

Developing a DITA content model

By Amber Swope




Welcome



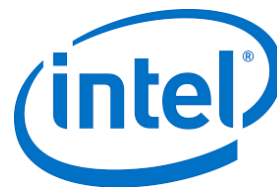
Amber Swope
President & DITA Specialist
DITA Strategies, Inc.

- Over 20 years of industry experience
- Consulting and implementation of best practices
- Information architecture, content reuse with DITA
- Masters in Professional and Technical Writing
- Conference speaker, co-author of the DITA Maturity Model, author of numerous articles and whitepapers, webinar presenter

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Clients



Formula



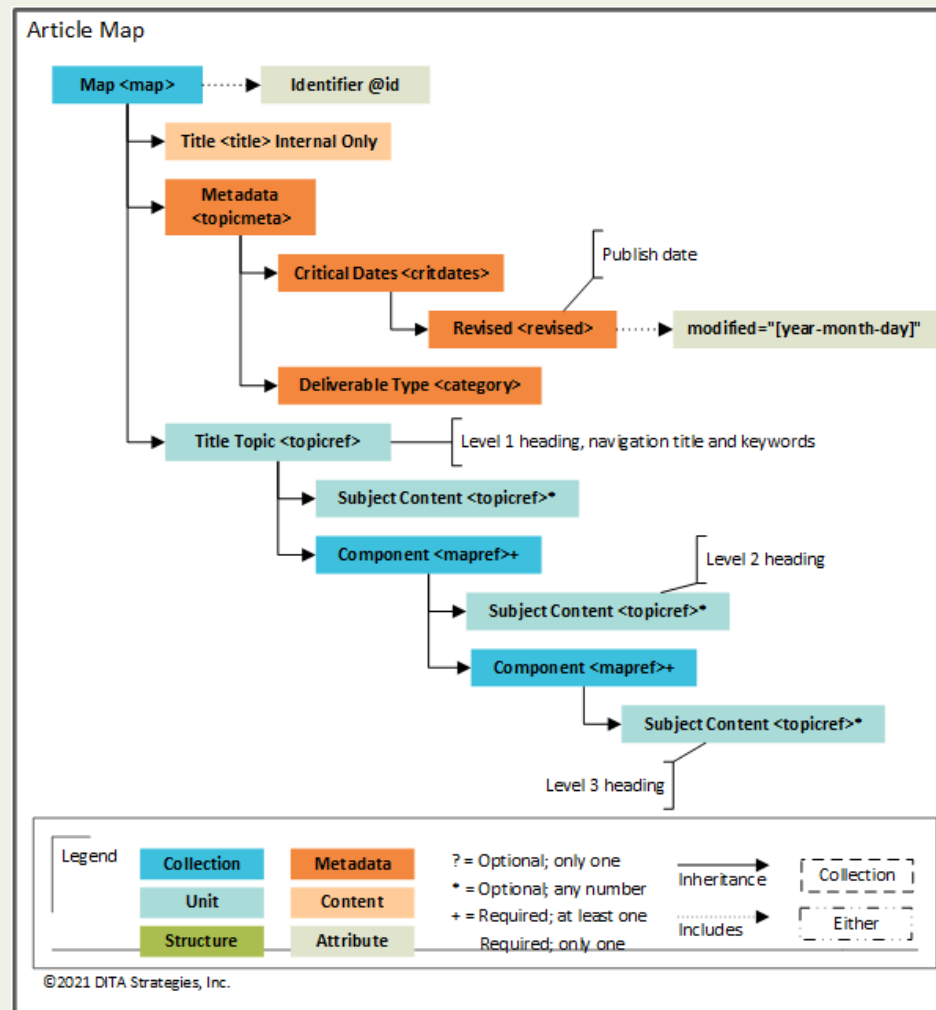
Analyze Deliverables

1. Perform project inventory analysis
2. Perform deliverable analysis
3. Compare deliverables of the same type
4. Analyze the deliverable structure

