Wrangling and Refining "Kultura" Metadata: Complete Step-by-Step Guide

Project Setup

1. Import and Create Project

Import your spreadsheet into OpenRefine Create a project using descriptive naming: Format: kultura_[start_year]_[end_year]_clean

Example: kultura_1948_1950_clean

Data Cleaning: Converting Scraping Residue

2. Transform Web Scraper Columns

2.1 Journal Column (from web-scraper-order)

Rename column: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow journal Clear existing values: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit cells \rightarrow Common transforms \rightarrow To null Add journal name: Dropdown \rightarrow Facet \rightarrow Text facet \rightarrow Edit \rightarrow Enter Kultura

2.2 Publisher Column (from web-scraper-start-url)

Rename column: Dropdown → Edit column → Rename column → publisher Clear existing values: Dropdown → Edit cells → Common transforms → To null Add publisher name: Dropdown → Facet → Text facet → Edit → Enter Instytut Literacki

Adding New Columns

3. Add Essential Metadata

3.1 Realm Column

Create column: Dropdown → Edit column → Add column based on this column

Rename: Dropdown \to Edit column \to Rename column \to realm Move to beginning: Edit column \to Move column to beginning

Set value: Facet \rightarrow Text facet \rightarrow Edit \rightarrow Enter PL

3.2 Editor-in-Chief Column

Select the publisher column: Dropdown \rightarrow Add column based on this column Rename: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow editor_in_chief Clear values: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit cells \rightarrow Common transforms \rightarrow To null Add your name: Select first row \rightarrow Edit \rightarrow Enter Jerzy Giedroyc \rightarrow Apply to all

identical cells

3.3 Volunteer Column

Select the last column: Dropdown \rightarrow Add column based on this column Rename: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow volunteer Clear values: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit cells \rightarrow Common transforms \rightarrow To null

Add your name: Select first row \rightarrow Edit \rightarrow Enter your name \rightarrow Apply to all identical

cells

Table of Contents Processing

4. Clean and Structure the Table of Contents

4.1 Initial Cleanup

Rename column: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow table_of_contents

Remove whitespace:

4.2 Extract Issue Information

The table_of_contents column is considered multivalued since it contains both issue info and content info.

Analyze the data to recognize consistent patterns, then apply these patterns as rules for column splitting, cell editing, and data manipulation.

We can see how the content and issue info are separated by "SPIS RZECZY". So, we can use it for column splitting.

The pattern here is space, digit, space, SPIS RZECZY, space

Split by issue marker with regular expression:

Dropdown → Edit column → Split into several columns

Separator: \s+\d+\s+SPIS RZECZY\s+

Check "Regular expression"

Regex breakdown:

\s+ = one or more whitespace characters

d+ = one or more digits

\s+ = one or more whitespace characters

SPIS RZECZY = first line in the actual table of contents

\s+ one or more whitespace characters

Rename the new column to issue_info: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow issue info

Clean residue using the replace function: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit cells \rightarrow Replace (remove unwanted text) or manually.

4.3 Create Year and Issue Columns

Split this column by regex separator: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Split into several columns

Separator: /(?=\d{2}/\d{3}) ex. 1991/01/520 - 02/521 ✓ Check "Regular expression"

Regex breakdown:

Pattern: year/issue number within a year/issue number over the journal history

\d{2} - exactly two digits

/ - a forward slash

\d{3} - exactly three digits

Rename columns:

First column: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow year Second column: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow issue

Remove extra whitespaces in the issue column with regex:

Dropdown → Edit cells → Replace

Replace \s*-\s* with -

Check "Regular expression"

Regex breakdown:

\s* whitespace

- hyphen

\s* whitespace

4.4 Create issue id column:

Select the year column: Dropdown → Add column based on this column

Name it issue id

Merge 2 columns:

Select the issue_id column: Dropdown → Join columns → Select issue column → Put as separator

Replace – with _ in issue_id column: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit cells \rightarrow Replace ex: 1991, 01/520-02/521 \rightarrow 1991 01/520 02/521

Convert to text: Dropdown → Edit cells → Common transforms → To text Proofread for consistency

Content Extraction and Author Processing

5. Split Content Entries

5.1 Split Multivalued Cells

Pattern Recognition: Each entry starts with a page number

Split using regex: Dropdown → Edit cells → Split multivalued cells

Separator: \s+\d+\s+

Check "Regular expression"

Regex Explanation:

\s+ = one or more whitespace characters

 $\d+$ = one or more digits

\s+ = one or more whitespace characters

5.2 Adding rubric column

Create column: Dropdown → Edit column → Add column based on this column

Rename: Dropdown → Edit column → Rename column → rubric

Identify rubric rows (section headers like "KSIAZKI", "VARIA")

Copy rubric name and paste it in the rubric column next to the first entry of this rubric

While working with rubric columns, proofread the table_of_contents column. There might be some residue from the splitting; double-check with the journal's table of contents.

6. Extract Author and Title Information

6.1 Create Author and Titles Columns

Based on table_of_contents: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Add column based on this column

Split by author-title separator:

Dropdown → Edit column → Split into several columns

Separator: (colon separates author from title)

Enter 2 in the split into field

Split into _ columns at most (leave blank for no limit)

6.2 Clean Author Data and Titles Data

Rename: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow published_authors

Rename: Dropdown \rightarrow Edit column \rightarrow Rename column \rightarrow published works

Standardize formatting:

Dropdown → Edit cells → Common transforms → To Titlecase

Use the Text facet to identify and fix inconsistencies:

Dropdown → Facet → Text facet

Quality Control and Export

7. Final Cleanup and Export

7.1 Exporting Complete Bibliography Index

Remove Empty Rows

Filter non-empty rows:

Select All column \rightarrow Facet \rightarrow Facet by blank

Select false to show only non-empty rows

Select issue_id column, use facet

Dropdown → Facet → Text facet

To fill down rubrics for a specific issue:

Dropdown → Edit cells → Fill down

Repeat for each issue_id

Select issue id

For columns publisher, issue_id, year, issue, cover:

Use the fill down function to fill out the empty cells of the row

Dropdown → Edit cells → Fill down

Export → Custom Tabular → Deselect realm, table_of_contents, volunteer fields →

Download tab → xlsx format → Facet → Download

7.2 Exporting Metadata for the Website

Select Undo and cancel your last edit (fill down)

Merge published authors rows and published titles rows:

Dropdown → Edit cells → Join multivalued cell

Separator; (semicolon + whitespace)

Remove Empty Rows

Filter non-empty rows:

Select All column \rightarrow Facet \rightarrow Facet by blank

Select false to show only non-empty rows

Export Data

Export → Custom tabular → Deselect All → Deselect title and author fields →

Download tab \rightarrow xlsx format \rightarrow Download

Only filtered (non-empty) rows and selected rows will be exported.

Data Quality Checklist

- Manually review and edit entries/remove non-content entries
- Confirm all content entries are preserved (no data loss during splitting)

Make sure that:

- All column names are descriptive and consistent
- Date formats are standardized.

- Author names use consistent capitalization and overall consistency
- Issue IDs follow the pattern
- No empty rows in final export
- All multivalued cells are properly split and rejoined