The ICE Tagging Manual
Revised Version, 2005

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1. Introduction

This manual is an updated version of the *ICE Tagset Manual*, by Sidney Greenbaum (1995). The ICE tagging scheme was devised by the Survey of English Usage, in collaboration with the TOSCA Research Group at the University of Nijmegen. It is based in part on Quirk *et al.*, *A Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (1985), though there are some significant differences between the two.

1.1 The ICE Tagset

The repertoire of wordclass tags is known as the ICE Tagset. The tagset consists of 20 main wordclasses. These are listed below, followed by their corresponding tags:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wordclass</th>
<th>ICE Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjective</td>
<td>ADJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adverb</td>
<td>ADV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Article</td>
<td>ART</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auxiliary verb</td>
<td>AUX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleft <em>it</em></td>
<td>CLEFTIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conjunction</td>
<td>CONJUNC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connective</td>
<td>CONNEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Existential <em>there</em></td>
<td>EXTHERE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formulaic expression</td>
<td>FRM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genitive marker</td>
<td>GENM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interjection</td>
<td>INTERJEC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nominal Adjective</td>
<td>NADJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noun</td>
<td>N</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Numeral</td>
<td>NUM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preposition</td>
<td>PREP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proform</td>
<td>PROFM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pronoun</td>
<td>PRON</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Particle</td>
<td>PARTCL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reaction signal</td>
<td>REACT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verb (lexical)</td>
<td>V</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Punctuation marks and pauses are also tagged.

Wordclass tags consist of one of these main wordclass symbols, in upper case, followed (usually) by tag features in lower case and in parentheses. Tags, then, have the general form

\[ \text{WORDCLASS(feature)} \]

For example, adjectives carry the main wordclass symbol **ADJ**, followed by a feature indicating their form. So comparative adjectives are labelled
ADJ(comp)

If the tag carries more than one feature, these are separated by a comma:

WORDCLASS(feature1,feature2)

For example, verbs carry the main wordclass tag \(V\). This is followed by one feature indicating their complementation pattern and another feature indicating their form. So an intransitive (\(\text{intr}\)) verb in the present tense (\(\text{pres}\)) is tagged

\[V(\text{intr},\text{pres})\]

1.2 Multi-word Expressions

In general, each lexical item has been assigned its own grammatical tag. However, certain compound expressions have been assigned compound tags if they are considered to function grammatically as single units. Each word in the expression is assigned the tag of the expression as a whole.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{in} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to):1/2} \\
\text{order} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to):2/3} \\
\text{to} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to):3/3}
\end{align*}
\]

Personal names, titles of books, and headings, are tagged in this way, as singular, proper nouns, without any internal analysis:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{John} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):1/2} \\
\text{Brown} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):2/2} \\
\text{The} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):1/4} \\
\text{Duke} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):2/4} \\
\text{of} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):3/4} \\
\text{Norfolk} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):4/4} \\
\text{Of} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):1/4} \\
\text{Mice} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):2/4} \\
\text{and} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):3/4} \\
\text{Men} & \quad \text{N(prop,sing):4/4}
\end{align*}
\]

We refer to these compound tags as \textit{ditto tags}. In ICECUP’s main display window, ditto tagged items are indicated by yellow underlining. In the tree window, they are indicated by a yellow brace. The numbers (1/2, 2/2, etc) appears only when you save the results of a search, selecting the Tagged Text option.
2. ADJECTIVE (ADJ)
Adjectives carry the main wordclass label ADJ, followed by a label for one of the following formal features:

2.1 Compararive Adjective (comp)

\[
\text{brighter} \quad \text{ADJ(comp)} \\
\text{happier} \quad \text{ADJ(comp)}
\]

2.2 Superlative Adjective (sup)

\[
\text{brightest} \quad \text{ADJ(sup)} \\
\text{happiest} \quad \text{ADJ(sup)}
\]

2.3 Participial Adjective
Participial adjectives are tagged either edp or ingp, depending on their form

\[
\text{an endangered species} \quad \text{ADJ(edp)} \\
\text{a broken arm} \quad \text{ADJ(edp)} \\
\text{a surprising result} \quad \text{ADJ(ingp)} \\
\text{a rewarding experience} \quad \text{ADJ(ingp)}
\]

2.4 General Adjective (ge)
This subclass consists of all adjectives that do not belong to any of the other subclasses.

\[
\text{bright} \quad \text{ADJ(ge)} \\
\text{happy} \quad \text{ADJ(ge)}
\]

NOTE: Adjectives in periphrastic, comparative constructions, such as more expensive and most expensive, are tagged ADJ(ge), since they are not formally marked.

3. ADVERB (ADV)
Adverbs carry the main wordclass label ADV. The class is divided into eight subclasses, which appear as features in the tag. These subclasses are

\[
\text{add} \\
\text{excl} \\
\text{inten} \\
\text{partic} \\
\text{phras} \\
\text{rel} \\
\text{wh} \\
\text{ge}
\]
We discuss each of these subclasses below.

3.1 Additive Adverb (add)
Additive adverbs are tagged ADV(add).

Warfare was *both* a demonstration of right and a gesture  ADV(add)
Lansbury was *neither* afraid nor resentful.  ADV(add)
I think he worked in a bank *too* at one stage.  ADV(add)

3.2 Exclusive (excl)
Exclusive adverbs are tagged ADV(excl).

It’s *only* a novel  ADV(excl)
I was *merely* pointing out what he already knew  ADV(excl)
You *just* don’t understand  ADV(excl)

3.3 Intensifier (inten)
Intensifiers denote a place on a scale of comparison, and include amplifiers and downtoners. They are tagged ADV(inten).

She’s *very* clever  ADV(inten)
It’s *too* late to go out  ADV(inten)
The hall was *fairly* full  ADV(inten)

3.4 Particularizer (partic)
Particularizers emphasize that the utterance is restricted to the focused part. They are tagged ADV(partic). *At least, at most, and in particular* are compound particularizers.

