

TEI CHEAT SHEET FOR HISTORIANS

There are thousands of combinations of TEI tags and attributes. Sometimes it helps to get started with a few simple ones that are particularly relevant to historians. Spend a few minutes familiarizing yourself with the following tags, then move on to Activity 1. Please note the tags are case-insensitive (capital letters don't matter).

<DATE>

Description: contains a date in any format.

<EVENT> (I.E. EVENT)

Description: any phenomenon or occurrence, not necessarily vocalized or communicative, for example incidental noises or other events affecting communication.

<GEOGNAME> (I.E. GEOGRAPHICAL NAME)

Description: a name associated with some geographical feature such as "Windrush Valley" or "Mount Sinai".

<GEOG> (I.E. GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURE NAME)

Description: contains a common noun identifying some geographical feature contained within a geographic name, such as "valley", "mount" etc.

<JOIN>

Description: identifies a possibly fragmented segment of text, by pointing at the possibly discontinuous elements which compose it.

<OCCUPATION>

Description: contains an informal description of a person's trade, profession or occupation.

<PERSNAME> (I.E. PERSONAL NAME)

Description: contains a proper noun or proper-noun phrase referring to a person, possibly including any or all of the person's forename, surname, honorific, added names, etc.

<PLACENAME> (I.E. PLACE NAME)

Description: contains an absolute or relative place name.

<ROLENAME> (I.E. ROLENAME)

Description: contains a name component which indicates that the referent has a particular role or position in society, such as an official title or rank.

<TIME>

Description: contains a phrase defining a time of day in any format.

ACTIVITY 1 - TEI MARKUP CHALLENGE

Using the tags on the cheat sheet, do your best to tag the following passages (type them out on your computer. Use a plain text editor, or Komodo Edit). Think about whether or not there is more than one tag you could apply in a given situation:

1. The park has a lovely duck pond.
2. Our butcher sold us some rotten meat yesterday afternoon.
3. Dr. Havingsbury goes to church every Sunday.
4. Mrs. Wellington, who was wearing her Wellington boots, accompanied me on a trip, where we saw a statue of the Duke of Wellington in Wellington, New Zealand near the Wellington's Boot public house - where I hear they serve excellent beef Wellington. I do adore Mrs. Wellington.

ACTIVITY 2 – TEI IDS

Most TEI tags let you add IDs. This means that if something appears twice in your text, you can use the unique ID to say: this is the same as the other tag with the same ID.

What you use for the ID is up to you (but you should devise a system that you use consistently within a single project or the ID becomes meaningless)

You could add an ID like this:

<persName id='Person1'>Mrs. Wellington</persName>, who was wearing...I do adore <persName id='Person1'>Mrs. Wellington</persName>.

Tag the following passage using some of the tags you have already learned, and add IDs where you think it's appropriate.

(Available online at: <http://shakespeare.mit.edu/lear/full.html>)

ACT I

SCENE I. King Lear's palace.

Enter KENT, GLOUCESTER, and EDMUND

KENT

I thought the king had more affected the Duke of Albany than Cornwall.

GLOUCESTER

It did always seem so to us: but now, in the division of the kingdom, it appears not which of the dukes he values most; for equalities are so weighed, that curiosity in neither can make choice of either's moiety.

KENT

Is not this your son, my lord?

GLOUCESTER

His breeding, sir, hath been at my charge: I have so often blushed to acknowledge him, that now I am brazed to it.

KENT

I cannot conceive you.

ACTIVITY 3 – TEI ATTRIBUTES

In addition to IDs, many tags also let you add 'attributes'. These attributes let you specify using a limited vocabulary (of your own creation), exactly what it was the tag captured.

For example, you might want to use the <occupation> tag with a limited vocabulary of attributes (merchant, soldier, other) so that you can isolate merchants and soldiers in your document(s). You can do this by adding a 'type' attribute to your occupation tag:

2. Our <occupation type='merchant'>butcher</occupation> sold us some rotten meat yesterday afternoon.

Try adding TEI tags from the list above, and include both IDs and attributes. For the sake of simplicity, assume all tags can have a 'type' attribute (if you were working on a TEI compliant project, you would have to check the online manual to be sure).

(Available online at:

<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/browse.jsp?ref=t17360908-8>)

Thomas Hornbrook , was indicted for stealing a Gelding of a wan Colour, value £3 the Goods of Thomas Merry , August the 10th.

Thomas Merry. My Horse was in the Church-yard of Yalling in the County of Huntingdon , on Friday Night, August the 6th, on the 7th in the Morning he was gone. I had him cry'd at St. Ives, and 2 or 3 other Places, and at last this next Witness Mr. Unwin gave me Information of him.

Mr. Unwin. I live in Well-street, near Well-Close-Square. The Prisoner came to me the Sunday after the Horse was lost, about 3 or 4 o'Clock in the Afternoon, and told me he had got 2 Horses, but as one was enough for his Business, he would dispose of the other. One of them was sit for a Saddle or a Chaise: I said, I wanted such a one, and he brought this wan Gelding to me on the Tuesday following, and told me he was worth 5 or 6 Guineas; but if I would buy him, I should have him at any Price. The Horse was in very bad Condition, when I saw him: and I suspected he was not honestly come by. He call'd for Bread and Cheese, and sent me out for some Onions; instead of going for Onions, I got a Constable and had them before Justice Farmer: the Prisoner had a Boy with him, whom I took up too, and he gave me the Information.

Cox, the Boy. The Prisoner and I had swept the Prosecutor's Chimney, and when we had done, he came to me and fell a Laughing; I asked what he laughed at; why says he, here is a Saddle and Bridle, and there's a Horse in the Church-yard, we'll come at Night and take them away, and go to London. We came about 12 o'Clock, he took the Bridle and Pannel out of the Stable; I held open the Gate; he rode the Horse out, and we both came away together. Guilty, Death .

ACTIVITY 4 - HOW DID THE OLD BAILEY ONLINE DO IT?

The Old Bailey Online, where the trial you just marked up lives, has marked up all of their trial transcripts using TEI. Go back to the website you just marked up and at the bottom of the page, click on the 'View as XML' link.

Take a look at the tags the Old Bailey Online team has used to mark up their text. How is their markup different from yours?

Write down all of the tags you have not seen before and search the TEI manual (online) to find out what they are used for.

Are there tagging decisions here you disagree with? Anything else you think they should have tagged?

Have you figured out how they are using <join> tags?