	A	B	C	D
1	<dita>strategies			
2	Category	Purpose	Driver License	Provisional Driver License
3		Identify document type	Get a Driver License - Over 18	Get a Driver License - Under 18
4	Alert	Inform about temporary or special circumstances	Alert	Alert
5	Process: overview	Describe process to get document	To Get a Driver License	To Get a Provisional Driver License
6	Process:	Describe ID information, including photo rules	Miscellaneous Information	Miscellaneous Information
7	Process: interim identification	Describe interim ID information	<i>Interim Identification</i>	<i>Interim Identification</i>
8	Process: requirements - photo	Describe photo rules	<i>Photographs</i>	<i>Photographs</i>
9	Navigation: redirection	Direct to info based upon age	Under 18?	Under 18?
10	Process: requirements	List document requirements	Additional Requirements	
11		Organize other information		Detailed Information
12	Driving: restrictions	List document-specific driving restrictions		Driving Restrictions
13		Organize other information	Renewing or Replacing a Driver License	
14	Activity: replace document	Instruct how to replace document	Replace	Replacement
15	Activity: renew document	Instruct how to renew document	Renew	
16	Activity: change address	Instruct how to change your address	Change Your Address	
17		Organize testing information	Testing Information	
18	Tests: description	Describe vision test	The Vision Test	The Vision Test
19	Tests: description	Describe Class C Knowledge Test	The Class C Knowledge Test	The Safe Driving Practices Test
20	Tests: description	Describe drive test	The Drive Test at DMV	Details for the Drive Test at DMV
21	Tests: description - requirements	List test vehicle requirements	The Test Vehicle	The Test Vehicle

