SEVENTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE
ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
Item 7 of the provisional agenda*

TERMINOLOGY IN THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

Glossary of Toponymic Terminology - Version 4

Paper submitted by the United Nations Group of
Experts on Geographical Names, Working Group
on Toponymic Terminology**

* E/CONF.91/1.
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UNITED NATIONS GROUP OF EXPERTS
ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
WORKING GROUP ON TERMINOLOGY

GLOSSARY OF TOPONYMIC TERMINOLOGY

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PART 1: ENGLISH

Version 4.0 1 January 1997

Notes: Phonemic examples are shown between oblique slashes / /. Phonetic examples are shown in square brackets [ ]. Cross references within definitions are indicated by * and printed in bold type.

001 acronym Word formed from the initial letter or letters of each of the successive or major parts of a composite term. Examples: Soweto (South West Townships); Radar; UNEGN.

002 address Computer location where a particular item is stored.

003 allograph Each of the particular graphic representations of a *grapheme. Examples: in English, ff, ph and gh are allographs of f, the grapheme for the /f/ *phoneme; in German, ss = sz = B, ä = ae.

004 allomorph Each of two or more differing *phonological manifestations of a given *morpheme. Example: the es in boxes and the en in oxen are allomorphs of the plural morpheme.

005 allonym Each of two or more toponyms employed in reference to a single *topographic feature. Examples: Hull, Kingston upon Hull; Vesterhaven, Nordsee; Swansea, Abertawe; Johannesburg, Egoli.

006 allonym, standardized Each of two or more *standardized toponyms given to a single topographic feature. Examples: Biel and Bienne; Casablanca and Dâr al-Baydâ'; Kaapstad and Cape Town; Matterhorn and Monte Cervino.

007 allophone A *phone, one of two or more *phonetic variants of a *phoneme. Examples: allophones of the /t/ phoneme in English Tyne as distinct from American water; allophones of the /l/ phoneme in Spanish río as against in Madrid.

008 alphabet Set of all *letters of a language with *alphabetic script, ordered in a specific sequence and provided with names for each letter.

009 alphabetic Relating to an *alphabet.

010 alphabet, conversion An *alphabet used in names *conversion. Comprehensive term for *transcription alphabet and *transliteration alphabet.

011 alphabet, transcription An *alphabet that is employed in the process of *transcription. Examples: using only z, not c, to represent the dental /t/ *phoneme in transcription into German; or only k, not c, for transcribing the velar /k/ phoneme into English.

/...
alphabet, transliteration  An alphabet that may include diacritics, employed in transliteration. Example: alphabets used in the romanization of non-Roman script, e.g. for classical Arabic omitting C, E, O, P, V and X, but including ' and other markers.

alphabet  See script, alphabetic.

alphanumeric  Representation, e.g. in a computer, which employs not only numerals but also letters. In a wider sense, also employing punctuation marks and mathematical and other symbols.

anthroponym  Personal name. Examples: Alfred; 'Alí; Everest.

articulation  Physiological movements involved in modifying an airflow to produce speech sounds, using the vocal tract above the larynx.

batch processing  Method by which items are coded and collected into groups and then processed sequentially in a computer, usually at a later time. Complementary term: interactive processing.

bilingualism  The habitual use, e.g. by a person or a community, of two languages.

bisscriptual  Written or printed in two different kinds of script. See also multiscptual map; multiscptual gazetteer.

character  Graphic symbol used as a unit in writing; more specifically, a graphic symbol in a non-alphabetic writing system. Examples: Chinese (zhong); Amharic (hā); Japanese Hiragana (no).

character, modified  Comprehensive term for simplified character and variant character.

character, simplified  Variant of a character which is graphically less complex than its original form. Example: Chinese simplified characters (Jiantizi) with fewer strokes than the corresponding traditional ones.

character, variant  Each of two or more characters in a writing system representing the same phonological and/or morphological item (and if alphabetic - belonging to the same typeface) but differing in shape, e.g. according to its location in a word. Examples: Arabic  =  =  =  ; Hebrew  =  =  .

character, vowel  In alphabetic or syllabic script, a character, not a marker, representing a vowel. Examples: Roman a; Thai (a); Korean (a); Amharic (ā, first vowel character).

choronym  Toponym applied to an areal feature.
class, feature  Grouping of topographic features with similar characteristics, to facilitate classification, search and retrieval. Example: river, creek, brook, wādī, etc., all classed under 'stream'.

coded representation  The representation of an item or of a feature class by an alphanumeric or graphic code; the result of applying a code to any member of a coded set. Examples: 0226 - main road; Λ - mountain.

colloquial language  See language, colloquial.

composite name  See name, composite.

compound name  See name, composite.

computer file  See file, computer.

computer program  See program, computer.

computer record  See record, computer.

consonant  One of the two main classes of speech sounds, produced by a constriction or closure at one or more points in the breath channel. Examples: /l/, /l/, /l/, /l/ sounds. Complementary term: vowel.

consonant letter  See letter, consonant.

consonant script  See script, defective alphabetic.

conventional name  See exonym. In English usage: the term for exonym.

conversion  In toponymy, the process of transferring the phonological and/or morphological elements of a particular language to another, or from one script to another. Conversion is effected by either transcription or transliteration.

conversion alphabet  See alphabet, conversion.

conversion table  Comprehensive term for transcription key and transliteration key. See also romanization key.

coordinates, geographical  (a) The (spheroidal) net or graticule of lines of latitude (parallels) numbered 0°-90° north and south of the equator, and lines of longitude (meridians) numbered 0°-180° east and west of the international zero meridian of Greenwich, used to define location on the Earth's surface (disregarding altitude) with the aid of angular measure (degrees, minutes and seconds of arc).

