
Uruwi's personal style guide for documents

uruwi

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1 | Overview of build process

To generate grammars and other documents, $\text{X}_{\text{Y}}\text{L}_{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$ is used. Documents depend on the `common/uruwi.sty` package, which imports dependent packages such as `xcolor` and `tabu`, as well as defining in-house macros such as `\hli` and `\ortho`.

The build process is automated using `make`, which, in addition to invoking $\text{X}_{\text{Y}}\text{L}_{\text{A}}\text{E}_{\text{X}}$ to build the document, generates `dict.tex` files from dictionary files.

1.1 | Lexicon management

Lexicons are stored in `.dict` files, which are plain text files with some formatting info. A typical file will have entries like this:

```
1 # ramek
2 : vn?
3 break, shatter, tear, destroy
4 n = what was broken was in the way; non-n = what did the breaking
   sought out things to break
5
6 # kekoro
7 : n
8 most, majority
9
10 # malka
11 : n
12 quiet, calm, sound
13
14 # rajnek
15 : v
16 sleep
17
18 # ranu
19 : n
20 fox
21
22 # kretanek
23 : v
24 run
25
26 # mepek
27 : v
```

```

28 learn, teach (about)
29 learn <A> → <A>-\textsf{kej má mepek}

```

Evidently, each entry is delimited by one or more blank lines. A line starting with an octothorpe gives the entry in the target language. A line beginning with a colon defines the part of speech.

Other lines provide a definition. Some entries require multiple lines; in that case, the subsequent lines will act as usage notes or examples.

The dictionary file is converted to a \LaTeX file with the `dict-to-tex.pl6` script. This script also takes a JSON file that specifies styling information and the lexicographic ordering. For instance, the dictionary file for Lek-Tsaro uses this `options.json` file¹:

```

1 {
2   "styling": "\\textkardinal{%s}",
3   "newline": "\\quad ",
4   "alphabet": [
5     ".",
6     "t", "t^y", "k", "x", "s", "s^h",
7     "n", "n^g", "n^y", "v", "f", "f^x", "f^h", "m",
8     "d", "d^y", "g", "p", "b",
9     "h", "y", "c", "r",
10    "z", "j", "w", "l",
11    "a", "i", "i^o", "i^u", "o", "o^e", "e", "e^o", "u", "u^i", "u^o"
12  ],
13   "sectionstyle": "\\section*{\\textkardinal{%s}}\\n"
14 }

```

7/dict/options.json

1.2 | Historical tools

Historically:

- Google Docs was used for prototyping language grammars. However, the grammar of Lek-Tsaro was not prototyped in that manner.
- Google Sheets was used for managing lexicons. This was phased out over concerns of using proprietary software.

1.3 | Document styling

1.3.1 | Typefaces

The `mathspec` package is used for custom fonts in both text- and mathmode. Gentium is used for the normal font, and VL PGothic for the sans-serif font. The monospace font is not set.

¹I'm showing the Lek-Tsaro options file instead of the one used by Ďrahýl Rase because the latter uses Unicode characters, which don't display quite properly with `listings.sty`.

When hacm text is needed, the `uruwi.sty` package is loaded with the `hacm` option, which sets `\kardinal` to the `ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ` font, modified to include the backslash character (used by Lek-Tsaro). Frequently, superscripts in text are also needed, so `uruwi.sty` is also loaded with the `shortsuper` option, which redefines `\^` to the longer `\textsuperscript`.

If the `dhr` option is set, then `uruwi.sty` will also set `\dhrfont` to the `ᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅᐅ` (Mîny / Meko) font, which supports *Nasél Tēkel Piva*. A guide to using this font can be found in table 1.1.

1.3.2 | Pages

The first page in a document is the title page. For a conlang, this consists of:

- A horizontal rule.
- A phrase akin to “(language), the language of (place)” in the target language. If said language has its own script, then this should be written in the script, with a transliteration below it in a smaller, sans-serif font.
- The translation of the above, in italics.
- Another horizontal rule identical to one above.
- The name of the author.
- “A complete grammar”, first in the native script (if present), then transliterated, then in English.
- The date, at the very bottom.

All of these entries are centred.

For documents other than language grammars, simply include what is relevant to the document.

The title page should be coloured at 25% of one of the predefined colours in `xcolor`. For more information, consult the title pages of other documents.

The second page contains an optional dedication, followed by metadata. The metadata is set in a monospace font with the following fields:

- **Branch:** This is `canon` for the main branch, and different for experimental branches of the grammar.
- **Version:** A version, updated occasionally.
- **Date:** The date when this version was adopted.

After the metadata is the copyright information.

The second and subsequent pages should be coloured at 15% of the same shade of colour as the title page (so if the title page is at `Thistle!25`, the body pages should be at `Thistle!15`).

1.3.3 | Colours

The following guidelines are used for selecting page colours:

- A daughter language should have the same or similar page colour as its parent.
- On the other hand, a language from a completely different family should have a visibly distinct page colour.
- If possible, select a colour that matches the character of the language the document covers.
- Avoid overly dark or light colours.
- Avoid grey or other drab colours.
- Favour cool colours (but don't actively avoid warm ones).

Any coloured content in the title page should blend with the page colour.

However, the chapter and section styles don't need to be changed; in fact, none of the grammars change their styles.

1.3.4 | Semantic styles

Strings in the target language inside English text should be wrapped inside an `\ortho` (or `\hortho` for hacm text), `<ḥanaḥâle-tuŷri>`.

1.3.5 | Example sentences

Example sentences include the (transliterated) sentence, the gloss and the idiomatic translation. The target-language sentence and the gloss are not aligned; rather, each word is coloured in both the first and second lines. The words of the English translation are coloured to roughly match the target-language sentence:

fɔɭfɪnɛ ɔɛ ɲɪfɪɔɪ ɔɭ ɲɪ.eɛ.
 want-NEAR-NEG PR.NEAR.SG ring=GEN POS magician=NULL
 I don't want the rings of any magician.

Underscores are preferred over periods in morphemes that take multiple words to describe:

ɔɪɭɔʰɪ .əʔ-ɲɪɕn ɪɭɔɲɔ, ɔɲɪn sɪɛ nɪɪɪ ɲɪ nɛɪ.
 eat-GENERIC-Q PR.GENERIC-how_many flower, CMP-NEAR fish cat PR.ANAPH_SUB.INT
 >
 More fish eat flowers than cats.

