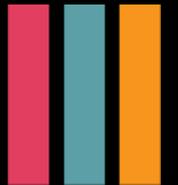


DOES BRAILLE FORMATTING SPARK JOY?

SERIES: Come back to me, braille!
Part 4 of 5



AMERICAN
PRINTING
HOUSE

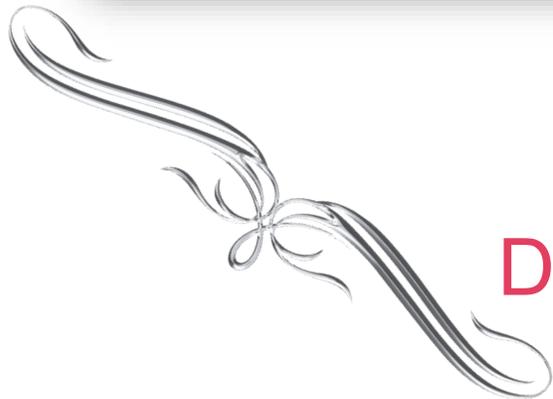
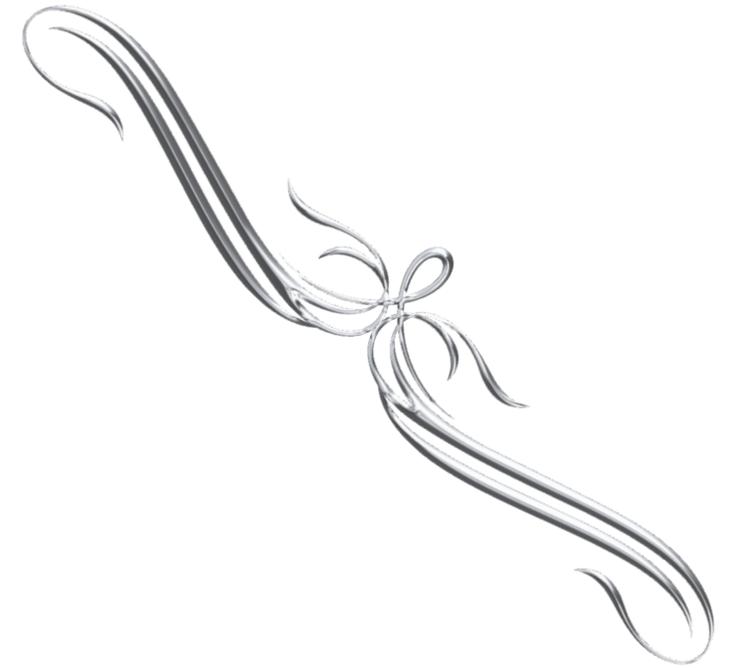


Our Presenter's Positions



Kyle DeJute, Braille Trainer

Dawn Eadens, Digital Textbook File Developer



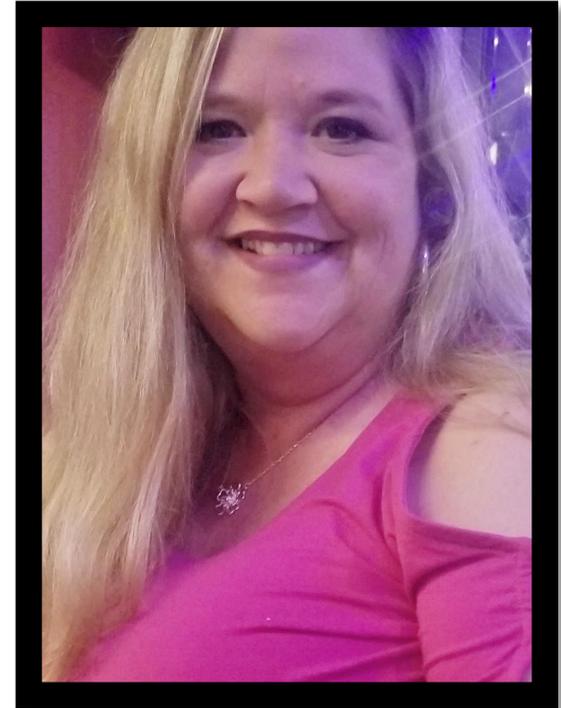
Poorly formatted material is like a messy bedroom



Presenters:



Kyle DeJute,
Braille Trainer



Dawn Eadens,
Digital Textbook
File Developer



SOURCE DOCUMENTS FOR FORMATTING DECISIONS



What are our source documents for braille formatting?