(b) The value of a point referred to this graticule.

coordinates, rectangular  (a) Grid of plane coordinates consisting of two sets of straight lines at right angles to each other and with equal units of length on both axes, superimposed on a (chiefly) topographic map. See also UTM grid.

(b) The values of a point referred to such a grid.

coordinates, topographic  See coordinates, rectangular.

creole  A stable form of speech, derived from a pidgin, which has become the sole or principal language of a speech community. Example: Haitian creole (derived from French).

cultural feature  See feature, man-made.
049 data
A representation of facts or concepts in a formalized manner suitable for communication, interpretation or processing by man or machine. Complementary term in computer usage: ➔program.

050 data base (also database), digital
Comprehensive, sometimes exhaustive, collection of ➔computer files and/or ➔computer records pertaining to a specific subject. Example: the collection of computer records for all hydrographic features in a country.

051 data base, digital toponymic
A ➔digital data base containing (all) ➔toponyms in a specific region, with or without accompanying data, in computer-readable form.

052 data base management system
A collection of ➔software required for using a ➔digital data base so as to enable independent users to access this data base.

053 data dictionary
Catalog of definitions of the contents of a ➔digital data base, including ➔data element reference labels, ➔file formats, internal reference codes and text entry, as well as their relationships.

054 data directory
See data dictionary.

055 data element
Description of a basic unit of identifiable and definable information to occupy a specific ➔data field in a ➔computer record. Example: 'Date of ratification of name by the names authority'.

056 data field
Space for a specific ➔data element in a ➔computer record. Example: the fields for the coordinates in a place name computer record.

057 data interchange, translingual
Data exchange (especially by computer) via standardized codes and/or terminology not bound to a particular language.

058 data item
Value or content of a particular ➔data element in a specific ➔computer record. Example: 01.01.97 in the ➔data field for 'date'.

059 data portability
The possibility of running and/or using the same data on different computer systems.

060 default value
In computer processing, an option chosen by the computer automatically in the absence of explicit instructions by the human operator.

061 defective alphabetic script
See script, defective alphabetic.

062 descriptive term
A word (usually a common noun, an adjective or a phrase) e.g. printed in a map, which designates a ➔topographic feature by its properties, but which does not constitute a ➔toponym. Examples: airfield, canal; water tower; perennial, seasonal (for streams).

063 designation
See descriptive term.

064 diacritic
A sign, usually small, placed above, below or across a ➔letter or group of letters in order to change the ➔phonemic value of the original letter(s), or to denote stress or tone, or to distinguish between two words. Examples: German ä, ö, ü; ã and ç in the romanization of Russian Cyrillic; ḫ in the romanization of Hebrew; Polish ł; Romanian ă; French ou (where) as against ou (or). See also ➔marker.

065 diacritical mark, diacritical sign
See diacritic.
066 dialect  Regionally or socially distinctive variety of a language, characterised and identified by a particular set of words, grammatical structures and pronunciation. The distinction between dialect and language is sometimes difficult to establish. See also diglossia; vernacular.

067 dictionary, geographical List of geographical terms and/or names, usually arranged in alphabetical order, providing definitions, explanatory information or descriptive data for each item.

068 digital data base See data base, digital.

069 digital toponymic data base See data base, digital toponymic.

070 diglossia A relatively stable linguistic situation in which two different varieties of a single language co-occur in a linguistic community, one (the ‘high’ variety) usually being the more formal and prestigious; the other (the ‘low’) variety being used in more informal settings, chiefly in conversation. Examples: Greek Katharevousa (‘high’) and Dhimitiki (‘low’); Arabic al-fuṣḥa and al-‘ammiyah; in Swiss German: Hochdeutsch and Schwyzerdütsch. In a wider sense also a co-occurrence of two unrelated languages such as Spanish and Guarani in Paraguay.

071 diglossic Referring to diglossia.

072 digraph Sequence of two letters, which represent a single phoneme. Examples: for /j/, sj in Dutch, ch in French, sh in English. In some languages, certain digraphs are listed separately in the alphabetic sequence, e.g. ll in Spanish, ch in Czech and Slovak. See also ligature.

073 diphthong Combination of two (or three, in triphthong) vocalic elements in a single syllable. Examples: for /au/, ei in German ‘bei’, i in English ‘time’.

074 donor language See language, source.

075 donor script See script, source.

076 endonym Name of a geographical feature in one of the languages occurring in that area where the feature is situated. Examples: Vārānasi (not Benares); Aachen (not Aix-la-Chapelle); Krung Thep (not Bangkok); al-Uqṣur (not Luxor); Tevera (not Tiberias).

077 endonym, standardized Endonym sanctioned by a names authority. Example: among the allonyms Hull and Kingston upon Hull (England), the latter is the standardized form.

078 entity, topographic See topographic feature.

079 eponym Name of a person after or for whom a place is named. Examples: Iago (James) in Santiago; Everest in Mount Everest; Mūsa (Moses) in Wāḍī Mūsā.

