Reliable, expertly-edited, and free digital Shakespeare texts for readers, a powerful research tool for scholars.

The goal of the Folger Digital Texts project is to create an open repository of the Shakespearean texts from the Folger Shakespeare Library Editions for readers, students, scholars, and performers to use freely for noncommercial purposes. The Folger Digital Texts interface allows users to browse, read, navigate, and search the texts, and the powerful encoding infrastructure of the texts itself provides the basis for developing sophisticated digital tools for Shakespeare research. Folger Digital Texts is licenced under a Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial 3.0 Unported licence (CC BY-NC 3.0), which can be reviewed at http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/deed.en_US. The following documentation, also present in each Folger Digital Texts XML file, contains declarations pertinent to the Folger Digital Texts methods of encoding, and is compliant to the standards of the Textual Encoding Initiative (TEI). The TEI’s most recent guidelines can be found at www.tei-c.org. For those new to XML encoding and interested in learning more, some helpful resources to get started are W3School’s XML Tutorial (www.w3schools.com/xml/default.asp), and TEI By Example (http://tbe.kantl.be/TBE/).

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<editor xml:id="BAM">Barbara A. Mowat</editor>
<editor xml:id="PW">Paul Werstine</editor>
<respStmt>
<resp>Edited for XML and encoded by</resp>
<persName xml:id="MSP">Michael Poston</persName>
<persName xml:id="RLN">Rebecca Niles</persName>
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<address>
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<addrLine>Washington, DC 20003</addrLine>
</address>
</fileDesc>
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For all end-of-line hyphenation, the word fragments are rejoined into a single \(<\textit{gi}>w</\textit{gi}>\) tag. Often, the word is placed on the line where the word begins. When this would affect lineation (e.g., when the second word fragment is the only element on its line), the word is moved to the next line.

Soft end-of-line hyphens (i.e., those added only because of the line break) are silently removed. Editors Barbara A. Mowat and Paul Werstine determine whether the hyphen should be retained.

Acts are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>\text{div1}</\textit{gi}>\) tags. Scenes are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>\text{div2}</\textit{gi}>\) tags. Prologues, epilogues, inductions, and choruses are tagged using either \(<\textit{gi}>\text{div1}</\textit{gi}>\) or \(<\textit{gi}>\text{div2}</\textit{gi}>\), whichever is most appropriate.

Page breaks from the print edition are included in \(<\textit{gi}>pb</\textit{gi}>\) tags. Line breaks are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>lb</\textit{gi}>\) tags. The \(<\textit{att}>edRef</\textit{att}>\) attribute is used to identify line breaks that differ between editions.

Speeches are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>sp</\textit{gi}>\) tags. Speech tags usually contain a speech prefix (in the \(<\textit{gi}>speaker</\textit{gi}>\) tag), and an anonymous block (\(<\textit{gi}>ab</\textit{gi}>\)) containing the text of the speech.

Stage Directions are enclosed within \(<\textit{gi}>stage</\textit{gi}>\) tags. They may occur within or between speeches. Where appropriate, \(<\textit{att}>who</\textit{att}>\) attributes specify who participates in the stage direction.

Poems, songs, and letters are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>seg</\textit{gi}>\) tags, with the \(<\textit{att}>type</\textit{att}>\) attribute specifying the type. Segments split between speeches are linked through \(<\textit{att}>next</\textit{att}>\) and \(<\textit{att}>prev</\textit{att}>\) attributes. Some songs are prefaced with a header like "The Song", which is enclosed in a \(<\textit{gi}>label</\textit{gi}>\) tag.

Foreign words and phrases are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>foreign</\textit{gi}>\) tags.

Words, spaces, and punctuation marks are enclosed in \(<\textit{gi}>w</\textit{gi}>\), \(<\textit{gi}>c</\textit{gi}>\), and \(<\textit{gi}>pc</\textit{gi}>\) tags respectively.

Lines (verse and prose) are not segmented within \(<\textit{gi}>l</\textit{gi}>\) or \(<\textit{gi}>line</\textit{gi}>\) elements. They are noted through line breaks and \(<\textit{gi}>milestone</\textit{gi}>\) elements.

