

6.9 Minimum conformance

Tools reading an IVTFF file shall be able to rely on a minimum conformance to the format definition, which is given by the following rules. Files not observing these are not conformant.

- The first line matches the file header definition of Section 6.1, though without restriction on the 4-character transliteration alphabet code
- The first character of each line can only be one of three characters: #, < or /
- If the first character of a line is < , the line is a page header or the start of a new locus
- If the first character is / then the previous line must have ended with a /
- Page headers must have a valid page name between < and > (see Annex 1) and no whitespace
- Locus identifiers have no whitespace, refer exactly to the page in the most recent page header, have an integer number from 1 to 999 between the . and the , and a three-character item between the , and the >
- An optional transcriber ID consists of a single character after a semi-colon
- All in-line free comments <! are closed by a > on the same line in the file
- All other in-line comments consist of 3 or 5 characters, of which the first is < and the last is >
- All alternative readings [are closed by a] on the same line in the file
- All ligature indications { are close by a } on the same line in the file
- All high-Ascii codes starting with @ are immediately followed by three digits giving a number in the range 128 to 255, and the three numbers are followed by a semicolon “;”.