Lesson 16

Modified Letters, More on Quotation Marks, Foreign Words in English Text, Spanish Punctuation, Greek Letters, Old and Middle English, More on Translation Software

16.1 Modifiers [UEB §4.2]

Modifiers are used to show accented letters or diacritics in braille. Following is a list of some commonly used modifiers. Refer to §4.2 and §4.3 of the Rules of Unified English Braille Second Edition 2013 for a complete list of available modifiers, including transcriber-defined modifiers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Braille Symbol</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠨</td>
<td>breve above following letter</td>
<td>Ú ⠧ ⠨</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠎</td>
<td>macron above following letter</td>
<td>Ū ⠧ ⠎</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠢</td>
<td>cedilla below following letter</td>
<td>ç ⠧ ⠢</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠊</td>
<td>grave accent above following letter</td>
<td>à ⠧ ⠊</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠦</td>
<td>circumflex above following letter</td>
<td>ô ⠧ ⠦</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠧</td>
<td>tilde above following letter</td>
<td>ñ ⠧ ⠧</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠧</td>
<td>umlaut or diaeresis above following letter</td>
<td>ü ⠧ ⠧</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠧</td>
<td>Ligature indicator</td>
<td>æ ⠧ ⠧</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>⠧ ⠧</td>
<td>acute accent above following letter</td>
<td>é ⠧ ⠧</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16.1a Placement. With the exception of the ligature, place the modifier immediately before the letter to which it applies. Example:

garçon  São Paulo

Place the ligature indicator between two letters which are shown joined together in print. Example:

hors-d’œuvres  HORS-D’OEUVRES

16.1b Capitalization. If a modified letter is capitalized, place the capital letter indicator before the modifier. Note that modifiers are the only braille signs that can be placed between a capital indicator and the letter or word to which it applies. Example:

L'Étoile du Nord  L',ÉTOILE DU NORD

Capitalized word mode remains in effect through modified letters. Example:

LINDSTRÖM  LINDARÖM

16.1c With Contractions. A contraction should not be used if any of its letters include modified letters. Examples:

fiancé  FIANCÉE  blessèd  BLESSÈD
reënforce  REÈNÈCE  coëducation  COÈDUCATION

16.1d Applied to More Than One Letter. If a modifier applies to more than one consecutive letter, enclose the affected letters in braille grouping indicators. The opening braille grouping indicator is dots 126 (\<), and the closing braille grouping indicator is dots 345 (\>). Note that these are the same dot configurations as the contractions for gh and ar, but since no contraction can immediately follow a modifier, a grade 1 indicator is not required to show that these are grouping indicators rather than contractions. Example:
16.2 More On Quotation Marks [UEB §7.6, October 2019 Update]

16.2a Primary Quotation Marks. In Lesson Three, you learned the symbols for the opening and closing double and single quotation marks. If the primary (outer) quotation marks in the text are not the typical double quotation marks, it is permissible to exchange the double and single quotation marks, so that the primary quotation marks are brailled using the one-cell symbol. Explain the change on a Transcriber's Notes Page (to be studied in Lesson 19). Example:

'Mother said “We'll see”.'

"m sd «w'll see«

16.2b Other Quotation Marks. In addition to the quotation marks studied in Lesson Three, other types of print quotation marks can be shown in braille:

« _:_ left-pointing double angle quotation mark

» _:_ right-pointing double angle quotation mark

" _:_ nondirectional double quotation mark

' _:_ nondirectional single quotation mark

Follow print for use of the double angle quotes, and do not exchange them with other symbols if they are used as the primary quotation marks. Example:

We shall sing 'Reel à Bouche'."
The nondirectional quotes are used only in very rare cases where they are distinguished from directional quotes within the text, or in a programming setting where the specific symbol is clearly intended.

**16.2c Two-Cell Double Quotation Marks.** If in print a double quotation mark occurs in the middle of a word, use the *two-cell opening double quotation mark* («:»); if there is a corresponding closing quote, use the *two-cell closing quotation mark* (»:»). To avoid confusion with contractions, these two-cell double quote symbols should also be used if a double quotation mark is standing alone. Examples:

Rec"ie"ve or rec"ei"ve?

«Rec:ie:ve» or «Rec:e:ie:ve»

Add a " before the third paragraph.

