
InfPALS L^AT_EX Activity 4

One to Rule Them All

Setting Up a Template

Fortune favors the prepared mind.

Louis Pasteur

1 Introduction

It should be fairly obvious by now that many L^AT_EX documents share a common core which can be copied from one to the other. Furthermore, once you've found a way to style and structure your documents you'd probably like to reuse your work. These are all incentives for us to create a template document with all the essentials that we can basically use whenever we want to type something up in L^AT_EX.

This activity is not aimed at guiding you through the creating of such a template as you'll probably have a different idea of what your documents should look like. We merely want to provide you with a few starting points that you can take as inspiration.

2 Ingredients

All the activities you've seen in this workshop have used the same basic title structure. By now you've actually seen all the tools you need to replicate the layout of this file, with the notable exception of how to [manipulate vertical spacing](#). This could be one possible starting point for you.

Another potentially useful starting point is to have a look at how to [create title pages](#) in general. The link in the previous sentence provides you with a good overview of what you could do with your template. It also introduces you to commands like `\title` and `\author`, which are quite useful to know.

Less about title pages but more about the general page layout itself is the topic of headers and footers. You can follow the comprehensive [guide on headers and footers](#) which will step you through the customization of both of them.

That's it, from here on out you'll have to use your own creativity. We can tell you from experience that it's well worth taking the time to create a template file as you'll be using it with possibly minor changes for years to come. It's never a bad idea to have a document ready should you see the opportunity to use L^AT_EX. Good luck!