

UEB reference guide

NLS will begin producing books and magazines in the new Unified English Braille (UEB) in 2016. UEB has eliminated nine contractions, changed some spacing rules, and adopted some new symbols. While we don't expect braille readers to encounter much difficulty with the new braille code, we are providing this list of frequently used new symbols for your reference. Only symbols that are new in UEB are included on this list.

The symbols on this list are shown in categories. Each isolated symbol is shown preceded by the dot locator (: : : :). **The following line then provides a brief example of the symbol being used.**

Punctuation

() open and close parentheses : : : : ()

Example:

(new) : : : : (new)

[] open and close brackets : : : : []

Example:

[new] : : : : [new]

' ' open and close inner quote : : : : ' '

Example:

"our 'new' inner quotes" : : : : "our 'new' inner quotes"

... ellipsis : : : : ...

Example:

new ... new... : : : : new ... new...

{ } open and close braces : : : : { }

Example:

{new} : : : : {new}

< > open and close angle brackets : : : : < >

Example:

<new> : : : : <new>

— Dash : : : : —

Example:

— new —new : : : : — new —new

Miscellaneous symbols

* asterisk : : : : *

Example:

new* : : : : new*

@ at sign : : : : @

Example:

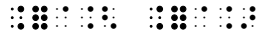
nls@loc.gov	
~ tilde	
Example:	
new~@loc.gov	
\ backslash	
Example:	
c:\my books	
_ underscore	
Example:	
new_data.xls	
• bullet	
Example:	
• New	
• Newer	
° degrees	
Example:	
32°F	
% percent	
Example:	
100%	

Braille indicators

(Note: In print examples, material that appears in grade 1 braille or as a transcriber's note is indicated by the use of sans serif font.)

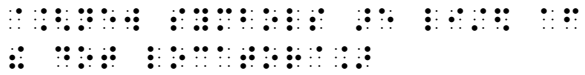
grade 1 single letter	
Example:	
go to room g	
grade 1 word	
Example:	
again	
grade 1 passage begin and terminate	
Example:	
Al and Bob are new.	
capitalized passage begin and terminate	
Example:	
NEW, NEWER, AND NEWEST	

transcriber's note begin and terminate



Example:

new symbols are listed after
the dot locator

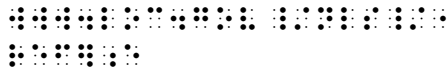


line continuation indicator



Example:

www.loc.gov/nls/
reference



Emphasis indicators

boldface single letter



Example:

Socrates



boldface word



Example:

Aristotle



boldface passage begin and terminate



Example:

Old Greek Philosophers



italics single letter



Example:

Socrates



italics word



Example:

Aristotle



italics passage begin and terminate



Example:

Old Greek Philosophers



underline single letter



Example:

Socrates



underline word



Example:

Aristotle



underline passage begin and terminate



Example:

Old Greek Philosophers



Currency

. Decimal



Example:

99.9



\$ Dollar symbol



Example:

\$4.95



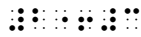
Math

+ plus



Example:

2+3

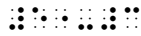


- minus



Example:

5-3



x times



Example:

2x3



÷ divided by



Example:

6÷2



= equals



Example:

2+3 = 5

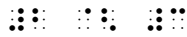


< less than



Example:

2 < 3



> greater than



Example:

3 > 2

