Worked examples annex document to ‘Diversity and inclusion – using Thema and ONIX to improve discoverability’

Introduction
The examples in this document accompany the document Diversity and inclusion - using Thema and ONIX to improve discoverability v 1.4 and they complement this and the other documents available via the EDItEUR website at https://www.editeur.org/151/Thema/#Documentation

If you’re new to Thema, read the Basic Instructions and the Thema for booksellers’ documents. The Using Thema and Onix together document also has a series of questions and answers that cover integrating Thema within a broader metadata context.

The multilingual online browser for Thema can be found at https://ns.editeur.org/thema/. You can look up all the subject categories and qualifiers shown in these examples and review the headings in multiple languages. It’s one of the best ways to search for different subjects – the search is flexible as it looks at the codes, headings, notes and other text in the scheme. When reviewing these, it is important to remember that in Thema, the alphanumeric code – the element that’s used in the exchange of metadata about a title – and its meaning remain constant, and the wording used in this document reflects the heading text on the official documents. A third party using Thema might choose their own wording or even their own language for public display and presentation of subject headings: so long as that wording doesn’t change the meaning of the category or qualifier, it may be more suitable in a particular context.

When categorising titles using Thema, it’s helpful to remember the six golden rules:

1. Ensure the first category is the primary subject
2. Classify as precisely as appropriate – not necessarily as precisely as possible
3. Assign as many categories as required
4. Observe the usage notes for each category
5. Add qualifiers wherever appropriate
6. Consider context – view the subject within the context of the subject hierarchy

If you’ve got further questions about Thema, you want to ask about the right categories for a particular title, or you want to share a worked example with others for their comments or feedback, then we recommend that you join the Thema discussion forum via https://www.editeur.org/153/maintenance-and-support#mailingList.

About the examples
The categories and qualifiers used in the examples are suggestions to illustrate how to use Thema and are intended to spark discussion and reflection rather than being authoritative statements of the correct way to categorise the particular books listed and may not reflect the way the publishers themselves have categorised the titles.

The idea behind this document is to complement the points discussed in the document Diversity and inclusion - using Thema and ONIX to improve discoverability v 1.4 with
illustrated examples on how to use Thema and ONIX to highlight books that treat subjects of diversity, equality and inclusion, or that would appeal to diverse groups. It’s meant to inform discussion about how you use standards to communicate information about your titles, and maybe drive improvements within your organisation. This is only a small selection of ideas and the document isn’t intended to cover every aspect of diversity, equality and inclusion around the globe, and you’re encouraged to look at the Thema categories and qualifiers in the context of your products or requirements.

The examples are divided into broad groups by genre, but we recommend you look at all of them, as the examples show different principles that may be applicable across multiple genres or age groups and not just the genre illustrated in the example. The document highlights ideas that could be used to create different kinds of filtered searches on a website, or how to look at the Thema codes in the context of other metadata about a title.

In the examples shown throughout this document, the first Thema subject category is the primary subject or <MainSubject/> as it would appear in an ONIX file. This is the most important subject category, the one that if you can only use one category, would be the one to use. When mixing categories from both fiction and non-fiction, the <MainSubject/> is always a fiction category.

The ONIX samples shown are ONIX 3.0, but the principles are the same for ONIX 2.1 or if you are sending your book metadata via spreadsheet or inputting directly into a web-based interface.

N.B the numbering of the examples follows on from the main document Diversity and inclusion – using Thema and ONIX to improve discoverability

**Group 1 examples : Titles for younger children**

In this section there are a selection of titles highlighting some possible uses of Thema and ONIX for books for younger children. All these examples use subject categories from the Y* section of Thema and all of them have an interest age qualifier. The use of these 5A* qualifiers with Y* categories is mandatory as this gives the indication of the starting interest age of the particular title and therefore what type of children’s title this is. Y* subject categories can be used for titles for babies, children of any age, as well as teenagers, so the age qualifier is essential. More detailed from / to age banding and school grade levels would be sent in the ONIX record.

