document may use more than one DTD or schema. But since each structuring document is developed independently, *name clashes* appear inevitable. If DTD A and DTD B define an element type e in different ways, a parser trying to validate an XML document in which an e element appears must be told which DTD to use for validation purposes.

The technical solution is simple: disambiguation is achieved by using a different prefix for each DTD or schema. The prefix is separated from the local name by a colon:

```
prefix:name
```

As an example, consider an (imaginary) joint venture of an Australian university, say, Griffith University, and an American university, say, the University of Kentucky, to present a unified view for online students. Each university uses its own terminology, and there are differences. For example, lecturers in the United States are not considered regular faculty, whereas in Australia they are (in fact, they correspond to assistant professors in the United States). The following example shows how disambiguation can be achieved.

```xml
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-16"?>
<vu:instructors
      xmlns:vu="http://www.vu.com/empDTD"
      xmlns:gu="http://www.gu.au/empDTD"
      xmlns:uky="http://www.uky.edu/empDTD">
   <uky:faculty
      uky:title="assistant professor"
      uky:name="John Smith"
      uky:department="Computer Science"/>
   <gu:academicStaff
      gu:title="lecturer"
      gu:name="Mate Jones"
      gu:school="Information Technology"/>
```