

Session 10 exercise: eXist and XPath

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Exercise 10

- download final Tsirkas correspondence files (19550621p2.xml, 19560218p.xml) from results folder in GitHub
- run eXist-db and open Dashboard
- create new collection called letters
- upload Tsirkas correspondence files into letters collection
- open eXide and use a new-document tab to enter your queries
- list all document titles
- list all place records
- list all references to a place with `xml:id "athens"`
- list all people born in Cairo
- list all males
- list all males born in Cairo
- list all references to people born in Cairo
- count all names of places
- count all references to Athens

Tips'n'tricks

- don't forget the namespace: you need to declare the namespaces used and use namespace prefix in XPath expressions
- familiarize yourself with the structure of the TEI documents you query, to know which elements you are looking for and what are the selection criteria for them
- take baby steps and evaluate your XPath expression after each one: first start with general query and only when you're sure to have expected results, narrow it down adding predicates or further XPath steps

- use Eval button to run your query
- if you run into trouble with your own eXist instance, you may use the workshop server (please note it will not be available after tomorrow)