080 epotopeonym A toponym which constitutes the basis or origin of a common noun. Examples: Jerez (for sherry); Olympia (for Olympiad); al-Burtughāl, the Arabic name of Portugal (for Burtuqāl, also Burtuqān, i.e. an orange in Arabic).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tr>
<td>exonym</td>
<td>Name used in a specific language for a geographical feature situated outside the area where that language has official status, and differing in its form from the name used in the official language or languages of the area where the geographical feature is situated. Examples: Warsaw is the English exonym for Warszawa; Londres is French for London; Mailand is German for Milano. The officially romanized endonym Moskva for Москва is no exonym, nor is the Pinyin form Beijing, while Peking is an exonym. The United Nations recommend minimizing the use of exonyms in international usage. See also name, traditional.</td>
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<tr>
<td>extraterrestrial feature</td>
<td>See feature, extraterrestrial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>extraterrestrial name</td>
<td>See name, extraterrestrial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>false generic element</td>
<td>See generic element, false.</td>
</tr>
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<td>feature class</td>
<td>See class, feature.</td>
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<tr>
<td>feature name</td>
<td>See toponym.</td>
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<tr>
<td>feature, cultural</td>
<td>See feature, man-made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, extraterrestrial</td>
<td>A topographic feature on any planet other than Earth, or on a satellite. Example: a crater on the moon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, geographical</td>
<td>Topographic feature on the surface of the Earth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>feature, hydrographic</td>
<td>Topographic feature consisting of water, or associated mainly with water but not consisting of dry land. Examples: lake; underground reservoir; but not an island.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, man-made</td>
<td>Topographic feature made, or significantly modified, by man. Examples: canal; road; populated place. Complementary term: feature, natural.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, natural</td>
<td>Topographic feature not made or significantly modified by man. Examples: river (but not canal); forest (but not plantation). Complementary term: feature, man-made.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, physical</td>
<td>Any topographic feature which can be observed visually. Examples: mountain; river; road; building; but not e.g. an unmarked political boundary.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, topographic</td>
<td>A portion of the surface of the Earth or of any other planet or satellite that has recognizable identity.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>feature, undersea</td>
<td>A portion of that part of the Earth which lies beneath the surface of an ocean or a sea, and which has recognizable identity. Examples: Dogger Bank, Mariana Trench.</td>
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<td>field, data</td>
<td>See data field.</td>
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<tr>
<td>file format</td>
<td>See format, file.</td>
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<tr>
<td>file, computer</td>
<td>Organized, ordered and named collection of computer records.</td>
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<tr>
<td>firmware</td>
<td>Computer programs and procedures programmed onto a card or board and inserted into or fixed in a computer. It is not changeable by software commands.</td>
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<tr>
<td>font</td>
<td>A typeface of a specified type, style and size. Example: 12-point bold Times New Roman; 10 cpi (character-per-inch) Brougham italic.</td>
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<td>118</td>
<td>geographic information system (GIS)</td>
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<td>119</td>
<td>GIS</td>
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</table>
glossary

Specialized list of terms relating to a particular field of study or interest, which may contain explanatory or descriptive information on the items listed. Example: glossary of terms employed in the standardization of geographical names.

grammar

The field of study dealing with the formal features of a language and the rules that govern their combination, reference and interpretation.

grapheme

Graphic representation of a phoneme in a particular language. Examples: $j$ is the grapheme for the $/dʒ/$ phoneme in English and for $ʒ$ in French.

graphic form

Written or printed character(s), including any diacritics, which represent a linguistic item such as a name. Distinct from spoken and digital form.

graticule

See coordinates, geographical (a).

grid, topographic

See coordinates, rectangular (a).

guidelines, toponymic

Set of rules governing the standardization of a country's toponyms and their presentation in maps and gazetteers.

hardware

Reference to the computer itself (central processing unit, CPU), as well as to all peripheral input and output devices such as monitors, disks, tape consoles, printers, plotters, digitisers, scanners, etc. Complementary term: software.

historical name

See name, historical.

hodonym

See odonym.

homonym

Each of two or more identical toponyms denoting different topographic features. Example: Monacó (Principauté de) and Monaco (di Baviera), the Italian exonym for München.

hydrographic feature

See feature, hydrographic.

hydronym

Toponym applied to a hydrographic feature.

hyphenization, also hyphenation

(a) In toponymy, joining two or more elements of a composite name by hyphens; this normally prevents change of word order in an alphabetic listing such as a gazetteer. Examples: Höhr-Grenzhausen; Tel-Aviv; Pointe-Sapin-Centre.

(b) Placing hyphens between the syllables of a word or between words.

ideogram

(a) Graphic symbol which symbolizes a thing or an idea but not necessarily a particular word for it. Used by some writers for logogram.

(b) In Egyptian hieroglyphs, a determinative indicating the meaning of (clustered) phonograms.

ideographic script

See script, logographic.

index, names

See index, toponymic.

index, place names

See index, toponymic. Sometimes applied to populated places only. See also place name.

index, toponymic

Ordered list of toponyms, including data about location but little or no additional information.

/...
| Page 10 |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 139     | indigenous language                              | See language, indigenous. |
| 140     | indigenous name                                  | See name, indigenous.   |
| 141     | interactive processing                           | In a computer system, the process of interacting directly with a program and/or data for immediately modifying, retrieving and/or displaying information. This is usually done on a computer screen. Complementary term: batch processing. |
| 142     | interface                                        | A common boundary at which two different computer systems or portions thereof join or intersect. It can be mechanical or electronic, and can also refer to the interaction between man and computer. |
| 143     | International Phonetic Alphabet, IPA             | An internationally recognized set of symbols for phonetic transcription. Some examples of IPA notation: [ŋ] for the 'ng' sound in English 'sing'; [ʃ] for the English 'sh' sound; [a] for 'a' in 'art' but [æ] for a in 'any'; [u] for consonant 'u' in French 'Suisse'. |
| 144     | international standardization                    | See standardization, international, geographical names. |
| 145     | language                                         | In the context of this glossary, a means of verbal communication used by a large community, including the words, their pronunciation and the methods of combining them. |
| 146     | language, colloquial                              | Form of language used in informal speech, differing noticeably from that used in formal speech and writing. See also dialect; diglossia. |
| 147     | language, donor                                  | See language, source.   |
| 148     | language, indigenous                            | Language native to a given region. |
| 149     | language, literary                               | Written form of a language, regarded as the desirable standard for works of literature. May also form the basis of formal speech. Example: Arabic Nal'wi as against colloquial dialects. See also diglossia. |
| 150     | language, minority                              | In a specific region, a language which is different from the official language of state administration and which is spoken by a national minority. It may or may not have official status. Examples: Swedish in Finland, Breton in France, Frisian in the Netherlands. |
| 151     | language, national                               | Language in widespread and current use throughout a specific country or in parts of its territory, and often representative of the identity of its speakers. It may or may not have the status of an official language. Example: Rhaeto-Romance (Rätoromanisch) in parts of Switzerland. |
| 152     | language, non-official or unofficial              | Language which, though relatively widely used, lacks officially sanctioned status in a particular legally constituted political entity. Example: French in Lebanon; English in Israel. |
| 153     | language, official                               | A language which has legal status in a particular legally constituted political entity such as a state or part of a state, and which serves as a language of administration. Examples: Spanish in Chile; Italian and German in Alto Adige (Italy). |
| 154     | language, principal                              | In a linguistic community where more than one language is in use, that language which has the most adherents. Example: German, not Italian, in Alto Adige (Italy); English, not Welsh, in Wales. |
| 155     | language, receiver                               | See language, target.   |
language, source

