

606 TOPICAL NAME USED AS SUBJECT

Field Definition and Scope

This field contains a common noun or noun phrase used as a subject **access point**.

Subfields & Occurrence

Field/Subfield	Field/Subfield Name	Repeatability	Occurrence
606	TOPICAL NAME USED AS SUBJECT	R	O
a	Entry Element	NR	O
j	Form Subdivision	R	O
x	Topical Subdivision	R	O
y	Geographical Subdivision	R	O
z	Chronological Subdivision	R	O
2	Source	NR	O
3	Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number	R	O

Indicators

Indicator	Value	Description
1		Level of the Subject Resource
	0	No level specified
	1	Primary term
	2	Secondary term
2	#	blank (not defined)

Indicators Description

Indicator 1: Level of the Subject Resource

The first indicator is used to distinguish primary and secondary descriptors. A term is considered primary (value “1”) if it covers the main focus or subject of the material. A term covering a less important aspect is considered secondary (value “2”). Value “0” is used when no decision has been made as to whether the term is primary or secondary.

Until 1994 the only value of the first indicator was blank (undefined).

Subfields Description

\$a Entry Element

The term in the form prescribed by the system of subject **access points** used. Not repeatable.

\$j Form Subdivision

A term added to the subject **access point** to further specify the kind(s) or genre(s) of material ([EX 7,8](#)). Agencies not using this subdivision should use \$x instead. Repeatable ([EX 8](#)).

\$x Topical Subdivision

A term added to the subject **access point** to specify the aspect that the subject **access point** represents ([EX 2, 3](#)). Repeatable.

\$y Geographical Subdivision

A term added to the subject **access point** to specify a place in relation to the topic that the subject **access point** represents ([EX 2, 4](#)). Repeatable.

\$z Chronological Subdivision

A term added to the subject **access point** to specify the period of time in relation to the topic that the subject **access point** represents ([EX 5](#)). Repeatable.

\$2 Source

An identification in coded form of the system from which the subject **access point** is derived. It is recommended that subfield \$2 always be present in each occurrence of the field. For a list of subject sources, see [Appendix A](#). Not repeatable.

\$3 Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number

The identifier for the authority record for the access point. This subfield is for use with UNIMARC/Authorities format.

Repeatable ([EX 9](#)) when it is necessary for more than one Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number to indicate each part of an **access point** where the indexing system uses a pre-coordinate syntax.

Notes on Field Contents

This field contains data entered according to the provisions of the system of subject **access points** used.

Depending on the cataloguing agency's practices, only topical names (with authorized access point in field 250 of the UNIMARC/Authorities format) may be entered in this field, or both topical names and genre/form entities (with authorized access point in field 280 of the UNIMARC/Authorities format) when used as subject **access points** ([EX 6](#), [10](#)).

Related Fields

607 GEOGRAPHICAL NAME USED AS SUBJECT	Field 607 is used instead of 606 when the subject access point is a geographical name.
608 FORM, GENRE OR PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS ACCESS POINT	Field 608 is used as an indication of the form, genre and/or physical characteristics of the resource being described.

Examples

EX 1
606 ##\$aPulmonary artery\$xCatheterization\$xHandbooks, manuals, etc\$2lc
606 ##\$aHemodynamic monitoring\$xHandbooks, manuals, etc\$2lc
606 ##\$aHeart Catheterization\$xinstrumentation\$xhandbooks\$2mesh
606 ##\$aHeart Catheterization\$xinstrumentation\$xurses' instruction\$2mesh
606 ##\$aMonitoring, Physiologic\$xhandbooks\$2mesh
606 ##\$aMonitoring, Physiologic\$xurses' instruction\$2mesh
Both Library of Congress and Medical subject access points have been assigned to the record for <i>Memory bank for hemodynamic monitoring : the pulmonary artery catheter</i> . The record predates the use of \$j for form subdivisions.
EX 2
606 0#\$aScaffolding\$xSafety measures\$2lc
606 0#\$aConstruction equipment\$yGreat Britain\$2lc
Subject access points assigned to the record for <i>Safety in construction work, scaffolding</i> by the Health and Safety Executive.
EX 3
606 0#\$aNuclear energy\$xHistory\$2lc
Dash (-) that precedes a subject subdivision in an extended subject access point may be system generated as a display constant associated with the content of subfield \$j, \$x, \$y, and \$z.
EX 4

606 0# \$aTrees\$yUnited States\$2lc
EX 5
606 0# \$aArts, Modern\$z20th century\$2lc
EX 6
606 1# \$aBiology\$xPeriodicals\$2lc
The resource is about periodicals on biology.
EX 7
606 1# \$aBiology\$jPeriodicals\$2lc
The resource is a periodical on biology.
EX 8
606 0# \$aVocal music\$jBibliography\$jUnion lists\$2lc
EX 9
606 1# \$3frBN002790930\$aLittérature populaire française\$3frBN002123838\$z19e siècle\$3frBN002118937\$xThèmes, motifs\$3frBN002264415\$xRecueil d'articles \$2rameau
In the database, a pre-coordinated subject source (rameau) is used, so the \$3 is repeated and one Authority Record Identifier or Standard Number is given for each part of the access point.
EX 10
606 ## \$3FRBNF120486518\$aRoman épistolaire français\$3FRBNF119760324\$z18e siècle\$2rameau
The resource is about French epistolary novels in the 18 th century. The cataloguing agency may use either a genre/form entity (with tag A280) as a subject access point, entered in field B606; or a topical name (with tag A250) with the same access point, depending on institutional policies.
EX 11
200 1# \$aVidéo games \$el'aventure du jeu vidéo\$f[Laure Casalini]
606 ## \$3FRBNF133189029 \$aJeux vidéo\$3FRBNF120424089 \$xOuvrages pour la jeunesse\$2rameau
The resource is a book for young people, dealing with all aspects of video games (history, universes, fabrication, artistic trends...) and published on the occasion of an educational exhibition about video games. According to the institutional policy of the cataloguing agency, the entity to which the link is made is a genre/form entity (with tag A280). Other bibliographic records in the database may have a link to this entity in tag 608, when the resource described is the video game (see also field 608, example 8).

History

1994	Changes to indicator values: Indicator 1 defined.
2000	Field issued/re-issued with corrections/additions
2019	Note of the Field extended for the use of genre/form entities. New examples (3, 10, 11). Text errata.
2024	Text edit.