

# How is it done?

## Exploring XML Authoring Features

**George Bina / oXygen XML Editor**

**[george@oxygenxml.com](mailto:george@oxygenxml.com)**

**[@georgebina](https://twitter.com/georgebina)**

**oXygen Users Meetup @ XML Prague 2019**

© 2019 Syncro Soft SRL. All rights reserved.



# Overview

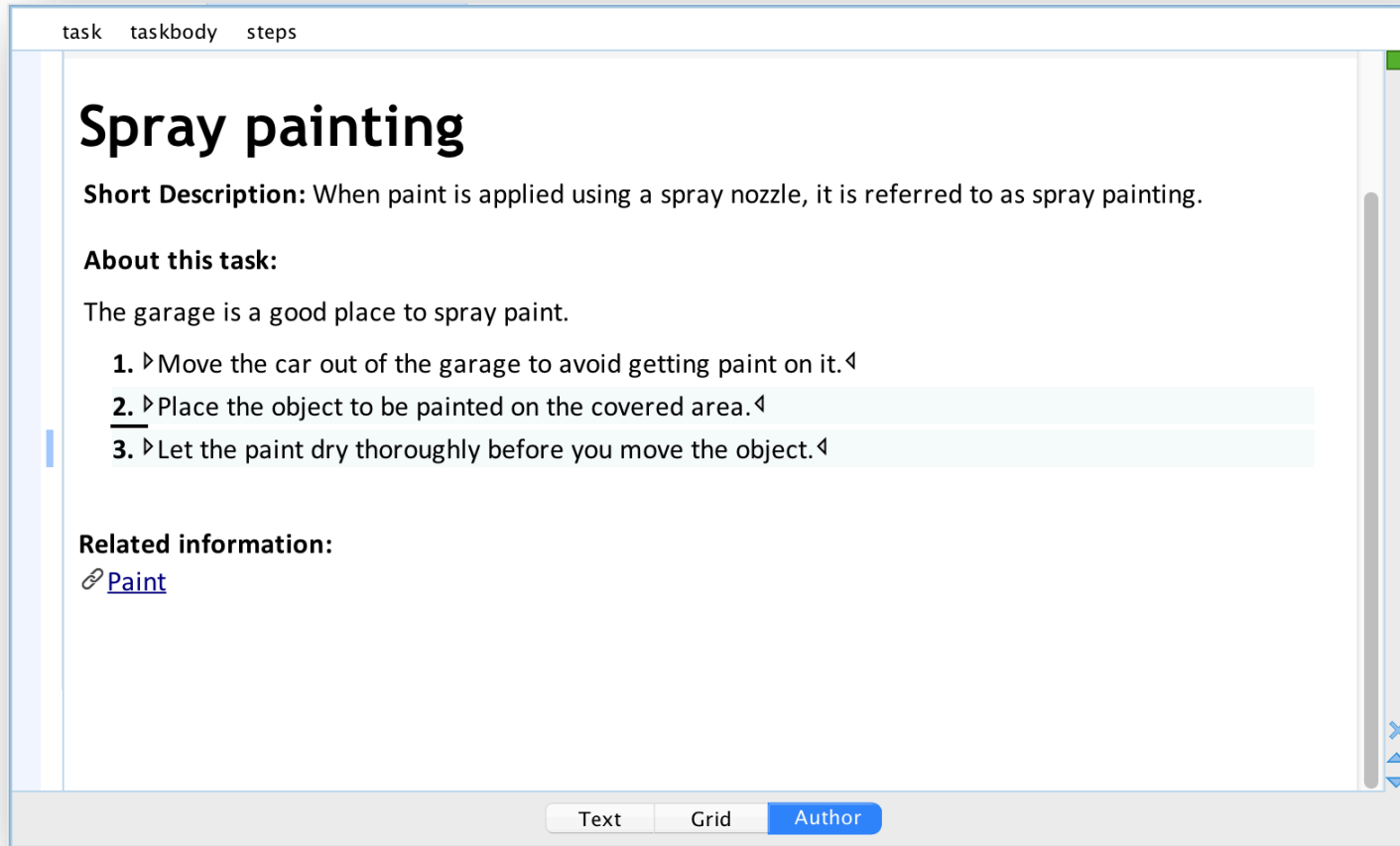
- Inline actions
- Inline hints
- Dynamic views – tabs
- Out-of-flow rendering (present side notes on the side)

# Inline actions

Provide actions directly within the document to help the user add new structures.

# Samples

- DITA tasks
- DITA troubleshooting
- DITA maps

A screenshot of the Oxygen XML Editor interface showing a task page. The page has a light blue header with the breadcrumb "task taskbody steps". The main content area is white and contains the following text: a large heading "Spray painting", a "Short Description" paragraph, an "About this task:" section with a paragraph and a three-step numbered list, and a "Related information:" section with a link to "Paint". At the bottom, there is a grey bar with three buttons: "Text", "Grid", and "Author" (which is highlighted in blue). On the right side of the content area, there is a vertical scrollbar and a small green square at the top right corner. At the bottom right of the window, there are three small blue icons: a close button (X), a maximize button, and a scroll-down arrow.

task taskbody steps

## Spray painting

**Short Description:** When paint is applied using a spray nozzle, it is referred to as spray painting.

### About this task:

The garage is a good place to spray paint.