- Language from which a name is transformed to, or adopted by, another language, the target language. Example: in conversion from Russian to Chinese, the former is the source language.

language, standard

- That form of speech and/or writing of a language which is specified as correct by an officially appointed or widely recognized authority, or, in the absence of such an authority, which is generally accepted as correct in a linguistic community. Examples: Hochdeutsch in German; Algemeen Beschaafd Nederlands in the Netherlands.

language, target

- Language in terms of which a toponym may be adopted or transformed from its source language. Example: in conversion from Arabic to French, the latter is the target language.

language, vehicular

- Language which serves communication between members of different linguistic communities. Example: English is the vehicular language of civil aviation throughout most of the world.

letter

- Graphic symbol serving as unit character in an alphabet.

letter, basic

- Fundamental form of a letter without diacritics. Examples: Polish ą as against ł; Icelandic ð as against ð.

letter, consonant

- Letter of an alphabet representing a consonant. Examples: Roman b, ð; Greek β, δ; Thai ณ, ฎ; Arabic ำ, ść; Korean ㅂ, ㄷ.

letter, vowel

- Letter of an alphabet representing a vowel. Examples: Roman a, e, i, o, u; Greek α, ε, ι, ο, υ, ω; Russian а, е, и, о, у; Hebrew י; Thai ี, Korean 이, 음.

lettering, map

- (a) Map script in an alphabetic writing system. In a wider sense, map script.

- (b) Activity of inserting (alphabetic) script in a map.

lettering, multilingual

- Map lettering in a multilingual map.

lettering, multiscriptual

- Map lettering in a multiscriptual map.

letters, cardinal

- Those letters of a script which are contained in most alphabets that use this script. Examples: the Roman alphabet excluding e.g. the letters K, Q, X; the traditional Arabic letters of the Persian (Farsi) alphabet. Complementary term: letters, special.

letters, special

- Those letters of the alphabet of a particular language which are characteristic of, or unique to, this language, being absent in all or most other alphabets using the same script. Examples: Danish ø; Icelandic þ, ð; German ß; Persian ﷽. Complementary term: letters, cardinal.

lexicon

- (a) A dictionary or glossary relating to a particular language or sphere of interest.

- (b) The vocabulary of an individual person, an occupational group or a professional field.

lexicon, logographic

- An ordered list of the characters of a logographic script; the counterpart of an alphabet in alphabetic script and of a syllabary in syllabic script.
ligature  A graphic stylized combination of two letters, or a connecting line or stroke, indicating that successive sounds are to be pronounced as one. Examples: œ (derived from o + e); kh, pronounced as IPA /ks/ or German ch in ack.

lingua franca  Auxiliary language used for communication between groups of people with different native languages. Examples: Swahili in East Africa, Quechua in the Andean regions. See also pidgin.

linguistic area  See linguistic region.

linguistic community  A group of people who communicate with relative ease in a common language or dialect.

linguistic region  Region or area where a particular language constitutes the official or principal language. Example: the Flemish and Walloon regions in Belgium.

linguistics  The scientific study of human language in all its aspects, including phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics.

literary language  See language, literary.

local name  See name, local.

logogram  Graphic symbol or combination of symbols which represents an entire free morpheme such as a word, without separately representing its constituent phonemes or syllables. Examples: Chinese  for zhong (middle); Japanese Kanji  for san or yama (mountain).

logographic  Consisting of or relating to logograms.

logographic lexicon  See lexicon, logographic.

logographic script  See script, logographic.

long form (of a name)  Complete form of a toponym (in particular the name of a country), including all components. Examples: Al-Mamlakah al-Hāshimiyyah al-Urduniyyah (The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan); Zhonghua Renmin Gongheguo (People's Republic of China). Complementary term: short form; in the above examples - Al-Urdun (Jordan); Zhongguo (China).

lunar name  See name, lunar.

man-made feature  See feature, man-made.

map lettering  See lettering, map.

map, multilingual  Map which, for a particular topographic feature, shows allonyms in different languages, not necessarily standardized. Examples: Athens, Athina; Moscou, Moskva.

map, multiscryptual  Map which presents toponyms in two (biscryptual) or more different types of script or writing systems. Examples: Athína, Athens; Ναζαρέθ, Nazareth; Владивосток, Vladivostok.

map script  Toponyms and other verbal and numerical items such as descriptive terms and spot and contour elevations in a map. See also lettering, map.

map script, multilingual  Map script in a multilingual map.
map script, multiscr iptual

Map script in a multiscr iptual map.

map, thematic

Any geographical map devoted to a special subject and not showing only the surface configuration of the Earth. Examples: geological map, historical map, airways chart. Complementary term: topographic map.