Lineation is determined by critical judgments, complicated by accidental features of publication. While this document marks the line breaks as they appear in the Folger editions, it is understood that other projects may wish to format the text differently. Therefore, the text itself is not enclosed in any kind of line tag (\(<\textit{gi}>l</\textit{gi}>\) or \(<\textit{gi}>ab</\textit{gi}>\)). Instead, the elements of a typographic line are combined using a \(<\textit{gi}>milestone</\textit{gi}>\) tag. Using \(<\textit{gi}>milestone</\textit{gi}>\) tags allows us to maintain the Folger line numbering system and offer additional information about the verse without imposing these features on the base text. Not insignificantly, this also helps to avoid overlapping hierarchies in the XML.

The \(<\textit{att}>ana</\textit{att}>\) attribute of the \(<\textit{gi}>milestone</\textit{gi}>\) tags designates the line as \(<\textit{val}>verse</\textit{val}>\), \(<\textit{val}>prose</\textit{val}>\), or \(<\textit{val}>short</\textit{val}>\). Verse lines may use \(<\textit{att}>prev</\textit{att}>\) and \(<\textit{att}>next</\textit{att}>\) attributes to point to other typographic lines that complete the metrical line.

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When it is unclear how to combine an incomplete line into a full metrical line, or when it is unclear whether the line represents verse or prose, the line is designated as `<val>short</val>`.

Identifying formal units of verse requires another interpretation. This document notes when stanzas are indicated in the edition, often by indentation. Couplets are not generally indented, and therefore, unless part of a larger formal structure, their presence is not always acknowledged.</p>

Stanzas often occur in poems and songs, but they may also be found in conversational verse. Indentations are sometimes noted through `<att>rend</att>` attributes, but this is less useful than attempting to define the structure of the stanza. However, marking verse units through `<gi>` tags is not feasible, because the text is not enclosed in `<gi>` tags. Using `<gi>` tags only here would be inconsistent with our encoding elsewhere and would lead to further difficulties with overlapping hierarchies (quotes spanning lines, verse lines split between speakers, etc.). Instead, milestones ( `<gi>` elements) link the typographic line (the FTLN `<gi>`) to a stanza definition. The `<att>n</att>` attribute notes the corresponding line within the stanza. If the line is split, more than one typographic line may share the same `<att>n</att>` attribute. The `<att>prev</att>` and `<att>next</att>` attributes point to the next lines in the stanza. Couplets are generally marked only when they appear as part of a larger poetic unit.</p>

Specifying who participates in a stage direction can be an interesting challenge, especially for ambiguous and permissive stage directions. We have created a new character referencing system to deal with the known and the ambiguous. Clearly identified individuals are identified with their mixed case name followed by the abbreviation of their most significant play. Thus, Hamlet is Hamlet_Ham, Falstaff is Falstaff_1H4 (even in 2H4), and the Duke of Gloucester in 3H6 is RichardIII_R3. Characters who do not have names may be identified in relation to a group of characters, expressed in capital letters. There is an attempt to develop a controlled vocabulary, so Mariners are SAILORS, Keepers are JAILERS, and Captains may be SOLDIERS. ATTENDANTS is a catch-all category that can include Lords, Gentlemen, Torchbearers, Servants, and others. A decimal-based system allows us to add more information as we have it. Brutus's soldier Titinius is SOLDIERS.BRUTUS.Titinius_JC. The First Soldier in that army is SOLDIERS.BRUTUS.1_JC. These still refer to individual characters. With messengers, for example, when we are not sure if the messenger in one scene is the same as the messenger in another, we use .X as a kind of algebraic variable. MESSENGERS.1 cannot be MESSENGERS.2, but MESSENGERS.X might be. When it is impossible to track an individual's entrances and exits, or when it is difficult to know how many characters are in the group, we prefer to track the group rather than individuals. The .0 modifier is used to single out actions by a subset of the group. If a group of ATTENDANTS enters, one is sent on an errand, and then the rest leave, that one is identified as ATTENDANTS.0.
attribute gives the page number. The <att>spanTo</att> attribute gives the <att>xml:id</att> of a milestone element marking the end of the page. 

<tagUsage gi="milestone">When the <att>unit</att> = "page", marks the end of a page in the print edition. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the page number. The <att>unit</att> attribute has the value <val>page</val>. When the <att>unit</att> = "ftln", it describes a line of text. The <att>corresp</att> element notes the corresponding <gi>w</gi>, <gi>c</gi>, <gi>pc</gi> and <gi>anchor</gi> elements. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the line number. The <att>ana</att> attribute has the value <val>verse</val>, <val>prose</val>, or <val>short</val>. The <gi>prev</gi> and <gi>next</gi> attributes provide the means for reconstructing split verse lines. 