I am *mainly* concerned about his attitude  ADV(partic)
The youngsters, *in particular*, enjoyed the show  ADV(partic)
I knew *at least* ten people there  ADV(partic)

3.5 Phrasal adverb (phras)
Adverbs are tagged ADV(phras) when they enter into a combination traditionally known as a phrasal verb.

He gives *up* too easily  ADV(phras)
She looked it *up* in a dictionary  ADV(phras)
She looked *up* the word  ADV(phras)
He caught *on*  ADV(phras)

The adverb in the traditional phrasal-prepositional verb is tagged in the same way. For example, *up in put up with* is tagged ADV(phras), and the phrasal preposition *with* is tagged PREP(phras).
3.6 Relative adverb (rel)
Relative adverbs are tagged ADV(rel). The relative adverbs *when*, *where*, *whereby*, and *why* introduce postmodifying relative clauses.

- It happened during the week *when* I was in bed with the flu  
  ADV(rel)
- I can’t find the phone number of the hotel *where* she is staying  
  ADV(rel)
- It provides a method *whereby* differences may be identified  
  ADV(rel)
- They explained the reason *why* they were absent  
  ADV(rel)

Relative adverbs may be used to introduce the second part of a cleft sentence:

> Was it a year ago *when* you were having back pain?  
  ADV(rel)

3.7 Wh-adverbs (wh)
*Wh-*adverbs are tagged ADV(wh). This subclass comprises all adverbs beginning with *wh-* plus the adverbs *how* and *however*. The adverbs in this subclass introduce clauses that are (a) independent exclamatory, (b) dependent exclamatory, (c) independent interrogative, (d) dependent interrogative, (e) nominal relative.

(a) *How* tall she is!  
(b) You can’t imagine *how* tall she is  
(c) *When* can we meet for lunch?  
(d) He asked her *how* to complete the form  
(e) Paris is *where* you should go in the spring

If *when*, *whenever*, *where*, *whenever* introduce an adverbial clause, they are tagged as subordinating conjunctions.

3.8 General Adverb (ge)
This subclass consists of all adverbs that do not belong to any of the other subclasses. They are tagged ADV(ge). The subclass includes arguably, often, recently, slowly, there, yesterday, as well as *AD, BC, am., pm., ibid., etc. et al, per cent.*

Inflected adverbs - mostly general adverbs - have an additional feature indicating comparative **comp** or superlative **sup** form:

- *fast*: ADV(ge)
- *faster*: ADV(ge,comp)
- *fastest*: ADV(ge,sup)

4. ARTICLE (ART)
Articles are assigned the main wordclass label **ART**, and they carry one of the feature labels **def** (definite) or **indef** (indefinite).
5. AUXILIARY VERB (AUX)

Auxiliary verbs are tagged AUX for wordclass. This is followed by at least two features. The first feature indicates the subclass of the auxiliary. The subclasses are shown below, with their corresponding feature label:

- do auxiliary
- let auxiliary
- modal
- passive
- perfective
- progressive
- semi-auxiliary
- semi-auxiliary followed by an -ing participle

The second feature indicates the form, selected from the following:

- -ed participle form
- -ing participle form
- past
- present
- infinitive
- imperative

Where appropriate, additional features indicate the following:

- negative
- enclitic
- proclitic
- elliptical
- discontinuous

Here we will look at each of the auxiliary subclasses.

5.1 Do auxiliary (do)

This subclass consists of the dummy operator *do* and the introductory imperative marker *do*. All instances are marked AUX(do,...).

- How *did* it start?  
  AUX(do,past)
- It just *doesn’t* work  
  AUX(do,pres,neg)
Do come in  AUX(do,imp)

Don’t sit there  AUX(do,imp,neg)

D’you want some cake?  AUX(do,pres,procl)

5.2 Let auxiliary (let)
The introductory imperative marker let is tagged AUX(let,imp).

Let me just see if I can give you a little test  AUX(let,imp)

Let’s see if there are any buyers  AUX(let,imp)

Auxiliary let is distinguished from the lexical verb let (‘allow’), as in ‘Let me go’.

5.3 Modal Auxiliary (modal)
Modal auxiliaries are tagged AUX(modal,...). The modal auxiliaries are can, may, shall, will, must, could, might, should, would.

We can leave early tomorrow morning  AUX(modal,pres)

The surveyor will be here soon  AUX(modal,pres)

You really shouldn’t speak to me like that  AUX(modal,past,neg)

I’ll be there soon  AUX(modal,pres,encl)

5.4 Passive Auxiliary (pass)
The passive auxiliaries: be and get are tagged AUX(pass,...).

They were arrested  AUX(pass,past)

I don’t want to be poisoned.  AUX(pass,infin)

Everything else has been stopped.  AUX(pass,edp)

These temples got abandoned in medieval times  AUX(pass,past)

5.5 Perfect Auxiliary (perf)
The perfect auxiliary have is tagged AUX(perf,...).
He has put his certificate on the wall
It hasn’t got a good reputation
Nothing had been done
She’d already eaten when I arrived

5.6 Progressive Auxiliary (prog)
The progressive auxiliary *be* is tagged AUX(prog,...).

You were working closely with her
They’re just pretending
You must be running out of time
I think that’s been playing on my mind

5.7 Semi-auxiliary (semi)
Semi-auxiliaries are tagged AUX(semi,...). The class includes modal idioms and catenatives. The subclass includes appear to, be about to, be likely to, have to, tend to. All the semi-auxiliaries are ditto-tagged:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>is</td>
<td>AUX(semi,pres):1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>about</td>
<td>AUX(semi,pres):2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>AUX(semi,pres):3/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the parts of a semi-auxiliary do not occur adjacent to each other, they carry an additional feature disc (discontinuous). For example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>was</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past,disc):1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>just</td>
<td>ADV(excl)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>going</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past,disc):2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past,disc):3/3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, if modifiers of the adjectives in semi-auxiliaries are present, they are included in the ditto tags:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>was</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past):1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>almost</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past):2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>certain</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past):3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to</td>
<td>AUX(semi,past):4/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A repeated semi-auxiliary may be elliptical, but it is tagged in the same way as the full form, except that it is given the added feature **ellipt**:

Are you supposed to take your exam this June?  
Yes, I am.  

