

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative
Subject: Revision proposal for *RDA* 6.2.1.9, 6.14.2.7.1, Appendix B.3: Abbreviation for the part designation *Number* or its equivalent in another language

ALA thanks the JSC Music Working Group for this proposal to clarify when to abbreviate the term “number” [etc.] in association with part titles for musical works. We support the proposal but have some additional rewording suggestions.

For the most part, ALA commenters agreed with continuing the previous practice for abbreviating “number” in part titles for musical works and providing instructions that clearly support the existing examples. We believe the practice for recording a number associated with a part title in 6.14.2.7 should be similar to the instructions in 6.16, for recording numeric designations of musical works, since they fulfill a similar function.

Specific comments

6.2.1.9, Abbreviations

ALA agrees to add a “b” condition that references 6.14.2.7.1; however, we prefer a more general summary here, keeping the details of this exceptional treatment only at 6.14.2.7.1. We also recommend a fuller example than the one suggested in the proposal.

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6.2.1.9 Abbreviations

Use only the following abbreviations in titles of works:

- a) those that are integral parts of the title
- b) general terms associated with a numeric designation in the title for a part of a musical work (see 6.14.2.7.1)
- ~~b-c~~ etc. in the title *Laws, etc.* (see 6.19.2.5).

EXAMPLE

Letter to Joseph Hume, Esq., M.P.

Memoirs of Mrs. Abigail Bailey

Speech in the High Court of Parliament in Scotland spoken Novemb. 4, 1641

Konzert über ein Thema von Joh. Seb. Bach

Tech. bull.

Lund studies in geography. Ser. B, Human geography

Cimento dell'armonia e dell'inventione. N. 4

6.14.2.7, *Recording the Preferred Title for a Part or Parts of a Musical Work*

- ALA agrees to add wording within 6.14.2.7.1 about recording the number as a numeral and using the abbreviation for number. However, we believe that the full instruction belongs in 6.14.2.7.1.1.
- We recommend adding similar language to 6.14.2.7.1.3 and 6.14.2.7.1.4, since they also address numeric designations.
- We disagree with the final proposed sentence, “If the language is unknown...”; RDA does not provide instructions for this situation elsewhere, presumably because in most situations the language should be identifiable. If specific guidance is needed for applying this instruction to part titles when the preferred title consists of nonsense words or terms in more than one language, ALA recommends utilizing a policy statement or best practice guideline instead of addressing this rare situation in the RDA instructions themselves.

We suggest the following:

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6.14.2.7.1 One Part

Record the preferred title for a part of a musical work by applying the instructions at [6.14.2.4](#). Apply the additional instructions at [6.14.2.7.1.1](#)–[6.14.2.7.1.5](#), as applicable.

6.14.2.7.1.1 Part Identified Only by a Number

If each of the parts is identified only by a number, record the number of the part as a numeral.

Precede the number with the abbreviation for *Number* (see appendix B (B.7)) in the language of the preferred title chosen according to [6.14.2.3](#).

[example unchanged]

6.14.2.7.1.2 Part Identified Only by a Title or Other Verbal Designation

[Unchanged]

6.14.2.7.1.3 Part Identified Both by a Number and by a Title or Other Verbal Designation

If:

each of the parts is identified by a number

and

each of the parts is identified by its own title or a verbal designation

then:

record the title or other verbal designation of the part.

[example unchanged]

If:

each of the parts is identified by a number

and

the parts are identified by the same title or other verbal designation

then:

record the number of the part as a numeral.

[example unchanged]

6.14.2.7.1.4 Each Part Identified by a Number and Some Parts also Identified by a Title or Other Verbal Designation

If:

each of the parts is identified by a number

and

some of the parts are also identified by a title or other verbal designation

then:

record the number of the part (see 6.14.2.7.1.1) followed by a comma and the title or other designation if there is one.

[example unchanged]

6.14.2.7.1.5 Part of a Larger Part

[Unchanged]

Appendix B.3, Titles of Works

ALA recommends using the same wording we proposed for 6.2.1.9.

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B.3 Titles of Works

For titles of works, use only the following abbreviations:

- a) those that are integral parts of the title
- b) general terms associated with a numeric designation in the title for a part of a musical work (see [6.14.2.7.1](#))
- ~~b-c~~ etc. in the title *Laws, etc.* (see [6.19.2.5](#)).