

TO: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA

FROM: Barbara B. Tillett, LC Representative

SUBJECT: Additional instructions for preferred sources and preferred titles in different languages or scripts (RDA 2.2.3.1 and 6.2.2.4)

Background

Catalogers applying RDA instruction 2.2.3.1 to choose the preferred source for a resource embodying more than one expression, no one of which is known to be the original or a translation have found that the categories given are insufficient. This situation is common in *tête-bêche* and similar cases, when the first occurring source (category d) depends on how you hold the resource. LC proposes an additional category to allow the cataloger to choose a source after exhausting the other options.

Likewise, there are no instructions for choosing a preferred title when two or more language editions are in a compilation and the original expression cannot be determined. LC proposes to add an additional instruction for 6.2.2.4 to resolve this situation. The two instructions are connected in some situations, given the default in 6.2.2.4 to choose the title proper named first on the preferred source, and 2.2.3.1 is needed to choose that preferred source.

Proposed Changes

Change 1: Add a category to 2.2.3.1

2.2.3.1 Preferred Sources of Information in Different Languages or Scripts

If the resource contains preferred sources of information in more than one language or script, use as the preferred source of information (in this order of preference):

- a) the source in the language or script that corresponds to the language or script of the content or the predominant language or script of the content of the resource
- b) the source in the language or script of translation, if the resource contains the same work in more than one language or script and translation is known to be the purpose of the resource
- c) the source in the original language or script of the content, if the resource contains the same content in more than one language or script and the original language or script can be identified
- d) the first occurring of the sources
- e) If none of the categories are applicable (e.g., a *tête-bêche*, a head-to-head bound monograph, a head-to-tail bound monograph), choose one of the sources of information as the preferred source.

Change 1 Clean copy

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Change 2: Add an instruction to 6.2.2.4

6.2.2.4 Works Created after 1500

For works created after 1500, choose as the preferred title the title in the original language by which the work has become known through use in resources embodying the work or in reference sources.

[EXAMPLES UNCHANGED]

If no title in the original language is established as being the one by which the work is best known, or in case of doubt, choose the title proper of the original edition (see [2.3.2 RDA](#)) as the preferred title. Do not include an alternative title as part of the preferred title.

[EXAMPLES UNCHANGED]

If the work is published simultaneously in different languages, and the original language cannot be determined, choose the title proper of the first resource received as the preferred title. If the language editions are in the same resource (e.g., a work first issued with the same text in French and English), choose the title proper named first on the preferred source of information as the preferred title.

If the work is published simultaneously in the same language under different titles, choose the title proper of the first resource received as the preferred title.

[EXAMPLES UNCHANGED]

For manuscripts and manuscript groups, follow the additional instructions given under [6.2.2.7 RDA](#), as applicable.

Change 2 Clean copy

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