He’s apt to exaggerate, *isn’t* he?  

**NOTE:** When *be* performs more than one function at the same time, by convention we tag only the first function. In the following example, *was* is both a progressive auxiliary (*was playing*) and a passive auxiliary (*was judged*). The tag is determined by the **first** function:

Nigel was playing beautifully but judged too inexperienced.  **AUX**(prog,past)

5.8 **Semi-auxiliary followed by -ing participle (semip)**

These resemble the semi-auxiliaries (4.1.7) except that they are followed by an -ing participle. They are tagged **AUX**(semip,...). The -ing participle is not part of the semi-auxiliary.

I *keep* thinking I must do something about it.  **AUX**(semip,pres)

They *began* loading bombs.  **AUX**(semip,past)

She can’t *stop* talking  

I’ve *started* wearing T-shirts.  **AUX**(semip,edp)

6. **CLEFT IT (CLEFTIT)**

The *it* in cleft constructions is tagged CLEFTIT, without any further features.

*It* was my sister who saw him  
Was *it* last year we met?  

**NOTE:** The main verb in cleft constructions is tagged **intransitive**

7. **CONJUNCTION (CONJUNC)**

We distinguish two type of conjunctions, coordinating conjunctions (**coord**) and subordinating conjunctions (**subord**). Both carry the main wordclass label **CONJUNC**.
7.1 Coordinating Conjunction (coord)
Coordinating conjunctions are labelled CONJUNC(coord). The following items are tagged as coordinating conjunctions: and, as well as, but, for, let alone, nor, or, plus, rather than, yet.

NOTE: When the conjunctions and, but, for, nor, or, plus, and yet occur at the beginning of a text unit, they are tagged as general connectives, not as coordinators. Nor and yet are also tagged connectives when they follow and or but.

7.2 Subordinating Conjunction (subord)
The subordinators are tagged CONJUNC(subord). They include after, if, since, so, that, unless, until, when(ever).

Multi-word subordinators may be discontinuous, requiring the additional feature disc:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>provided</th>
<th>CONJUNC(subord,disc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>always</td>
<td>ADV(ge)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>that</td>
<td>CONJUNC(subord,disc)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

They may also be elliptical:

Your card has been cancelled, seeing that you won’t pay and that you refuse to answer our letters

8. CONNECTIVE (CONNEC)
The ICE grammar distinguishes two types of connectives, general connectives CONNEC(ge) and appositive connectives CONNEC(appos).

8.1 General connective (ge)
General connectives are tagged CONNEC(ge). They are used to establish a relation between the current clause or sentence and (one or more) previous clauses or sentences.

Finally, the candidates were criticised for ‘woolly answers’

Also I note that the floor plan is grossly inaccurate

There are, however, a couple of obstacles to be overcome first

For the tagging of coordinating conjunctions as CONNEC(ge), see 5.1.
8.2 Appositive connective (appos)
Appositive connectives are tagged CONNEC(appos). They typically occur between items which are in apposition.

- Things like basketball and football are great exercise  
  CONNEC(appos)
- Other factors, such as lack of amenities, are also important  
  CONNEC(appos)
- The government resists all pressure groups particularly trade unions  
  CONNEC(appos)

The feature disc indicates discontinuous appositive connectors:

- that  
  CONNEC(appos,disc):1/4
- is  
  CONNEC(appos,disc):2/4
- perhaps  
  ADV(ge)
- to  
  CONNEC(appos,disc):3/4
- say  
  CONNEC(appos,disc):4/4

9. EXISTENTIAL THERE (EXTHERE)
Existential there is tagged EXTHERE. This tag does not carry any features.

- There’s nobody else he can trust.  
  EXTHERE
- That’s the kind of area where there is uncertainty.  
  EXTHERE

NOTE: The main verb in existential constructions is tagged intransitive.

10. FORMULAIC EXPRESSION (FRM)
Formulaic expressions are tagged FRM, without any further features.

The class includes greetings and farewells (adieu, bye, goodbye, hello, Merry Christmas), thanks (cheers, thanks, thank you), and apologies (excuse me, I beg your pardon, sorry). It also include expletives (Christ, damn, fuck, shit) and miscellaneous expressions (bravo, congratulations, okay, please).

11. GENITIVE MARKER (GENM)
The genitive marker ‘s or ’ is separated from the word to which it is attached, and is assigned its own tag, GENM.

Susan
12. INTERJECTION (INTERJEC)
Interjections are emotive words that do not enter into syntactic relations. Examples include *aha*, *boo*, *ha*, *oops*, *wow*. The class also includes the voiced pauses *uh* and *uhm*. All interjections are tagged INTERJEC, without any features.

See also Reaction Signals.

13 NOUN (N)
Nouns carry the wordclass label N. This is followed by two features. The first distinguishes between common (com) and proper (prop) nouns, and the second indicates number - singular (sing) or plural (plu).

13.1 Singular (sing) and Plural (plu) Nouns
The assignment of singular and plural relies predominantly on form, and no distinction is made between singular count nouns and noncount (or mass) nouns. The following italicised nouns are therefore tagged sing:

- your furniture
- this information
- the wine
- coffee
- some difficulty
- industrial research
- all kinds of wine
- the truth
- some more paper
- your courage

Singular collective nouns are tagged sing; for example: *board*, *gang*, *team*, *cornmittee*. So too are *news*: names of disciplines, etc., ending in -ics (e.g. *mathematics*, *physics*, *politics*, *athletics*); names of diseases ending in -s (e.g. *measles*, *mumps*); and names of certain games ending in -s (e.g. *dominoes*, *darts*). However, some of these nouns may be used with number contrast, and in such cases the final -s marks the plural; for example: *a statistic*, *some statistics*; *a dart*, *two darts*.