1. ▶ Move the car out of the garage to avoid getting paint on it. ◀
2. ▶ Place the object to be painted on the covered area. ◀
3. ▶ Let the paint dry thoroughly before you move the object. ◀

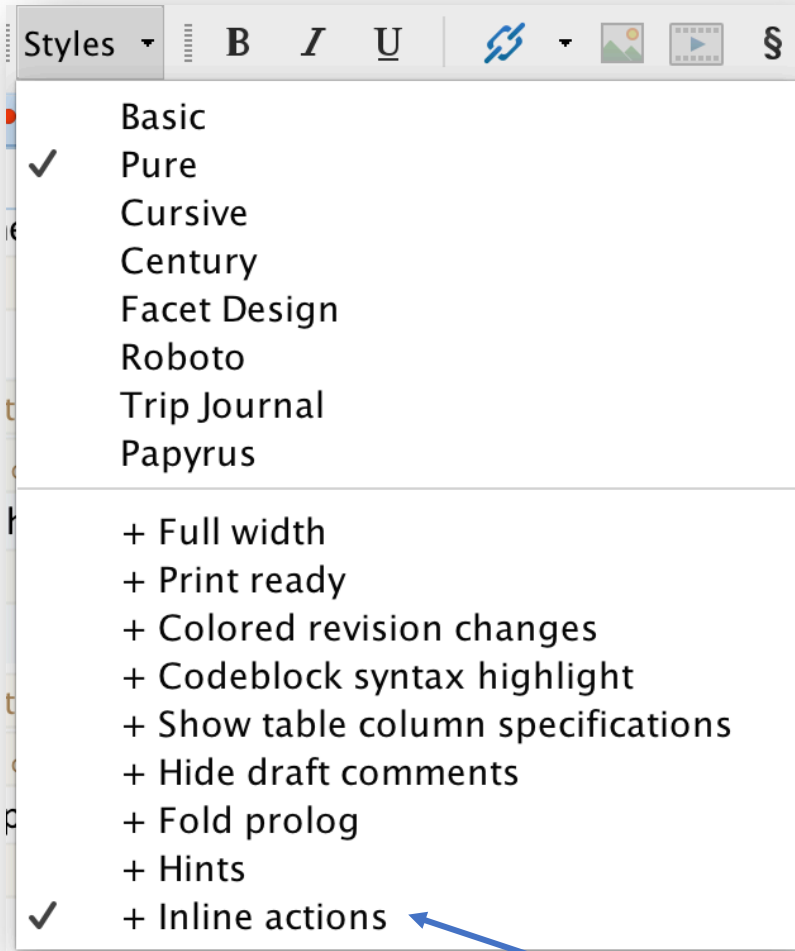
### Related information:

[Paint](#)

Text

Grid

Author

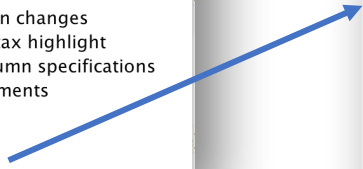


Styles ▾ **B** *I* U ↻ 📄 📑 \$

- Basic
- ✓ Pure
- Cursive
- Century
- Facet Design
- Roboto
- Trip Journal
- Papyrus

---

- + Full width
- + Print ready
- + Colored revision changes
- + Codeblock syntax highlight
- + Show table column specifications
- + Hide draft comments
- + Fold prolog
- + Hints
- ✓ + Inline actions



task taskbody steps

# Spray painting

[Title Alternatives]

**Short Description:** When paint is applied using a spray nozzle, it is referred to as spray painting. ✕

[Prolog]

[Pre-requisites]

**About this task:**

The garage is a good place to spray paint.

✕

[Step] [Step Section]

[Step]

1. [Note] or [Hazard Statement]

▶ Move the car out of the garage to avoid getting paint on it.⚡

[Choices] or [Choice Table] or [Information] or [Step Example] or [Substeps] or [Tutorial Information] [Step Result] ✕

[Step]

[Step Section]

2. [Note] or [Hazard Statement]

▶ Place the object to be painted on the covered area.⚡

[Choices] or [Choice Table] or [Information] or [Step Example] or [Substeps] or [Tutorial Information] [Step Result] ✕

[Step]

[Step Section]

3. [Note] or [Hazard Statement]

▶ Let the paint dry thoroughly before you move the object.⚡

[Choices] or [Choice Table] or [Information] or [Step Example] or [Substeps] or [Tutorial Information] [Step Result] ✕

[Step]

[Step Section] [Step]

✕

[Result] [Example] [Post-requisites]

