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| RDF element type | RDF element | General purpose |
| Syntax | rdf:RDF | The root element of an RDF/XML document |
| Syntax | rdf:Description | Facilitates the definition of the "subject" of an RDF triple. General use is rdf:Description about="URI to subject"> |
| Syntax | rdf:ID | This attribute provides a method for shortening RDF syntax by allowing the use of relative URIs. This attribute can be used in conjunction with the xml:base attribute. |
| Syntax | rdf:about | This attribute essentially stores the "subject" of a triple |
| Syntax | rdf:parseType | This attribute enables a simplified syntax for the creation of blank nodes |
| Syntax | rdf:resource |  |
| Syntax | rdf:nodeID | This attribute supports the naming of blank nodes |
| Syntax | rdf:datatype | This attribute allows the definition of the data type of the object value when literals are used in an RDF statement. Datatype values conform to the XMLSchema datatypes. |
| Class | rdf:Property |  |
| Class | rdf:XMLLiteral |  |
| Property | rdf:type | This element allows an explicit definition of the type of resource being described and enables cross-resource inferencing. |
| Property | rdf:value | This element enables the definition of a literal in context of a unit of measure |
| Property | \_n (n is any value > 1) |  |