Some nouns that are not morphologically marked as plural are tagged plu because they require a plural verb:

- the cattle are stampeding
- the gentry were overthrown in the rebellion

N(com,plu)
13.2 Common (com) and Proper (prop) Nouns
The distinction between common noun and proper noun is made simply on the basis of the absence or presence of an initial capital letter. If a noun begins without a capital it is a common noun, if it begins with a capital it is a proper noun (unless the capital is only required to mark the beginning of a sentence):

\[
\text{in } \text{time} \quad \text{N(com,sing)} \quad \text{in } \text{June} \quad \text{N(prop,sing)}
\]

13.3 Compound Nouns
To facilitate the parsing process, the concept of compound noun has been broadened to encompass every sequence of two or more nouns with a noun as Head that constitutes a unit. The nouns in the sequence are assigned *ditto tags*, determined by Head of the sequence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Ditto Tags</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>railway</td>
<td>N(com,sing):1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>station</td>
<td>N(com,sing):2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>potato</td>
<td>N(com,plu):1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>crisps</td>
<td>N(com,plu):2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>N(com,sing):1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>N(com,sing):2/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>office</td>
<td>N(com,sing):3/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European</td>
<td>N(com,plu):1/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>N(com,plu):2/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>finance</td>
<td>N(com,plu):3/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ministers</td>
<td>N(com,plu):4/4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

13.4 Mentions
Expressions that are mentioned as linguistic objects are treated as common singular nouns. They are explicitly marked as *mentions* in the structural markup.

- *Cats* is a noun \( \text{N(com,sing)} \)
- I don’t like the word *prioritize*. \( \text{N(com,sing)} \)
- *Sorry* is hardly the right word \( \text{N(com,sing)} \)
13.5 Genitive Nouns
Genitive nouns with determiner function (or in a noun phrase with determiner function) are not part of the sequence and are therefore tagged independently; for example, husband’s in her husband’s death:

```
her  PRON(poss,sing)
husband  N(com,sing)
’s  GENM
death  N(com,sing)
```

13.6 Appositive Nouns
Nouns in apposition are tagged independently; for example, George Brown, Professor of Physics:

```
George  N(prop,sing):1/2
Brown  N(prop,sing):2/2
,  PUNC(com)
Professor  N(prop,sing)
of  PREP(ge)
Physics  N(prop,sing)
```

Contrast the tagging of Professor George Brown, where Professor is a title:

```
Professor  N(prop,sing):1/3
George  N(prop,sing):2/3
Brown  N(prop,sing):3/3
```

Similarly, the word prioritize in 12.4 above:

```
the  ART(def)
word  N(com,sing)
prioritize  N(com,sing)
```

13.7 Adjective-Noun Sequences
Some noun compounds consist of an adjective plus a noun. They are treated as compounds on the basis of their stress pattern (main stress on the first word) or their idiomaticity:

```
hot  N(com,plu):1/2
dogs  N(com,plu):2/2
```

If an adjective + noun compound premodifies a noun, the compound is tagged with the Head noun under the sequence rule stated at the beginning of this section:

```
a  ART(indef)
High  N(com,sing):1/3
```
13.8 Titles and Names
The title of a book, play, song, newspaper, etc. is tagged as a compound singular proper noun, without regard to the word classes of its constituents:

The
Interpretation
of
Dreams

Making
a
Reality
of
Home
Care

Punctuation, including the genitive marker, is included in the ditto tags:

English
Grammar:
An
Introduction

14 NOMINAL ADJECTIVE (NADJ)
Nominal adjectives carry the main wordclass label NADJ, and some additional features. A major subclass denotes members of a nationality and has plural reference. These carry the feature prop (proper) because they begin with a capital:

the English
the Welsh
the French

Nominal adjectives with the prop feature are not open to any other features.

We distinguish three further subclasses:

1. Words with plural reference to classes of people: These are tagged NADJ(plu).
the young  NADJ(plu)
the jobless  NADJ(plu)
the careless  NADJ(plu)

2. Words with abstract and singular reference.

The worst is yet to come.  NADJ(sing)
A glimpse of the obvious  NADJ(sing)

3. Words with a participial ending. They carry a form feature edp or ingp, and a number feature sing or plu.

Police are interviewing the accused.  NADJ(edp,sing)
The wounded were carried away.  NADJ(edp,plu)
Judgement is left to the discerning.  NADJ(ingp,plu)

Like other adjectives, nominal adjectives may be marked for comparison comp or superlative sup form.

the easier of the two choices  NADJ(comp,sing)
at my best  NADJ(sup,sing)

15 NUMERAL (NUM)
Numerals carry the main wordclass label NUM. This is followed by a feature label indicating the subclass. We distinguish the following subclasses of numerals:

cardinal numeral   card
ordinal numeral   ord
fraction   frac
hyphenated   hyph
multiplier   mult

All numerals are marked for one of these subclasses. Where relevant, they are also marked for number according to their form; hence, thousand is singular (sing) and thousands is plural (plu).
NOTE: In written texts, numerals may appear as words (*a hundred*) or as digits (100). In spoken texts, they should always appear as words (*nineteen ninety-eight, or nineteen hundred and ninety-eight, not 1998*).

15.1 Cardinal Numeral (card)
Cardinal numerals carry the feature label *card*, and a number feature *sing* or *plu*. Examples include *one* (with singular nouns), *two, threes, forty-two, one hundred, a hundred, two thousand, thousands, millions, a dozen, scores*. The subclass also includes zero and its synonyms.

