

INTRODUCTION TO UEB FOREIGN LANGUAGE TRANSCRIPTION

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Determining what is Foreign:

- **BF 1.15.2** Foreign Material. For the purposes of agencies and transcribers working with codes of the Braille Authority of North America, any language other than modern English is considered a foreign language. This includes Old English, and Middle English, as well as transliterated or Romanized forms of languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Hebrew, Japanese, and Russian.
- **FL 2002 1.1a** Foreign language. For the purposes of agencies and brailleists working with official braille codes provided by the Braille Authority of North America (BANA), any language other than modern English must be considered foreign.
- **UEB 13.1.1** A foreign language is any natural or artificial language in use now or in the past other than English. It may be written in Roman or non-Roman script. Any form of English transliterated in non-Roman script is also to be treated as foreign.

There are three categories with their relative sub-categories of usage when dealing with foreign words in UEB:

- 1) Foreign words in English context where language is not expected to be known
 - a) Modifiers
- 2) Foreign words in English context where language is expected to be known (or currently learning)
 - a) Foreign code signs
 - b) Code Switch Indicators
- 3) Entirely foreign text
 - a) Contractions
 - b) Punctuation
 - c) French code– Antoine numbering system or Louis Braille Numbers

UEB 13.5.1 Use UEB signs to represent accented letters, punctuation or Greek letters where it is judged likely that most readers will be unfamiliar with the foreign code signs, and where the nature of the material does not create a reasonable expectation that they should learn them. UEB signs should therefore be used:

- For occasional foreign words and phrases occurring in English context;
- For longer foreign passages such as conversation occurring in English novels or in other English works regarded as primarily for leisure reading.

Refer to: Section 4, Letters and their modifiers, for the complete list of UEB signs for accents and Greek letters.

Category 2 requires the student to have a sufficient knowledge of or be learning the language, which then requires foreign code signs.

- **BF 1.15.4** Foreign Language Guidelines for Braille Transcription apply when a complete section, story, poem, etc. is in a foreign language. (Including instructional texts as defined by 1.15.1). This portion of text is uncontracted, and the appropriate foreign accented letters and punctuation marks are used.
- **UEB 13.6.1** Use foreign code signs in the representation of foreign language material where there is substantial occurrence of the foreign language, as in:
 - grammars and other instructional materials,
 - English commentaries on foreign works for study,
 - bilingual texts (whether set out in parallel or consecutively) such as official forms, opera libretti and other translations, and
 - any situation where significant knowledge of the foreign language is presupposed or being taught.

Refer to: the most recent edition of [World Braille Usage](#) which lists by country signs used in categories (1) [foreign code signs] (3) [foreign punctuation indicative to the country].

FL 2002 1.3b

- b. Predominantly foreign text with some English. (Paraphrase: Contract sections occurring in English, manage the rest as stated in part a.)
- **FL 2002 1.3c (1) With a Single Foreign Language.** Transcribe the English material in such texts in *contracted* English braille. Foreign material in such texts is transcribed in uncontracted braille, using the appropriate foreign alphabet symbols. (foreign code signs)