- [Braille Formats 2016](#) for most transcriptions (BF2016)
- for early learners, [BANA's Guidelines for the Transcription of Early Educational Materials from Print to Braille](#) first and then BF2016

What are our source documents? (cont.)

- for **UEB with Nemeth** transcriptions, Nemeth Code first and then BF2016
- for **UEB Math/Science** transcriptions, GTM and BANA's Provisional Guidance for Transcribing Mathematics in UEB first and then BF2016

Poll #1: Time for a Poll!



Poll #1

What would you say is the "purpose" of braille formatting?

- A. to make the braille look just like the print
- B. to make braille transcription more difficult
- C. to make the braille easier to navigate

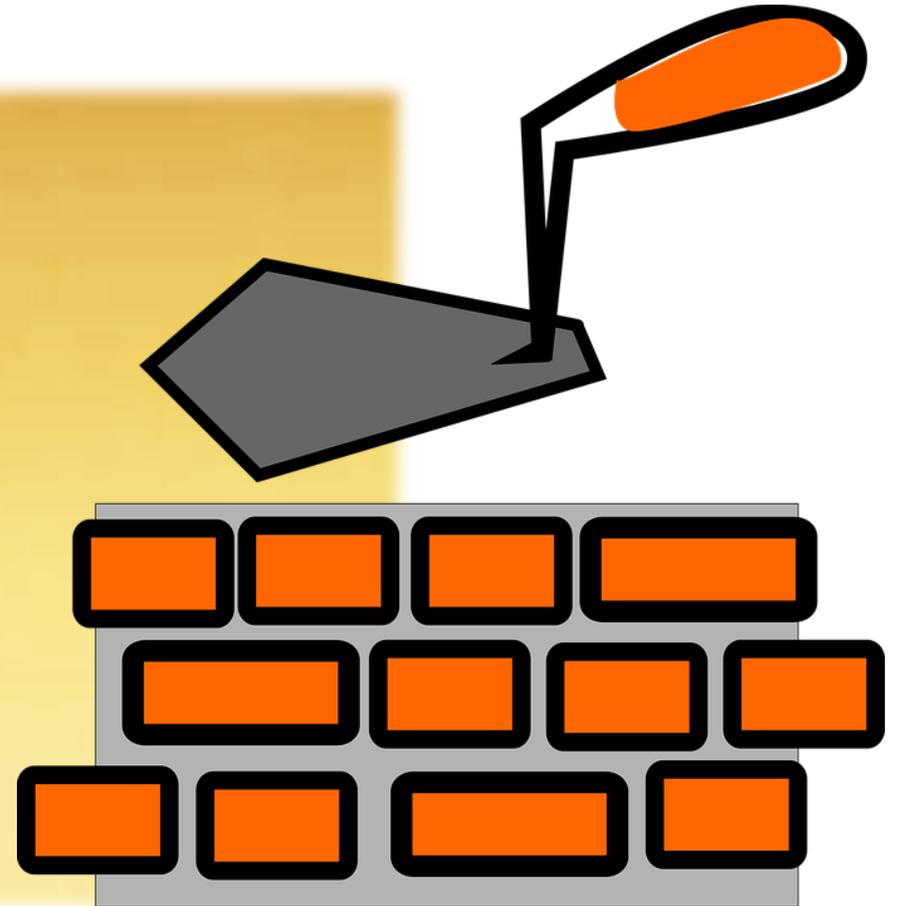


PURPOSE OF FORMATTING?

Formatting helps
braille users
navigate a
document.



Make Transcription More Difficult?



Braille cannot reproduce print appearance



Braille has ...