This section also contains a number of examples showing the use of language and script in both Thema and in ONIX and the principles shown here can be used for titles aimed at any age group.
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Example 7: Under my Hijab – by Hena Khan, Illustrated by Aaliya Jaleel (Lee & Low Books)

This title explores the lives of Muslim girls and women and contemporary Muslim culture and faith. As a title where the pictures are as important to the story as the text the main subject category should be YBCS – Picture storybooks. The two major themes of this storybook are girls and being a Muslim and these can be expressed by using the Thema categories YNRP – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Islam and YNMF – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Girls and women. These two categories highlight the main subjects of the book but the qualifier 5PGP – Relating to Islamic / Muslim people and groups is also important.

These qualifiers, which are not just for children’s books, are to flag that the content features material of interest to or relating to this particular group. It is not an audience code as such but is another way of indicating content that might be of interest to someone looking for material about that group but not necessarily from that group.

As with all qualifiers, the fact that they can be used with different subject categories and across age groups, if appropriate, means it is much easier to search for and discover related titles across a broad selection of relevant titles that can then also be filtered down using other categories or qualifiers, such as all titles that use the 5PGP qualifier, that are aimed at children from 4 to 6 years old and are storybooks.

The qualifiers for religious groups are meant to highlight titles outside the actual religion categories themselves, to broaden the range and diversity of titles that can be discovered when looking at titles that may be of interest to those from the group or who want to understand or learn more about different aspects of that religious group.
Example 8: A Moon for Moe and Mo by Jane Breskin Zalben, illustrated by Mehrdokht Amini (Penguin Random House)

This is a book aimed at younger children that tells the story of an interfaith friendship that develops when Rosh Hashanah, the Jewish New Year, overlaps with the Muslim holiday of Ramadan, an occurrence that happens only once every thirty years or so. As this is primarily a picture book, where the illustrations are as important as any text, **YBCS – Picture storybooks** should be the main subject category. The major theme of the story is the friendship between two boys from different cultural backgrounds, so **YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: friends and friendship** should be here; friendship is a major theme in titles for children and teenagers and so this category can be combined with fiction categories. The **YNMD – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Celebrations, holidays, festivals and special events** category indicates that this title is also about holidays and this information is complemented by using the two qualifiers **5HPW – Rosh Hashanah** and **5HPK – Ramadan**. These **5H* – Holidays, events and seasonal interest** qualifiers flag up that a title is about or is relevant to a particular holiday in some way, not as ways of saying this is an ideal gift for this holiday. These are not marketing qualifiers but should be thought of as aspects of the metadata that a publisher would want permanently associated with a title. **5PGJ** and **5PGP** could also be added for completeness and to allow for discoverability in faceted or filtered searching.

The story takes place in Brooklyn, New York, so the **Thema** place qualifier **1KBB-US-NAKCB – Brooklyn** should be present. This allows people to find books that take place in or feature this area or for those who do not want that level of detail, the code one level above is **1KBB-US-NAKC** for New York City, or as the qualifier always include the core country code **1KBB – USA** a retailer could simply put this in a section about the USA, it all depends what level of detail the data receiver wants, but the use of such detailed qualifiers gives the end user a choice.
Example 9: Grandma’s Saturday Soup by Sally Fraser & Derek Brazell (Mantra Lingua)

This is a storybook title, **YBCS**, that features a little girl in England and her grandmother who tells her stories about Jamaica and makes her special Saturday soup. It is a great introduction to the food and culture of another place for children or possibly to introduce children to their cultural heritage. **YNMC** — Children’s / Teenage general interest: Countries, cultures and national identity accompanied by a place qualifier, in this case **1KJWJ** — Jamaica, gives the information that it is a title about an aspect of this particular country. The place qualifier allows for filtered searches across age ranges, topics and genres when looking for titles about, or set in, Jamaica, or places in the Caribbean (**1KJ**).