«ADD A " BEFORE THIRD PARAGRAPH»

**16.3 Foreign Language Material in English Texts (UEB §13)**

The principles governing foreign words in English contexts studied in this lesson only apply to foreign text which occurs in a primarily English context. They do not apply to foreign language school textbooks, school assessments, grammar books and phrase books, bilingual dictionaries, or foreign language literature in which the text is written entirely in that language. For transcription of such material, which uses completely different methods of representing accented letters, refer to UEB §13.6, to BANA’s *Provisional Guidance for Transcribing Foreign Language Material in UEB* (pending), and to *World Braille Usage, Third Edition*, [www.perkins.org/worldbrailleusage](http://www.perkins.org/worldbrailleusage).

**16.3a Use of Contractions.** In accordance with the provisions of UEB §13.2, the Braille Authority of North America has approved the use of contractions in foreign words and phrases in English contexts. The general rules for contraction usage should be followed, and contractions which would unduly distort the pronunciation of the word should not be used. Examples:

Nicole is *très chic*.

«NICOLE IS «TR:ES» «CHIC»»
"Einbrecher" is the word for "burglar" in German.

"Adiós, Jazmín y José," said Father.

During the Battle of Jutland, the German Derfflinger sank the Queen Mary.

Keep in mind the rules for contraction usage when deciding whether to use a contraction, or when choosing the correct contractions to use, in foreign words. For example:

Should the "one" contraction be used in "immigrazione"?
(See Lesson 9)
Should the "be" contraction be used in "becario"?
(See Lesson 7)
What contractions should be used in "heredero" – here? ed? er?
(See Lesson 9)

Check a foreign dictionary or online reference to determine pronunciation.
Examples:

centime (sän teem) ćɛntɛm

Was ist das? 𝟏𝟖 𝌖 𝌗 𝐸 𝌘 𝐴 𝐷

Erin go bragh ȅrin  geography

en la tarde ɛn la tɑrde  in aeternum ɪn ɛtɛrnum

e pluribus unum ɛ plʊrɪbəs ʌnum
honi soit qui mal y pense
honi soit qui mal y pense

al dente  "al dente"  ab initio  "ab initio"

16.3b Guidelines for Contraction use in Specific Languages.

(1) In Greek words, when the letters \textit{sth} occur, use the \textit{th} contraction rather than the \textit{st} contraction.

(2) In Scandinavian words, use the \textit{ar} contraction when the letters \textit{aar} occur.

(3) In Welsh words, do not use the \textit{ed} contraction when the letters \textit{edd} occur. Use the \textit{ff} contraction rather than the \textit{of} contraction in the letter combination \textit{off}.

16.3c Spanish punctuation. In Spanish, a question is enclosed in question marks, the first one inverted and placed at the beginning of the question. In braille, the inverted question mark is shown as dots 45, 56, 236 (\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{question_mark_braille.png}
\caption{Inverted question mark in braille.}
\end{figure}). Similarly, Spanish exclamations begin with an inverted exclamation mark, which is represented in braille by dots 45, 56, 235 (\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{exclamation_mark_braille.png}
\caption{Inverted exclamation mark in braille.}
\end{figure}). Example:

\textit{¿Es éste el camino a Puebla?}
\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{question_mark_braille.png}
\caption{Inverted question mark in braille.}
\end{figure}

¡\textit{Es demasiado}!
\begin{figure}[h]
\centering
\includegraphics[width=\textwidth]{exclamation_mark_braille.png}
\caption{Inverted exclamation mark in braille.}
\end{figure}

Follow print if dashes are used for quotation marks for Spanish or other languages. Example:
When asked if he had enough money, Pedro said, — ¡Tengo más de veinte pesos! —

Drill 38
Practice brailling the following sentences. Use a 1-3 margin.