- static cell size
- static line spacing
- one direction of reading

Print has ...

- endless variations

Braille must reproduce print organization

This includes ...

- heading levels
- categories of information
- “extra” material
 - Did you know?
 - See also



Clues for Braille Navigation of Text

- **Empty space at left** indicates
 - heading
 - subitem
 - answer choice
 - ...



SLIDESHOW FORMATTING

Braille Formats 2016 §6.13

Slide Numbers

- Slide = Print Page
- Each slide gets a print page change indication

Descriptions Are Transcriber's Notes

- Enclose any transcriber-generated descriptions in transcriber's note indicators.
- This includes descriptions taken from electronic alt text.

Consistent Format

- Determine a format for best readability.
- Most text is formatted using
 - headings
 - indented/blocked paragraphs
 - lists

Sample 6–16 from BF2016



Screen Reader

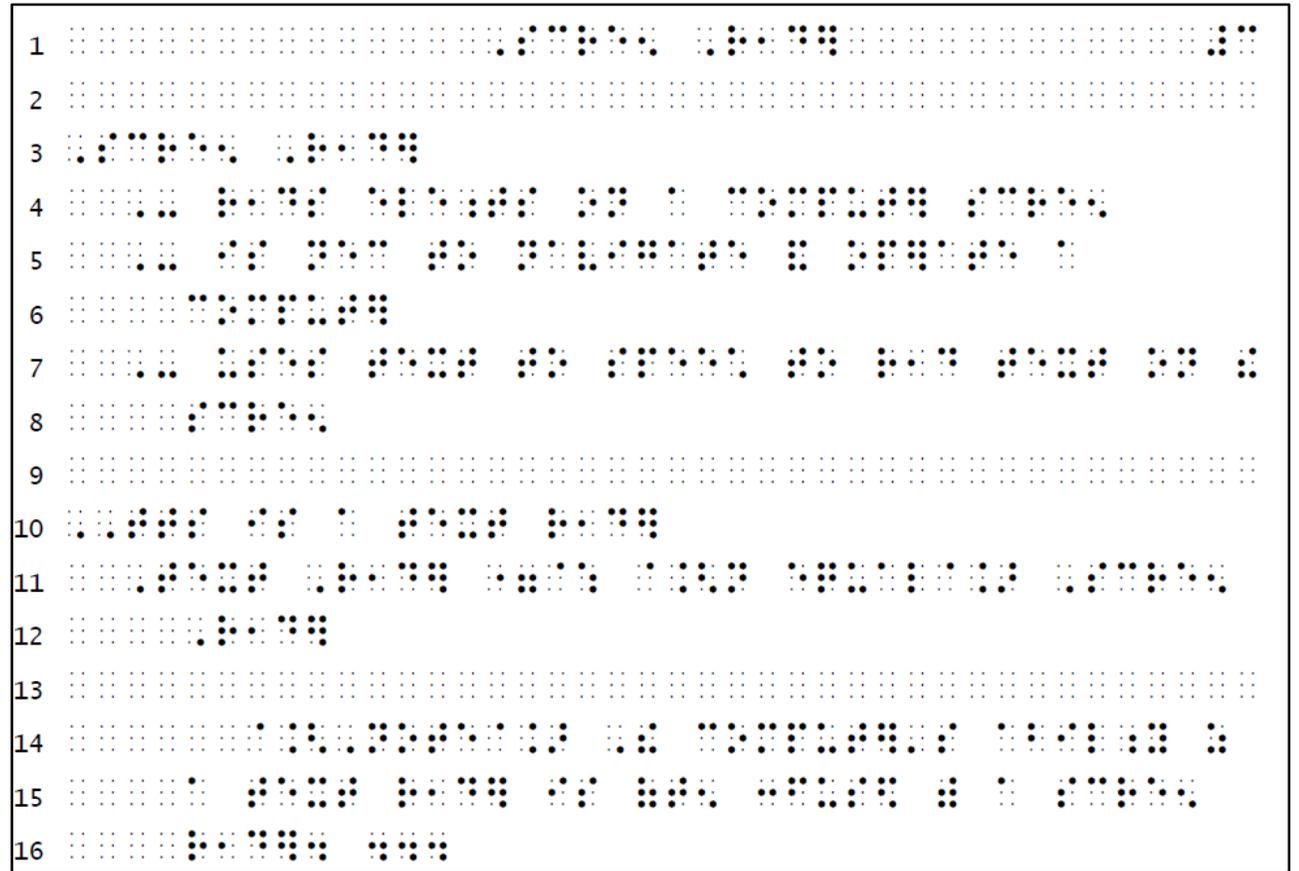
Screen Reader

- reads elements on a computer screen
- is necessary to navigate and operate a computer
- uses text to speech to read text on the screen

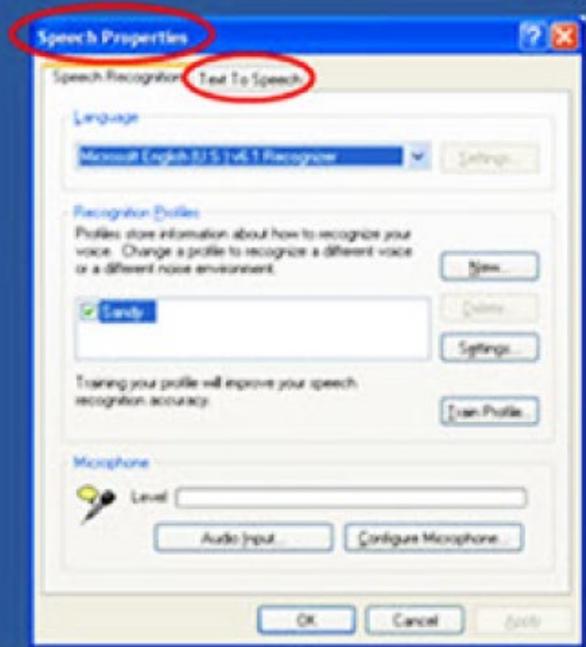
TTS is a text reader

Text Reader \neq Screen Reader

The computer's ability as a text reader is often confused with a screen reader. A screen reader will read all the elements on a computer screen and is necessary to navigate and operate a computer. A screen reader uses the text to speech engine to speak text. Text to speech is a text reader and a text reader by itself cannot navigate and operate a computer. It is important to understand that text reader is not a screen reader.



Windows XP – Speech Properties