✕

Text Grid **Author**

# Technology

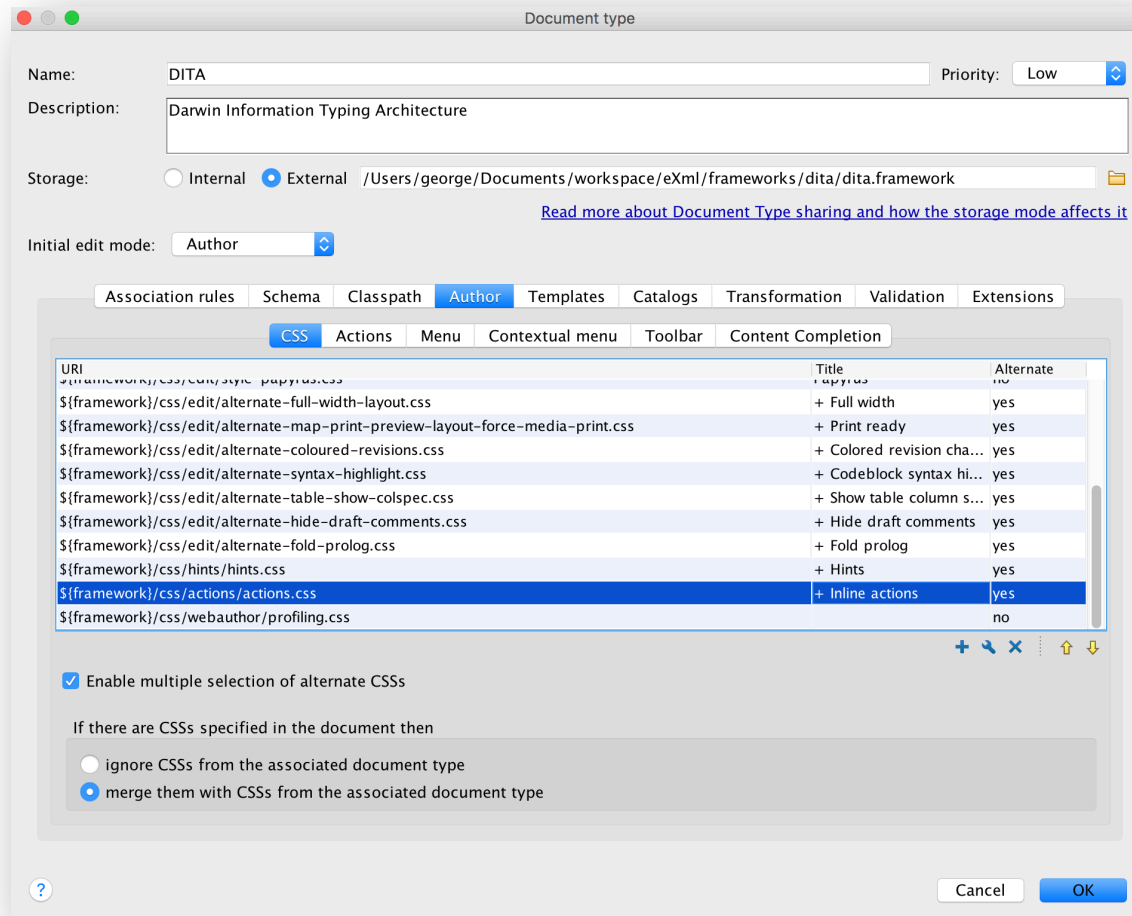
- Alternate CSS styles for providing different view layers
- Multiple before/after pseudo-element levels
- Inline actions, specified in the CSS
- CSS generated from XSLT based on a configuration XML file



# Implementation

- New “+ Inline actions” alternate style
- Use different before/after levels to place different actions without interacting with others
- Generate inline actions in CSS based on a description of the content model, using an XSLT script

