

Session 6 (additional notes) : Literature and rhetoric
National Library of New Zealand

This document contains supplementary notes and advice to aid with the classification of literary items, with information and examples about special situations.

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A. When to use numbers in the 800-809 range

The range 800-809 is used for literature in general, for rhetoric (how to write) or for collections or criticism relating to more than two literatures.

i) Collections of literature

At 808.8-809 there are numbers for collections of literature and criticism where the literatures of more than two languages are concerned.

Numbers can be built to specify the subject, period, intended audience and other aspects, just as you can with other literary numbers.

EXAMPLE: A collection of 20th century essays by multiple authors, some originally written in Māori, some originally written in English

Collections of literary texts from more than 2 literatures	Literary form	Time period	<i>20th century essays by multiple authors</i>
808.8	4	04	808.8404
Base number from 800s	Collections of essays	The numbers following T1--090 in notation T1--0901-T1--0905 from Table 1.	

1) This is a collection of works from more than two literatures – Māori and English, which are not from the same language.

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- 2) Click on **800 Literature, rhetoric & criticism**, then click on **808 Rhetoric and collections of literary texts from more than two literatures**, then on **808.8 Collections of literary texts from more than two literatures**
- 3) You will see that there is an option for Collections in specific forms – **808.81-808.88**. Click on **808.81-808.88**.
- 4) Click on **808.84** Collections of essays
- 5) The essays are on a range of topics, but are all from the same time period. So click on **808.8401-808.8405 Historical periods**
- 6) Follow instruction to Add to base number 808.840 the numbers following T1--090 in notation **T1--0901-T1--0905** from Table 1
- 7) Right-click to open **T1--0901-T1--0905** from Table 1. The 20th century number is **T1--0904**
- 8) Add 4 to your base number **808.840**
- 9) Your number is complete: **808.840/4**

Please note that:

1) 808.8 to 809 are not used for a collection of works in the same language that are from more than two literatures.

For example, if you have a collection of American, New Zealand, and Australian short stories, these are classed as all being in the same language. So even though they belong to different literatures, you cannot use 808.8.

Browse to 808.8 in WebDewey and read the note:

“Class collections of texts from more than two literatures in the same language with the literature of that language, e.g., collections of works from English, American, and Australian literatures in English (more than one literary form) [820.8](#).”

2) 808.8 to 809 are also not used for a collection from more than two literatures in the same language family. For example French, Italian, and Spanish are all classed as being from the same language family.

Browse to 808.8 in WebDewey and read the note:

“Class collections of texts from literatures in more than two languages from the same family with the literature of that family, e.g., French, Italian, and Spanish literatures [840](#)”

EXAMPLE: A collection of English language poems by American and New Zealand authors, published in the 21st century

New Zealand literature	Literary form	Time period	Collections of literary texts	<i>Poems by American and New Zealand authors</i>
82	1	92	08	821.9208
Base number from 800s	Table 3B – 1 Poetry	Period table under 821-829	T3B instructions under T3B--1008	

- 1) As this is a work by multiple authors, click on [T3B](#)
- 2) Follow *step 1* to “Look in the schedule [810-890](#) to find the base number for the language.” Right-click to open 810-890 in a separate tab.
- 3) Now you have to decide which language. First, try clicking on [810 – American literature in English](#).
- 4) You will see the note **Class comprehensive works on American literature in English and English literature in [820](#)**
- 5) So click on [820 English & Old English literatures](#). This gives you a base number of **82**. Click on [821-828 Subdivisions of English literature](#) to read further instructions.
- 6) Enter **82** into the “Build” box at the top right of the screen
- 7) Follow *step 2* **In Table 3B find the subdivision for the literary form, e.g., drama T3B—2.** Right-click on the link (in left box) [T3B--1-T3B—8 Specific forms](#). You will see a list of specific forms. This work fits into the category [T3B—1 Poetry](#).
- 8) Click on [T3B—1 Poetry](#).
- 9) Return to your base tab T3B to see the instructions. According to *step 2*, add 2 to your base number: **82/1**
- 10) There is a specific time period, so go to steps 4 & 5. According to step 5, select the appropriate period number for the 21st century, which is 92
- 11) Add ‘92’ to your base number: 82/1.92
- 12) Follow the instruction in step 6 ‘Under the number for the literary form in Table 3B, go to the subdivisions for specific periods.’ Return to your tab for T3B-1 Poetry, and click on the link T3B--11-T3B—19 Poetry of specific periods