map, topographic

A map having as its object the representation of the surface of the Earth or the Moon or of a planet or its satellites, and its topographic features - natural and man-made. Complementary term: map, thematic.

maritime name

See name, maritime.

marker

Graphic symbol representing a phoneme, morpheme or other element of a language and used only in combination with an independent letter or syllabogram. Example: Arabic shaddah (doubling marker).

marker, vowel

A marker employed in defective alphabetic script to represent a vowel. Examples: Arabic ֵ, ֶ, ַ (a, i, u); Hebrew ָ, ֹ, ָ, ַ (a, e, i, o, u), Thai ִ, ֵ, ָ, ִ (a, i, u).

menu, computer

List of options available to an operator, usually displayed in graphic or alphanumeric form on the computer screen.

minority language

See language, minority.

minority name

See name, minority.

modified character

See character, modified.

morpheme

The minimal distinctive unit in grammar; the smallest functioning unit in the composition of words. Example: 'names' consists of the free morpheme 'name' and the bound plural morpheme 's'.

morphological

Relating to morphology.

morphology

The branch of grammar which studies the structure and form of words in a language.

mother tongue

The first language acquired within one's family.

multilingual gazetteer

See gazetteer, multilingual.

multilingual map

See map, multilingual.

multiscriptual gazetteer

See gazetteer, multiscriptual.

multiscriptual map

See map, multiscriptual.

name

(a) See noun, proper.

(b) In the specific context of this glossary: a toponym.

name, alternative

See allonym.

name, approved

See name, standardized.

name, composite

Toponym consisting of a generic element and a specific element, or of a specific element consisting of more than one word. Examples: Mount Cook; Newport; Newfoundland; Kemijoki; Rostov na Donu; Sierra Nevada Oriental; Stoke on Trent. Complementary term: name, simplex.
| 213 | name, compound  | See name, composite. |
| 214 | name, conventional  | See synonym. |
| 215 | name, extraterrestrial  | Toponym applied to an extraterrestrial feature. Example: Nix Olympica (on Mars). |
| 216 | name, geographical  | Name applied to a feature on Earth; a special case of a topographic name or toponym. |
| 217 | name, historical  | Toponym found in historical document(s) and being no more in current use. Examples: Eboracum (for York, England); Mediolanum (for Milano, Italy); New Amsterdam (for New York, USA); Edo (for Tokyo, Japan). |
| 218 | name, indigenous  | Toponym in, or derived from, an indigenous language. Examples: Culabah (Aboriginal, Australia), Empangeni (Zulu, South Africa). |
| 219 | name, local  | Toponym applied by a geographically limited sector of a linguistic community to a feature within its area. It may differ from the standardized name. |
| 220 | name, lunar  | Toponym applied to a feature on the surface of the Moon. Examples: Gagarin; Mare Tranquillitatis. |
| 221 | name, maritime  | Name of a hydrographic feature associated with the sea. Examples: Estrecho de Magallanes, Bottenhavet/Selkâmeri, English Channel. |
| 222 | name, minority  | Toponym in a minority language. |
| 223 | name, official  | Toponym sanctioned by a legally constituted (e.g. national) names authority and applied within its jurisdiction. |
| 224 | name, place  | (a) See toponym. |
| 225 | name, proper  | (b) Synonym used by some writers for name of populated place. |
| 226 | name, primary  | Descriptive name expressed in local terms and language. Examples: Ar-Rub' al-Khâlí (the empty quarter, Saudi Arabia); Dasht-e Kavir (big desert, Iran). |
| 227 | name, simplex  | See noun, proper. |
| 228 | name, standardized  | Single-word toponym, usually consisting of a specific component only. Examples: Kyiv; Temuko; Malawi. Al-Qāhirah (Cairo) is also a simplex name, since in the original Arabic the article al-constitutes a bound morpheme, i.e. an integral unhyphenated prefix. Complementary term: name, composite. |
| 229 | name, topographic  | Name sanctioned by a names authority as the preferred name from among a number of allonyms for a given feature. However, a single feature may have more than one standardized name. Example: Kaapstad and Cape Town (but not Capetown). |
| 230 | name, traditional  | See toponym. |
| 231 | name, variant  | An exonym in relatively widespread use by a particular linguistic community and usually found in its tradition and literature. Examples: Alexandrie (French) for al-Iskandariyyah (Arabic); Jerusalén (Spanish) for Yerushalayim (Hebrew); Peking (English) for Beijing (Chinese). |

See allonym.
names authority
(a) A body such as a person, board or commission, assigned advisory function and/or power of decision in matters of toponymy by a legally constituted entity such as a state.

(b) An authority charged with issuing standardized toponyms.

names conversion
See conversion.

names index
See index, toponymic.

names survey
See survey, toponymic.

names transformation
See transformation, names.

national language
See language, national.

national standardization, geographical names
See standardization, national, geographical names.

natural feature
See feature, natural.

noise, graphic
That which hinders, obstructs or obscures the clear transmission or reception of a graphic message. Examples: 'snow' on a television screen; cluttering of a map with too dense graphic information; fuzzy map script.

non-official language
See language, non-official.

non-vocalized
A written word or text which does not include vocalization.

non-vowelled
See non-vowelled.

normalization
See standardization.

noun, common
A word designating any one of a particular kind of being, place or thing. Examples: toponym, gazetteer, city.

noun, proper
A word which uniquely identifies an individual person, place or thing. Examples: Albert, Beijing, Budapest.

odonym
Proper noun of a traffic route feature. Examples: Via Appia (historical road); Airway Amber (air traffic route); M4 (motorway); Fleet Street, Piccadilly Circus; Darb al-Ḥājj (pilgrims' route).

official language
See language, official.

onomastics
(a) The science that has as its object the study of names.