Text to speech settings for computers with Windows operating systems can be found in the control panel. If you are using Windows XP, choose Speech Properties. Then choose the text to speech tab

Poll #2: Time for a Poll!



Poll #2

In a slide presentation, each slide number _____.

A. is formatted as a centered heading

B. is treated as the print page number

Direct Entry for Formatting





SIX-KEY ENTRY

What is six-key entry?

Six-key entry is using six keys to type braille.



Where do we use six-key entry?

- Perkins Braillewriter
- Refreshable Braille Displays
- UEBOnline.org
- Perky Duck
- Braille Zephyr

How does six-key entry work on a QWERTY keyboard?

We talked about **ASCII and braille** in the 1st session of this series: [Maps for the Braille Adventure](#)

- SDF JKL (FDS JKL)
- Multiple keys at once
- Software program inserts an ASCII character
- “n-key rollover” is crucial
- UEBOnline.org provides a “Keyboard Test” to see if your keyboard can do six-key entry.

Poll #3 Time for a Poll!



Poll #3

Which program do you use most often to transcribe braille?

- A. BrailleBlaster
- B. Braille2000
- C. Duxbury Braille Translator
- D. Other

A Multitude of Ways to Transcribe





STYLES AND FORMATTING

What is a “style,” and why should I care?

- A style is information about what a text element is
 - heading
 - paragraph
 - list
 - etc.
- Print appearance can be generated from styles
- Braille transcription programs generate formatting based on styles
- Screenreaders use styles



Example of Styles in BrailleBlaster

The screenshot displays the BrailleBlaster interface with a document titled "New Document". The document content is as follows:

Zola 1

Zola is my good friend. Zola is a very big bunny. Zola is quite funny.

