



AUSTRALIAN BRAILLE AUTHORITY

A subcommittee of the Round Table on
Information Access for People with Print Disabilities Inc.
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Italian and UEB

Introduction

This document should be read in conjunction with the *Australian Braille Authority, Guidelines for Foreign Language Material, 2019* which can be found on the brailleaustralia.org website.

Follow these guidelines when transcribing Italian for educational purposes, such as Italian language textbooks, examination papers, grammar and phrase books, bilingual dictionaries, etc.

Italian within an English context such as a novel should use the guidelines given in 1.1 of the *Australian Braille Authority, Guidelines for Foreign Language Material, 2019*.

A more complete Italian code may be requested for higher education or by a native reader. This is not covered in detail in this document. Relevant DBT codes are however given in the section on DBT.

Kathy Riessen, Editor 2019

Contractions

Transcribe Italian text uncontracted using the accents as listed below.

Punctuation

Use UEB punctuation, indicators and numeral conventions.

Where guillemets (angled quotes) are used to show Italian quotation marks, use the non-specific UEB single cell quotation marks.

Code switching

Code switching (Section 14, *Rules of Unified English Braille, Second Edition 2013*) is very rarely used. A student can usually determine from context what is English and what is Italian.

Numerals

Braille Italian numerals as they are written using UEB symbols. Note that Italian uses a comma for a decimal and either the full stop or space to indicate thousands.

Ordinal numbers in full Italian braille are written with numerals in the lower part of the cell. For education purposes write ordinal numbers using UEB rules.

Music

Italian lyrics written as part of a music score use the Italian accents and UEB indicators and punctuation as stated above. A transcriber note explaining accent signs used may be required for readers unfamiliar with the signs.

Italian Accents:

Use the UEB capital indicator to show a capital accented letter.

Symbol	UEB	Italian	Description
ç	⠠⠉⠠⠨	⠠⠨	c cedilla
é	⠠⠑⠠⠨	⠠⠨	e acute
à	⠠⠁⠠⠨	⠠⠨	a grave
è	⠠⠑⠠⠨	⠠⠨	e grave
ù	⠠⠥⠠⠨	⠠⠨	u grave
â	⠠⠁⠠⠨	⠠⠨	a circumflex
ê	⠠⠑⠠⠨	⠠⠨	e circumflex
î	⠠⠊⠠⠨	⠠⠨	i circumflex
ô	⠠⠥⠠⠨	⠠⠨	o circumflex

Symbol	UEB	Italian	Description
û	⠠⠪⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	u circumflex
ë	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	e diaeresis
ï	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	i diaeresis
ö	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	o diaeresis
ü	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	u diaeresis
ò	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	o grave
ì	⠠⠺⠠⠨⠠⠨	⠠⠨	i grave

DBT

This information is current for DBT 12.4 using the **English (UEB) – Australian Formatting** template. Earlier versions may also be compatible.

The following styles are included in the Australian Template.

<Italian> ... </Italian> where text between the tags will be transcribed uncontracted using Italian accents and UEB punctuation and indicators.

The following two styles are useful where a long passage of Italian spans multiple paragraphs.

<ItalianBegin> Begin a section in Italian

<EnglishResume> Return to UEB

If using codes rather than styles, [Ing~it] switches to Italian and [Ing] reverts to contracted UEB. Text following the [Ing~it] code is uncontracted, has the Italian accents but UEB punctuation and indicators. Guillemets are translated as the UEB Italian quotation marks.

Quotation marks

The first quotation mark that DBT encounters in a document, whether single, double or angled (guillemet), sets the non-specific single cell quotation mark for the document. All other quotation marks are transcribed using their specific UEB signs. The code [uoq] unsets this, and the next quote encountered resets the quotation mark used for the non-specific single cell quotation mark.

Where a document has standards quotes for sections in UEB and guillemets for sections in Italian this allows for both to be transcribed using the non-specific single-cell quotation marks if required.

Higher education or native reader

Where the full Italian code for higher education or a native reader is required, the code [Inb~ita] (Italian) switches to Italian mode. [Inb] will switch back to UEB. By default, the Italian is uncontracted.

Word and DBT

Any text in Word which has a character style named **Italian** applied will automatically map to the <Italian> style in DBT. When defining the **Italian** style in Word, if the language is set to Italian, Word will use the Italian spell checker if this is installed.

Word shortcuts

Notes to the following table:

- The grave key is to the left of 1 on the keyboard.
- The caret key is shift 6
- The ampersand key is shift 7
- To get a capital accented letter, use the shift key with the letter.

Symbol	Description	Shortcut
ç	c cedilla	ctrl-comma, c
é	e acute	ctrl-apostrophe, e
à	a grave	ctrl-grave, a
è	e grave	ctrl-grave, e
ù	u grave	ctrl-grave, u
â	a circumflex	ctrl-caret, a
ê	e circumflex	ctrl-caret, e
î	i circumflex	ctrl-caret, i
ô	o circumflex	ctrl-caret, o
û	u circumflex	ctrl-caret, u

Symbol	Description	Shortcut
ë	e diacresis	ctrl-colon, e
ï	i diacresis	ctrl-colon, i
ü	u diacresis	ctrl-colon, u
ò	o grave	ctrl-grave, o
ì	i grave	ctrl-grave, i
«	opening guillemet	alt+0171
»	closing guillemet	alt+0187
€	Euro	ctrl-alt-e

Examples

An email message. UEB symbols are used in the email address which is brailled uncontracted as it forms part of the Italian passage.

Da: adele_02@gmail.com

A: zia_marghe@libero.it

Oggetto: Aiuto, Zia, non voglio andare dal medico!

Ciao zia,

Come stai? Qui bene in generale. Mi piace la scuola e ho tanti amici. Però, ho un piccolo problema ...

Da: adele_02@gmail.com
 A: zia_marghe@libero.it
 Oggetto: Aiuto, Zia, non voglio andare dal medico!

Ciao zia,
 Come stai? Qui bene in generale. Mi piace la scuola e ho tanti amici. Però, ho un piccolo problema ...

A conversation where choices are given to create sentences. Hierarchy is used and an counter symbol is added at the beginning of each choice for clarification.

A.	Ciao Salve	Roberto/a. Angelo/a. Giulio/a.	
B.	Buongiorno	signor signorina signora	Pera. Crespi. Rossi.

A. C. Ciao
 A. C. Salve
 A. C. R. Roberto/a.
 A. C. A. Angelo/a.
 A. C. G. Giulio/a.
 B. B. Buongiorno
 B. B. S. signor
 B. B. S. signorina
 B. B. S. signora
 B. B. P. Pera.
 B. B. C. Crespi.
 B. B. R. Rossi.

Quoted passage. UEB non-specific single-cell quotes are used for the guillemets.

«Leggo questa rivista da molto tempo».

«L. Leggo questa rivista da molto tempo».
 L.

Mixture of English and Italian. Context clearly defines what is Italian and what is English.

The verb **essere** (to be) is a very important verb.

(io) sono: I am

(tu) sei: you are (singular)

(lui/lei) è: he/she is

(Lei) è: you are (formal)

(noi) siamo: we are

(voi) siate: you are

(loro) sono: they are

io sono
tu sei
lui/lei è
Lei è
noi siamo
voi siate
loro sono

Examples with numerals.

€1.234,56: one thousand, two hundred and thirty four euro, fifty six

il 5^o piano: the fifth floor

la 3^a pagina: the third page

€1.234,56
il 5^o piano
la 3^a pagina