

Device-Catalog

Device Catalog (Annex)

Purpose

Define all approved narrative devices, their purposes, structural rules, and formatting requirements. This catalog is the authoritative reference for device mechanics; the **Article Brief** is the sole activation authority.

Core Principles

1. **Devices are OFF by default** — A device appears only if the Article Brief explicitly names it and states its purpose
 2. **Activation header required** — Every activated device must begin with a one-line header
 3. **Reflowable formatting only** — All devices must use semantic text (lists, tables, callouts), never images
 4. **Content-agnostic mechanics** — Device rules apply regardless of article topic or length
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Activation Requirements

For any device to appear in an article, the **Article Brief** must provide:

1. **Device name** (exact match from this catalog)
2. **Purpose** (why this device serves the article)
3. **Placement** (where in the article)

Activation header format (required):

Place this header **immediately before** the device content.

Device Definitions

1. Prompt Plate

Purpose:

Demonstrate principle-first prompting in action. Show "before/after" contrasts to prove claims about better outputs and reduced prompt counts.

When to Use:

- To illustrate a specific prompting principle, troubleshooting pattern, or repeatable workflow
- To provide a concrete, reusable template readers can adapt
- To show measurable improvement from applying a technique

Format:

Reflowable table or code block (never an image)

Typical Structure:

Scenario	Prompt (Before)	Prompt (After)	Outcome
[Context]	[Initial prompt]	[Improved prompt]	[Result/improvement]

Alternative format (code block):

BEFORE:

[Initial prompt text]

AFTER:

[Improved prompt text]

OUTCOME:

[Measurable improvement or result]

Integration Requirements:

- Include brief lead-in sentence explaining the principle this plate demonstrates
- Keep examples real or clearly labeled as representative tests
- Cite sources or workflow data if relevant (APA format)
- Ensure table/code block reflows properly on e-readers

Example Activation Header:

Device: Prompt Plate – Purpose: Demonstrate how adding role context reduces ambiguous outputs

2. Decision Tree / Checklist

Purpose:

Provide structured, repeatable guidance for complex tasks. Help readers troubleshoot or plan through logical, branching sequences.

When to Use:

- To guide readers through multi-step reasoning (e.g., diagnosing poor model outputs)
- To illustrate workflows or conditional sequences (e.g., "If X, then Y")
- To provide systematic troubleshooting paths

Format:

Semantic nested lists (bullets or numbered outlines) for e-reader reflow

Typical Structure:

Decision Tree Format:

1. First decision point
 - If condition A → Action 1
 - If condition B → Action 2
 - If sub-condition B1 → Action 2a
 - If sub-condition B2 → Action 2b
 - If condition C → Action 3
2. Second decision point
[continues...]

Checklist Format:

- Step 1: [Action with brief explanation]
- Step 2: [Action with brief explanation]
 - Sub-step 2a: [Detail]
 - Sub-step 2b: [Detail]
- Step 3: [Action with brief explanation]

Integration Requirements:

- Introduce with 1–2 sentences explaining purpose and scope
- Keep branch labels short and imperative (e.g., "Check context length → Revise prompt → Test again")
- Provide APA citations if derived from external research or best practices
- Use clear visual hierarchy (indentation, numbering) for branches

Example Activation Header:

Device: Decision Tree – Purpose: Guide readers through systematic prompt troubleshooting

3. What the Papers Say

Purpose:

Distill key academic or industry findings that validate or challenge the article's arguments. Offer authoritative evidence in a digestible format.

When to Use:

- To highlight pivotal whitepapers, peer-reviewed studies, or market reports
- To keep fast-moving research accessible without derailing narrative flow
- To provide scholarly backing for claims

Format:

Short, clearly labeled callout box (semantic text, not graphic)

Typical Structure:

What the Papers Say

****Paper/Source:**** [Full citation in APA format]

****Authors:**** [Author names]

****Key Finding:**** [One-paragraph summary of the finding]

****Relevance:**** [One sentence linking finding back to article's argument]

[Include DOI or stable URL as live link]

Alternative compact format:

What the Papers Say: [Paper Title]

[Author(s), Year] found that [key finding in one paragraph].

This [validates/challenges/extends] the article's argument that [connection to thesis].

Full citation: [APA format with DOI/URL]

Integration Requirements:

- Include full APA citation and live link (DOI or official source)
- One-paragraph summary maximum (80–120 words)
- Conclude with one sentence linking finding to article's thesis
- **Freshness gate:** If finding contains time-sensitive statistics, verify currency per Article Brief horizons; add companion-site callout if data may evolve
- If source is stale or unverifiable, insert **[Writer to research latest]**

Example Activation Header:

Device: What the Papers Say – Purpose: Provide peer-reviewed validation for token prediction claims

4. Code Example Block

Purpose:

Show executable code, API calls, or prompt syntax that readers can copy and adapt.

When to Use:

- To demonstrate technical implementation
- To provide copy-paste templates
- To illustrate syntax or formatting requirements

Format:

Code block with language identifier for syntax highlighting

Typical Structure:

```
```python
Example: API call with structured prompt
import openai

response = openai.ChatCompletion.create(
 model="gpt-4",
 messages=[
 {"role": "system", "content": "You are a helpful
assistant."},
 {"role": "user", "content": "Explain quantum computing
in simple terms."}
]
)
print(response.choices[0].message.content)
```

```

Integration Requirements:

- Include brief lead-in explaining what the code demonstrates
- Add inline comments for clarity
- Specify language/framework version if relevant
- Test code before inclusion (or label as "conceptual example")
- Provide context about where/how readers would use this code

Example Activation Header:

Device: Code Example Block – Purpose: Show API implementation of role-based prompting

Formatting Standards (All Devices)

Reflowability Requirements

All devices must support Kindle/EPUB3 reflowability:

- **No images for core information** — Use semantic text structures
- **Tables:** Markdown or HTML tables with proper headers
- **Lists:** Use bullets, numbers, or nested indentation
- **Callouts:** Format as text blocks with clear labels/headings
- **Code blocks:** Use triple-backtick fencing with language identifiers

Accessibility

- Provide **alt text** if publisher adds diagrams later
- Use semantic HTML/Markdown so screen readers can navigate
- Ensure sufficient contrast and clear hierarchy

Visual Hierarchy

- Use **headings** to introduce devices
 - Use **bold** for labels and key terms
 - Use *italics* sparingly for emphasis
 - Use `code formatting` for technical terms, file names, commands
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Device Gating Enforcement

During Critic Loop:

1. **Focus Check** scans for any device content
2. If device found, verify:
 - Article Brief explicitly activated this device
 - Activation header is present immediately before device
 - Device format follows catalog specifications
3. If device lacks activation or header, **remove device** and note in internal revision log

No exceptions: Device gating is a hard requirement. Unapproved devices must be removed.

Future Device Extensions

If a new device type is needed:

1. Define its purpose, use cases, and format in this catalog
2. Update Article Brief Template to support activation
3. Add enforcement checks to Critic Loop
4. Version-control this catalog with changelog entry

Pending devices (not yet approved):

- Illustrative Analogies (structured comparison boxes)
 - Cross-Reference Boxes (links to related articles/chapters)
 - Live Experiment Results (reproducible test data)
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Quick Reference: Device Checklist

Before finalizing any article with devices:

- Every device is explicitly activated in Article Brief
 - Activation header present immediately before each device
 - Device format follows catalog specifications
 - All tables/lists/callouts use reflowable semantic text
 - Citations included where devices reference sources
 - Freshness verified for time-sensitive device content
 - Device serves the article's argument (not decorative)
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Status: Normative Annex — Defines approved devices and formatting rules.