# Alternate style as an on/off layer



## Inline action for [Navigation Title]

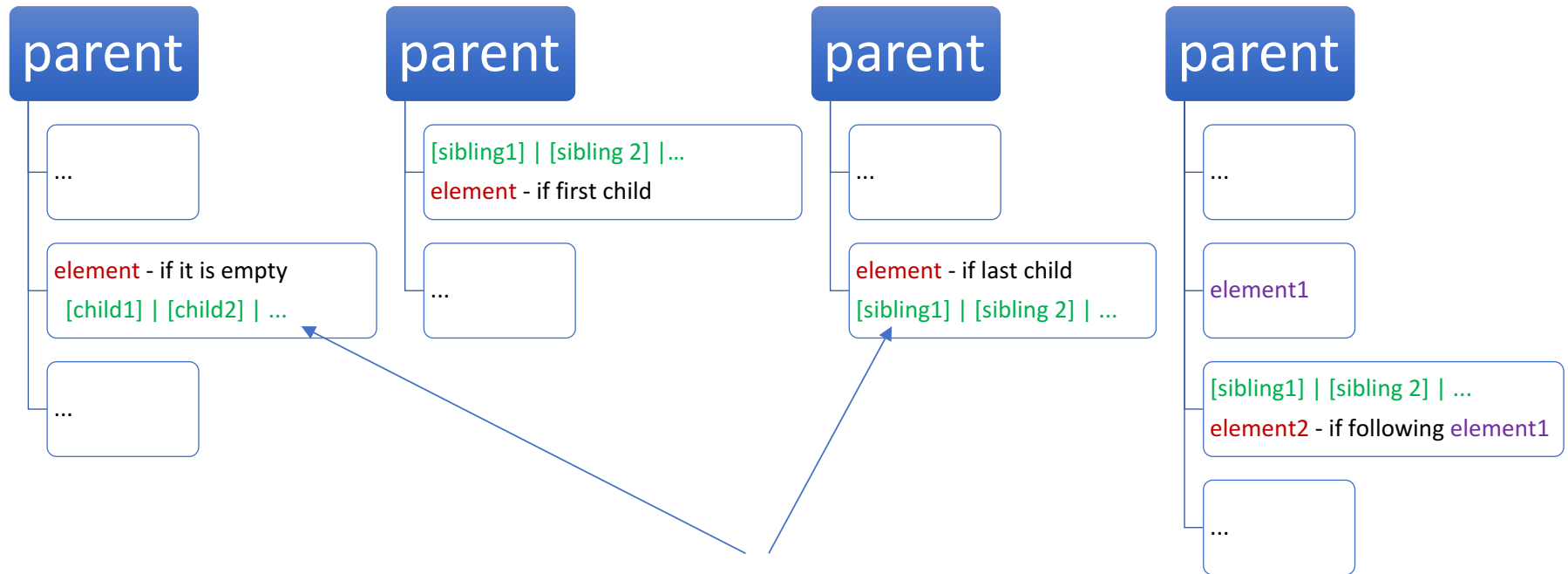
```
titlealts:empty:after(311) {
```

```
...
```

```
content:
```

```
oxy_button(  
  color, #B08A5D,  
  action,  
  oxy_action(  
    name, '[Navigation Title]',  
    description, 'Insert navigation title',  
    operation, 'ro.sync.ecss.extensions.commons.operations.InsertFragmentOperation',  
    arg-fragment, '<navtitle>${caret}</navtitle>',  
    arg-insertLocation, '.',  
    arg-schemaAware, false  
  ),  
  transparent, true,  
  actionContext, element,  
  showIcon, true  
)
```

# How actions are generated




We need different before/ after layers to avoid interference in these cases

## XML descriptor file

```
<actions>
  <contentModel parent="titlealts">
    <!-- (navtitle?, searchtitle?) -->
    <element name="navtitle" longName="Navigation Title" occurs="?" />
    <element name="searchtitle" longName="Search Title" occurs="?" />
  </contentModel>
  ...
```

## User vs Developer perspective

- Edit the XML descriptor file to specify the content models for different elements
  - Apply `generateActions.xsl` script on an XML descriptor file to generate the corresponding CSS
  - Use the generated CSS with XML files to provide inline actions
  - Imagine how the CSS may look like
  - Develop a prototype manually for a simple case to validate the concept
  - Provide a way to generate the CSS in the general case from a configuration file that can be specified by a user
- 
- A blue arrow originates from the end of the second bullet point, pointing towards the beginning of the third bullet point, indicating a flow or relationship between the two steps.

## Relates examples

- Inline actions for Lightweight DITA topics
- Saxon configuration files
- DITAVAL filters