We play together every afternoon. Zola sips cola. I sip cola. I eat cake. Zola eats cake.

I like cake a lot. Zola likes cola a lot.

Zola Questions

1. What is this story about?
 - A. a bunny who likes to sip cola and eat cake
 - B. a dog who likes to run
 - C. braille
2. What unusual things does Zola do?
 - A. She climbs a hill.
 - B. She sips cola and eats cake.
 - C. She uses braille.
3. What does Zola like to drink?
 - A. juice
 - B. water
 - C. cola

1

The right pane shows the Braille representation of the text above, demonstrating various styles such as centered headings, blocked text, and body text. The status bar at the bottom indicates: Print Page: 1 | Braille Page: 1 | Line: 5 | Cell Number: 23 | Indent: Cell 3 | Style: Body Text |



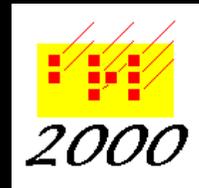
BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION SOFTWARE PROGRAMS

Most Common Programs in the U.S.

- BrailleBlaster



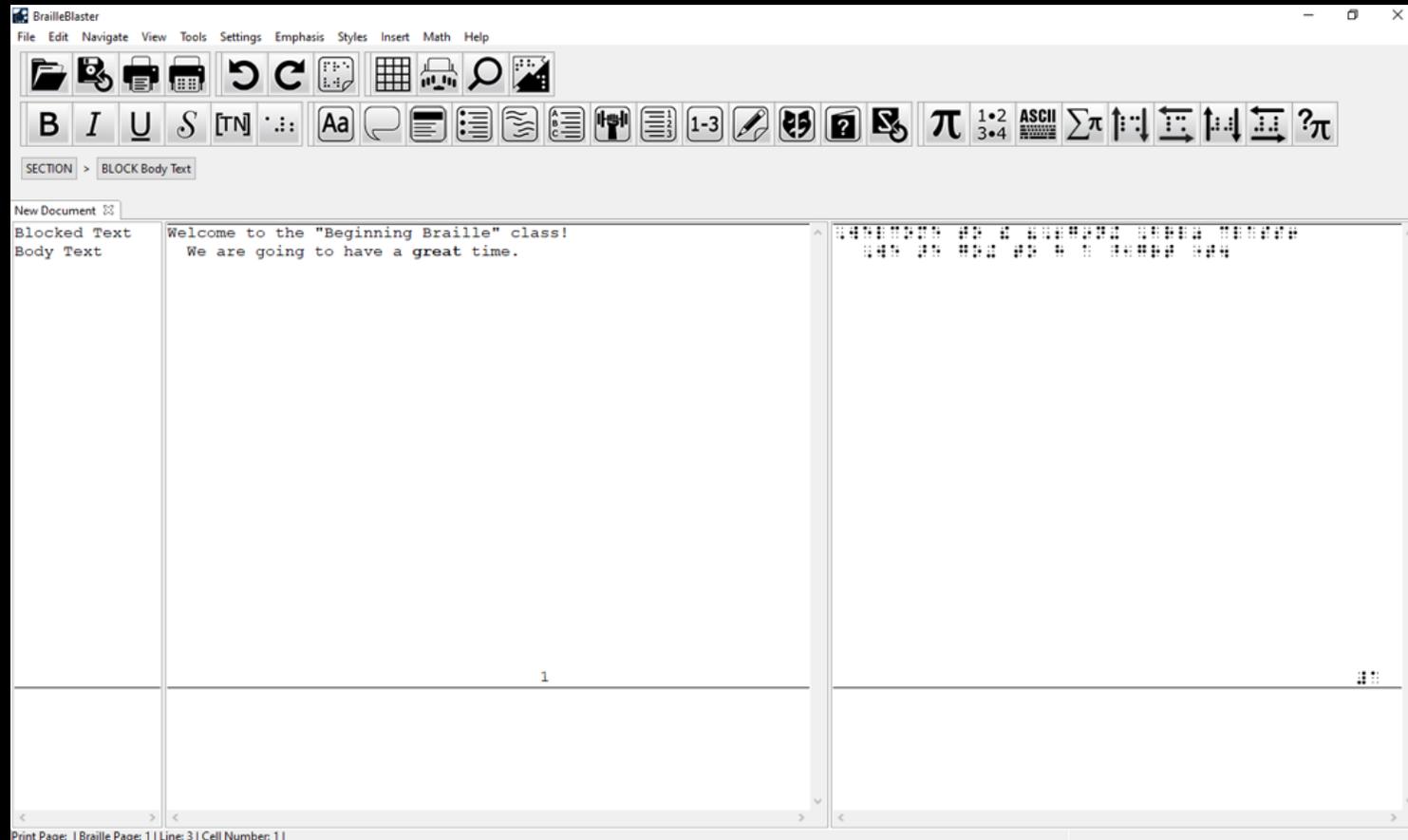
- Braille2000



- Duxbury Braille Translator



BrailleBlaster

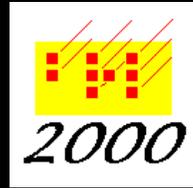


BrailleBlaster (cont.)

- sometimes referred to as BB
- has been criticized for its
