the general guidelines on recording names given under 8.5.

Record the phrase in direct order. Do not omit an initial article.

Consider such a phrase to be the name for a person if that person is commonly identified by it in resources associated with the person and in reference sources.

[...]

Alternative

~~Record a phrase naming another work by the person applying the general guidelines on recording names given under 8.5.~~

~~Record the phrase in direct order. Omit an initial article (see appendix C).~~

~~Consider such a phrase to be the name for a person if that person is commonly identified by it in resources associated with the person and in reference sources.~~

[...]

5. 11.2.2.8 Initial Articles

Do not omit an initial article (~~see appendix C~~) in a name of a corporate body.

[...]

Alternative

Omit an initial article (see appendix C) unless the name is to file under the article (e.g., a corporate name that begins with an article that is the first part of the person or place, ~~or a corporate name which is originated from an inflected language~~).

CCC notes that with the recommendation to remove “or which is originated from an inflected language, the German example should appear as “Alte Mystische Orden vom Rosenkreuz”.

6. Appendix C: C.0 Scope

This appendix lists ~~initial~~ articles in a ~~selected~~ number of languages.

7. Appendix C: C.1 General Instructions

When applying the alternative ~~rules~~ instructions under 6.2.1.7 (titles of works), 9.2.2.25 (characterizing word or phrase used as the name of a person), 9.2.2.26 (phrase naming another work by the person), and 11.2.2.8 (names of corporate

bodies): ~~For languages not included in the lists in C.2 and C.3, consult reference sources to determine if the language uses definite and/or indefinite articles.~~ consider the definite and indefinite articles in the languages included in the lists under C.2 and C.3. The lists do not cover articles in all languages.

For languages not included in the lists on C.2 and C.3, consult reference sources to determine if the language uses definite and/or indefinite articles.

Generally consider those articles identified for a language also to apply to a dialect of that language.

8. Appendix C.2 and C.3: CCC suggests rewording the first sentence so that it covers additional situations, i.e. pronouns spelled like definite articles:

An asterisk (\*) after an article indicates that the same form is also used in other contexts (e.g., the cardinal numeral one, a demonstrative pronoun); take care to distinguish meaning.