

# Examples in ISBD for Manifestation

Proposal for an ISBD Review Group Task and Finish Group

## Background

The current ISBD makes extensive use of examples.

Examples are used to illustrate the application of a stipulation. They are also used to indicate a refinement of a stipulation, and to show consistency and interoperability of ISBD metadata in a wider context.

Most of the examples in the current ISBD are not suitable for ISBD for Manifestation (ISBDM):

- They assume a context of 'resource' that is too broad for the Manifestation entity.
- They conflate transcription and recording, which are separated in ISBDM.
- They embed prescribed punctuation that is not appropriate for ISBDM.

The draft ISBDM stipulations include some current examples to indicate that a stipulation is 'shredded' from (based on) a current stipulation. The draft also includes some 'local' examples to inform the issues discussed here.

Draft ISBDM examples include the label of the element as well as its value, where appropriate. This is important for shifting the focus of context from 'record' to entity-based structured metadata.

The draft ISBDM uses a set of templates for inserting examples after a stipulation. These are described in the appendix.

## Issues

The ISBD for Manifestation Task Force has identified some general issues for examples.

The coverage of examples for different categories of Manifestation is uneven. There is a preponderance of examples of printed volumes created with traditional Western publishing methods. The only non-Latin scripts appear to be Chinese, Japanese, and Korean; there are few, if any, examples in Arabic, Vietnamese, Thai, etc. There seems to be no representation of any languages of indigenous minorities, or of any African languages.

The ISBD for Manifestation Task Force has identified a number of specific issues.

What is the best balance of examples vs stipulations and guidance?:

- Should every stipulation have at least one example?
- Is there a maximum number of examples for a stipulation?
- There is a scaling issue for examples in a print version of ISBDM that is not applicable to an online version. Should there be a 'core' set of examples for all versions of ISBDM, with an 'extended' set of examples for an online version?

There is provision to add a comment or note to an example to explain the context or characteristics of the example. Some of the templates include 'boilerplate' comment/notes. Full examples have a brief description of the manifestation. Other examples are left to 'explain themselves'. Should such a comment/note be provided for **every example**?

The Task Force has found it useful to see scans of sources of information used for manifestation statement and note elements when it discusses **full examples**. Examples for older printed sheets and volumes are out of copyright. Examples for online manifestations are often open license. Is it feasible to include such scans in ISBDM?

The templates for **element examples** repeat the element label to reinforce the 'statement' approach over the traditional 'record' approach. Does this impair readability, or is it better to reformat the template so that the element label is given only once?

## Remit of proposed Task and Finish group

To act as a sub-group of the ISBD for Manifestation Task Force. The sub-group will use the ISBD for Manifestation Basecamp and will be invited to attend the Task Force's online meetings.

To investigate the issues outlined in this document, and to make recommendations to the ISBD for Manifestation Task Force.

To propose examples for specific stipulations and areas of guidance.

To propose full examples for general categories of manifestation that provide context for specific stipulations and guidance, and context for operational metadata that is based on ISBD for Manifestation.

To report back to the ISBD for Manifestation Task Force by the end of February 2023.

Members of the sub-group must be familiar with the IFLA LRM and understand its treatment of aggregates, whole-part resources, and diachronic resources. Knowledge of entity-based cataloguing principles and processes is desirable. Knowledge of languages and scripts that are not represented in the current ISBD is desirable. Technical knowledge is not required, although it may be helpful.

## Appendix: ISBDM template drafts

The following templates are used in the draft ISB for Manifestation.

Examples are indicated by the heading “Examples”.

This is displayed as a button in the demonstration online version; the button is used to open and close a set of examples so that the user has some control over page clutter.

The draft ISBDM uses several categories of example, each with its own template.

- Element examples
  - Same instance of entity
  - Different instances of entity
- Narrative examples
- Full examples

An element example uses a three-part structure:

- Element label
- Example value
- Comment or note

The layout of this structure may be different between online and print versions of ISBDM. The draft print version places the comment or note before the element label and value; the demonstration online version places the comment or note after the element label and value.

Element examples for different instances of an entity are separated by a horizontal line; examples for different values for the same instance of an entity are not.

A narrative example has no fixed structure. It may refer to entities, elements, or values, and is usually associated with guidance and general stipulations.

A full example is a set of element examples for the same instance of a manifestation.

### Relationship elements

The kind of value of a relationship element is prescribed. The value may be a string that is an authorised access point or an identifier, or an IRI.

Some relationship element examples illustrate the application of more than one kind of value, so the kind of value needs to be stated in such cases. The kind of value is given as a comment/note.

The draft print template is:

#### Examples

*Authorised access point*  
{element label} + “: “ + “Example aap”  
*Identifier*  
{element label} + “: “ + “Example identifier”  
*IRI*  
{element label} + “: “ + exampleIRI

The draft online template is:

## Examples

{element label} “Example aap”	<i>[Authorised access point]</i>
{element label} “Example identifier”	<i>[Identifier]</i>
{element label} exampleIRI	<i>[IRI]</i>

### Attribute elements

The kind of value of an attribute element is prescribed. The value for some attribute elements may be a string label or a string identifier, or an IRI for a controlled term or concept. The value for some attribute elements may be a free-text, unstructured string.

Some attribute element examples should illustrate more than one kind of value, so the kind of value needs to be stated in such cases. The kind of value is given as a comment/note.

The draft print template is:

## Examples

<i>Value string</i>
{element label} + “: “ + “Example value string”
<i>Value identifier</i>
{element label} + “: “ + “Example value identifier”
<i>Value IRI</i>
{element label} + “: “ + exampleValueIRI

The draft online template is:

## Examples

{element label} “Example value string”	<i>[Value string]</i>
{element label} “Example value identifier”	<i>[Value identifier]</i>
{element label} exampleValueIRI	<i>[Value IRI]</i>

### Manifestation statement elements

The kind of value of a manifestation statement element is prescribed. The value is a transcribed, unstructured string.

The draft print template is:

## Examples

<i>{Comment or note}</i>
{element label} + “: “ + “Value string”

The draft online template is:

## Examples

{element label} “Value string”	<i>[Comment or note]</i>
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## Note elements

The kind of value of a note element is prescribed. The value is a free-text, unstructured string or a structured string base on a template.

The draft print template is:

### Examples

*{Comment or note}*

{element label} + “: “ + “Value string”

The draft online template is:

### Examples

{element label} “Value string”

*[Comment or note]*

## Narrative examples

Narrative examples are generally used in guidance in the Introduction to ISBDM, or sometimes associated with a stipulation for an element. A narrative example is descriptive and has no fixed structure.

The draft print template is:

### Examples

*{Comment or note}*

Description of example

The draft online template is:

### Examples

Description of example

*[Comment or note]*

## Full examples

ISBDM will benefit if a set of complete examples is included.

A complete example is a set of elements with values that apply to a specific manifestation.

Different sets of elements apply to specific kinds of manifestation, such as an aggregate, multiple unit, or manifestation of a diachronic work, or a specific material type.

Different kinds of values apply to specific implementations of the ISBDM, such as ‘traditional’ bibliographic description/authority systems or linked data applications.

An extract of a complete example set can be used as an example of a stipulation for a specific element to illustrate the context.

An online version of ISBDM can link from an element example to a full example to emphasize the context of the stipulation and the values recorded for other elements.

The draft print and online template is:

## Full example

*{Brief description of example manifestation}*

{element label} | {element value} | *Comment or note*

{element label} | {element value} | *Comment or note*

{element label} | {element value} | *Comment or note*

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