RDA Fast Track and Other Editorial Changes – February 2017 Summary Notes

The following notes provide a summary of RDA Fast Track changes affecting British Library cataloguing workflows. They also cover other minor revisions designed to support the RDA Toolkit Restructure and Redesign (3R) Project, the Library Reference Model (LRM), RDA Translations and organization of the RDA instructions. These changes are implemented by the February 2017 Release of the RDA Toolkit. Notes on fast track changes include the instruction labels and numbers affected. Notes on the revisions associated with 3R, the LRM, RDA translations and the organization of instructions are general and do not include all of the instruction labels and numbers affected. Changes which involve examples are not included in the summary.

Monographs / Multiparts / Serials / Music / Cartographic

Added paragraph at the end of 2.2.2.2 RDA specifying that a note should be recorded in cases where the source of title is other than a title page, title sheet, title card, or image of it.

Removal of glossary definitions for media and content type from 3.2.1.3 RDA and 6.9.1.3 RDA respectively; the vocabulary terms will remain but the definitions will now occur solely in the RDA glossary.

Restructuring instruction on variant titles for work at 6.2.3.1 RDA; equivalent changes covering titles for musical, legal, religious works and official communications at 6.14.3.1, 6.19.3.1, 6.23.3.1 and 6.26.3.1 RDA respectively.

Removal of the exception instructing that a variant title should be recorded if it differs significantly from the title for work or if it might be searched for by that title at 6.2.3.3 RDA; equivalent changes covering titles for musical, legal, religious works and official communications at 6.14.3.3, 6.19.3.3, 6.23.3.3 and 6.26.3.3 RDA respectively.

Substitution of the relationship designators “teacher” and “teacher of” with “instructor” and “instructor of” at Appendix I.3.1 RDA.

Monographs / Serials / Cartographic (Digital Only)

Added paragraph at the end of 2.2.2.3 RDA specifying that a note should be recorded in cases where the source of title is other than a title frame or title screen.

Authority Control

Restructuring the instructions on variant name for person at 9.2.3.1 and 9.2.3.3 RDA; equivalent changes covering variant name for family, corporate body and place at 10.2.3.1 and 10.2.3.3, 11.2.3.1 and 11.2.3.3 and 16.2.3.1 and 16.2.3.3 RDA respectively.

General Changes

Replacement to the term “resource” with a specific entity (work / expression / manifestation / item) in element definitions, labels and instructions in cases where a specific entity can be identified.

Replacement of the phrases “person, family and corporate body” and “persons, families and corporate bodies” with “agent” and “agents” respectively.
Removal of articles from element labels: e.g. “other distinguishing characteristic of the expression” becomes “other distinguishing characteristic of expression” at 6.12.1.1 RDA.

Replacement of definite article “the” with indefinite article “a” or “an” where it refers to recording an element: e.g. “Record the title proper by applying the basic instructions at 2.3.1 RDA” becomes “Record a title proper by applying the basic instructions at 2.3.1 RDA”.

Replacement of the phrase “and/or” by “or” where it occurs in the instructions and “or” is used in the inclusive, vernacular rather than a Boolean sense: e.g. “Title: A word, character, or group of words and/or characters that names a resource or a work contained in it” at 2.3.1.1 RDA becomes “Title: A word, character, or group of words or characters that names a resource or a work contained in it”.

Removal of the phrase “in this order” from instructions relating to access points.