Syriac Morphological Annotation with CCASH

- To the right of these instructions, you see a left panel and a right panel. The right panel is the annotation editor or "lens." The left panel is the text to be annotated or "context". The word that you are currently annotating appears enlarged at the top of the lens.

- The lens contains five total sub-tasks to complete for each word:
  - Segmentation
  - Grammatical Category
  - Stem Tagging
  - Suffix Tagging
  - Identifying a Dictionary Headword
Your first task is to edit the segmentation of the word. The current segmentation is indicated by the two red bars in the word.

The prefix is the text that appears to the right of the rightmost bar. The suffix is the text to the left of the leftmost bar, and the stem is the text in between. Prefix and suffix clusters are segmented together.

A note about browsers and focus: Most browsers indicate what element is currently being operated on by outlining it with a rectangle or highlighting it in some way. If your browser is not focused on the segmentation task, then try clicking on the segmentation task to focus it.

Try changing the segmentation in two ways:

- **Keyboard**: while the segmentation widget is in focus, use the left and right arrow keys to change the suffix marker. Now hold down shift and use the arrow keys to change the prefix marker.

- **Mouse**: left click to set the suffix position, and right click to set the prefix position.

Note that suffix tags become available or unavailable depending on whether or not you identify a suffix segment.
Grammatical Category

- Your second task is to select or correct the grammatical category of the word.

- Try changing the grammatical category in two ways:
  
  - **Keyboard**: press **tab** to move from the Segmentation task down to the Grammatical Category task. A list of possible values will appear. **Begin typing** the name of the value you wish to select, and when the correct value is selected, press **tab again** to move on to the next field.
  
  - **Mouse**: click the Grammatical Category field. A list of possible values will appear. Click the name of the value you wish to select, and notice that the next field is automatically selected.

- Note that each grammatical category has its own set of stem tags, i.e., additional properties associated with the grammatical category. They become available or unavailable depending on your choice of grammatical category.
Notes on Grammatical Categories

- As a general note, annotation corresponds to the visible form rather than the function of the token being analyzed. This impacts participles in particular, which may function adjectivally, or be substantivized. In either of these cases the token should still be annotated as a verb.

- Particle
  - Includes prepositions, interjections, conjunctions and adverbial particles. If in doubt, refer to the list provided in the training materials.

- Noun
  - Includes proper nouns and common nouns. Substantivized participles should be annotated under verb and participle.

- Pronoun
  - Includes personal, demonstrative and interrogative pronouns.

- Adjective
  - Refers to adjectives proper; participle adjectives should be annotated under verb and participle.
Notes on Grammatical Categories

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- Verb
  - Includes both regular and demoninative verbs in all their conjugations.

- Adverb
  - Includes all formal adverbs, such as adverbs of quality formed with the termination –ait. Adverbial particles should be annotated as particles.

- Numeral
  - Includes cardinals, Ordinals, and ciphers.

- Idiom
  - Includes only compound forms
Your third task is to describe the properties of the stem by choosing values for applicable stem tags.

Try changing the stem tags in two ways:

- **Keyboard**: Use the keyboard in the same manner as when selecting the Grammatical Category. To accept the current field and move forward, press `tab`. To accept the current field and move backward, hold down `shift` and press `tab`.

- **Mouse**: Use the mouse in the same manner as when selecting the Grammatical Category.
Your fourth task is to describe the properties of the suffix by choosing values for applicable suffix tags.

Try changing the suffix tags in the same two ways you changed the stem tags.
Notes on Suffix Tags

- Suffix Contraction
  - Enclitic personal pronouns that have coalesced with participles should be segmented and annotated as a suffix. In this case, however, the user is given the chance to indicate whether this is a “suffix contraction” rather than an object suffix.
Your fifth task is to identify the dictionary headword of the stem.

This field requires that you type in Syriac. If your machine is not already configured for typing Syriac characters, you may wish to use the Virtual Keyboard provided.

Try viewing the Virtual Keyboard in two ways:

- **Keyboard**: while your cursor is in the Dictionary Headword field, press `escape`
- **Mouse**: click the keyboard icon in the Dictionary Headword field

Now hide the Virtual Keyboard in two ways:

- **Keyboard**: while your cursor is in the Dictionary Headword field, press `escape`
- **Mouse**: click the X at the top left corner of the Virtual Keyboard

Now try using the Virtual Keyboard in two ways:

- **Keyboard**: With your cursor inside the dictionary headword textbox, **press keys** on your keyboard.
- **Mouse**: click the keys on the virtual keyboard with your mouse
Notes on Dictionary Headwords

- A dictionary headword is the uninflected form of the stem. E.g., for nouns this is the emphatic form. For verbs this is the uninflected third masculine singular Peal perfect form that is usually found as the headword in Payne-Smith’s dictionary.
Reset

• While annotating a word, you may wish to reset the annotation to its original values. Do this by selecting a word you have annotated and pressing the “Reset” button.
You will notice during the study that most of the automatically-generated annotations you encounter are of poor quality. Please bear in mind that this is necessary for the purposes of this study, and that this is not representative of the best our models can do!
Navigation within a Sentence

- Until now, these instructions have been neglecting an important part of the interface. The left portion of the screen (the "context") shows the sentence you are currently working on and your position in it (indicated by a word with a green background). Also, some context before and after the current sentence is provided. The additional context is grayed out to indicate that it is not to be annotated.

- Although it may be most efficient to work through a sentence sequentially from beginning to end, you may annotate in any order you wish.

- Try navigating through a sentence in two ways:
  - **Keyboard**: hold down control and press the left and right arrow keys
  - **Mouse**: click the word you wish to annotate

- Notice that below each word in the sentence is the grammatical category currently selected for that word.
Accepting Words

- You will have noticed that when you change the value of a field in the lens, its background color changes from yellow to white. The white background signals that the field in question has been accepted by you. When all fields within a word are white, a word is considered complete. If at any time you wish to accept an entire word without manually touching every field, you may do so by accepting the word using the "Accept Word" button.

- Note that when a word is accepted (all of its fields are white), then the background of its grammatical category in the sentence on the left portion of the screen changes from yellow to white. This lets you know which words in the sentence still need your attention.

- Try accepting a word in two ways:
  - **Keyboard**: press `control + enter`
  - **Mouse**: click the “Accept Word” button
Committing Sentences

- After you have accepted every word in the sentence, the "Commit Sentence" button will become active.

- After accepting all the words in a sentence, try committing a sentence in two ways:
  - **Keyboard**: press **control + alt + enter**
  - **Mouse**: click the “Commit Sentence” button

- Note that committing a sentence is permanent. Once you have committed, you will not be able to revisit your decisions for any of the words in the sentence.