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{a} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):1/2} \\
\text{hundred} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):2/2} \\
\text{one} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):1/2} \\
\text{hundred} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):2/2} \\
\text{ten} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):1/2} \\
\text{thousand} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):2/2} \\
\text{the} & \quad \text{ART(def)} \\
\text{sixties} & \quad \text{NUM(card,plu)}
\end{align*}
\]

Combinations of cardinals with fractions (see 14.2) have been separated into two units. For example, 2½ appears in the texts as 2 1/2. These combination are ditto-tagged as cardinals:

\[
\begin{align*}
2 & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):1/2} \\
1/2 & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing):2/2}
\end{align*}
\]

If combinations of cardinal and fraction are set out as words, the words are tagged independently:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{one} & \quad \text{NUM(card,sing)} \\
\text{and} & \quad \text{CONJUNC(coord)} \\
\text{two-fifths} & \quad \text{NUM(frac,plu)}
\end{align*}
\]

15.2 Ordinal numeral (ord)
The subclass of ordinals includes the primary ordinals, such as *first, second, 10th, twenty-first*, and the following:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{additional} & \quad \text{further} & \quad \text{others} \\
\text{another} & \quad \text{last} & \quad \text{preceding} \\
\text{extra} & \quad \text{latter} & \quad \text{previous} \\
\text{following} & \quad \text{next} & \quad \text{same} \\
\text{former} & \quad \text{other} & \quad \text{subsequent}
\end{align*}
\]
15.3 Fraction (frac)
Fractions include *a half, one fifth, three-quarters, four-fifths, 1/8, 3/5*. They carry the feature label *frac* and a number feature *sing or plu*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fraction</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>one</td>
<td>NUM(frac,sing):1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fifth</td>
<td>NUM(frac,sing):2/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a half</td>
<td>NUM(frac,sing):1/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>three-quarters</td>
<td>NUM(frac,plu)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/8</td>
<td>NUM(frac,sing)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15.4 Hyphenated numeral (hyph)
Hyphenated numerals denote an inclusive range. They are labelled *NUM(hyph)*, with no other feature. The ‘hyphen’ is more properly in print a short dash or en-dash.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40-65</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1750-1830</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-12 a.m</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-98</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March lst-25th</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged 14-16</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The range may be indicated by a slash:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1992/93</td>
<td>NUM(hyph)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15.5 Multiplier (mult)
Multipliers include *once, twice, double, triple*. They carry the feature label *mult*, and no number feature.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Multiplier</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>twice</td>
<td>NUM(mult)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>two</td>
<td>NUM(card)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>is</td>
<td>V(cop,pres)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>four</td>
<td>NUM(card)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
16. PREPOSITION (PREP)
Prepositions carry the main wordclass label PREP, followed by the feature label ge (general), phras (phrasal), or inter (interrogative)

16.2 General preposition (ge)
General prepositions are tagged PREP(ge). They may be simple prepositions, consisting of just one word, such as about, by, for, of, to, and with. We also recognise a large number of complex prepositions. This group includes according to, by means of, except for, prior to, with reference to, thanks to. Complex prepositions are ditto-tagged

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{according} & \quad \text{PREP(ge):1/2} \\
\text{to} & \quad \text{PREP(ge):2/2} \\
\text{with} & \quad \text{PREP(ge):1/3} \\
\text{reference} & \quad \text{PREP(ge):2/3} \\
\text{to} & \quad \text{PREP(ge):3/3}
\end{align*}
\]

Complex prepositions may be elliptical (ellipt):

We remain in contact with you and with your family  
PREP(ge,ellipt)

They may also be discontinuous (disc)

He is entitled to payment, subject only to the usual conditions  
PREP(ge,disc)

16.1 Phrasal Preposition (phras)
Prepositions that combine with verbs to form intransitive prepositional verbs are labelled PREP(phras).

She  
PRON(pers,sing)
looked  
V(intr,past)
at  
PREP(phras)
it  
PRON(pers,sing)

Similarly, the preposition is tagged PREP(phras) in transitive prepositional constructions:

It  
PRON(pers,sing)
protected  
V(montr,past)
us  
PRON(pers,plu)
from  
PREP(phras)
the  
ART(def)
rain  
N(com,sing)
The preposition may be stranded after the verb, without its complement:

- Who are you talking about? PREP(phras)
- How long is she staying for? PREP(phras)
- It’s so hard to concentrate on PREP(phras)

16.3 Interrogative Preposition (inter)

*What about, how about,* and *what of* are ditto-tagged PREP(inter):

- *What about* the new guy? PREP(inter)
- *How about* some ice-cream? PREP(inter)
- *What of* twentieth-century writers? PREP(inter)

17. PROFORM (PROFM)

Proforms carry the main wordclass label PROFM. Three subclasses are distinguished:

- conjoin conj
  - *so* so
  - *one* one

17.1 Proform conjoin (conj)

Proform conjoins are tagged PROFM(conj). The subclass includes the following items, all introduced by a coordinating conjunction. The conjunction is not part of the proform.

- *(or) so* so
- *(and) so forth* so
- *(and) so on* so
- *(and) the like* the like
- *(and/or) such like* such like
- *(and/but/or) the reverse* the reverse
- *(and/or) vice versa* vice versa

- *(and/or) both* both
- *(or) neither* neither
- *(or) not* not
- *(or) otherwise* otherwise
- *(and/or) whatever* whatever
- *(or) what have you* what have you
- *(or) something* something

- It may go malignant in twenty years or so PROFM(conj)
- We might have people to supper or whatever PROFM(conj)
- I spoke about his qualities and work and so on PROFM(conj)

17.2 Proform *so* (so)

Proform *so* replaces phrases and clauses, and is tagged PROFM(so).
I hope so PROFM(so)

It says so right here PROFM(so)

I’m hungry and so is everyone else PROFM(so)

The clausal proform has a negative counterpart in the word not:

I hope not PROFM(so)

17.3 Proform one (one)
Proform one includes substitute one and generic one. Both uses are tagged PROFM(one). Substitute one may be singular (sing) or plural (plu):

Can I borrow one? PROFM(one, sing)