(b) The activity or process of giving names.

oronym
Name applied to a feature of topographic elevation such as a mountain or a hill. Examples: Matterhorn; Gauršankar; Fuji San; Sierra Madre.

orthography
Spelling of words according to the prescribed rules of a given linguistic tradition.

phone
In phonetics, the smallest perceptible unit of sound in the stream of speech, usually symbolized by square brackets. A specific phoneme can be realized by different phones called allophones. Examples: [b] for the 'b' sound in Spanish saber as against [b], the 'b' sound in Spanish Barcelona.

...
253 phoneme
The smallest unit of sound in the phonological structure of a language which changes meaning, usually symbolized by oblique slashes. Examples: /b/; /p/; /f/ / (for English sh). In practice a phoneme is realized by variants called allophones, usually symbolized by square brackets, such as [b] in Spanish Barcelona and [b] in saber for the /b/ phoneme, or [e], [e], [e] and [e] for different realizations of the /e/ phoneme. See also phone.

254 phonemic
Relating to phonemes.

255 phonetic, phonetical
Relating to phonetics.

256 phonetics
The study and classification of sounds made in spoken language. The minimal phonetic unit is the phone.

257 phonogram
(a) Graphic character representing sound(s).
(b) In particular, a pictogram representing not the meaning of its object but the sound of its name in a particular language. Examples: pictograms of Egyptian hieroglyphs when used to represent phonetic values, e.g. ☐ (a seat) for p, the initial sound of the word for 'seat'.

258 phonological
Relating to phonology.

259 phonology
The study of speech sounds and their functions in a specific language or in two or more languages considered together for comparative purposes.

260 physical feature
See feature, physical.

261 pictogram
Graphic symbol which represents an object via graphic-visual similarity in order to convey either its meaning or the sound of its name. See also phonogram.

262 pidgin
A relatively stable form of speech developed as an auxiliary language, whose vocabulary and sphere of employment are narrowly limited and whose grammar, phonological structure and style are simpler than those of the language(s) from which it was evolved. Examples: Tok Pisin (Neo-Melanesian) based on English; Bazaar Malay in Malaysia-Indonesia; Petit Mauresque (French-based, in North Africa); Fanagoló (mainly from Zulu, South Africa). A pidgin which becomes the mother tongue of a linguistic community is said to be creolized. See also creole.

263 pixel
Acronym for 'picture element'; the unit of storage and display in raster mode.

264 place name
See toponym; name, place (b).

265 place name index
See index, place names.

266 portability, data
See data portability.

267 principal language
See language, principal.

268 program, computer
A set of instructions directing the computer which operations to perform. Complementary term: data; these can be operated upon by a program.

269 proper name
See noun, proper.

270 proper noun
See noun, proper.

/...
radical, radix

Basic form of a logographic character. Example: one of the approximately 240 Chinese basic characters which represent categories of sense, such as the character for 'wood' on the basis of which the logograms for specific kinds of woods, trees etc. are constructed.

(b) See root.

raster mode

In a computer, storage and display of data on a dense grid of pixels arranged in columns and rows. Example: Satellite images are normally stored in raster mode. Complementary term: vector mode.

receiver language

See language, target.

receiver script

See script, target.

record, computer

Computer-readable collection of related data pertaining to a single topical item and treated as a unit. Example: a single toponym and its related data such as coordinates, date of ratification and origins.

rectangular coordinates

See coordinates, rectangular.

retranscription

Re-conversion of a result of transcription into the source language.

retransliteration

Re-conversion of a result of transliteration into the source script. See also reversibility.

reversibility

A characteristic of transliteration which permits a written item to be converted from one script or writing system into another, and subsequently to be reconverted back into the source script, the result being identical with the original.

romanization

Conversion from non-Roman into Roman script. Examples: Ἀθῆναι → Athina; Москва → Moskva; ירושלים → Bayrūt; שְׁלֹשָׁה לְבָנִים → Tel-Aviv; นิฮอน → Nihon or Nippon.

romanization key

Table listing the characters of a non-Roman script together with corresponding letters of a Roman alphabet, including diacritics as required. Examples: Roman š ř for Russian Cyrillic Щ, Ъ; Roman π for Greek Π. Special case of transliteration key.

root

Reference to a basic item in linguistics. Example: the stem from which a word is derived, such as the cluster of three consonants in Semitic words, e.g. n z l for nazala (Arabic 'descent') or y r d for yarad ('descent' in Hebrew) and all their derivatives.

script

A set of graphic symbols employed in writing or printing a particular language, differing from another set not only by typeface or font. Groups of different scripts form writing systems. Examples: Roman, Greek, Cyrillic, Arabic, Korean, Thai and Hebrew scripts belong to the alphabetic writing system; Amharic, Japanese Kana and Inuuktitut (Eskimo) to the syllabic; Chinese Han and Japanese Kanji to the logographic.

