



Versioning Machine Introduction Exercise

Developed by Roman Bleier, January 2016

1. Together with this exercise sheet you should have also received the file **prophecy_exercise.xml**
2. Next, register and download Versioning Machine 5.0 from <http://v-machine.org/download/>
3. You will also need to download and install Firefox browser (supports the client-side XSLT transformation). You could also download oXygen or any other XML editor that supports XSLT transform.
4. Unzip **v-machine.zip**
5. You should now have a **v-machine** folder with the sub-folders:
 - a. [documentation_files](#)
 - b. [includes](#)
 - c. [samples](#)
 - d. [schema](#)
 - e. [src](#)
 - f. [vm-images](#)
6. In the main folder you should see the files [index.html](#), [samples.html](#), [documentation.html](#) and [credits.html](#)
7. Open the file [index.html](#) in a web browser
8. You should now see the following web interface

The screenshot shows the web interface of Versioning Machine 5.0. At the top is a blue header with the logo and title. Below the header is a navigation bar with three links: 'Sample Texts', 'Documentation', and 'Credits'. The main content area contains three paragraphs of text. The first paragraph describes the tool's purpose and features. The second paragraph explains its use for textual editors. The third paragraph mentions its availability on different platforms. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice for Susan Schreiban from 2002, 2010, and 2015.

The Versioning Machine is a framework and an interface for displaying multiple versions of text encoded according to the Text Encoding Initiative (TEI) Guidelines, and is P5 compatible. While the VM provides for features typically found in critical editions, such as annotation and introductory material, it also takes advantage of the opportunities afforded by electronic publication to allow for the comparison diplomatic versions of witnesses, and the ability to easily compare an image of the manuscript with a diplomatic version. VM 5.0 adds a number of new features, including the ability to resize and reorganize text panels, panning and zooming in the image viewer, and text-audio interlinking. The Versioning Machine's underlying code has also been completely revised to allow the software to run more smoothly than ever before.

The Versioning Machine is a useful tool for textual editors, providing an environment that allows editors to immediately see the consequences of their editorial decisions. The platform also has applications in teaching, translation, and digital publication.

The Versioning Machine can be used locally on a Mac or a PC, or it can be mounted on the Internet for public access. The documentation provided with the software not only provides information about the use of the software, but builds upon the Critical Apparatus chapter of the TEI Guidelines to give further guidance to those who wish to use this method of encoding.

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This web interface gives you access to the sample editions (**Sample Texts**) coming with Versioning Machine (VM), the Documentation and the Credits pages.

Have a look at the **Documentation** page. This page documents how Versioning Machine works and how a TEI file needs to be encoded to work correctly with the application.

Next, try out the **Sample Texts** page and view some of our sample editions.

You will see that for each sample edition there is a HTML and XML version available. The XML version uses the in-browser transformation¹ HTML version is the result of a local XSLT transformation using oXygen XML editor.

9. Next go back to your file manager. In the **v-machine** folder open the **samples** folder
10. The **samples** folder contains the TEI and HTML sample files you just before accessed via the **Sample Texts** page. The TEI sample files are helpful as examples how the parallel segmentation or location referenced encoding method works.
11. Go out of the **samples** folder and open the folder **src**
12. Now this folder contains files with the JavaScript, CSS, and XSLT source code for generating Versioning Machine
13. Go again to the folder **samples**
14. If you have not done so already take the file **prophecy_exercise.xml** from your **prophecy_exercise.zip** file and place it in the **samples** folder.
15. We will now encode the first lines of three witnesses of the Prophecy of Merlin. The first lines of the **witnesses Dublin, Cambridge and Oxford** are the following:

witness Dublin

The Prophecy of Merlin

When lordes wille is londes law,

Prestes wyll trechery, and gyle hold soth saw,

witness oxford

The Prophecy of Merlin

Whane lordis wol leefe theire olde lawes,

And preestis beon varyinge in theire sawes,

witness cambridge

The Prophecy of Merlin

When feythe fayleth in prestys sawys,

And lordys wyll be londys lawys,

16. Go through the **prophecy_exercise.xml** file and fill in the gaps indicated by comments
17. First see the **teiHeader** section. There are comments that you should replace with our name and email address.
18. In the witness list the IDs of the different witnesses (versions) are listed

¹ Should work with most modern browsers. However, there are known issues with Chrome.

```
<listWit>
    <witness xml:id="dublin">The Prophecy of Merlin</witness>
    <witness xml:id="oxford">The Prophecy of Merlin</witness>
    <witness xml:id="cambridge">The Prophecy of Merlin</witness>
</listWit>
```

19. You will need these IDs to fill in the witness references in the body section of the file. In the body section replace all comments `<!-- add witness(es) -->` with the correct witness IDs

```
<head>
  <title>
    <app>
      <rdg wit="#dublin #oxford #cambridge">The Prophecy of Merlin</rdg>
    </app>
  </title>
</head>
```

20. Add a gloss note within `<rdg>` in the first line:

```
<rdg wit="<!-- add witness(es) -->">When feythe fayleth in prestys sawys,
    <note type="gloss" anchored="true">With sharpened swords, and men ready to
    terrorize</note>
</rdg>
```

21. G

22. Add a critical note within the `<rdg>` in line 3

```
<rdg wit="<!-- add witness(es) -->">Prestes wylle trechery, and gyle hold soth saw,
    <note type="critical" anchored="true">Priests intend treachery, and guile
    turns into figures of speech </note>
</rdg>
```

23. Add another line to the TEI transcription

```
<l n="4">
  <app>
```

```
<rdg wit="#dublin">Lechery callyd pryv  solace, </rdg>
<rdg wit="#oxford">And leccherie is holden solace, </rdg>
<rdg wit="#cambridge">And lechery is prevy solas, </rdg>
```

```
</app>
```

```
</!>
```

24. Now open the file in a web browser (only Firefox)
25. On line 2 add a stylesheet reference to the TEI file.
`<?xml-stylesheet href="vmachine.xml" type="text/xsl" ?>`
26. This is a processing instruction that declares a stylesheet that will be used by the web browser to display. As you can see it refers to a **vmachine.xml** file in the same folder as our prophecy
27. In the **vmachine** folder are two XSLT files: settings.xsl and vmachine.xml. For optimal in-browser transformation you need to copy both files to the **samples** folder. If the XSLT files are not in the same folder there will be issues with the in-browser transformation.
28. Again the Firefox browser should be used for this exercise! In other browsers it might not work.
29. If you refresh your web browser you should now see the Versioning Machine application

The screenshot shows the 'Prophecy of Merlin' application interface. At the top, there's a header with the 'VM 5.0' logo and the title 'Prophecy of Merlin'. Below the header, there are tabs for '3 Total Versions', 'Line numbers', 'Bibliographic panel', and 'Notes panel'. The main content area is divided into three panels: 'Bibliographic Information', 'Version dublin', and 'Version oxford'. The 'Bibliographic Information' panel on the left contains details about the text, including its title, author (Anonymous), original source, and a list of witnesses. The 'Version dublin' and 'Version oxford' panels show the text of the prophecy in Old English, with line numbers. A critical note is highlighted in a blue box: 'Critical note: Priests intend treachery, and guile turns into figures of speech'.

If you are interested to see how the full Prophecy of Merlin and annotations are encoded see the poem in the **sample** folder: **prophecy_of_merlin.xml**