I prefer the sweet ones PROFM(one, plu)

Generic one is always singular:

What can one expect? PROFM(one, sing)

One really shouldn’t laugh PROFM(one,sing)

18. PRONOUN (PRON)
Pronouns carry the main word class label PRON and a feature label for the subclass. We distinguish the following subclasses of pronoun:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subclass</th>
<th>Feature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>anticipatory</td>
<td>antit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>assertive</td>
<td>ass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>demonstrative</td>
<td>dem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exclamative</td>
<td>exclam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negative</td>
<td>neg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>nonassertive</td>
<td>nonass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>personal</td>
<td>pers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>possessive</td>
<td>poss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>quantifying</td>
<td>quant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reciprocal</td>
<td>recip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>reflexive</td>
<td>ref</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relative</td>
<td>rel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>universal</td>
<td>univ</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Where a distinction in number is relevant, the feature sing or plu is assigned. There is no assignment of case features.
18.1. Anticipatory *it*

Anticipatory *it* is tagged `PRON(antit)`: 

- *It*'s a good thing (that) you came here  
- *I* find *it* really difficult to sit down  
- *He* made *it* clear that he intended to resign  

The proclitic form carries an additional feature `procl`: 

- *'Tis* OK to phone me at work

18.2 Assertive Pronoun (*ass*)

All assertive pronouns except *some* are tagged `PRON(ass,sing)`; *some* is left unmarked. The assertive pronouns are *some*, *somebody*, *someone*, and *something*. The genitive inflection is tagged in the usual way:

- *somebody*  
- *'s*  

18.3 Demonstrative Pronoun (*dem*)

The demonstrative pronouns are *that*, *these*, *this*, *those* and *such*. Except for *such*, they are marked for number as `PRON(dem,sing)` or `PRON(dem,plu)`.

18.4 Exclamative Pronoun (*exclam*)

Exclamative *what* is tagged `PRON(exclam)`

- *What* a great week it’s been  
- *What* fun!

18.5 Negative Pronoun (*neg*)

Negative pronouns are tagged `PRON(neg)`. The negative pronouns are neither, nobody, no one, nothing, no, none

- *Neither*, *nobody*, *no one*, and *nothing* are tagged `PRON(neg,sing)`. *No* and *none* are tagged `PRON(neg)`.  

18.6 Nonassertive pronoun (*nonass*)
The nonassertive pronouns are *any, anyone, either, anybody, anything*

All except *any* are tagged \texttt{PRON(nonass,sing)}; *any* is tagged \texttt{PRON(nonass)}

18.7 Personal pronoun (pers)

Personal pronouns are tagged \texttt{PRON(pers)}, and except for *you* they are also tagged for number but not for case. Examples:

- \texttt{she} \texttt{PRON(pers,sing)}
- \texttt{us} \texttt{PRON(pers,plu)}
- \texttt{it} \texttt{PRON(pers,sing)}
- \texttt{you} \texttt{PRON(pers)}

Also tagged as \texttt{PRON(pers,sing)} are abbreviations or combinations such as s/he and him/her.

Proclitic *it*, as in 'tis, is tagged \texttt{PRON(pers,sing,procl)}; proclitic *you*, as in y’know, \texttt{PRON(pers,procl)}; enclitic *us*, as in let’s, \texttt{PRON(pers,plu,encl)}.

Prop *it*, as in ‘It’s raining’ or ‘It’s nine o’clock’, is tagged \texttt{PRON(pers,sing)}.

18.8 Possessive pronoun (poss)

Possessive pronouns are tagged \texttt{PRON(poss)}, and except for *your* and *yours* they are also tagged for number. The possessive pronouns are:

- \texttt{my} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{mine} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{our} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{ours} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{your} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{yours} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{hers} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{her} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{its} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{their} \texttt{PRON(poss)}
- \texttt{theirs} \texttt{PRON(poss)}

Also tagged as \texttt{PRON(poss,sing)} are abbreviations or combinations such as his/her.

18.9 Quantifying pronoun (quant)

Quantifying pronouns are tagged \texttt{PRON(quant)}, and some are tagged for number (\texttt{sing} or \texttt{plu}). The quantifying pronouns are:

- \texttt{enough} \texttt{PRON(quant)}
- \texttt{few} \texttt{PRON(quant,plu)}
- \texttt{fewer} \texttt{PRON(quant,plu)}
fewest PRON(quant,plu)
least PRON(quant)
less PRON(quant)
little PRON(quant,sing)
many PRON(quant,plu)
more PRON(quant)
most PRON(quant)
much PRON(quant,sing)
plenty PRON(quant)
several PRON(quant,plu)

18.10 Reciprocal pronoun (recip)

There are two reciprocal pronouns, each other and one another. They are tagged PRON(recip) with ditto tags:

each PRON(recip):1/2
other PRON(recip):2/2
one PRON(recip):1/2
another PRON(recip):2/2

18.11 Reflexive pronoun (ref)

Reflexive pronouns are tagged PRON(ref), and they carry an additional feature label for number (sing or plu). The reflexive pronouns are:

myself yourself himself oneself
ourselves yourselves herself oneself
itself yourselves herself oneself
themselves

18.12 Relative pronoun (rel)

Relative pronouns are tagged PRON(rel); number and case are not marked. The relative pronouns are:

which who whom whose that whereby

18.13 Universal pronoun (univ)
Universal pronouns are tagged PRON(univ), and except for all they are also tagged for number (sing or plu).

\[
\begin{align*}
  all & \quad \text{PRON(univ)} \\
  both & \quad \text{PRON(univ,plu)} \\
  each & \quad \text{PRON(univ,sing)}
\end{align*}
\]

19. PARTICLE (PRTCL)
Particles carry the main wordclass label PRTCL and one of the subclass features: to, for, or with.

18.1 Particle to
Particle to introduces an infinitive clause. It is tagged PRTCL(to).

\[
\begin{align*}
  \text{I rushed over to the library to get a couple of books} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to)}
\end{align*}
\]