script, alphabetic

Script belonging to the alphabetic writing system in which a single letter or di- or trigraph in principle represents a single phoneme or diphthong. Examples: Roman, Greek, Cyrillic, Thai, Arabic and Hebrew are alphabetic, but the latter two are defective, i.e. mainly consonant scripts. In (alphabetic) Korean (Hangul), letters are graphically organized in roughly square syllabic units.
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<th>Definition</th>
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<td>script, consonant</td>
<td>See script, defective alphabetic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>286</td>
<td>script, defective alphabetic</td>
<td>&quot;Alphabetic script in which the letters exclusively or predominantly</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>represent consonants, vowels being exclusively or primarily</td>
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<td>represented by non-letter markers in the form of dots or bars above,</td>
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<td>below or within the consonant letters. Examples: Arabic and Hebrew. See</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>also vowel marker.</td>
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<td>287</td>
<td>script, donor</td>
<td>See script, source.</td>
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<td>288</td>
<td>script, ideographic</td>
<td>See script, logographic.</td>
</tr>
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<td>289</td>
<td>script, logographic</td>
<td>A script consisting of logograms and belonging to the logographic writing</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>system. Examples: Chinese; Japanese Kanji.</td>
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<td>290</td>
<td>script, map</td>
<td>See map script.</td>
</tr>
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<td>291</td>
<td>script, original</td>
<td>See script, source.</td>
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<tr>
<td>292</td>
<td>script, receiver</td>
<td>See script, target.</td>
</tr>
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<td>293</td>
<td>script, source</td>
<td>A script in terms of which a toponym is produced, and on the basis of</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>which it may be converted for use in another script called target script.</td>
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<td>294</td>
<td>script, syllabic</td>
<td>A script belonging to the syllabic writing system in which all, or the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>majority of, characters each represent an entire syllable. Examples:</td>
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<td>Ethiopian Amharic; Japanese Katakana and Hiragana; Inuktitut syllabics.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Korean (Hangül), though alphabetic, is graphically and visually syllabic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>295</td>
<td>script, target</td>
<td>A script into which a toponym may be converted from its source script.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>See also transliteration. Example: Roman script in the romanization of</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Greek.</td>
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<td>296</td>
<td>segment</td>
<td>In linguistics, any discrete unit which can be identified in the</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>stream of speech. Examples: phonemes; consonants; vowels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>297</td>
<td>semantics</td>
<td>That branch of linguistics which deals with meaning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>298</td>
<td>sequence rules</td>
<td>Rules that indicate in which order words (e.g. toponyms in a gazetteer)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>should be arranged with respect to the sequence of their letters,</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>syllabograms or logograms. Problems may arise especially with letters</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>omitted in the conventional way of citing the alphabet or letters with</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>markers or diacritics such as ë, ö, ü, ß in German; ı or ï in Spanish</td>
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<td></td>
<td>as well as with hyphenated words.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>299</td>
<td>short form (of a name)</td>
<td>In toponym, the abbreviated or short version of a name. Examples: China,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>for People's Republic of China; Jordan, for The Hashemite Kingdom of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>short title</td>
<td>See short form (of a name).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>301</td>
<td>sign, diacritical</td>
<td>See diacritic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>302</td>
<td>simplex name</td>
<td>See name, simplex.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>303</td>
<td>simplified character</td>
<td>see character, simplified.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>304</td>
<td>software</td>
<td>Programs, procedures and data associated with the operation of a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>computer system. Complementary term: hardware.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>305</td>
<td>source language</td>
<td>See language, source.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>306</td>
<td>source script</td>
<td>See script, source.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
specific element
That part of a toponym which does not constitute a generic term and which distinguishes it from others of the same feature class. It may include an article and/or other linguistic elements. Examples: Port Elizabeth; Rio Negro; Cape of Good Hope.

speech
An oral manifestation of language.

speech community
A group of people who communicate orally with relative ease in a common language or dialect.

standard language
See language, standard.

standardization
(a) The establishment, by an appropriate authority, of a specific set of standards or norms, e.g. for the uniform rendering of toponyms.

(b) Rendering an item such as a toponym in accordance with such norms.

standardization, geographical names
The prescription by a names authority of one or more particular names, together with their precise written form, for application to a specific geographical feature, as well as the conditions for their use. In a wider sense, standardization of toponyms.

standardization, international, geographical names
Activity aimed at reaching maximum practical uniformity in the rendering – oral and written – of all geographical names on Earth (and in a wider sense, of toponyms of extraterrestrial features), by means of (1) national standardization, and/or (2) international convention, including the correspondence between different languages and writing systems.

standardization, national, geographical names
Standardization of geographical names within the area of a national entity such as a state.

standardized allonym
See allonym, standardized.

standardized name
See name, standardized.

standardized toponym
See name, standardized.

survey, names
See survey, toponymic.

survey, toponomic
The entire spectrum of activities involved in the collection, recording and processing of toponyms in a specified area.

syllabary
An ordered set of syllabograms representing all syllables of a particular language which uses syllabic script. Example: the set of syllabograms of Japanese Katakana – ｧ, ｭ, ｬ, ｱ, ｨ, ｩ, ｯ for a, ka, sa, ta, na, ha, ma, respectively, etc.; Inuktitut ﾂ,</ omitted, for pi, pu, pa, ti, tu, ta, etc.

syllabic (as a noun)
See syllabogram. Predominantly used in the plural as syllabics.

syllabic (as an adjective)
Consisting of or relating to syllables.

syllabic script
See script, syllabic.

syllabification
Division of a word into syllables. Examples: Val-pa-ra-i-so; O-ban.

