



Exploring cultural data from UNESCO using semantic technologies: Key concepts of RDF

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What is RDF?



RDF

The Resource Description Framework is a data model.

RDF¹ is:

- a framework for describing resources on the web
- part of the semantic web activity
- a W3C² Recommendation from 10 February 2004
- designed to be read and understood by computers

¹https://www.w3schools.com/XML/xml_rdf.asp

²World Wide Web

Statements or triplets



In RDF, information is represented by *statements* or *triplets* of `resource1` - `relation` - `resource2` called:

- 1 **subject**
- 2 **predicate**
- 3 **object**

Examples of statements:

- `CLIHC` `is a` `congress`
- `UNESCO` `is an` `international organization`



- The components of RDF could be International Resource Identifiers (URIs³ \subseteq IRIs), literals (basic values such as strings, dates, numbers) and blank nodes
- While IRIs are based on unicode, URIs are based on ASCII code
- Examples of IRIs are the following:
 - `https://schema.org/Organization`
 - `http://www.something.com/someFile.owl#`

³Uniform Resource Identifiers



Statements are often represented by using graphs. For example:



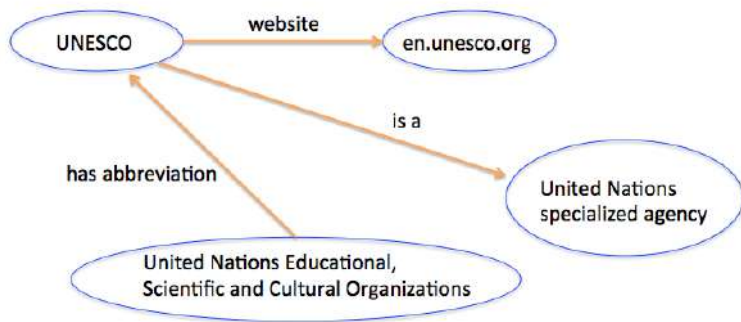


Fig. 1. An RDF graph with several statements.



```
@prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .  
@prefix ws: <http://www.mauxmedina.com/re12/workshop#> .  
  
ws:UNESCO ws:hasAbbreviation "UNESCO" ;  
           ws:website "en.unesco.org";  
           rdfs:label "United Nations specialised agency"@en,  
                    "Agencia especializada de las Naciones Unidas"@es.  
  
ws:workshop rdfs:comment "Let's explore some UNESCO data".
```

Fig. 2. Example of RDF statements using the Turtle syntax.



IDLab Turtle Validator

This is the web version of the NodeJS [Turtle Validator](#), which is also available as a command line tool.

Paste your turtle file in here and press validate

```
1 @prefix rdfs: <http://www.w3.org/2000/01/rdf-schema#> .
2 @prefix ws: <http://www.mauxmedina.com/re12/workshop#> .
3
4 ws:UNESCO ws:hasAbbreviation "UNESCO" ;
5           ws:website "en.unesco.org";
6           rdfs:label "United Nations specialised agency"@en,
7                   "Agencia especializada de las Naciones Unidas"@es.
8 ws:workshop rdfs:comment "Let's explore some UNESCO data", |
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20 [Validate]
21
22
23
24
```

Congrats! Your syntax is correct.

Fig. 3. Using the Turtle validator.

Thanks a lot! 😊



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