The subclass includes in order to and so as to:

\[
\begin{align*}
  \text{They are withdrawing services in order to reduce capacity} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to)} \\
  \text{Be punctual so as to reduce waiting time} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to)}
\end{align*}
\]

The feature disc is used if the particle is discontinuous:

\[
\begin{align*}
  \text{in} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to,disc):1/3} \\
  \text{order} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to,disc):2/3} \\
  \text{perhaps} & \quad \text{ADV(ge)} \\
  \text{to} & \quad \text{PRTCL(to,disc):3/3}
\end{align*}
\]

18.2 Particle for
Particle for introduces the subject of an infinitive clause. It is tagged PRTCL(for)

\[
\begin{align*}
  \text{It’s really for you to decide} & \quad \text{PRTCL(for)} \\
  \text{It’s time for you to go.} & \quad \text{PRTCL(for)}
\end{align*}
\]

The subclass includes in order for:

\[
\begin{align*}
  \text{In order for you to qualify, you must be under eighteen} & \quad \text{PRTCL(for)}
\end{align*}
\]
The feature **disc** is used if the particle is discontinuous:

* in  PRTCL(to,disc):1/3  
* order  PRTCL(to,disc):2/3  
* perhaps  ADV(ge)  
* for  PRTCL(to,disc):3/3

### 18.3 Particle **with**

Particle *with* introduces the subject of a nonfinite or verbless clause. It is tagged **PRTCL(with)**

Seagram wins the Grand National *with* twenty-five yards to go  PRTCL(with)

You’ll never get a word in *with* me talking  PRTCL(with)

The subclass includes *without*:

Victory was achieved *without* a drop of blood being spilled  PRTCL(with)

### 19. REACTION SIGNAL (REACT)

Reaction signals express agreement or disagreement with a previous speaker. They are tagged **REACT**, without any feature. The class includes all right, fine, good, no, ok, right, yes.

### 20. VERB (V)

Lexical verbs are tagged **V**. This is followed by at least two features. The first feature indicates the complementation pattern. The ICE grammar recognises the following seven patterns:

* intransitive  intr  
* copular  cop  
* monotransitive  montr  
* dimonotransitive  dimontr  
* ditransitive  ditr  
* complex-transitive  cxtr  
* transitive  trans

These patterns are discussed in the next section, 20.1

The second feature indicates the form of the verb, selected from the following:

* -ed participle  edp  
* -ing participle  ingp  
* imperative  imp
Where appropriate, additional features indicate the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Tag</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>discontinuous</td>
<td>disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>enclitic</td>
<td>encl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>negative</td>
<td>neg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The features encl and neg apply only to the lexical verbs *be* and *have*.

## 20.1 Verb Complementation Patterns

### 20.1.1 Intransitive (intr)

Intransitive verbs (*intr*) are not followed by any object or complement.

- She *works* in a library \( V(\text{intr,pres}) \)
- She graduated last summer \( V(\text{intr,past}) \)
- *Stop* \( V(\text{intr,imp}) \)

### 20.1.2. Copular (cop)

Copular verbs (*cop*) require the presence of a subject complement.

- It really *is* great fun \( V(\text{cop,pres}) \)
- It *isn’t* my fault \( V(\text{cop,pres,neg}) \)
- She *’s* home \( V(\text{cop,pres,encl}) \)
- He *looks* the part as well \( V(\text{cop,pres}) \)
- *I felt* tired this morning \( V(\text{cop,past}) \)
- She *seems* upset about something \( V(\text{cop,pres}) \)
- He *acts* sometimes *as* my agent \( V(\text{cop,pres,disc}) \)

Instances of *be* as a lexical verb are tagged as copular, except in cleft constructions and in existential constructions. In these cases, the verb is tagged intransitive.
20.1.3 Monotransitive (montr)
Monotransitive verbs (montr) are complemented by a Direct Object only.

I buy too many books \( V(\text{montr, pres}) \)
She left her coat in the cinema \( V(\text{montr, past}) \)
Please sign both sides of the form \( V(\text{montr, imp}) \)
He just hasn’t a clue \( V(\text{montr, pres, neg}) \)

20.1.4 Dimonotransitive (dimontr)
Dimonotransitive verbs (dimontr) are complemented by an Indirect Object only. They include show, ask, assure, grant, inform, promise, reassure, and tell.

When I asked her, she burst into tears \( V(\text{dimontr, past}) \)
I’ll tell you tomorrow \( V(\text{dimontr, infin}) \)
Show me \( V(\text{dimontr, imp}) \)

20.1.5 Ditransitive (ditr)
Ditransitive verbs (ditr) are complemented by an Indirect Object and a Direct Object.

We tell each other everything \( V(\text{ditr, pres}) \)
They built themselves a new theatre \( V(\text{ditr, past}) \)
Give us some more drinks \( V(\text{ditr, imp}) \)

20.1.6 Complex transitive (cxtr)
Complex transitive verbs (cxtr) are complemented by a Direct Object and an Object Complement.