syllable
Unit of speech including (or consisting of) a single vowel sound or vowel function, or a diphthong or a triphthong; the first division of a word. Examples: Ge-no-va in Genova; Hei-del-berg in Heidelberg; Br-no in Brno.
| Page 20 |
|---|---|
| 326 | syllabogram | Graphic character representing a syllable in syllable script. |
| 327 | synonym | Each of two or more words which have approximately the same meaning. |
| 328 | syntax | That part of linguistics which deals with the mutual relations between, and correct arrangement of, words in a sentence. |
| 329 | target language | See language, target. |
| 330 | target script | See script, target. |
| 331 | tetragraph | Four letters employed together in a particular order to represent a single phonological or graphical element in a specific language. Examples: German tsch for the /tʃ/ phoneme as in Tsched, the German transcription of Chad; English shch for Russian Ч. |
| 332 | thematic map | See map, thematic. |
| 333 | topographic category | See feature class. |
| 334 | topographic feature | See feature, topographic. |
| 335 | topographic map | See map, topographic. |
| 336 | topographic name | See toponym. |
| 337 | topography | (a) The surface configuration of the Earth or of another planet or a satellite, or of a portion thereof, including the planimetric and altimetric aspects, i.e. the situation in the map plane and the relief. (b) Description and graphic representation of the above. |
| 338 | toponomastics | The activity or process of conferring toponyms. |
| 339 | toponym | Proper noun applied to a topographic feature. Comprehensive term for geographical names and extraterrestrial names. |
| 340 | toponym, standardized | See name, standardized. |
| 341 | toponym, variant | See allonym. |
| 342 | toponymic guidelines | See guidelines, toponymic. |
| 343 | toponymic index | See index, toponymic. |
| 344 | toponymy | (a) The science which has as its object the study of toponyms in general and of geographical names in particular. (b) The totality of toponyms in a given region. |
| 345 | traditional name | See name, traditional. |

/...
transcription

(a) A method of phonetic names conversion between different languages, in which the sounds of a source language are recorded in terms of a specific target language and its particular script, normally without recourse to additional diacritics.

(b) A result of this process. Examples: Turkish Ankara → Greek Ανκάρα; Russian Шукино → English Shchukino; Arabic دجاليتا → French Djabaliya.

Transcription is not normally a reversible process. Retranscription (e.g. by computer) might result in a form differing from the original, for example in the above cases in Turkish Agkara, Russian Шукино, Arabic دجاليتا.

However, Pinyin romanization of Chinese, although being a conversion between scripts, but being phonetic and non-reversible, is also regarded as transcription and not as transliteration. See also transcription key.

transcription alphabet

See alphabet, transcription.

transcription key

Table listing the characters of a particular source language with the corresponding characters of a specific target language. Examples: English sh for Hungarian s; German sch for Dutch sj; but also Roman bei for Chinese 贝,北,彼,背,倍,碑. See also transcription.

transformation, names

In toponymy, general term covering the translation, transcription and transliteration of toponyms. The two latter terms constitute conversion.

translation

(a) The process of expressing meaning, presented in a source language, in the words of a target language.

(b) A result of this process. In toponymy it is sometimes applied only to the generic element of a name. Examples: Mer Noire (French for Russian Черное Море); Casablanca (Spanish for Arabic دار al-Bayd'â); Lake Como (English for Italian Lago di Como); Mount Fuji (English for Japanese Fuji San).

translingual data interchange

See data interchange, translingual.

transliteration

(a) A method of names conversion between different alphabetic scripts and syllabic scripts, in which each character or di-, tri- and tetragraph of the source script is represented in the target script in principle by one character or di-, tri- or tetragraph, or a diacritic, or a combination of these. Transliteration, as distinct from transcription, aims at (but does not necessarily achieve) complete reversibility, and must be accompanied by a transliteration key.

(b) A result of this process. Examples (with English exonyms in parentheses): ٢٦٢٥ - al-Qahirah (Cairo); Владивосток - Vladivostok; هيفا → Hefa (Haifa); ལོང་ - Addis Abbeba (Addis Abbeba).

See alphabet, transliteration.
transliteration key
Table listing the characters of a particular source script together with the corresponding characters of a specific target script. Also called conversion table. Examples: Roman po (and not bo) for Japanese Katakana ぽ; Russian Cyrillic п for Roman d; Hebrew ו and not נ for Thai ใ.

trigraph
Sequence of three letters which represent a single phoneme. Example: for /ʃ/, sch in German.

typeface
Style or design of a set of all print characters of an alphabet, regardless of size. Examples: Times New Roman; Univers bold italic. See also font.

undersea feature
See feature, undersea.

UNGEGN
Acronym for United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

unvocalized
See vocalization.

unvowelled
See vocalization.

UTM grid
Universal Transverse Mercator grid, a plane grid of rectangular coordinates overprinted on maps to assist defining location. It covers the entire globe in 60 meridional zones with a width of 6 degrees longitude each, these zones being numbered 1 - 60 from the International Date Line eastwards.

variant character
See character, variant.

variant name
See allonym.

vector mode
In a computer, storage and display of graphic information (points, lines, polygons) with the aid of points defined and addressed by their (usually rectangular) coordinates. Complementary term: raster mode.

vehicular language
See language, vehicular.

vernacular
Language or dialect native to a region, as distinct from the standard language.

vocabulary
(a) List of words of a language.

(b) Repertory of words of a particular individual. See also lexicon.

vocalization
The inclusion or insertion of vowel markers in an item or a text written in defective alphabetic script such as in Arabic or Hebrew. Excepting instructory texts, only sacred texts and difficult or foreign words such as toponyms are usually vocalized in print. Examples: 'Ali -اُلِى (vocalized) as against أَلِى (unvocalized); Carmel - كَرْمِل (vocalized) as against كِرْمِل (unvocalized).

vocalized
See vocalization.

vowel
One of the two main classes of speech sounds (which also includes diphthongs and triphthongs) in the articulation of which the breath channel is not blocked and not restricted so as to cause friction. A vowel is the most prominent part in a syllable. Examples: /a/, /e/, /i/, /o/, /u/. Complementary term: consonant.

vowel letter
See letter, vowel.

vowel marker
See marker, vowel.
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<th>373</th>
<th>vowel point</th>
<th>See vowel marker.</th>
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<td>374</td>
<td>vowelled</td>
<td>See vocalization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>375</td>
<td>writing system</td>
<td>Method of representing the elements of phonology and morphology of a language by a set of graphic symbols which make up an alphabet, a syllabary or a logographic lexicon, respectively for an alphabetic, syllabic or logographic writing system. A writing system is composed of scripts.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>