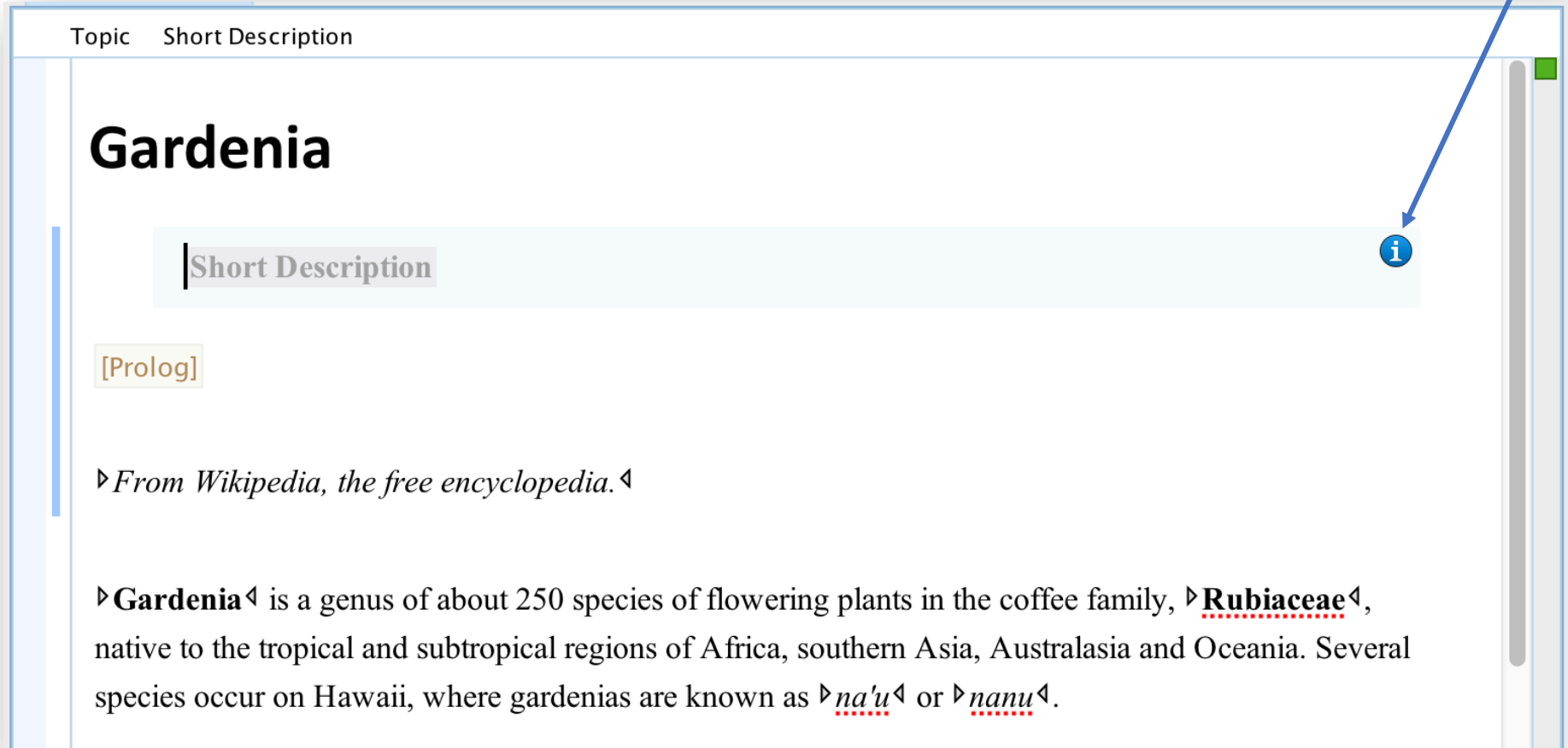
# Inline hints

Guide the user with inline hints to enable incremental discovery and learning.



# Sample

On demand hints in Lightweight DITA topics

A screenshot of the Oxygen XML Authoring interface. The window title is "Topic Short Description". The main content area displays the word "Gardenia" in a large, bold, black font. Below it is a light blue horizontal bar containing the text "Short Description" in a smaller, grey font. To the right of this bar is a small blue circular icon with a white lowercase letter 'i'. A blue arrow points from the top right corner of the window towards this icon. Below the bar is a yellow box containing the text "[Prolog]". Further down is a paragraph of text: "From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia." followed by a paragraph: "Gardenia is a genus of about 250 species of flowering plants in the coffee family, Rubiaceae, native to the tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, southern Asia, Australasia and Oceania. Several species occur on Hawaii, where gardenias are known as na'u or nanu." The words "na'u" and "nanu" have red dotted lines underneath them. On the right side of the window, there is a vertical scrollbar and a small green square at the top right corner.

Topic Short Description

# Gardenia

Short Description

[Prolog]

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.

Gardenia is a genus of about 250 species of flowering plants in the coffee family, Rubiaceae, native to the tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, southern Asia, Australasia and Oceania. Several species occur on Hawaii, where gardenias are known as na'u or nanu.

Topic Short Description

# Gardenia

## Short Description

Use the short description to expand the title, providing additional information about the content of the topic. It should always be composed of complete sentences and form a comprehensive thought.

### Short Description

[Prolog]

‣ *From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia.* ◀

‣ **Gardenia**◀ is a genus of about 250 species of flowering plants in the coffee family, ‣ **Rubiaceae**◀, native to the tropical and subtropical regions of Africa, southern Asia, Australasia and Oceania. Several species occur on Hawaii, where gardenias are known as ‣ **na'u**◀ or ‣ **nanu**◀.

# Technology

- Form controls
- HTML labels
- Multiple before/after pseudo-element levels
- Inline actions
- Custom pseudo-classes

# Implementation

- Define mix-ins in a LESS library to instantiate hints
- Use the mix-ins to declare hints for some elements
- Make sure we have the HTML content for each element we want hints for in the corresponding HTML resource file
- Use the CSS generated from LESS to style the document

# Rendering a hint

```
.base-hint(@category, @layer, @borderColor, @bgColor) {  
  ...  
  &:before(@{layer}) {  
    display:block;  
    border:1px solid @borderColor;  
    background-color: @bgColor;  
    ...  
    content:  
      oxy_htmlContent(  
        href, 'hints.html',  
        id, oxy_concat(@category, '-', oxy_local-name()),  
        width, 100%  
      );  
  }  
}
```

## Hint with behaviour

```
.hint(@category: 'hints', @layer: @hintsLayer,  
@borderColor: @borderColor, @bgColor: @hintsBgNormal) {  
  .infoButton();  
  &:-oxy-hints {  
    .base-hint(@category, @layer, @borderColor, @bgColor);  
  }  
}
```

## Declare hints

```
/* hints */
topic > title    {.hint();}
shortdesc       {.hint();.markSection("Short Description");}
prolog          {.hint();.markSection("Prolog Information");}
section        {.hint();.markSection("Section");}
fig             {.hint();}
object          {.hint();}
simpletable     {.hint();}
dl              {.hint();}
body            {.hint();.markSection("Content");}
```




# Short description hint

`<h3>`**shortdesc**`</h3>`

`<div id="hints-shortdesc">``<p>` Use the short description to expand the title, providing additional information about the content of the topic. It should always be composed of complete sentences and form a comprehensive thought. `</p>``</div>`