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13) Follow instruction to add the numbers following T3B--10 in notation T3B--1001-T3B--1009 of this table

14) Click on T3B—1, then, as this is a collection, click on : [T3B—1008 Collections of literary texts](#)

15) Follow instruction to add **08 Collections of literary texts** to your base number. Your number is **821.9208**

15) There is no specific subject, time period or audience, so your number is complete:
82/1./92/08

ii) Rhetoric (808)

Wikipedia defines rhetoric as “the art of discourse, an art that aims to improve the facility of speakers or writers who attempt to inform, persuade, or motivate particular audiences in specific situations. As a subject of formal study and a productive civic practice, rhetoric has played a central role in the Western tradition.”

So rhetoric is not literature itself, but about techniques for creating literature. Creative writing fits into this area. Even if the work is about rhetoric in a specific language, this is still classed in 808.

EXAMPLE: A creative writing book about how to write your own short stories

Rhetoric of fiction	Literary form	<i>How to write short stories</i>
808.3	1	808.31
Base number from 800s	Table 3B – 1 Short stories	

1) As this is a work about writing short stories, rather than the actual short stories themselves, browse to [808 ‘Rhetoric’](#). You will see the note ‘Class here composition.’

2) You will see that [808.1-808.7](#) is **Rhetoric in specific literary forms**.

3) Click on [808.1-808.7](#). You will see that [808.3](#) is Rhetoric of fiction, so click on [808.3](#)

4) Click on [808.31-808.38](#) **Fiction of specific scope and kinds**

5) Follow instructions to ‘Add to base number 808.3 the numbers following T3B--30 in notation [T3B--301-T3B--308](#) from Table 3B.’

6) Right-click on [T3B--301-T3B—308](#) to open in a new tab

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- 7) Click on [T3B—301](#) *Short stories
- 8) You cannot add further, so add 1 to base number **808.3**
- 9) Your number is complete: **808.31**

B. Literature in Māori and Pacific languages

Literature in Māori and Pacific languages is classed with the language it was originally written in.

Māori and Pacific literatures are classed in:

899 Literatures of non-Austronesian languages of Oceania, of Austronesian languages, of miscellaneous languages

To create a number for a specific literature, we follow the instructions under 899 to add from Table 6 for the specific language

EXAMPLE: *Rehua* / *nā Katerina Te Heikōkō Mataira*.

This is a young adult novel, originally written in Maori.

Literatures of non-Austronesian languages etc	Māori literature	Fiction	<i>Novel in Māori</i>
899	442	3	899.442/3
Base number from 800s	Table 6 – Maori language	Table 3A - Fiction	

1. As this is a work by an individual author, click on [T3A](#)
2. Follow instruction (1) to “Look in the schedule [810-890](#) to find the base number for the language.” Right-click to open 810-890 in a separate tab.
3. This is a novel in Maori, so browse to **899 Literatures of non-Austronesian languages of Oceania, of Austronesian languages, of miscellaneous languages**
4. Click on 899. Follow instruction to Add to base number 899 the numbers following T6--99 in notation T6--991-T6--999 from Table 6.

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5. Right-click on Table 6 to open in a new tab. Click on T6—1-T6—9, then click on T6—9 Other languages.
6. Click on **T6—99 Non-Austronesian languages of Oceania, Austronesian languages, miscellaneous languages**
7. Click on T6—994 Polynesian languages
8. Click on T6—9944 Tahitic languages
9. Click on T6—99442 Maori.
10. Return to your base tab for 899. Add 442 to your base number: 899.442.
11. Follow the instruction ‘to the number given for each literature listed below add further as instructed at beginning of T3—0’
12. This is a work by a single author, so you will be using Table 3A. Open Table 3A. Right-click on the link (in left box) [T3A--1-T3A—8 Specific forms](#).
13. Click on [T3A—3 Fiction](#). Even though the work is actually short stories, ‘fiction’ is as precise as you can get in this situation.
14. Return to original tab with Table 3A instructions. Follow instruction to add “3” to the base number – **899.442/3**
15. The number is complete: **899.442/3**

C. History & Criticism

Literary criticism is always classed with the literature being criticised.

