



ISO 1951

**Presentation of lexicographic
entries in general language
dictionaries — Fundamentals and
recommendations**

*Présentation des articles lexicographiques dans les
dictionnaires de langue générale — Principes fondamentaux et
recommandations*

**Fourth edition
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This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 37, *Language and terminology*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Terminology workflow and language coding*.

This fourth edition cancels and replaces the third edition (ISO 1951:2007), which has been technically revised.

The main changes are as follows:

- extending the scope;
- reviewing the entire content;
- changing the title and retaining the term “presentation”, because it is a fundamental aspect of this document;
- noting that the term “representation” is now addressed in the ISO 24613 series available on the ISO website;
- introducing the relationship between the generic structure and the presentation of lexicographic entries, using the LMF (Lexical Markup Framework) TEI serialization and integrating the TEI tagset as the reference for implementing the proposed model;
- reviewing and updating core lexicographic terms and definitions to align with the current state of the field, as well as introducing new terms.

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The lexicographic landscape has undergone a profound transformation over the last few decades, primarily due to the shift to digital platforms. Technological advances have played a pivotal role in shaping new strategies and directions: a significant number of lexicographic resources are currently accessible online, largely due to retro-digitization; the limitations imposed by print editions are no longer a concern; the integration of corpora has evolved into a widely recognized best practice; various dictionary writing systems have been developed to accommodate the changing landscape; and annotation schemes have markedly improved. In this digital age, the ongoing revolution demands the application of adapted standards and tools to ensure the availability of structured data and promote interoperability between systems, especially given the inherent heterogeneity in the dictionary-making process due to variations in nature, form, and content.

This document aligns with ISO 24613-1:2024, ISO 24613-2:2020, ISO 24613-3:2021 and ISO 24613-4:2021 developed by ISO/TC 37/SC 4, focusing on modelling data representation in a variety of dictionary subtypes.

The intended audience for this document includes lexicographers as well as researchers and practitioners in the field of language resource management who work with lexicographic resources.

This document adopts a lexicographic lemma-oriented approach and focuses on general language dictionaries, whether monolingual, bilingual, or multilingual, which serve as valuable tools and references for broadening knowledge. Regarding the presentation of lexicographic data, the relationship between the generic structure and the presentation of lexicographic entries is elucidated using LMF TEI serialization (ISO 24613), integrating the TEI tagset as the reference for implementing the proposed model.

This document establishes a generic model for the presentation of lexicographic entries in general language dictionaries and aims to:

- provide recommendations for addressing the variety of existing heterogeneous features and practices found in human-readable dictionaries, whether in printed or digital format;
- standardize the core concepts and the terminology used for presenting the various components in a lexicographic entry, so that a uniform metaterminology promotes consistency and data reusability;
- reproduce the typographical conventions described in previous editions of this document.

This document includes examples from printed and retro-digitized dictionaries, those converted from an analogue (paper) or digital (e.g. PDF) medium into a computer-readable format. Born-digital dictionaries, created directly in machine-readable formats, are excluded.

In the running text of this document, the following notations are employed:

- TEI P5 terms (element names, attribute names, attribute values, etc.) are presented in a fixed-width (monospace) font, as follows:
 - individual element names are enclosed in angle brackets, e.g. <entry>;
 - names of nested elements are represented in XPath notation, e.g. cit/quote/bibl;
 - attribute names are indicated with an @sign preceding the name of the attribute, e.g. @type;
 - attribute values are enclosed in double quotation marks (" "), e.g. "domain".