The other major aspect of this title, from a diversity and inclusion point of view; is that it is a bilingual text (it exists in various bilingual language versions from the publisher). This example is in English and Somali and so the ONIX contains an edition type to indicate it is a bilingual edition plus the information about the two languages as the main languages of the book — this is indicated by the code 01 from the [ONIX code list 22](#). Bilingual texts are very valuable resources for schools, libraries and booksellers and with pupils, readers or listeners from different cultural and linguistic backgrounds. A series of books like this are very important when, for example, a class in a majority English speaking area have children from different language backgrounds, as it allows for all the children to participate and enjoy the story as well as giving children the opportunity to improve their understanding of English as well as the language of their parents.
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Example 10: Life Cycles of Caribou by Monica Ittusardjuat, Illustrated by Emma Pedersen (Inhabit Media)

This bilingual book (with text in Inuktitut syllabics, Inuktitut Roman orthography, and English) shares six Inuktitut terms for caribou throughout their life cycles, giving the youngest of readers an understanding of the rich Inuktitut terminology for caribou. The main Thema subject code used here is YBLL – Early years: nature and animals. This is a board book aimed at the very young and the YBL* – Early years / early learning concepts categories have a notion of the treatment of the subject being destined for the youngest children included in the subject category, but an age qualifier must also be included. We use YNNJ2 – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Large land mammals to give more detail of the kind of animals. YNNB9 – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Wildlife and habitats: Ice, snow and tundra is another option as the caribou are native to the arctic, sub-arctic and tundra regions of the Northern hemisphere. This example could also have place qualifiers to indicate the regions concerned.

As this is a title aimed at young children learning to read there is no necessity to use the categories YRD – Children’s / Teenage reference: Dictionaries and languages or a YPC* Educational: Language, literature, literacy category unless the title was published with an aim to be used as a language learning tool as well.

This is a bilingual book, with words in two languages, but one of those languages is presented in two different scripts. The fact that it is bilingual is indicated by using an ONIX <EditionType> code from list 21. The languages are indicated by using values from code list 74 – iku for Inuktitut and eng for English. As this title presents the Inuktitut in two scripts, the ONIX <Language> composite also includes the <ScriptCode> using code list 121 – Cans to indicate that there is text that uses Inuktitut syllabics, and Latin for the Inuktitut written using Latin characters. These extra elements added to the ONIX are very important details, that allow titles that are written using different scripts to be discovered by an interested audience.
Example 11: DK Braille: Counting in Pictures (DK)

Designed especially for visually-impaired pre-school children and their parents, this touch-and-feel book takes readers through a collection of tactile objects made in all sorts of exciting textures, including silky flowers, crackly leaves, and sticky worms. Each image is also printed in high-contrast colours to engage partially-sighted readers, while the rhyming counting story is printed in both braille and clear printed text to suit the needs of every child and parent.

The example shows the use of two \texttt{<ProductFormDetail>} codes in ONIX (list 175) – B210 – Touch-and-feel plus B708 – Unified English Uncontracted Braille. Both these codes give detail about the presentation of the format of the book. The use of the \texttt{<ScriptCode>} (list 121) within the language composite indicates that the text is in English but is presented in two scripts, Brai = Braille and Latn = Latin script.

The interest qualifier \texttt{5AZ – For people with learning / communication difficulties} flags this as a title where the content is presented in form suitable for those who might have difficulty accessing standard printed textual works. The note for \texttt{5AZ} says “Use for: indicating works where the content is specifically adapted for, or written for, or aimed at people, regardless of age, with special or additional needs, who may have difficulty in accessing or reading the content of most books. This could include content specifically adapted for people with, for example, dyslexia and other learning disabilities, cognitive impairments or disorders, dementia or Alzheimer’s, visual impairments, etc.”. The notes that accompany \texttt{Thema} codes are there to give extra guidance, so it is important to look at these as well. The online browser makes the notes easily accessible (and they are searchable).

As this is a board book aimed at small children, the main subject category is \texttt{YBLC – Early years: numbers and counting}.
Example 12: *El Tigre y el Conejo / In Toochtli Waan In Teekwaani / The Tiger and the Rabbit* by José Antonio Flores Farfán, illustrated by Cleofas Ramírez Celestino (Editorial Resistencia)

This trilingual book (with text in Nahuatl, Spanish (of Mexico), and English) is a traditional folktale common to many Latin American countries, so the main *Thema* subject code used here is **YFJ – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Traditional stories**. This book is a picture book (*YBCS*) that allows children to see languages presented equally. In a Mexican context, this could be used with children to introduce them to English, no matter which of the two other languages they considered to be their main language. The use of the subject category **YRD – Children’s / Teenage reference: Dictionaries and Languages** highlights that this title is also suitable as a language learning aid. If the title was primarily, or also aimed at the school educational market, then one of the categories from *YPC* would also be appropriate, plus an educational purpose qualifier - 4*.