Criticism of a specific work is classed with the number for the work.

Criticism of the works of an author in general is classed in the comprehensive number for the author.

Criticism of the works of multiple authors from the same literature is classed with the number for literature, by following the instructions in Table 3B, which will involve using T3B-09.

You may have a critical work by a single author, criticising the work of multiple authors. Do you use Table 3A (as it is by a single author)? Or Table 3B (as it is about multiple authors)?

To find out what you should do, click on Table 3B, then, at the bottom of the instructions, click on the note at the bottom: See Manual at 800

Read the notes under ‘Literary criticism.’ The instruction here is ‘Class criticism with the literature being criticized’. In this case, the literature being criticised is New Zealand literature

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in English by multiple Maori authors, so you will use Table 3B – as the work is about more than one author.

Example: My mother was the earth, my father was the sky : myth and memory in Māori novels in English / Nadia Majid.

This is a work of literary criticism about multiple authors writing in the 20th century.

New Zealand literature	Literary form	Time period	Criticism	<i>Literature for and by ethnic and national groups</i>	<i>Māori authors</i>	<i>Criticism of New Zealand literature by Māori authors</i>
NZ82	3	2	09	8	994/42	NZ82/3/.2/09/899442
Base number from 800s	Table 3B – 3 Fiction	Period table under 821-829	T3B instructions under T3B-1009	Table 3C	Table 5 & Table 6	

Steps

- a) This is about multiple authors, so begin by opening Table 3B.
- b) Follow instruction (1) to “Look in the schedule 810-890 to find the base number for the language.” Right-click to open 810-890 in a separate tab.
- c) New Zealand literature sits with English literature, so click on 820. This gives you a base number of “82”. Click on **821-828 Subdivisions of English literature** to read further instructions.
- d) Add “NZ” as a prefix according to the option under 821-828 (this is National Library of New Zealand practice). Return to original tab with Table 3B instructions. Enter NZ82 into the “Build” box at the top right of the screen
- e) The literary form is fiction, so go to step 2. Right-click on the link (in box on left) to open T3B--1-T3B—8 Specific forms. Click on Fiction T3B--3. Add 3 to the base number so you now have NZ82/3
- f) Return to original tab with Table 3B instructions.. The work does fall within a limited time span, so go to steps 4 & 5. Follow instruction “Turn back to the appropriate number in the schedule 810-890 to see whether there is an applicable period table.” Click on the tab (which still should be open), which you previously opened to show the range 821-828.

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- g) Check the period table for New Zealand. The period for 1907-1999 is designated by “2”. Add to your number to create: NZ82/3./2
- h) Return to original tab with Table 3B instructions. Follow instruction (6) “Under the number for the literary form in Table 3B, go to the subdivisions for specific periods, i.e., under T3B--3 go to fiction of specific periods T3B--31-T3B--39.” Click on the tab that you previously opened for fiction T3B—3.
- h) Click on T3B--31-T3B—39 Fiction of specific periods. Follow the instruction to “add the numbers following T3B--10 in notation T3B--1001-T3B--1009 of this table.”
- i) T3B--1001-T3B--1009 is that table under poetry, so open T3B-1 Poetry, then as this is criticism, click on T3B—1009 History, description, critical appraisal
- j) Add “09” to your base number - NZ823.209.
- i) Click on the link [T3B--10091-T3B—10099 History, description, critical appraisal of poetry displaying specific features or emphasizing specific subjects, for and by specific groups of people](#)
- j) Read instruction to **Add to base number T3B--1009 notation T3C--1-T3C--9 from [Table 3C](#)**
- k) Right-click to open [Table 3C](#) in a separate tab. Click on [T3C--8-T3C—9 Literature for and by groups of people](#). Click on [T3C--8 Literature for and by ethnic and national groups](#). This will lead you to add 8 and then 99442 from Table 5.
- i.e. Right-click to open Table 5 in a new tab,
- Then click on [T5--1-T5—9 Specific ethnic and national groups](#)
- Then click on [T5—9 Other ethnic and national groups](#) then [T5—99 Papuans; Aboriginal Australians and Tasmanians; Malayo-Polynesian and related peoples; miscellaneous peoples](#)
- Then click on [T5—994 Peoples who speak, or whose ancestors spoke, Polynesian languages](#).
- Then follow instruction to “**add to base number T5-994” the numbers following T6-994**”.
- Right-click on Browse to open in a new tab, then enter T6—994.
- Click on T6—994, then T6—9944 Tahitic languages. This gives you “42” for Maori to add to “994” – so you are adding “994/42” to your base number.
- k) Your number is complete - **NZ82/3./20/9/8994/42**