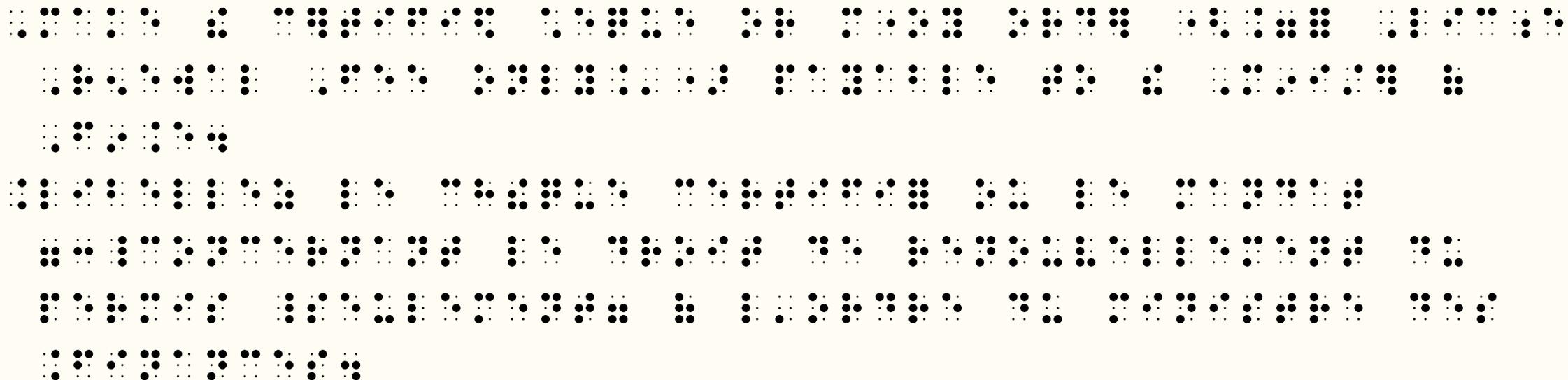
DO NOT:

- Use a UEB sign that conflicts with an element in the foreign code 13.6.4
- Mix foreign code signs and the equivalent UEB signs for the same language in the same book. 13.6.4

Examples:

[from a bilingual, English and French, government document:]

Make the certified cheque or money order (*for Licence Renewal Fee only*) payable to the Minister of Finance.
Libellez le chèque certifié ou le mandat (*concernant le droit de renouvellement du permis seulement*) à l'ordre
du minister des Finances.



- Sentence in English done according to UEB (contracted, italics open and close in order)
- French capital indicator (46) *World Braille Usage, Third Edition 2013*, pg. 181; **UEB Section 13; CBFU 2008**
- French code signs utilized throughout **UEB 13.6, 13.6.2, 13.6.4; FL 2002 1.3b; BF2011 1.15; CBFU 2008**

- Open and close parentheses– Here; it’s (2356). According to **WBU 2013** page 181 its (236) open and (356) close; and according to the **CBFU 2008**, as shown below:
- French opening italic passage indicator (25, 456)– **UEB 13, CBFU 2008** pg. 23
- French closing italic passage indicator (456)– **UEB 13; CBFU 2008** pg. 45

⋮⋮ (2-3-5-6)	guillemet ouvrant ou fermant	" ou « » ou “ ” ou ‘ ’
⋮⋮ (2-3-6)	parenthèse ouvrante	(
⋮⋮ (3-5)	indicateur de fin de mise en évidence à l’intérieur d’un mot	
⋮⋮ (3-5-6)	parenthèse fermante)

Punctuation

, comma	(2)	⠠
; semicolon	(23)	⠠⠨
: colon	(25)	⠠⠨⠨
. period, full stop	(256)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
? question mark	(26)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
! exclamation	(235)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
' apostrophe, guide dot	(3)	⠠⠨
"...", «...», "...", '...' quote	(2356...2356)	⠠⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨
(...) parentheses	(236...356)	⠠⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨
[...] brackets	(45, 236...356, 12)	⠠⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨
- dash, guide dash	(36)	⠠⠨⠨
* asterisk	(5, 35)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
/ slash	(34)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
capital	(46)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
number sign before "Louis Braille" figures	(3456)	⠠⠨⠨⠨⠨
general emphasis indicator	(456)	⠠⠨⠨⠨
2nd level emphasis indicator inside word	(26...35)	⠠⠨⠨⠨⠨⠨

[from *Con brío! Activities Manual Second Edition 2010*)]

2-15 ¿Cuál es el resultado?

Roberto is trying to explain how he and some of his friends are feeling given their particular circumstances. Read the clues and help him complete the description.

Modelo

Tú no tienes (*have*) tarea esta noche.

Estás contento.