1. The attractive divorcée and her distingué protégé created a sensation at the lawn fête.
2. Louis XIV stated the position of all dictators when he said, "L'état c'est moi."
3. The François family with their entire ménage had already departed for Florida.
4. ‘And opening his mouth he taught them saying, “Blessèd are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. . . .” ’
5. The newest trend in German politics is Parteiverdrossenheit, or PV for short.
6. "Vive la France!" defiantly shouted the young patriot as he was led off to face the firing squad.
7. José de San Martín was one of the leading liberators of South America.
8. Signorina Puccini is auditioning with the Metropolitan Opera Company.
9. Étienne professed to be enchanté to meet la belle Mademoiselle Andersen.
10. The original German title of Erich Remarque's famous book All Quiet on the Western Front was Im Westen Nichts Neues.
11. Egypt is fine, but if we have to go to Port Said again, we're finished — al fine!
12. My family comes from a small town in Italy called Giovanni a Piro.
13. We can keep this little cherub here, but that little enfant terrible will have to go home.

14. "E molto bene di ritornare a casa," said the old woman as she stepped off the train.

15. "When will you be back?" called his comrades as Poncho rode off in the general direction of the border, and his reply was — ¿Quién sabe? —

16.4 Greek Alphabet [UEB §4.5]

Lower Case Greek Alphabet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Braille</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Braille</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10⃣ 1⃣</td>
<td>α</td>
<td>alpha</td>
<td>10⃣ 3⃣</td>
<td>ν</td>
<td>nu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣ 2⃣</td>
<td>β</td>
<td>beta</td>
<td>10⃣ 4⃣</td>
<td>ξ</td>
<td>xi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣ 5⃣</td>
<td>γ</td>
<td>gamma</td>
<td>10⃣ 6⃣</td>
<td>ο</td>
<td>omicron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣ 7⃣</td>
<td>δ</td>
<td>delta</td>
<td>10⃣ 8⃣</td>
<td>π</td>
<td>pi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣ 9⃣</td>
<td>ε</td>
<td>epsilon</td>
<td>10⃣ 1⃣0⃣</td>
<td>ρ</td>
<td>rho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣1⃣1⃣</td>
<td>ζ</td>
<td>zeta</td>
<td>10⃣1⃣2⃣</td>
<td>ζ or σ</td>
<td>sigma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣1⃣3⃣</td>
<td>η</td>
<td>eta</td>
<td>10⃣1⃣4⃣</td>
<td>τ</td>
<td>tau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣1⃣5⃣</td>
<td>θ</td>
<td>theta</td>
<td>10⃣1⃣6⃣</td>
<td>υ</td>
<td>upsilon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10⃣1⃣7⃣</td>
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<td>iota</td>
<td>10⃣1⃣8⃣</td>
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<td>phi</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10⃣2⃣0⃣</td>
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<td>psi</td>
</tr>
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<td>mu</td>
<td>10⃣2⃣4⃣</td>
<td>ω</td>
<td>omega</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Upper Case Greek Alphabet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Braille</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
<th>Braille</th>
<th>Print</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>alpha</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>nu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>beta</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Ξ</td>
<td>xi</td>
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<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Γ</td>
<td>gamma</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Ω</td>
<td>omicron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Δ</td>
<td>delta</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Π</td>
<td>pi</td>
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<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>epsilon</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>rho</td>
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<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Z</td>
<td>zeta</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Σ</td>
<td>sigma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>H</td>
<td>eta</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>T</td>
<td>tau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
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<td>theta</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Y</td>
<td>upsilon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
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<td>iota</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Φ</td>
<td>phi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>K</td>
<td>kappa</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Χ</td>
<td>chi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Λ</td>
<td>lambda</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Ψ</td>
<td>psi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Μ</td>
<td>mu</td>
<td>. . . .</td>
<td>Ω</td>
<td>omega</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Follow print for the transcription of Greek letters. The appropriate capital indicator is used before uppercase Greek letters. Example:

I wrote to ΦBK president, Tom Jones.

I wrote to ΦBK president, tom jones.

16.6 Early Forms of English [UEB §12]

Refer to the Rules of Unified English Braille for the symbols for letters no longer in use. Do not use contractions in English written before about 1100. In Middle English, contraction usage is optional. Use contractions for early modern English. Pay particular attention to
variations in spelling in archaic forms of the language to ensure appropriate use of contractions.

Drill 39

Practice brailling the following sentences. Use a 1-3 margin.