D. More notes and examples about Table 3C

For works by or about more than one author, T3B-08 (collections) and T3B-09 (history and criticism) are frequently added.

This notation provides a link to T3-C, which allows for expression of additional features such as literary themes or subjects, literary elements (e.g. dialogue), literary qualities (e.g. romanticism), and specific kinds of persons for whom or by whom the literature is written.

Note: for works by or about an individual author (Table 3A), you cannot specify the subject matter.

Examples (to be added to)

EXAMPLE: Huia short stories

New Zealand literature	Literary form	Short stories	Collection	<i>Literature for and by ethnic and national groups</i>	<i>Māori authors</i>	<i>A collection of New Zealand literature by Māori authors</i>
NZ82	3	01	08	8	994/42	NZ82/3/.01/08/899442
Base number from 800s	Table 3B – 3 Fiction	Table 3B – 3 Fiction	T3B instructions under T3B-1009	Table 3C	Table 5 & Table 6	

Steps

- a) This is about multiple authors, so begin by opening Table 3B.
- b) Follow instruction (1) to “Look in the schedule 810-890 to find the base number for the language.” Right-click to open 810-890 in a separate tab.
- c) New Zealand literature sits with English literature, so click on 820. This gives you a base number of “82”. Click on **821-828 Subdivisions of English literature** to read further instructions.
- d) Add “NZ” as a prefix according to the option under 821-828 (this is National Library of New Zealand practice). Return to original tab with Table 3B instructions. Enter NZ82 into the “Build” box at the top right of the screen

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e) The literary form is fiction, so go to step 2. Right-click on the link (in box on left) to open [T3B--1-T3B--8](#) Specific forms. Click on Fiction [T3B--3](#). Add 3 to the base number so you now have NZ82/3

f) This is a collection of short stories, so go to step 3 and check Table 3B for the kind of fiction. Insert '01' for short stories. Your number in progress is: NZ823.01

g) According to step 3, follow the instructions in the table under [T3B--102-T3B--107](#) in Table 3B.

h) This will lead you to add **08** – **Collections of literary texts**.

i) You can now add according to 081-089 Literature displaying specific features, or emphasizing subjects, or for and by groups of people. Add to 08 notation [T3C--1-T3C--9](#) from Table 3C

j) Right click to open [T3C--1-T3C--9](#) from Table 3C in a separate tab.

l) Click on [T3C--8-T3C--9](#) **Literature for and by groups of people**. Click on [T3C--8](#) **Literature for and by ethnic and national groups**. This will lead you to add 8 and then 99442 from Table 5.

i.e. Right-click to open Table 5 in a new tab,

Then click on [T5--1-T5--9](#) **Specific ethnic and national groups**

Then click on [T5--9](#) **Other ethnic and national groups** then [T5--99](#) **Papuans; Aboriginal Australians and Tasmanians; Malayo-Polynesian and related peoples; miscellaneous peoples**

Then click on [T5--994](#) **Peoples who speak, or whose ancestors spoke, Polynesian languages**.

Then follow instruction to “add to base number T5-994” the numbers following T6-994”.

Right-click on Browse to open in a new tab, then enter T6—994.

Click on T6—994, then T6—9944 Tahitic languages. This gives you “42” for Maori to add to “994” – so you are adding “994/42” to your base number.

k) Your number is complete - **NZ82/3./01/8/8994/42**

Updated Sarah Knox May 2009, Catherine Amey, May 2012