¿Cómo se sienten los amigos de Roberto?
¿Qué están haciendo?
¿Dónde están?
¿Qué hora es?

Roberto está hablando con sus amigos.
¿Qué están haciendo?
¿Dónde están?

- Number indicator repeated after hyphen **UEB 6.3.1**
- Directions given in English and contracted as such– **FL 2002 1.3.3a; BF2011 1.15.4**
- Blank line before and after Modelo– **BF2011 10.8.3; FL 2002 9.3b**
- Retain bold on Modelo– **BF2011 10.8.1**
- Sentences following in same format as exercises.– **BF2011 10.8.4; FL 2002 9.3b(2)**
- *Have* retains italics and is contracted– **UEB 2.3.1** Follow print when transcribing into braille, including accents, punctuation, and capitalization. **FL2002 1.3c(1)**
 - **NOTE:** Normally we would not use italics due to the enclosures being sufficient
 - Follow print in last example sentence, using the italic word indicator (46, 3) Typeform
 - Spanish code signs utilized– **WBU 2013** pg. 201

UEB 13.7 Code Switch Indicators (useful in many texts, especially instructional)

- **UEB 13.7.1** Code switch indicators are used to enclose non-UEB material, in this case material using foreign code signs. **Do not use UEB signs within code switch indicators.**
 - **UEB 13.7.2** When the nature and extent of the enclosed material can be clearly deduced from formatting or other contextual considerations, as when parallel texts in English and another language are set out in tabular form or when the foreign language is identified by a change of typeface, then code switch indicators may be omitted.
 - **UEB 14.2.1** When a text is to be read in hardcopy braille, do not use code switching indicators when the nature and extent of the non-UEB text can be determined by the context or format.

RECAP: Until now we have been reviewing how to use:

1) Modifiers in place of the non-existent dot 4;

UEB 13.4.1 There are two ways to represent accented letters in braille within a UEB context:

- by means of UEB signs for modifiers (**13.5**), ...
- Hybridisation of these two methods is to be avoided since UEB symbols and foreign code signs are different and may conflict
- **13.2.1** ... do not use contractions in words, phrases or passages which are regarded as foreign ... and **4.2.4** A modified letter may not form part of a contraction.
- **13.5.3** When UEB signs are used, do not use code switch indicators.
- **13.5.1** Use UEB signs to represent accented letters, punctuation or Greek letters where it is likely that most readers will be unfamiliar with the foreign code signs, and where the nature of the material does not create a reasonable expectation that they should learn them.

2) Using Foreign Code Signs **13.6**

UEB 13.4.1 Represented accented letters by means of foreign code signs (**13.6**).

- **13.6.1** Use foreign code signs in the representation of foreign language material where there is substantial occurrence of the foreign language ...
- **13.6.4** Do not use a UEB sign that conflicts with an element in the foreign code. Also do not mix foreign code signs and the equivalent UEB signs for the same language in the same book.

- **13.7.2** When the nature and extent of the enclosed material can be clearly deduced from formatting or other contextual considerations, as when parallel texts in English and another language are set out in tubular form or when the foreign language is identified by a change of typeface, then code switch indicators may be omitted.
- **13.7.1** Code switch indicators are used to enclose non-UEB material, in this case material using foreign code signs. Do not use UEB signs within code switch indicators.
- **14.2.5** When code switching indicators with identifiers are used, explain them either on a special symbols page or in a transcriber's note positioned before the affected material. [See **14.3.3**]

Category 3 involves using foreign code signs, punctuation, and possibly contractions for an entirely foreign text. This applies, as interpreted and rendered by *World Braille Usage Third Edition 2013; Using the Braille Spanish Code*, Produced by RNIB on behalf of VIEW Modern Foreign Languages Curriculum Group; UKAAF *Transcribing Foreign Language Material in UEB, Rules of Unified English Braille 2013*.

