



SPEVI

South Pacific Educators
in Vision Impairment

Australia

SHINING THE LIGHT ON VISION EDUCATION

2017 CONFERENCE

BRISBANE 8TH - 12TH JANUARY



ABA - Who we are/ Rules & guidelines for formatting braille

Kathy Riessen

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“Literature is my Utopia. Here I am not disenfranchised. No barrier of the senses shuts me out from the sweet, gracious discourses of my book friends. They talk to me without embarrassment or awkwardness.” **Helen Keller**



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“There is a wonder in reading braille that the sighted will never know: to touch words and have them touch you back.”

Jim Fiebig



“Teach braille (as necessary) ... Specialist teachers (Vision Impairment) not only are trained in the Unified English Braille (UEB) literary code but also understand the theory of teaching braille and have the experience and knowledge to teach braille.” **SPEVI Position Statement on Role of Specialist Teachers (Vision Impairments)**



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

brailleaustralia.org

The Australian Braille Authority (ABA) oversees the development and maintenance of Braille codes and specifications used in Australia, acts as a braille accreditation body, and promotes braille as the primary literacy medium for people who are blind, deafblind, or have severe vision impairment.

brailleaustralia.org



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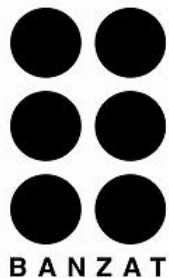
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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)
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**Braille Authority of New Zealand
Aotearoa Trust (BANZAT)**
www.banzat.org.nz



**International Council on English
Braille (ICEB) www.iceb.org**



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ABA is a subcommittee of the
Round Table on Information Access for
People with Print Disabilities.

Each Round Table member organisation involved in the production, teaching or use of braille in Australia has representation on the National Committee of the ABA.



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

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ABA Executive

Jordie Howell: Chair

Christine Simpson: Past Chair

Leona Holloway: Communications Secretary

Josie Howse

Sam Taylor

Kathy Riessen

Ross de Vent



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Regional Braille Forums

Queensland Regional Braille Forum

Convenor: Julee-Anne Bell

Sydney Regional Braille Forum

Convenor: Sandra Robertson



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Unified English Braille (UEB)

UEB was developed by the ICEB to bring together the braille codes used in English speaking countries and across literary, mathematical and computer notation.



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1992 UEB project begun

2004 Declared substantially complete

2005 Adopted: May: Australia,

November: New Zealand

Since then, South Africa, Nigeria, United Kingdom,
Ireland, Canada and USA have all adopted UEB



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

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Code Maintenance Committee:

Chair: Phyllis Landon (Canada)

Australian representative: Leona Holloway

New Zealand representative: Maria Stevens



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Technical Guidelines Revision

Lead by: Bill Jolley (Australia)

Bill is also a voting member on the Code
Maintenance Committee

We will hear more on this project in 2017



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Braille Music Committee:

Chair: Jordie Howell (Australia)

The committee is working on the impact of UEB on braille music as well as international collaboration in updating the International Braille Music Code.



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

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ABA Communications

- OZBRL listserve
- ABA Facebook page
- Executive members
- Regional Braille Forums



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

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Resources (ICEB)

- Rules of Unified English Braille
- Guidelines for Technical Material
- World Braille Usage
- IPA Braille



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Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

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Resources (ABA/Round Table)

- Unified English Braille: Australian Training Manual
- ABA Rules and Guidelines for Formatting Braille
- Duxbury Braille Translator Producer's Manual
- ABA Braille Music Addendum





Australian Braille Authority (ABA)

brailleaustralia.org

Trans-Tasman Certificate of Proficiency in Unified English Braille

Held: first two weeks in October each year

Open book examination. Candidates are marked on correct use of UEB and braille formatting.



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Trans-Tasman Certificate of Proficiency in Unified English Braille

Examination consists of three sections:

- Transcription of passage into braille
- Transcription of braille passage into print
- Proofreading a braille passage containing errors.