The use of the language qualifier **2JNNA – Nahuatl languages** highlights that this title is about Nahuatl. It would also be appropriate to add English **2ACB** and Latin American Spanish **2 ADSL** if this title was also published as a tool for learning these languages. It is important to remember that the language qualifiers in *Thema* are to indicate what the title is about. It is *ONIX* that indicates what language the title is in.

As this is a multilingual book, with text in three languages an *ONIX* `<EditionType>` code **MLL** from list 21 should be used. The three languages are indicated by using values from code list 74 and as the example shows you can also indicate that it is specifically Mexican Spanish if this is important. The use of languages codes in both *Thema* and *ONIX*, provide an important means of discovery of titles about or in those languages and are important for highlighting languages that may not have such widespread, use but are important to certain groups of people and also to introduce the speakers of a more common language to other languages and cultures that they may encounter.
Example 13: Anansi and the Tug of War by Lesley Sims, illustrated by Alida Massari (Usborne Publishing)

This is an educational title that is part of a reading scheme - so YPCA21 - for English speakers learning to read. The 2ACB – English language could be included as well to confirm that YPCA21 refers to English. It is a retelling of a traditional West African story and so YFJ – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Traditional stories is used to indicate this. The fact that even though it is part of a reading scheme, it is also a picture storybook is indicated using YBCS. It is also primarily a story about animals, even if one of those animals is a god in the form of a spider, so YFP could be appropriate here. The title is also designed so that it can be used for the educational curricula of England and Wales, as well as a general reading title, so the appropriate educational qualifier(s) could be included as well.

This a traditional tale, originally from West Africa, so if the story was, for example, one of the original tales from Ghana, then you could send this with a place qualifier, 1HFDH – Ghana. The tales of Anansi and its variations are found in many countries where there are large African diasporas, hence the use of the qualifier 5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent. This qualifier can be used across age groups and genres to indicate titles that have a subject matter that is about or relates to people of African descent. These qualifiers are not an audience code, as such, they relate to content, but the fact that a title has a storyline relating to the qualifier will mean that it may be of interest to that readership as well.

As Anansi appears in many stories and titles, a publisher could include in their ONIX the <NameAsSubject> composite. This data element is used to describe when a person is the subject of a book, like a biography or can also be used to describe the main character of a book. The <NameType> 07 (ONIX code list 18) - Fictional character name - indicates that this is a title featuring Anansi. It is also possible to include alternative versions of the same character or persons name, to improve discoverability. This element allows for cross-referencing and greater visibility of all book titles or non-book products, films, songs, etc about or featuring a particular character. Using this element about culturally significant figures both real and fictional, allows booksellers and other retailers to create promotions around the person or allow for interested readers to discover more titles.
Example 14: Welcome to Country by Aunty Joy Murphy, illustrated by Lisa Kennedy (Walker Books Australia)

This picture book depicts an Aboriginal ceremony of ‘Welcome to Country’. Aunty Joy Murphy is an Elder of the Wurundjeri people and through this picture book invites readers to discover some of the history and traditions of her people. Aboriginal communities across Australia have boundaries that are defined by mountain ranges and waterways. Traditionally, to cross these boundaries or enter community country you needed permission from the neighbouring community. When this permission was granted the ceremony, now called Welcome to Country, took place. Each community had its own way of welcoming to country, and they still do today.

Along with the Thema subject category YBC indicating this is a picture book, this example uses the category YNMD – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Celebrations, holidays, festivals and special events as this is a title that illustrates a traditional ceremony. This fact is emphasised with the qualifier 5HCX – Traditional, cultural or folkloric festivals, celebrations or holidays. These qualifiers can be used to identify all titles about particular traditional ceremonies, across genres and age groups. The 5PB-AU-A – Relating to Australian Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders is used to identify this as a title about, relating to or of interest to Aboriginal peoples. As a qualifier it can be used across genres and age groups and is really useful for highlighting titles.

