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Reflexive note - my Encoding Project Portfolio

Before this year, I had to use XML for a job, and my practice was very basic and limited to the tasks I had to realize occasionally.

This TEI-XML learning process was very challenging for me. Learning a new computer language is always a challenge, but the fact that the lesson was in English was an additional difficulty for me.

The different assignments permitted me to have a complete view of what TEI and encoding are. Indeed, Assignment 1 made me focus on the structure of an XML document, on the organization of elements and attributes, and on the way an XML document can work in association with a DTD file. Therefore, it permitted me to be familiarized with the principle of validation. Assignment 2 offered me the possibility to really understand and learn the TEI syntax, and to apply it to my texts. Thanks to the TEI All schema, the validation of the files was easier, so I could adapt the encoding as far as possible to my samples. Assignment 3 taught me to generate files in different formats from a XML document, and to customize by myself an XML document. Beyond the technical skills given by this assignment, I felt that it gave me a deeper understanding of what is behind an encoding.
Furthermore, the fact of choosing myself the samples was a source of motivation : it gave a personal meaning to the technical work, and made it more interesting and concrete.

In this work, I obviously used the content of the lessons to realize the assignments, and completed it with documentation when it was necessary. When the files did not validate, I gave particular attention to the cause of my errors, and tried to understand them to make progress. I did not use gen IA at all, and it gave me the sensation of control of what I did. I preferred doing more simple things instead of using IA.

In the final assignment, I had some difficulties with my schematron rule. Even if all my files were validated, the schematron rule did not print an error message in my XML document. I tried to simplify my rule as much as possible, and to write different types of schematron rules, but it still didn't work. I think that the problem is elsewhere, but I did not find the solution.