1. The circumference of a circle is equal to $\pi \times d$.
2. "Écoutez bien," said Professor Moreau, as he launched into his lecture.
3. *The Chimbley Sweep* is sung by the folk-rock group, *The Decemberists*.
4. "Geh!" she said. "Mach schnell!"
5. During his senior year at college ('90-91) he lived in the ΠΚΑ house.
6. In music, *diminuendo* means to play softer by degrees.
7. ΔΕΛΦΟΙ (Delphi) was called the navel of the earth.
9. The Greek letters $\Omega$ and $\Omega$ are pronounced the same.

16.6 More On Braille translation Software

16.6a Quotation Marks and Apostrophes. Sometimes, braille translation software fails to distinguish properly the difference between single quotation marks and apostrophes, and depending upon the methods used to create the original print document, other problems with quotation marks may occur. The transcriber must pay special attention to be sure that quotation marks and apostrophes are shown correctly in the braille version.

16.6b Inserting Symbols. Most modern word processing software includes methods for inserting symbols for modified letters and Greek letters. For accented letters, sometimes shortcut keys are provided for easy entry. Ligatured letters or Greek letters can often be found on an "Insert symbols" menu in the word processing software. Because there are a number of ways the symbols may be inserted in the original print document, it is critical to verify that the symbols have imported properly to the braille translation software and are represented.
correctly in the final braille version. It is not enough simply to
determine that the symbols look right in the print version.

16.6c Styles for Languages. Your braille translation software may include
styles with names such as "Spanish" or "French". When these styles
are applied, the material will translate into braille using not the
methods of foreign language transcription covered in this lesson, but
instead using the accented letters as shown in World Braille Usage.
Therefore, do not use the language styles for foreign language
material in English contexts. They are only appropriate for material
intended for learning a language or for other language-oriented
purposes as briefly discussed at the beginning of this lesson.

EXERCISE

Prepare the following sentences for submission to the instructor. Use a 3-1
margin.

LESSON 16

1. "Art thou not, fatal vision, sensible to feeling as to sight? Or art thou
but a dagger of the mind, a false creation, proceeding from the heat-
oppressèd brain?" —Macbeth

2. He had just returned to the café after his tête-à-tête with his
fiancée.

3. The new government came into power through a coup d'état but
masquerades behind a façade of democracy.

4. The dénouement of the plot began when the professor crashed the
party clad in tuxedo and black suède shoes and wearing a
boutonnière of lilies of the valley.

5. "Merci beaucoup," said Jacques as I handed him the prize.

6. As the victorious French troops reëntered the city, the crowd
triumphantly and spontaneously broke into the Marseillaise: "Allons,
enfants de la patrie! Le jour de gloire est arrivé! . . ."

7. France was represented at Versailles by Georges Clemenceau.

8. The sign ΚΙΝΔΥΝΟΣ alerted us to the dangers of driving in the Greek
mountains.

9. Jeanne d'Arc was known as the "Maid of Orléans."
10. I said, this restaurant serves all meals table d'hôte, not à la carte.

11. The note began very formally, "Sehr geehrtes Fräulein Mary Smith..."

12. —¡Qué bonita!— exclaimed the handsome young gaucho as he doffed his sombrero to the lovely señorita.

13. The pin on his lapel proudly proclaimed his affiliation with ΣΧ.

14. "'69!" he said emphatically, "that was the year I was born!"

15. The first half of Julia's program closed with Chopin's Étude in E Major.

16. The memory of her insult still rankled in his mind ("gros cochon" she had called him).

17. The motto of the United States is "E pluribus unum."

18. "The situation has been getting rather unhealthy," Filatov told the mass-circulation weekly Argumenty i Fakty.

19. I would like Pasta e Fagioli and a salad, please.

20. My grandfather showed me his old collection of German marks, French centimes, and Spanish pesos.

21. The Encyclopædia Britannica was first published in Edinburgh, Scotland as a 3-volume set between 1768 and 1771.

22. Serous otitis media is a medical term for fluid in the ear.

23. In English, there are at least five ways to pronounce the letters o-u-g-h; for example: ought (ôt), tough (tüf), bough (bou), dough (dō), through (thrō).

24. Winthrop considered his colony to be a model to others; "Wee must Consider that wee shall be as a Citye upon a hill."

25. The priest said he hoped Father hadn't had a faithectomy, since he hasn't seen him in church for months.

[This lesson last updated November 21, 2019]