UEB 13.6.2 In a foreign language braille code, it is possible to have six categories of sign:

1. Signs representing the basic elements of the script (whether alphabet, syllabary, or other);
2. Signs representing accents (including indicators of breathing, tone, stress or quantity);
3. Punctuation signs and indicators;
6. Contractions.

Refer to: The most recent edition of World Braille Usage which lists by country signs used in categories (1) to (3).

13.6.3 When foreign code signs are used, do not use UEB contractions.

13.6.4 When using foreign code signs for basic elements of script and/or for accents, that is, categories (1) and (2) above, it is permissible though not required to use the foreign code signs for any of the other categories. (Hence the references to the publications and the “Methods” with examples including UEB; i.e., the French capital indicator.)

13.6.5 List all foreign code signs used on a preliminary page.

13.6.6 Use foreign code contractions, i.e. category (6) above, only for a language written in Roman script which is also one of the official languages of the country from which the document originates or for which it is requested. However, in no case is the use of foreign code contractions mandatory.

FL 1.3a. Entirely Foreign Text. Transcribe such texts using uncontracted braille and the appropriate foreign alphabet symbols (foreign code signs) as provided in Sections 13 and 14. (*World Braille Usage, Third Edition, 2013*)

Using the *World Braille Usage, Third Edition, 2013*

Spain

Languages: Spanish (uncontracted), Catalan (uncontracted), Galician (uncontracted), Basque (uncontracted)

Braille Standards Set by:

Organización Nacional de Ciegos Españoles (ONCE) [The National Organization of the Blind]

www.once.es

Literary Notation:

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Signografía básica, Primera edición, Madrid 2005

Mathematics Notation:

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Signografía matemática, Primera edición, Madrid 2007

Science Notation:

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Química lineal, Primera edición, Madrid 2006

Signografía para la representación en braille de expresiones bidimensionales de química, 2012

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Signografía general para la representación braille de símbolos electrónicos, circuitos y electricidad, Primera edición, Madrid 2008

Music Notation:

Nuevo Manual Internacional de Musicografía Braille, 1998

Linguistics Notation:

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Lingüística, Primera edición, Madrid 2007

Chess Notation:

Guías de la Comisión Braille Española: Ajedrez, Primera edición, Madrid 2006

Graphics:

Requisitos técnicos para la confección de planos accesibles a personas con discapacidad visual, 2012

Spanish Alphabet: See *Spanish*, page 201

Catalan Alphabet: See *Catalan*, page 172

Germany

Language: German (three contraction grades)

Basisschrift: no contractions; very rarely used.

Vollschrift: eight simple contractions for common vowel and consonant groups (publications for younger school children and signage)

Kurzschrift: contracted (publications for adults and older schoolchildren)

Braille Standards Set by:

Authority of the German-Speaking Countries (Brailleschriftkomitee der deutschsprachige, BSKDL)

Literary Notation:

Das System der deutschen Blindenschrift, 2005

Mathematics and Science Notation: (under revision)

Mathematikschrift für Blinde, 2000

Neufassung und Vervollständigung des Systems der internationalen Mathematikschrift für Blinde, 1986 (braille) and 1992 (print)

For use with computers and 8-dot hardcopy braille: various derivatives and adaptations of LaTeX

Computer Notation:

Eurobraille, DIN 32982 ("8-Punkt-Brailleschrift für die Informationsverarbeitung"/"Information processing 8-dot-Braille graphic characters") (1994) and in ISO Technical Report 11548-2 (2001)

Chemistry Notation:

Das System der Chemieschrift in der deutschen Blindenschrift, 2005

Music Notation:

New International Manual of Braille Music Notation (German translation)

Chess Notation:

Schachschrift für Blinde, 2004

Shorthand Notation:

System der deutschen 6-Punkt-Stenografie für Blinde, 2002

IPA Braille:

Weltlautschrift für Blinde, 1938, reprinted 2010

Considering adoption of the code used in Unified English Braille with minimal adaptations for the German braille code

Ancient and New Testament Greek:

Internationale griechische Blindenschrift, 1939

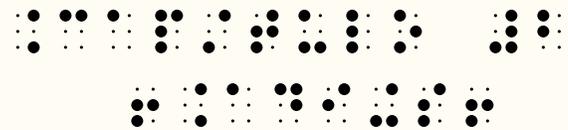
All Other Languages:

Uncontracted codes of the languages are used. English is occasionally contracted.

