

# Editor elements

## Labels and definitions

### Preferred label

Preferred label is the favoured label for the concept. It may have an optional language tag which, in the editor, you select from the drop down list.

### Alternative label

Alternative labels are used for synonyms or spelling variants.

**For example**

**aluminium** has the alternative label "*aluminum*"

### Hidden label

A hidden label is a label which you would like to be accessible to applications performing text-based indexing and search operations, but would **not** like that label to be visible otherwise. Hidden labels can, for instance, be used to include commonly misspelled variants.

**For example**

**millimetres** has the hidden label "*milimeters*"

### Notation

Some classification schemes use notations as the primary means of access to the concepts they contain. Notations are symbols which are not normally recognisable as words/phrases in any natural language and are typically composed of digits, punctuation signs and other characters. For example, the Dewey decimal library classification system:

- 000 Computer science, knowledge & systems
- 005 Computer programming, programs & data
- 005.75 Specific types of data files and databases
- 005.756 Relational databases

The `skos:notation` property is used to record the details of the notation scheme.

**For example**

**Relational databases** has the notation "*005.756*"

### Definition

`skos:definition` supplies a complete explanation of the intended meaning of a concept.

**For example**

**stream flow** has the definition "*Total volume of water passing a stream monitoring point over a specified time period.*"

In the CEH vocabulary editor, definitions are stored as html and can therefore include rich text features such as styles (bold/italic/underlined), colours, images and hyperlinks.

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# Status

It is unwise to delete publicly available concepts as they may be in use by users/systems. Rather than deleting a concept, it should be deprecated to indicate to potential users that the concept should no longer be used.

To deprecate a concept, simply set the deprecated field to **true**.

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## Relationships in the SAME scheme

### Broader

The [broader](#) property is used to assert that one concept is broader in meaning than another [in the same concept scheme](#). For example:

```
ex:mammal skos:prefLabel "mammal"@en;
skos:broader ex:animal.
```

The [broader](#) relationship should be read as "has the broader concept", so, the example above means "*mammal* has the broader concept *animal*".

It is perfectly acceptable for a concept to have several broader concepts. So, for example, *Iron* could have both *Metal* and *Chemical element* broader concepts

### Narrower

The [narrower](#) relationship is the inverse of the [broader](#) relationship. For example:

```
ex:animal skos:prefLabel "animal"@en;
skos:narrower ex:mammal.
```

### Related

The [related](#) relationship is used to assert other, non-hierarchical associations between concepts [in the same concept scheme](#)<sup>\*</sup>. For example:

```
ex:meteorology skos:related ex:weather.
```

The related relationship is symmetric. That is, if X is related to Y, then Y is related to X.

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## Relationships in a DIFFERENT scheme

### Broad match/narrow match

[skos:broadMatch](#) and [skos:narrowMatch](#) closely mirror the [skos:broader](#) and [skos:narrower](#) associations detailed above. However, they are used to associate concepts in *different* concept schemes. For example:

```
cast:23 skos:prefLabel "Dissolved aluminium"@en;
skos:broadMatch <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Aluminium>.
```

### Related match

Likewise, [skos:relatedMatch](#) is similar to the [skos:related](#) association but for concepts in different schemes.

```
ex:oology skos:relatedMatch <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Egg>.
```

## Close match & exact match

A [skos:closeMatch](#) asserts that two concepts are sufficiently similar that they can be used interchangeably. A [skos:exactMatch](#) is similar but denotes an even higher degree of closeness.

```
ex:forest skos:closeMatch <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Woodland>.
```

```
ex:animal skos:exactMatch <http://dbpedia.org/resource/Animal>.
```

## Notes

Notes are used to provide extra information relating to concepts. There is no restriction on the nature of this information, e.g., it could be plain text, hypertext, or an image. You can include multiple notes in multiple languages.

The "Note" field can be used for general documentation purposes but there are several specialised note types for more specific types of information:

<b>Change note</b>	Documents fine-grained changes to a concept for the purposes of administration and maintenance. For example <pre>ex:tomato skos:changeNote   "Moved from 'vegetables' to 'fruits'"@en.</pre>
<b>Editorial note</b>	Used to provide information to aid administration of the vocabulary, such as reminders of work still to be done or warnings that future changes might be made. For example <pre>ex:plantPhysiology skos:editorialNote "The German and French translations   need to be checked."@en.</pre>
<b>History note</b>	Used to describe changes to the meaning or the form of a concept. For example <pre>ex:jncc skos:prefLabel "Joint Nature Conservation Committee"@en;   skos:historyNote "This concept was previously called 'Joint Nature   Conservancy Council'"@en.</pre>
<b>Scope note</b>	Provides some information about the intended meaning of a concept, especially as an indication of how the use of the concept is limited in practice. For example <pre>ef:EMF skos:prefLabel "Environmental monitoring facility"@en;   skos:scopeNote "Laboratories are not environmental monitoring   facilities from an INSPIRE perspective as the exact location of the   laboratory does not add further information to the measurement."@en.</pre>

**Example**

Supplies an example of the use of a concept. For example

```
ef:EMA skos:prefLabel "Environmental monitoring activity"@en;  
      skos:example "A research cruise of a vessel with monitoring  
equipment."@en.
```