 - development bugs
 - separated editing tools
(six-key entry, ASCII math)
- beloved for its
 - side-by-side view
 - price (free)
 - conversion of NIMAS (.xml) files
math markup, text element styles

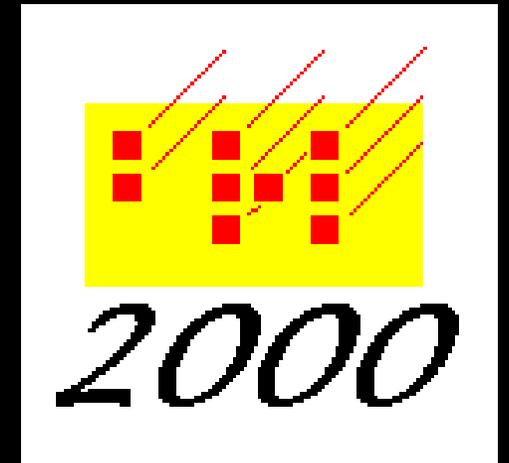


Braille2000



Braille2000 (cont.)

- also referred to as B2k
- has been criticized for its
 - lack of accessibility
 - but wait! There is now a Talking Edition!
 - slow development
- beloved for its
 - SpeedBraille™ Keys
 - color-coding
 - hands-on editing feel



Duxbury Braille Translator



```
The Duxbury Braille Translator - [Untitled Print Document 1]
File Edit View Layout Table Document Global Help
<LeftFlush>Welcome to the "Beginning Braille"
class! </LeftFlush>
<3-1>We are going to have a <bold>great</bold> time. </3-1>
```

Current Style: None | Keys: 1



Does Braille Formatting Spark Joy?

Duxbury Braille Translator (cont.)

- also referred to as Dux and DBT
- has been criticized for its
 - nonintuitive editing tools, including unconnected print & braille files
 - price
- beloved for its
 - breadth of translation tables
 - international presence
 - bridge to word processing software (e.g. Microsoft WORD)