German Alphabet: See *German*, page 182

Capítulo 2

¡Adiós!



A las cinco de la mañana, los padres de Brandon entraron al dormitorio de Brandon para decirle "Adiós". Su madre le dijo:

--Brandon...

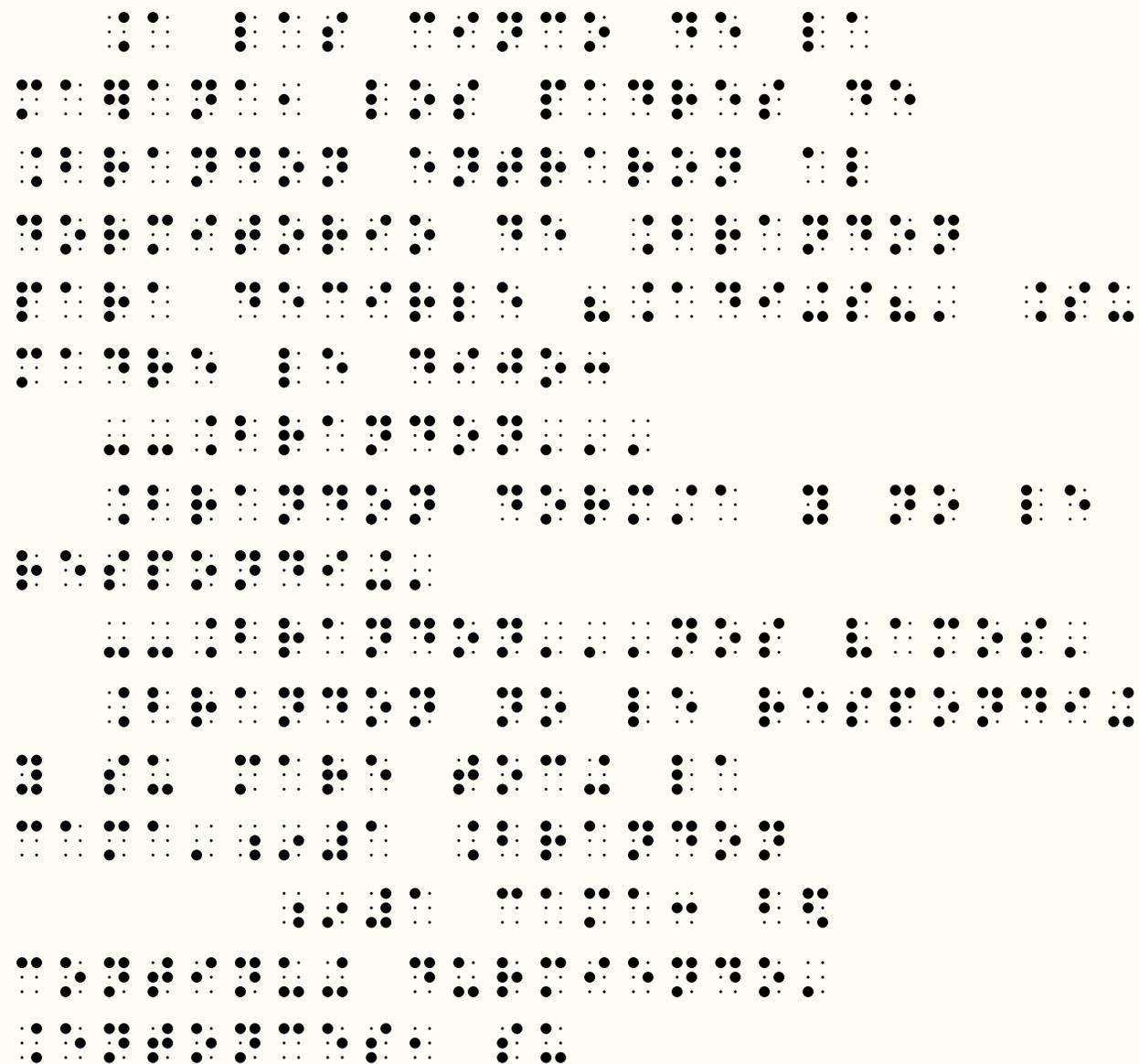
Brandon dormía y no le respondió.