Along with this, the ONIX example shows the <ContributorStatement>Written by Aunty Joy Wandin Murphy, a most respected senior Wurundjeri elder of the Kulin alliance, and illustrated by Indigenous Australian artist Lisa Kennedy</ContributorStatement>. This is a way of showing how the name and role of the contributors could be displayed publicly. This is particularly useful for titles with several authors and also if there are elements that should also be displayed with the name, as in this example where the author is an elder. This is different from the <ContributorDescription> shown in other examples, which is a headline sentence about a contributor.
Example 15: Thanking the Moon written and illustrated by Grace Lin (Penguin Random House)

This simple story follows a Chinese American family as they celebrate the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. Each member of the family lends a hand as they prepare a moonlit picnic with mooncakes, pomelos, cups of tea, and colourful lanterns. And everyone sends thanks and a secret wish up to the moon.

This title illustrates the use of the **5H – Holidays, events and seasonal interest** qualifiers. These can be used across age groups and genres to highlight titles about these holidays. In this case the traditional Moon Festival or Mid-Autumn Festival that is celebrated in China, as well as Japan, Korea, Cambodia and Vietnam and by their diasporas. This story is about the festival **5HCN** but is set in the USA **1KBB** and is being celebrated by a Chinese American family. The use of the US national extension **5PB-US-D – Relating to Asian American people** gives the extra information that the content of the book is about or relates to an aspect of Asian American culture and allows a bookseller, for example, to build up a list of titles.

**Group 2 examples: Titles for older children**

The use of Theme subject categories and qualifiers allow a publisher, a distributor, a wholesaler to give detailed search criteria that could be used by educators, librarians, parents or booksellers, to find titles around specific topics that may be important when looking at themes around diversity and inclusion with children. These could be for children to read in a classroom with guided reading and discussion or for reading at home. These can be for helping children understand the world around them or for a child to find a way to understand themselves through a title. A lot of children’s fiction cover diversity themes and it is important to remember that Theme allows for the mixing of non-fiction categories with fiction to give more meaning to the fiction category. In the case of fiction titles, a fiction category **YF** must always be sent as the primary subject or `<MainSubject/>` in ONIX. We do NOT recommend sending a non-fiction category as a `<MainSubject/>` and then including
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fiction categories as well\(^1\), as this risks confusing data receivers. Highlighting a title as being fiction that deals with a non-fiction theme, gives a data receiver an option to create filters so that fiction titles do not go into non-fiction sections, but go into relevant fiction sections or show up in faceted searches. This principle applies to fiction for children, teenagers (or young adults) and adults.

**Example 16: Boy Under Water by Adam Baron (HarperCollins)**

> "Cymbeline is an unusually named 9 year old, who has never been swimming. When his school announces that his year will be starting swimming lessons, he boasts to the class bully that he is an epic swimmer. His overconfidence is rewarded with an accident – and an embarrassing one at that. However, worse than this, his mother appears to experience some form of breakdown as a result. What is wrong with her? Why has she never taken Cym swimming? And how is this all linked? The book gradually reveals the answers, as Cym uncovers some dark secrets hidden in his family’s past, which involve the father he’s always known to have died. The book highlights the immense flaws of grown-ups, for example when they try to conceal important truths from young people. It also underlines the potential potency of post-traumatic stress disorder. All this is wrapped up in a surprisingly light-hearted and readable package, with a humorous young narrator'.

The **YFN – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Family and home stories** is the main subject of this title, as this is a story that deals primarily with family. With this title, it is important to add the categories from the **YX**\(^*\) section to indicate the major themes of the story, for example, friendship, use the category **YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Friends and friendships** or the theme of grief **YXG – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Death and bereavement**.

The story looks at mental illness through the eyes of a nine-year old so the category **YXL\(^{D2}\) – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Anxiety, depression and self-harm** is very apt here. This category gives an indication of a major topic of the book and that if a child is reading it, they may need guidance or have questions. Mental health is an important aspect of inclusion and the categories indicating titles that deal with the subject should be added when appropriate.

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\(^1\) There are exceptions, for example when a reference book is about a genre of fiction – an encyclopaedia of Fantasy writers, for example.
Example 17: The Boy at the Back of the Class by Onjali Q Rauf (Orion)

This story is about how one ordinary nine-year-old child, and three classmates are full of empathy for Ahmet, a boy who comes to their school as a refugee from Syria (he is the boy at the back of the class). The topic of migration is one that many children will hear about and be aware of, so an educator might want to choose this as a reading book for a class to allow for discussions about inclusion, refugees, immigration or about welcoming new children to a class.

