

## Talk 2: Overall TEI Structure

TEI @ Oxford

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# Default Text Structure

All TEI documents are structured in a particular manner. This section attempts to describe the different variations on this as briefly as possible.

## Structure of a TEI Document

There are two basic structures of a TEI Document:

- `<TEI>` (TEI document) contains a single TEI-conformant document, comprising a TEI header and a text, either in isolation or as part of a `teiCorpus` element.
- `<teiCorpus>` contains the whole of a TEI encoded corpus, comprising a single corpus header and one or more TEI elements, each containing a single text header and a text.

## TEI basic structures (1)

```
<teiCorpus xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">  
  <teiHeader>  
    <!-- required -->  
  </teiHeader>  
  <TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">  
    <!-- required -->  
  </TEI>  
  <!-- More <TEI> elements -->  
</teiCorpus>
```

## TEI basic structures (2)

```
<TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">
  <teiHeader>
    <!-- required -->
  </teiHeader>
  <facsimile>
    <!-- optional-->
  </facsimile>
  <sourceDoc>
    <!-- optional -->
  </sourceDoc>
  <text>
    <!-- required if no facsimile or sourceDoc-->
  </text>
</TEI>
```

<text>

## What is a text?

- A text may be unitary or composite
  - unitary: forming an organic whole
  - composite: consisting of several components which are in some important sense independent of each other
- a unitary text contains
  - optional front matter
  - <body> (required)
  - optional back matter

&lt;text&gt;

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<text>

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  - <body> (required)
  - optional back matter



## Composite texts

A composite text contains

- optional front matter
- `<group>` with `<text>` inside (required)
- optional back matter

A corpus is a collection of text and header pairs that also has its own header.

`<group>` tags may self-nest.

## TEI text structure (1)

```
<text>
  <front>
  <!-- optional -->
    </front>
    <body>
  <!-- required -->
    </body>
    <back>
  <!-- optional -->
    </back>
</text>
```

## TEI text structure (2)

```
<text>
  <front>
  <!-- ... -->
  </front>
  <group>
    <text>
      <body>
        <p>...</p>
      </body>
    </text>
  </group>
  <back>
  <!-- ... -->
  </back>
</text>
```

## Another Grouped Text Example

```
<TEI xmlns="http://www.tei-c.org/ns/1.0">
  <teiHeader>
    <!-- header information for the whole collection -->
    </teiHeader>
    <text>
      <!-- optional front matter -->
      <group>
        <text>
          <!-- optional front matter -->
          <body>
            <!-- First Body -->
            </body>
          </text>
        <text>
          <!-- optional front matter -->
          <body>
            <!-- Second Body-->
            </body>
          </text>
        </group>
      </text>
    </TEI>
```

## Next

And now we're going to break for lunch, but when you come back we'll talk about the kinds of metadata you can put in the the `<teiHeader>` element!