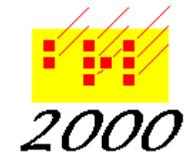


Transcription Program Trials

<https://brailleblaster.org/download.php>



<http://www.braille2000.com/brl2000/Evaluate.htm>



<https://www.duxburysystems.com/>





HEADINGS FORMATTING

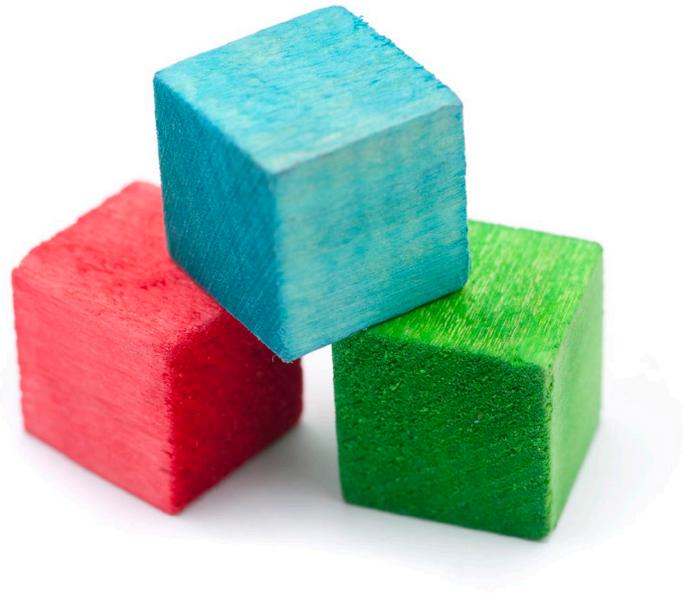
Braille Formats 2016 §4

Heading Levels

- Centered (1st level)
- Cell-5 (2nd level)
- Cell-7 (3rd level)

Choose Centered

Centered headings break up material more plainly than other heading types.



- “White” space (negative space) around a centered heading really stands out
- **Some** print requires the fine distinction of cell-5 and cell-7 headings



MATH FORMATTING SUMMARIES

UEB Math/Science

- Indented paragraphs all the time
- Spatial material has blank line before and after
- Follow Braille Formats 2016

UEB with Nemeth

- Indented paragraphs all the time
- Spatial material has blank line before and after
- Two types of displayed material
 - technical ... follow Nemeth Code
 - literary ... follow Braille Formats 2016

Math Formatting Flashcards

<https://quizlet.com/BrailleTrainer/folders>

- Flashcard set [UEB Technical \(Math/Science\) Formats](#)
(in the [folder “UEB Math/Science”](#))
- Flashcard set [UEB with Nemeth Formats](#)
(in the [folder “Nemeth Code”](#))

Poll #4: Time for a Poll!



Poll #4

True or False? It is best to have lots of cell-7 or cell-5 headings and as few centered headings as possible.

A. True

B. False



TYPEFORMS



What is a typeform?

“In print, when special typefaces (often referred to as **font attributes**) such as italics, boldface, underlining, or script are used to emphasize or to make distinct a word or passage, these changes must be so indicated in braille.”

–Lesson 15 of the [NLS Instruction Manual for Braille Transcribing](#)
(highlighting and bold typefaces added)

Symbol? Word? or Passage?

- a **symbol** is one letter, one print sign, etc.
It might take multiple braille cells to transcribe the one symbol.

⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠

- a **word** is a symbols-sequence (or symbols-word)

⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

- a **passage** is more than two symbols-sequences

⠠⠠ ⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠

We talked about the term **symbols-sequence** in the 2nd session of this series: BRIDGING the River “Why”

UEB Typeform “Cheat” Chart

The [QKList UEB Signs and Symbols PDF](#) has a nice printed chart of typeform indicators.

This is available from the [UEB Study Group Google Drive](#)

§9 TYPEFORMS			
<i>Italics</i>	bold	<u>underline</u>	<i>script</i>

To keep or ignore?

When should we ignore a typeform?

We should ignore a typeform if:

- formatting distinguishes the material just as the typeform does
- multiple typeforms simultaneously apply to the material all for the same reason

Keep a typeform if ... it sparks joy!

We should keep a typeform if it gives additional information about the emphasized material.

relevant information = JOY!



Poll #5: Time for a Poll!



Poll #5

True or False? There are different formatting rules for a UEB with Nemeth transcription than for a UEB or UEB Math/Science transcription.

A. True

B. False



INDENTED VS BLOCKED PARAGRAPHS

What are indented and blocked paragraphs?

Indented paragraphs might also be called “Body Text” or “3-1.” The first line of each indented paragraph is pushed to the right a bit (2 cells in braille).