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Trans-Tasman Certificate of Proficiency in Unified English Braille

Australia and New Zealand set the same passages but are marked separately. Australia and New Zealand have some differences in formatting practices.

New Zealand also add a section on Maori.



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Duxbury Braille Translator (DBT)

Current version of DBT is 12.1 sr1

The Australian Template is based on the ABA formatting rules and guidelines.

You are encouraged to update to the ABA template.
This can then be customised for local preferences.



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Duxbury Braille Translator (DBT)

Duxbury is constantly improving the translation integrity of DBT. ABA regularly liaises with Duxbury to resolve translation issues.

Post any queries on OZBRL, others may have the same query. The queries noted and referred on to Duxbury.



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Braille Music Addendum

This is a working document which outlines

- Australian best practice in formatting braille music, based on UK standards
- UEB in relation to musical notation



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Formatting Rules and Guidelines

- Good print formatting allows easy navigation.
- Good braille formatting allows easy navigation.
- Whether print or braille you need to be able to easily find page numbers, chapters, headings, question numbers, answers, etc, etc.
- It is just as important to know how to format braille as knowing correct braille code.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

ABA Rules and Guidelines for Formatting Braille

Completed in May 2016:

Editor: Leona Holloway

Working Party: Shirley Henderson, Josie Howse,
Kathy Riessen, Christine Simpson,
the late Linda Triasmono and Colleen Flood.



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Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Paragraphs

Indent the first line of a paragraph by 2 cells.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

==== =4 ==

=====

====4

=====

====4 =====

=====4



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Lists

The runover of a list must be indented in braille.

Guideline: indent by 2 cells or to the size of an attention mark or counter.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

#a4 =====4

=====

=====4

#b4 =====

=====4 =====

=====4



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

_4 =====4

=====

=====4

_4 =====

=====4 =====

=====4



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Lists, hierarchy

Hierarchy is shown with indentation.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

#a4 === =====4

=====

;a4 =====4

;b4 =====

=====

i4 =====4 =====4



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Navigation Line

The top line of each braille page is reserved as the navigation line.

Left: print page number

Centred: running title

Right: braille page number



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Print page turnovers

Page turnovers are shown at the exact point where a new print page begins.

Shown by a row of hyphens with the new page number on the right.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Pp ,runn+ ,h1d] bp

=====4=====

=====4

=====

-----#

=====



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Rule: Headings

Headings are formatted according to their hierarchy.

A heading is preceded by a blank line
UNLESS it immediately follows another heading.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Heading 1: Centred with at least 6 cells either side

Heading 2: Blocked cell 5

Heading 3: Blocked cell 3

Heading 4: Blocked cell 1



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

,h1d+ #a

=====

==== == 444

,h1d+ #b

=====

==== == 444



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

,h1d+ #c

=====

===== 444

,h1d+ #d

=====

===== 444



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Poetry: Rules:

- Use a list format.
- A blank line is left between stanzas.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Poetry: Guidelines

- Print layout is used as a guide in determining the braille layout.
- There is a variety of examples in the formatting document.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Drama: Rules

- Regardless of print layout, the name of each speaker begins at the margin with the runover indented. [Similar to a list format]
- There must be a clear distinction between the speaker's name and the dialogue.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Drama: Guidelines

Use the print as guidance to how stage directions are shown with regards to brackets, italics, capitals etc.

Stage directions on their own line are formatted as an indented paragraph beginning in cell 7, with runovers in cell 5.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

===3 =====4 ===

=====4

"<=====

=== =4">

===== "<===== ">3 =====

=====4



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Further information:

brailleaustralia.org website

Follow “site map” link, under “About Braille” choose “Braille Formatting”.



Formatting Rules and Guidelines

Available in PDF or BRF download:

- ABA Rules and Guidelines for Formatting Braille 2016
- ABA Formatting Workshop 2016 documents.



The End! **or is it** **The Beginning?** **Any Questions?**

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