He knocked himself unconscious. \( V(\text{cxtr, past}) \)
It would make me sick \( V(\text{cxtr, infin}) \)
I take that as a compliment. \( V(\text{cxtr, pres}) \)
It gets you out of bed. \( V(\text{cxtr, pres}) \)

20.1.7 Transitive (trans)
The transitivity of a verb may be unclear in some instances if it is complemented by a nonfinite clause:

I expect John to do the hoovering

Here, the noun phrase John may be the Subject of the nonfinite clause or the Object of the host clause. In all such cases we tag the main verb as \( V(\text{trans,...}) \). Further examples include:

- You wanted them to recognise your experience \( V(\text{trans,past}) \)
- I’ve heard him speak on Celtic spirituality \( V(\text{trans,edp}) \)
- I saw myself launching off into a philosophical treatise \( V(\text{trans,past}) \)
- I’ll have it removed \( V(\text{trans,infin}) \)
- We keep each other fully informed \( V(\text{trans,pres}) \)

**NOTE:** The trans label is not applied

(a) if the verb is be

- One of my aims is to finish my PhD \( V(\text{cop,pres}) \)
- All he did was repeat what someone else has told him \( V(\text{cop,past}) \)

(b) if the nonfinite clause does not have an overt Subject:

- She helped design the course \( V(\text{montr,past}) \)
- I enjoy doing it \( V(\text{montr,pres}) \)

(c) if the noun phrase is followed by a wh-clause whose main verb is a to-infinitive:

- No one can tell me what to do \( V(\text{ditr,infin}) \)
- The manual shows you how to install it \( V(\text{ditr,pres}) \)

**20.2 Special Cases**

In the tagging of verbs, the following special cases should be noted:

**20.2.1 Passive Constructions**

The tagging of the main verb in the passive is the same as it would be if the verb were active:

He was caught in the end \( V(\text{montr,edp}) \)

(cf. They caught him in the end)
He was *told* about it  
(cf. *They told him about it*)  

I may be *proved* wrong  
(cf. *Someone may prove me wrong*)

Constructions that are tagged \texttt{V(trans,...)} are generally tagged the same in the passive:

They are not *allowed* to leave before six  
(cf. *He does not allow them to leave before six*)  

It is commonly *found* growing wild in Egypt  
(cf. *You commonly find it growing wild in Egypt*)

### 20.2.2 Prepositional and Phrasal-prepositional Verbs

Prepositional verbs, phrasal-prepositional verbs, and other verbs which have a collocational link with a preposition are not recognised as multi-word verbs. Therefore prepositional objects (objects introduced by a preposition) are not recognised.

Unless they have a Direct Object, these verbs are tagged as intransitives:

They *operated* on her leg  

Someone is *speaking* to you

However, these verbs are tagged as monotransitives when they occur in the passive:

Her leg was *operated* on  

You’re being *spoken* to

The prepositions which collocate with these verbs are tagged \texttt{PREP(phras)}.

### 20.4.3 Nonfinite verbs in nonfinite clauses

The tagging of a nonfinite verb in a nonfinite clause is the same as it would be in the corresponding finite clause:

I use a piece of equipment *called* a spectrometer  
(cf. *They call it a spectrometer*)

You end up *feeling* quite compromised
(cf. *You feel quite compromised*)

I stood there *expecting* the sky to fall  
(cf. *I expected the sky to fall*)

### 20.4.4 Existential Sentences
The lexical verb in an existential sentence carries the label *intr* (intransitive).

- There *is* a man in your room  
  \(V(\text{intr, pres})\)
- Did there *seem* to be any connection between the two?  
  \(V(\text{intr, infin})\)

### 20.4.5 Cleft Sentences
The lexical verb in a cleft sentence carries the label *intr* (intransitive)

- It *was* David who broke the window  
  \(V(\text{intr, past})\)
- It will *be* as a children’s writer he’ll be remembered  
  \(V(\text{intr, infin})\)

### 20.4.6 Extraposed Sentences
In sentences with anticipatory *it*, the lexical verb is tagged as in regular sentence patterns.

- It *makes* sense to use it  
  \(V(\text{montr, pres})\)
  (cf. *To use it makes sense*)
- It sometimes *happens* that you can’t go back  
  \(V(\text{intr, pres})\)
  (cf. *That you can’t go back sometimes happens*)

### 21. PUNCTUATION

Punctuation marks appear only in written texts. They are tagged with the main label **PUNC**, followed by one feature for their type. The following is a complete list of the punctuation marks in the corpus, together with their tags.

- closing bracket **PUNC(cbrack)**
- colon **PUNC(col)**
- closing quote **PUNC(cquo)**
- comma **PUNC(com)**
- dash **PUNC(dash)**
- ellipsis (…) **PUNC(ellip)**
- exclamation mark **PUNC(exm)**
- opening bracket **PUNC(obrack)**
• **NOTE:** **PUNC(obrack)** and **PUNC(cbrack)** cover all types of bracketing; for example: round brackets (also called parentheses), square brackets (also simply called brackets), diamond brackets (also called angle brackets), braces, and phonemic slants.

• **NOTE 2.** **PUNC(dash)** also covers the swung dash, i.e. ~.

• **NOTE 3.** ‘Other punctuation’, **PUNC(other)** covers any other symbols; for example, bullets, squares, triangles, stars.

### 22. PAUSES (PAUSE)

Pauses carry the main label **PAUSE**, followed by a feature label indicating the length of the pause - **short** or **long**. In the transcription of spoken texts, short pauses are marked as <,> and long pauses are marked as <,,>. So the tagging is

- `<,>` **PAUSE(short)**
- `<,,>` **PAUSE(long)**

### 23. MISCELLANEOUS TAGS

#### 23.1 UNTAG

**UNTAG** is used to label incomplete words, marked <.>...</>. These occur most commonly in spoken texts, though they may also be found in handwritten texts.

I’m <.> ste </.> I’m trying to decide **UNTAG**

**UNTAG** is also used to label complete words whose wordclass is indeterminate because of a “false start” or other discourse phenomenon:

I have I’d like to start by saying.... **UNTAG**

Here, *have* is indeterminate between lexical *have* and auxiliary *have*, so it is tagged **UNTAG**.

This tag does not carry any features.
23.2 Tag?
Items are labelled with a question mark if they so unclear as to make it impossible to decide their wordclass:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>This</th>
<th>PRON(dem,sing)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;unclear&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>word</td>
<td>?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;/unclear&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In other cases, words may be unclear, but it may still be possible to determine their wordclass. This is most commonly the case with personal names:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dr</th>
<th>N(prop,sing):1/3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alan</td>
<td>N(prop,sing):1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;unclear&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name</td>
<td>N(prop,sing):1/3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;/unclear&gt;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>