<tagUsage gi="fw">Provides the act/scene header for the page, as given in the print edition. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the page number. The <att>type</att> attribute has the value <val>header</val>. 

<tagUsage gi="lb">Marks a line break in the print edition. 

<tagUsage gi="div1">Marks an act (or induction, prologue, epilogue). The <att>type</att> attribute gives the division type. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the canonical act number, where appropriate. 

<tagUsage gi="div2">Marks a scene (or prologue, epilogue, chorus). The <att>type</att> attribute gives the division type. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the canonical scene number, where appropriate. 

<tagUsage gi="head">Provides the act/scene header, as given in the print edition. 

<tagUsage gi="stage">Marks stage directions. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the stage direction line number. The <att>type</att> attribute identifies the type of stage direction, as follows:

<list>
  <item><val>entrance</val>: marks character entrances</item>
  <item><val>exit</val>: marks character exits. At the end of scenes (though not necessarily at the end of the play), dead characters are included in the exit direction</item>
  <item><val>delivery</val>: marks directions on how a character speaks (asides, speaking to a specific character, reading, singing, disguising a voice)</item>
  <item><val>location</val>: marks where the character speaks ("within", "above")</item>
  <item><val>modifier</val>: usually marks a character in disguise (e.g., "as Balthazar")
  <item><val>business</val>: any other action, whether performed by a character or not. Directions such as "flourish" and "thunder and lightning" are considered to be "business", since someone will have to make them happen</item>
  <item><val>dumbshow</val>: describes the action of a dumbshow</item>
  <item><val>mixed</val>: a stage direction that combines several of the above</item>
</list>

The <att>who</att> attribute identifies the characters associated with that stage direction. 

<tagUsage gi="sound">Marks musical and other sound cues. The <att>type</att> attribute categorizes the type of cue, as follows:

<list>
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The <att>ana</att> attribute may provide information such as the specific type of cue and the instrument used. 

The <tagUsage gi="sp">Marks a speech within the text. The <att>who</att> attribute identifies the characters associated with that speech. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="speaker">Provides the speech prefix, as given in the print edition. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="ab">Within <gi>sp</gi> tags, contains the text of the speech. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="w">Marks a word in a speech, stage direction, speech prefix, or header. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the line number, where appropriate. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="c">Marks a space character in a speech, stage direction, speech prefix, or header. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the line number, where appropriate. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="pc">Marks a punctuation character in a speech, stage direction, speech prefix, or header. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the line number, where appropriate. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="gap">Marks editorial placeholders where words are missing or unclear in the primary text. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="join">No longer used. In Beta versions, joined <gi>w</gi>, <gi>c</gi>, <gi>pc</gi> and <gi>anchor</gi> elements into a typographic line. The <att>n</att> attribute gives the line number. The <att>type</att> attribute has the value <val>line</val>. The <att>ana</att> attribute has the value <val>verse</val>, <val>prose</val>, or <val>short</val>. The <gi>prev</gi> and <gi>next</gi> attributes provide the means for reconstructing split verse lines. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="ptr">Creates a pointer for one or more <gi>w</gi>, <gi>c</gi>, <gi>pc</gi>, and <gi>anchor</gi> elements, used to link them to analytical interpretations such as textual notes or stanza identification. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="seg">Often contains a song, poem, or letter, identified by its <att>type</att> attribute; or, if inside a <gi>W</gi> tag, identifies a word segment that may be quoted or emended. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="label">Marks the header to a song or dumbshow. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="floatingText">No longer used. In Beta versions, used sparingly to contain a song or poem that seems distinct from the surrounding text and may not be attributed to a specific speaker. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="q">Contains quoted sections of text. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="foreign">Marks non-English words. The <att>xml:lang</att> attribute identifies the foreign language, where appropriate. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="name">Marks a proper name that may be quoted or italicized in the text. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="title">Marks a title that may be quoted or italicized in the text. </tagUsage> 

The <tagUsage gi="hi">Marks sections of text that are otherwise highlighted (generally