## User vs Developer perspective

- Edit the LESS file to declaratively specify the elements you want hints for
  - Add the corresponding entries in the HTML resource file that contain the hints content
  - Use the generated CSS from LESS with XML files to provide inline hints (alternatively you can use the LESS file directly)
- Imagine how the CSS may look like
  - Develop a prototype manually for a simple case to validate the concept
  - Provide a way to generate the CSS in the general case, for example using LESS to just declare the elements you want hints for
- 

## Relates examples

- Inline hints layer for DITA topics
- Saxon configuration files

# Dynamic views - tabs

Show the content of a document organizing some elements to appear in different tabs, similar to a tabbed pane control

# Samples

- Present a DITA task content on multiple tabs
- Present sample code in multiple languages in separate tabs

<https://www.oxygenxml.com/webapp-demo-aws/app/oxygen.html?url=github%3A%2F%2FgetFileContent%2Foxygenxml%2Fmaster%2Ftabs%2Fsample%2Ftask.dita>

task taskbody

## A demo file

**Short Description:** Show how we can use tabs to provide a more compact editing environment.

Pre-requisites

Context

Steps

More...

**Before you begin:** You need oXygen XML Editor or oXygen XML Author on a desktop, or you can use oXygen XML Web Author from a browser.

task taskbody steps step cmd

## A demo file

**Short Description:** Show how we can use tabs to provide a more compact editing environment.

Pre-requisites

Context

Steps

More...

1. ▶ Start oXygen XML Editor or XML Author on a desktop, or go to the dashboard for the oXygen XML Web Author◀
2. ▶ Download this project files, in case you use the oXygen XML Editor or oXygen XML Author◀
3. ▶ Open the sample file◀
4. ▶ Observe the tabs in the Author visual editing mode◀
5. ▶ Look at the task.less file to see how the tabs were created◀

# Technology

- Custom pseudo-classes
- Inline actions to set/remove custom pseudo-classes
- Use LESS to generate the CSS



# Implementation

- Use a custom pseudo-class for each tab `-oxy-visible-N` and match on them to control the `display` property
- Use inline actions as tabs to set the `-oxy-visible-N` pseudo-class for the corresponding tab
- Use less to provide a declarative approach to define the tabs

Available as Oxygen Authoring eXperience project on GitHub:

<https://github.com/oxygenxml/ax>

prereq and steps appears as 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> tabs

```
taskbody:-oxy-visible-1 > * {  
  display: none;  
}
```

```
taskbody:-oxy-visible-1 > prereq {  
  display: block;  
}
```

```
taskbody:-oxy-visible-3 > * {  
  display: none;  
}
```

```
taskbody:-oxy-visible-3 > steps {  
  display: block;  
}
```

## Action to set/remove pseudo-classes

content:

```
    " " oxy_button(  
        transparent, true,  
        action, oxy_action(  
            name, ' Pre-requisites ',  
            description, 'Edit Pre-requisites',  
            operation,  
            'ro.sync.ecss.extensions.commons.operations.ChangePseudoClassesOperation',  
            arg-removePseudoClassNames,  
                '-oxy-visible-2 -oxy-visible-3 -oxy-visible-4 ',  
            arg-setPseudoClassNames,  
                '-oxy-visible -oxy-visible-1'  
        )  
    ) " " ;
```

# Define use of tabs in LESS in declarative way

```
@import "../library/library-tabs.less";
```

```
taskbody{  
  .tabsWithOthers(  
    prereq, context, steps;  
    Pre-requisites, Context, Steps;  
    'More...'  
  );  
}
```

```
div{  
  .tabs(  
    "codeblock[outputclass~='language-java']",  
    "codeblock[outputclass~='language-cpp']",  
    "codeblock[outputclass~='language-xml']";  
    Java, CPP, XML;  
  );  
}
```

## User vs Developer perspective

- Edit the LESS file to declaratively specify the elements you want tabs for
- Use the generated CSS from LESS with XML files to provide editing in tabs (alternatively you can use the LESS file directly)
- Imagine how the CSS may look like
- Develop a prototype manually for a simple case to validate the concept
- Provide a way to generate the CSS in the general case, for example using LESS to just declare the elements you want tabs for

## Relates examples

- “The Language of Content Strategy” book topics

<https://github.com/oxygenxml/languageBook>

- Folding side notes for JTEI

<https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus>

[https://www.oxygenxml.com/webapp-demo-aws/app/oxygen.html?url=https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus/blob/master/samples/JTEI/jtei\\_8\\_eide\\_source/DEMOjtei-8-eide-source.xml](https://www.oxygenxml.com/webapp-demo-aws/app/oxygen.html?url=https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus/blob/master/samples/JTEI/jtei_8_eide_source/DEMOjtei-8-eide-source.xml)

# Out-of-flow rendering

Show notes on the side of the editing page, out of the normal in-document flow.