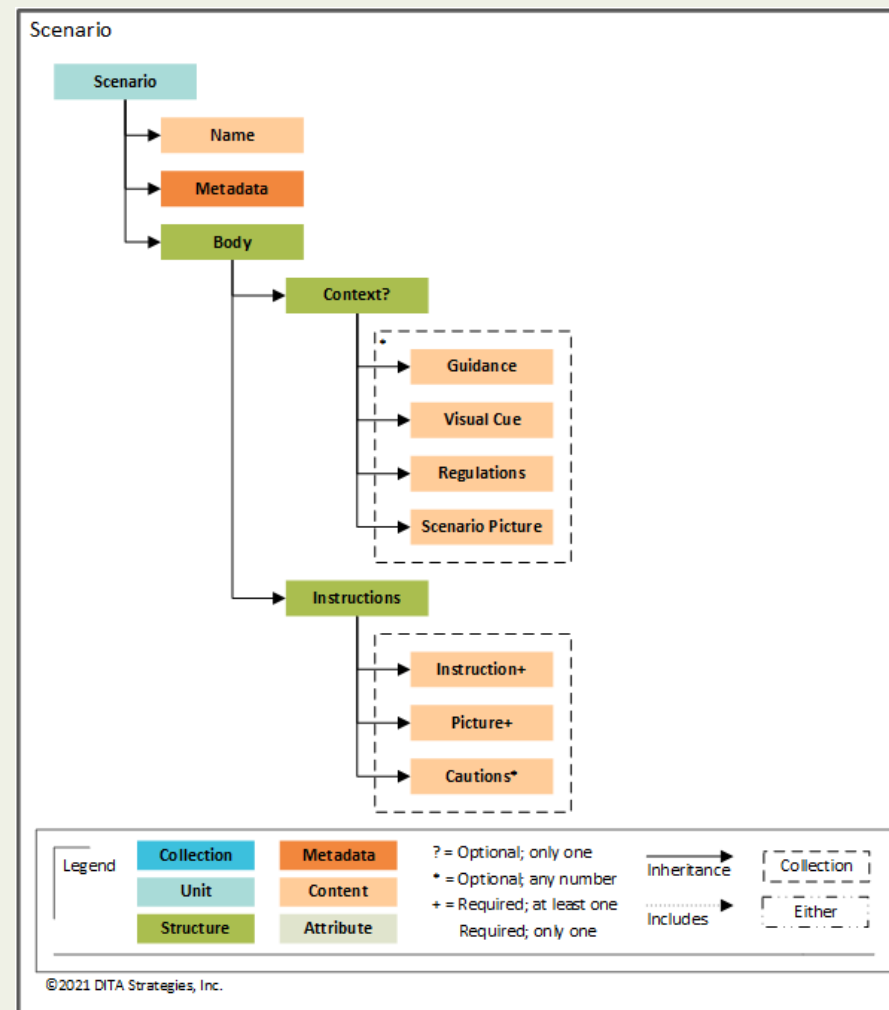
Develop Deliverable Structure

1. Design deliverable map structures
2. Design collection map structures
3. Summarize the in-progress design



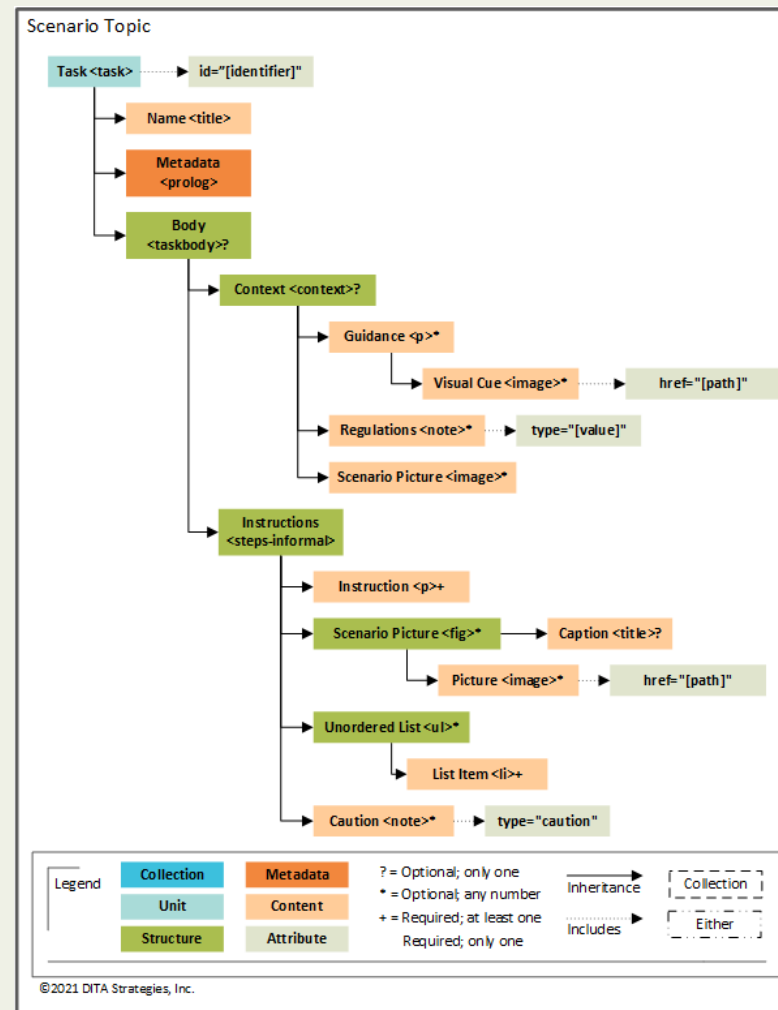
Analyze Content

1. Determine the topic and content types
2. Analyze the content type
3. Analyze the content type structure
4. Add the metadata



Develop Content Structure

1. Build the DITA structure
2. Select the metadata elements
3. Define the content type relationships



Develop Content Model

1. Review the style guides
2. Evaluate current content for formatted items
3. Identify candidate content items
4. Select DITA elements
5. Build sample files

2	Symbols				
3	Deliverable Name	Single quotes	Double quotes	Parenthesis/ Brackets	Special Characters
	Style Guide	not covered	visual cue names (p. 12), colloquialisms (p. 43)	form numbers (p. 14)	em dash between items and descriptions in lists (p. 15)

	A	E	F	I	O
3	Deliverable Name	Special Characters	Bold	Color	Other formatted items
	Style Guide	em dash between items and descriptions in lists (p. 15)	numbers in numbered lists (p. 10), items in item/desc lists (p. 10)	numbers in numbered lists (p. 10), bullets in bulleted lists (p. 10)	bulleted lists L1 solid circle, L2 open circle

Document the Content Model

- Deliverable Summary
- Metadata Summary
- Map Elements by Deliverable
- Topic Elements by Topic Type

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	<dita>strategies						
	Usage Legend V = Valid Y = yes N = not using						
2		Content Types	Container	Scenario, Task Process	Visual Cue,	FAQ,	Glossary
3	Purpose	Element	Topic	General Tas	Concept	Reference	Glossary
4	Container for task topic	<topic>	R				
5	Container for task topic	<task>		R			
6	Container for concept topic	<concept>	R		R		
7	Container for reference topic	<reference>				R	
8	Container for glossary topic	<glossentry>					R
9	Container for task topic body	<taskbody>		Y			
	Container for concept topic body	<conbody>	Y		Y		
10	Container for reference topic body	<refbody>				Y	
11	Container for glossary topic body	<glossBody>					N
12	Container for troubleshooting topic	<troubleshooting>					
13	Container for troubleshooting topic body	<troublebody>					
14	Identify heading	<title>	R	R	R	R	
15	Container for alternate titles	<titlealts>	V	V	V	V	
16	Specify navigation title	<navtitle>	V	V	V	V	
17	Specify search title	<searchtitle>	V	V	V	V	
18	Identify proper terms	<keyword>	?	?	?	?	N
19	Contain visual cue info	<abstract>	N	N	Y	N	
20	Introduce topic content	<shortdesc>	?	Y	?	?	
21	Organize content in topics	<section>	?	?	?	?	N
22	Organize example content in topics	<example>	N	N	N	N	
23							