--Brandon...nos vamos.

Brandon no le respondió y su madre tocó la cama¹ Brandon continuó

¹ cama: bed

durmiendo. Entonces, su

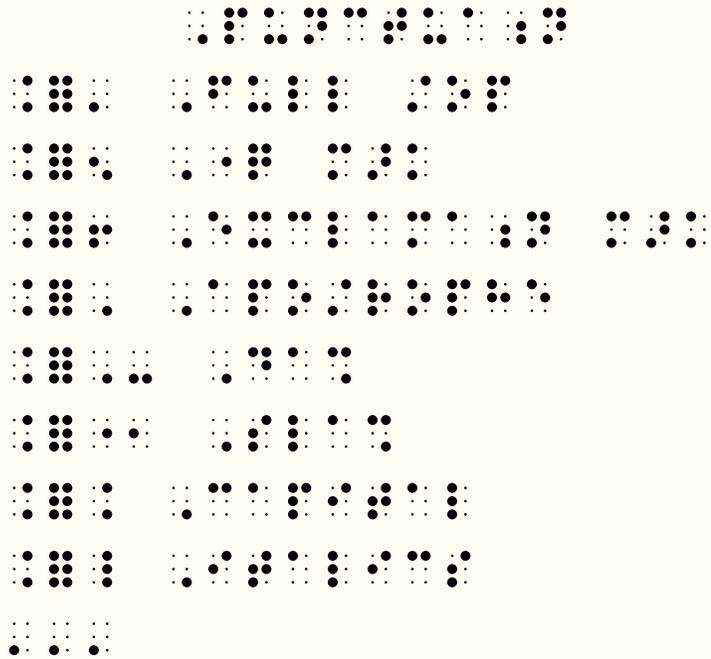


- Capital indicator: dots (46)
- Quotations open and close: (236, 236)
- Full Stop, Period: (3)
- Comma, colon, ellipsis, exclamation and question marks, conversation marks (dashes and hyphens): same
- Centered Heading: **BF2011 4.3.3**
- Gloss Note: **FL 2002 4.4**
- Note Indicator: **UEB 3.24.1**

Me llamo *Melissa*.

⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠ ⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠⠠

- Capital indicator: (46)
- Double ll with y sound contraction (123456)
- Begin italic (35) placed before capital indicator (46), close italic (35), full stop (3)



Note: from *Das System der deutschen Blindenschrift 2005* Section 2.6

In German, capitalization is basically dispensed with. With these exceptions:

- In legal writing
- In dictionaries
- Unique abbreviations
- Symbols for dimensions, weights, and other engineering units Units of currency

Resources

1. *The Rules of Unified English Braille Second Edition 2013*
2. *World Braille Usage Third Edition 2013*
3. *NBA Interim Manual for Foreign Language Braille Transcribing 2002*
4. *Braille Formats Principles of Print-to-Braille Transcription, 2011*
5. *Das System der deutschen Blindenschrift 2005*
6. *Première partie Le code braille de base 2008*
7. *Guías de la Comisión Braille Española Signografía básica* Primera edición, Madrid 2005
8. *Comisión Braille Española, Documento Técnico B 2 De La Comisión Braille Española, Signografía Básica, January 2014*