# Samples

Journal of TEI article

[https://www.oxygenxml.com/webapp-demo-aws/app/oxygen.html?url=https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus/blob/master/samples/JTEI/jtei\\_8\\_eide\\_source/DEMOjtei-8-eide-source.xml](https://www.oxygenxml.com/webapp-demo-aws/app/oxygen.html?url=https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus/blob/master/samples/JTEI/jtei_8_eide_source/DEMOjtei-8-eide-source.xml)

Available as a GitHub project at <https://github.com/georgebina/jteiPlus>





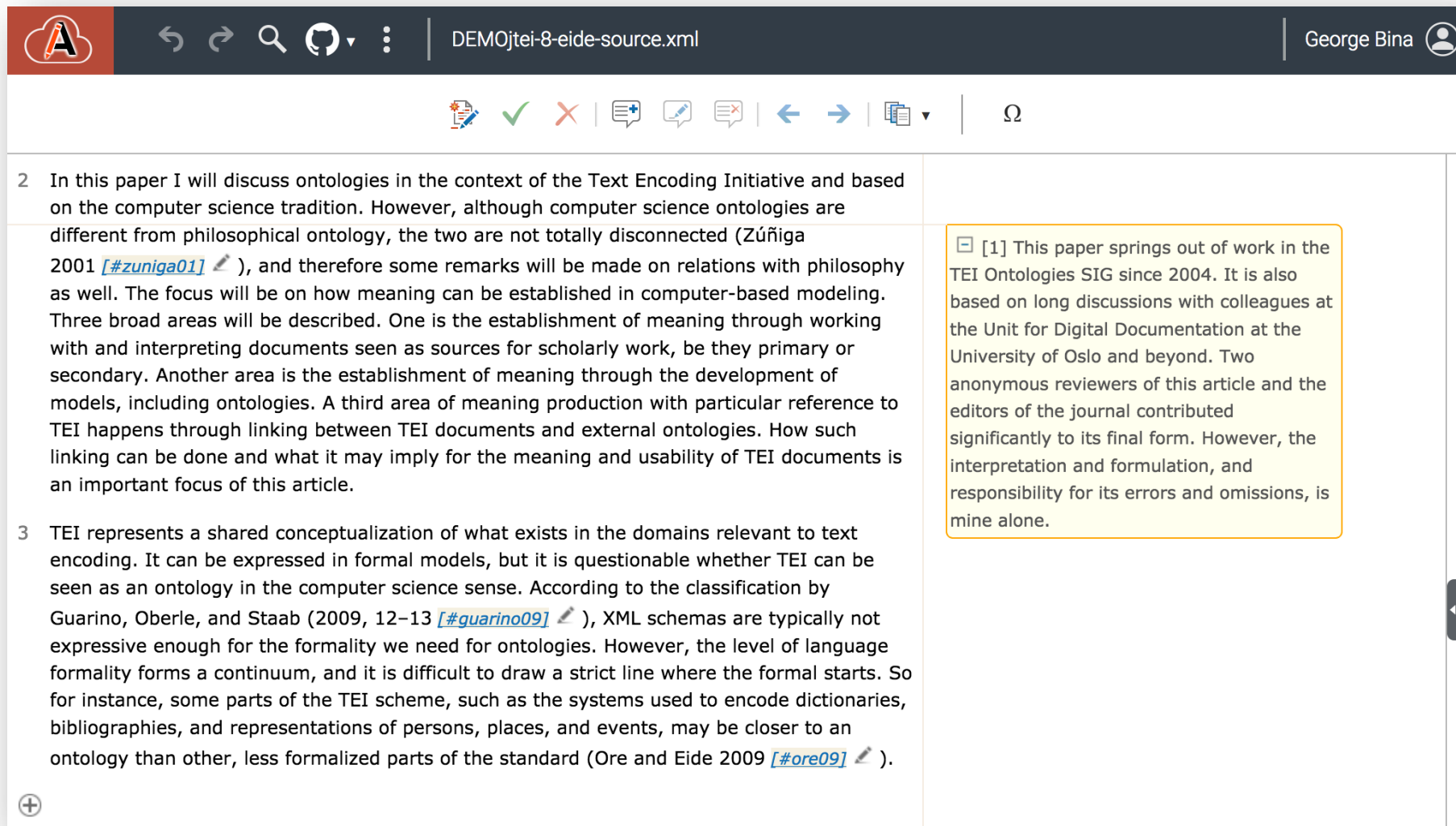
Switch to Author mode

DEMOjtej-8-eide-source.xml


George Bina





```
71 mechanisms between TEI and external ontologies. How such linking can be done and what it
72 may imply for the semantic openness and usability of TEI documents is the practical focus
73 of this article.</p>
74 </div>
75 </front>
76 <body>
77 <div xml:id="intro">
78 <head>Introduction</head>
79 <p>In philosophy, <term>ontology</term> has for at least 2,500 years denoted the study of
80 being. Computer science <term>ontologies</term>, usually in the plural, are different from
81 the philosophical concept of ontology. Computer science ontologies refer to shared
82 conceptualizations expressed in formal languages (<ref
83 type="bibl" target="#gruber09"
84 >Gruber 2009</ref>) and have been a topic of study for some thirty years, initially
85 connected to the artificial intelligence community. They have not been of much importance
86 in digital humanities until the last ten to fifteen years, but are now gaining momentum as
87 the semantic web develops.</p>
88 <p>In this paper I will discuss ontologies in the context of the Text Encoding Initiative
89 and based on the computer science tradition.<note>This paper springs out of work in the
90 TEI Ontologies SIG since 2004. It is also based on long discussions with colleagues at
91 the Unit for Digital Documentation at the University of Oslo and beyond. Two anonymous
92 reviewers of this article and the editors of the journal contributed significantly to
93 its final form. However, the interpretation and formulation, and responsibility for its
94 errors and omissions, is mine alone.</note> However, although computer science
95 ontologies are different from philosophical ontology, the two are not totally disconnected
96 (<ref
97 type="bibl" target="#zuniga01"
98 >Zúñiga 2001</ref>), and therefore some remarks will
99 be made on relations with philosophy as well. The focus will be on how meaning can be
100 established in computer-based modeling. Three broad areas will be described. One is the
101 establishment of meaning through working with and interpreting documents seen as sources
102 for scholarly work, be they primary or secondary. Another area is the establishment of
103 meaning through the development of models, including ontologies. A third area of meaning
104 production with particular reference to TEI happens through linking between TEI documents
105 and external ontologies. How such linking can be done and what it may imply for the
106 meaning and usability of TEI documents is an important focus of this article.</p>
107 <p>TEI represents a shared conceptualization of what exists in the domains relevant to text
108 encoding. It can be expressed in formal models, but it is questionable whether TEI can be
109 seen as an ontology in the computer science sense. According to the classification by
110 Guarino, Oberle, and Staab (<ref
111 type="bibl" target="#guarino09"
112 >2009, 12–13</ref>), XML
113 schemas are typically not expressive enough for the formality we need for ontologies.
114 However, the level of language formality forms a continuum, and it is difficult to draw a
115 strict line where the formal starts. So for instance, some parts of the TEI scheme, such
116 as the systems used to encode dictionaries, bibliographies, and representations of
