

Ref Numbers for Flex

Overview

For the OpenOffice Linguistic Tools (OOLT), reference numbers are required for each lexical item in order to import and update them in a phonology writeup. The purpose of these scripts is to automatically fill in the reference field with unique serial numbers. These scripts are designed to run through the Bulk Edit Entries section of Fieldworks Language Explorer, as an SIL Converter.

Requirements

The latest stable version of FieldWorks is recommended. Python 2.7 (not Python 3 or higher) is also required, which can be obtained from <https://www.python.org/download>. Linux and Mac systems usually have Python already.

Instructions

In Flex, go to the Bulk Edit Entries section of the Lexicon. Select the Process tab at the bottom.

Configure which columns to display by clicking on the icon in the upper right hand corner above the scroll bar. Select "More Column Choices..." Find the Sources column in the left hand pane and press Add>>, then press OK. Alternatively you can add a custom field called Reference.

Now in the Bulk Edit Operation pane, for the Source Field, select Lexeme Form (or any field that is never empty). For Target Field, specify Sources. Change "If the Target field is not empty" to Overwrite. Then click the Setup... button. Click Add to add a new processor, choose More... and select Python Script.

In the Setup tab, click Browse and find add_numbers.py, located in the folder where these files are unzipped (for example the Downloads folder). To see if it is working correctly, go to the Test Area tab. Clicking Test should result in "0001". Running the test again should produce "0002".

When finished setting up the converter, click the button to Save In Repository, and press ok to accept the name "add_numbers". Then click OK and Close buttons.

Now click Apply to run the converter. This will fill in the Sources column with numbers starting from 0001.

If the numbers are not starting at 0001, delete the counter.txt file. Then go to the Delete tab, specify Sources for the Item to delete, and then press Apply. Now go back to the Process tab and apply the add_numbers process to fill in numbers starting at 0001.

If the counter needs to be set to whatever the highest existing number is, then run count_numbers.py. To do this, add it as a process in the same way that add_numbers.py was set up. After running count_numbers.py, run add_numbers.py, which will start from the highest existing number.

To use 3 digits (001) or 5 digits (00001), edit the add_numbers.py file with a text editor. Towards the top where it says DIGITS = 4, change it to 3 or 5 instead (other values are possible as well).

Contact

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