Blocked paragraphs might also be called “Left Flush” or “1-1.” Every line of each blocked paragraph starts at the same left margin. Blocked paragraphs need a bit of space before them (a blank line in braille) in order to separate them.

When do we ignore print for paragraph indentation?

If a **whole print project** has only blocked paragraphs, then we can substitute indented paragraphs in braille. (see BF2016 §1.9.3)

Poll #6: Time for a Poll!



Poll #6

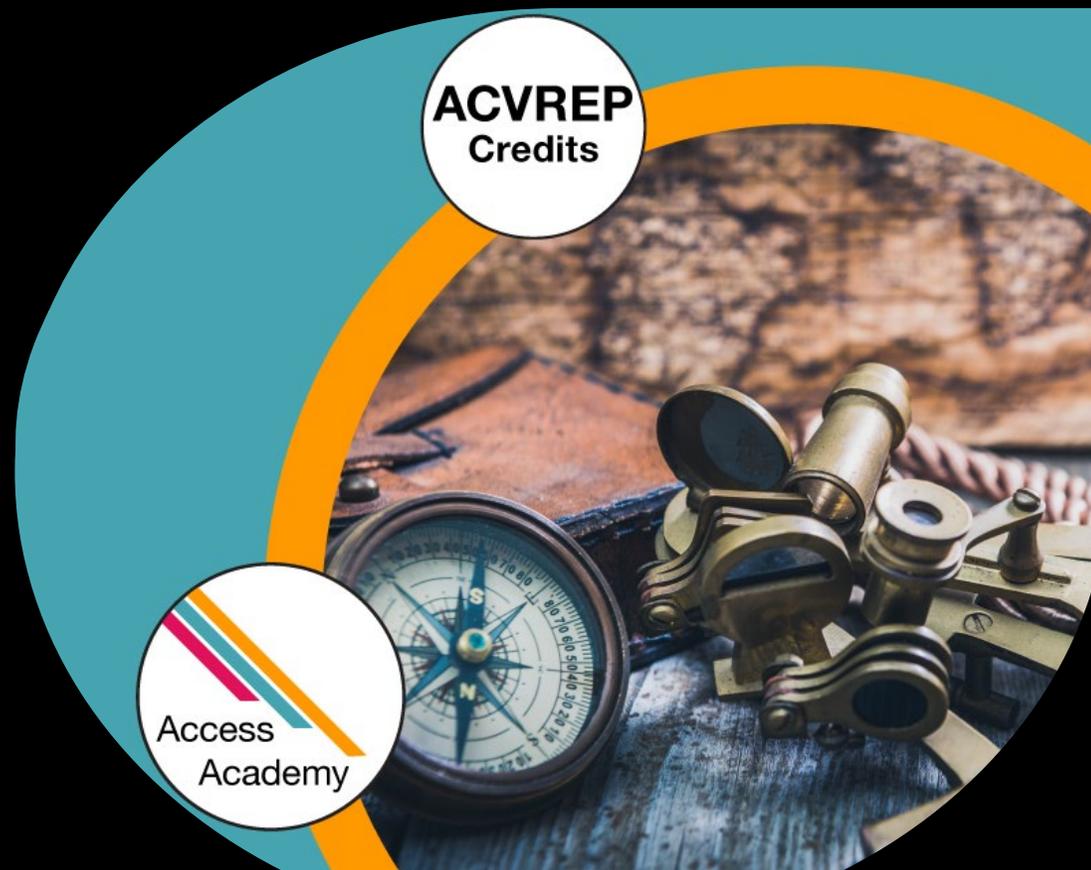
What typeform indicator should be used for *I* (italicized capital letter “eye”)?

- A. italic symbol indicator
- B. italic word indicator
- C. italic passage indicator and italic terminator

UPCOMING WEBINAR

Join us next time for Navigation of Braille Certification

Friday,
Mar 5,
1:00-2:00
ET



AMERICAN
PRINTING
HOUSE FOR
THE BLIND





Questions for our Presenters:

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Kyle DeJute, Braille Trainer



deadens@aph.org

Dawn Eadens, Digital Textbook
File Developer