117 persons, places, and events, may be closer to an ontology than other, less formalized
118 parts of the standard (<ref
119 type="bibl" target="#ore09"
120 >Ore and Eide 2009</ref>).</p>
</div>
```



The screenshot shows the Oxygen XML Editor interface. At the top, there is a dark header bar with the Oxygen logo on the left, navigation icons (back, forward, search, undo, redo) in the center, and the file name "DEMOjtej-8-eide-source.xml" on the right. To the far right of the header is the user name "George Bina" and a profile icon. Below the header is a toolbar with icons for document, checkmark, error, comment, and navigation. The main editing area is split into two panes. The left pane contains two paragraphs of text, numbered 2 and 3. The right pane contains a yellow-bordered box with a footnote [1] starting with "This paper springs out of work in the TEI Ontologies SIG since 2004...".

2 In this paper I will discuss ontologies in the context of the Text Encoding Initiative and based on the computer science tradition. However, although computer science ontologies are different from philosophical ontology, the two are not totally disconnected (Zúñiga 2001 [\[#zuniga01\]](#) ), and therefore some remarks will be made on relations with philosophy as well. The focus will be on how meaning can be established in computer-based modeling. Three broad areas will be described. One is the establishment of meaning through working with and interpreting documents seen as sources for scholarly work, be they primary or secondary. Another area is the establishment of meaning through the development of models, including ontologies. A third area of meaning production with particular reference to TEI happens through linking between TEI documents and external ontologies. How such linking can be done and what it may imply for the meaning and usability of TEI documents is an important focus of this article.

3 TEI represents a shared conceptualization of what exists in the domains relevant to text encoding. It can be expressed in formal models, but it is questionable whether TEI can be seen as an ontology in the computer science sense. According to the classification by Guarino, Oberle, and Staab (2009, 12–13 [\[#guarino09\]](#) ) , XML schemas are typically not expressive enough for the formality we need for ontologies. However, the level of language formality forms a continuum, and it is difficult to draw a strict line where the formal starts. So for instance, some parts of the TEI scheme, such as the systems used to encode dictionaries, bibliographies, and representations of persons, places, and events, may be closer to an ontology than other, less formalized parts of the standard (Ore and Eide 2009 [\[#ore09\]](#) ).

[1] This paper springs out of work in the TEI Ontologies SIG since 2004. It is also based on long discussions with colleagues at the Unit for Digital Documentation at the University of Oslo and beyond. Two anonymous reviewers of this article and the editors of the journal contributed significantly to its final form. However, the interpretation and formulation, and responsibility for its errors and omissions, is mine alone.

# Technology

- Use the support for fixed, absolute and relative positions of blocks
- Multiple before/after pseudo-element levels
- Use **z-index** to bring to front current note

# Implementation

- JTEI additional CSS that renders notes on the side and provides expand/collapse support to show/hide their content



# Bring current note on top in Web Author

```
note {z-index:1;}
```

```
note:hover {z-index:10;}
```

# Need additional inspiration?

Here you can find more samples for you to play with and explore how they are built

## More samples/frameworks to explore

- Using Google Maps to select a point in order to edit XML coordinates
- Use JavaScript to create custom actions
- Use XSLT to create custom actions (and test them with XSpec)



Thank you!

Questions?