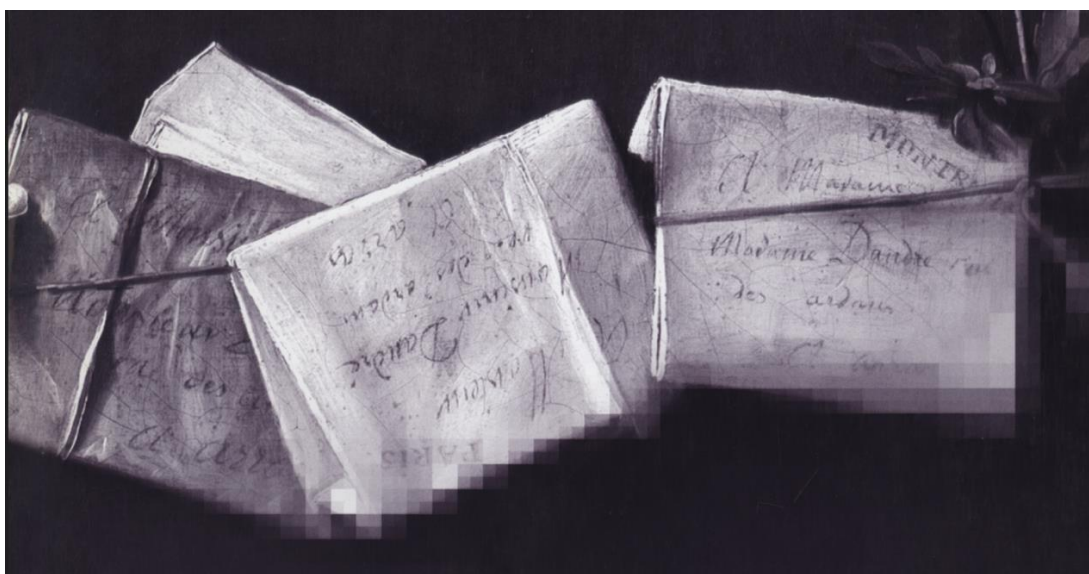


DESCRIPTION

Controlled vocabularies are standardized sets of terms or classifications used to describe objects and cultural. Getty's AAT and TGN, as widely used vocabularies, provide consistent terms for describing cultural heritage objects. These vocabularies help standardize how we describe objects and make them easier to search, compare, and share. They are essential for ensuring consistency in metadata and improving interoperability between institutions.

IDEAL SCENARIO

All cultural assets are described by using standardized terms from recognized and relevant vocabularies. All records of objects rely on consistent terminology, which improves data consistency and enabling easy data searching and sharing for more efficient data access.



TIPS

Do

- Use controlled vocabularies (e.g., Getty AAT, TGN)
- Ensure object metadata conforms to the vocabularies
- Regularly review and update metadata regarding vocabularies

Don't

- Avoid using inconsistent or local terminology.
- Avoid skipping standardized and pre-existing vocabularies
- Avoid overlooking metadata linked to vocabularies

FURTHER RESOURCES

- Heritage Data, Vocabularies <https://www.heritagedata.org/blog/vocabularies-provided/>
- Getty Vocabularies, <https://www.getty.edu/research/tools/vocabularies/>
- Harpring, Patricia. (2010). *Introduction to Controlled Vocabularies. Terminology for Art, Architecture and Other Cultural Works*. Los Angeles: Getty Publications.
- EU Vocabularies, <https://op.europa.eu/en/web/eu-vocabularies/controlled-vocabularies>

Figure: Taken from cover page of Lanzi, Elisa. (1999). *Vocabularies. Enhancing Access to Cultural Heritage Information*. Los Angeles: Getty Publications.