

TO: Kristin Lindlan, Chair,
ALCTS CCS Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access

FR: Adam L. Schiff, University of Washington Libraries

RE: Proposed Rule 9.7B17, Summary

Background & rationale

Chapter 9 has been revised extensively to provide rules for the description of all types of electronic resources, including remote resources accessed via World Wide Web. In reviewing rule 9.7B17 in the 2001 amendments package, I was struck by two things:

- 1) All of the examples of summaries are formal notes preceded by the phrase **Summary:**
- 2) None of the examples seem to be summaries for commonly cataloged remote electronic resources such as Web sites and home pages

Although I have no data about this, I suspect that a large percentage of all electronic resources being cataloged today by the Anglo-American cataloging community are remote electronic resources, including electronic books and journals and integrating resources such as Web sites and home pages. I think it would be useful for AACR2 to have some explicit examples of summary notes in Chapter 9 for these resources. Proposed rule 12.7B18 in 4JSC/Chair/68/Chair follow-up/2/LC response/LC rep response/2 contains two examples of summary notes for integrating resources (the first of which is probably a loose-leaf resource, the second of which is likely a Web site), but I believe that there should also be some Web examples in Chapter 9. Further, I think an example of an informal summary note would also be useful to have, as there are times when quoted notes taken from a Web page are an efficient way of recording summary information.

I propose to delete the second example in the rule, which seems particularly outdated, and add four new examples at the end of the rule.

CURRENT RULE (Amendments 2001)

9.7B17. Summary. Give a brief objective summary of the purpose and content of an item unless another part of the description provides enough information.

Summary: Can be used to manipulate, weigh, and aggregate raw data in any manner desired. By assigning values to the coordinate locations of data points or data zones, the user may produce three types of map: contour, proximal, or conformant

Summary: Responses of New York City adults to Harris study questionnaire used during Apr. and May 1969

Summary: Eight versions of a video game for 1-2 players. To survive, players use laser cannons to destroy flying demons

Summary: A simulation of Operation Barbarossa, the German invasion of Russia during World War II

Summary: Utility program, featuring a screen saver with video clips from the TV show, wallpaper, and sound effects

PROPOSED RULE

9.7B17. Summary. Give a brief objective summary of the purpose and content of an item unless another part of the description provides enough information.

Summary: Can be used to manipulate, weigh, and aggregate raw data in any manner desired. By assigning values to the coordinate locations of data points or data zones, the user may produce three types of map: contour, proximal, or conformant

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Summary: Eight versions of a video game for 1-2 players. To survive, players use laser cannons to destroy flying demons

Summary: A simulation of Operation Barbarossa, the German invasion of Russia during World War II

Summary: Utility program, featuring a screen saver with video clips from the TV show, wallpaper, and sound effects

Summary: Links to resources on the history of mathematics

Summary: A comprehensive gateway to Byzantine studies resources. Includes an historical introduction as well as course outlines, reference documents, bibliographies, scholarly texts in translation, image and music files, and links to discussion lists and related Web sites

“This set of pages is a collection of links to sites on the Internet dealing especially with English and American literature, excluding most single electronic texts, and is limited to collections of information useful to academics.”

Summary: Home page of the British Columbia Archives, located in Victoria, B.C. Includes information about using the archives and its collections. Provides access to digital archival resources, including visual images and textual, genealogical, and cartographic materials