The YFS – Children’s / Teenage fiction: School stories is the main subject of this title, as this is a story that is mostly set in the school and deals with the relationships there. With this title, it is important to add the codes from the YX* section to indicate the major themes of the story. As the story has a major theme looking at friendships, use the code YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Friends and friendships.

A major theme of this title is the story of the Syrian refugee in the class and so YXZM – Children’s / Teenage social topics: Migration and refugees is used here. This code gives the teacher (or parent, bookseller, librarian) an indication of the subject matter of the book and is a key aid in discovering titles about this topic. This would allow a bookseller to create, for example, a list of titles for primary age children about migration or refugees or would enhance a search filter on a website for those looking for children’s titles around these topics.

The way the story and the ensemble of characters are presented in this book means that YXP – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Diversity and inclusion is an apt category to add here but you have to read the story to find out why!

The action of the story takes place in London and so we can add the Thema place qualifier 1DDU-GB-ESL – London.
Example 18: Harriet Versus The Galaxy by Samantha Baines (Knights Of)

This intergalactic adventure features Harriet who discovers her hearing-aid can help her understand aliens, including the one she finds under her bed. The story’s hero just happens to be hearing impaired without this being the focus. Using the interest qualifier 5PMF – Relating to people with hearing disabilities or impairments flags the title as potentially interesting to someone looking to explore the topic of hearing impairments, maybe in the classroom or for a child who themselves has some form of hearing impairment. Adding this qualifier allows a publisher, bookseller, librarian to search and create lists of titles exploring topics around hearing impairments. The range of qualifiers under 5PM* – Relating to people with visible or hidden disabilities, impairments or conditions allows a publisher to highlight titles relating to different aspects of or featuring main characters who fit into one or more of these areas.

The YFN – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Family and home is the suggested main subject of this title, as this is a story that is mostly set within the family. It is also a story about aliens so using the YFG – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Science fiction would also be useful addition for this title, as could the category YNXF – Children’s / Teenage general interest: UFOs and extraterrestrial beings.

The story also looks at friendship, so use the category YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Friends and friendships as another possibility.
This is the story of Tally, starting a new secondary school, learning the ways of teachers, relationships with other pupils and along with the usual challenges of being 11, Tally is also autistic. Using the interest qualifier **5PMH – Relating to people on the autism spectrum** flags the title as potentially interesting to someone looking to understand more about autism or looking for titles with main characters who are on the autistic spectrum. Again, as with other qualifiers, using this one allows the title to be found when people are looking for titles that feature this topic without necessarily being a non-fiction title dedicated to the subject. Use of qualifiers allows titles to be grouped around a theme, depending on different search criteria and across different genres and age groups.

The **YFS – Children’s / Teenage fiction: School stories** would be the main subject of this title, as this is a story that is mostly set in school.

With this title, it is important to add the categories from the **YX* section** to indicate the major themes of the story. The story looks at the emotions of the main character so using **YXE – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Emotions, moods and feelings** highlights the topic and makes it easier to discover fiction titles that cover the theme. The story has major themes looking at friendship, so use the code **YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Friends and friendships**

As this is a story about an autistic girl integrating into a school the category **YXP – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Diversity and inclusion** is a possible useful additional category here.
Example 20: This Book Is Anti-Racist:

20 lessons on how to wake up, take action, and do the work by Tiffany Jewell, Illustrated by Aurelia Durand (Francis Lincoln)

YXN – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Racism
YXD – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Self-awareness and self-esteem
YNH – Children’s / Teenage general interest: History and the past
5AM – Interest age: from c 11 years
5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent
5PBA – Relating to indigenous peoples

‘This is a title that is aimed at young people and is part workbook and part history book and part instructional guide. It looks at topics such as the notion of privilege, institutional racism, how you can go about calling out problematic behaviour. There is a series of questions for the young person to ask themselves. It is a book that is good to use as a classroom resource with an educator or at home with parents, family or caregiver.’

The main topic of this title is racism so YXN – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Racism would be a good main subject. It teaches young people to better understand themselves and how to deal with behaviour that is racist, so a possible good category would be YXD – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Self-awareness and self-esteem.

The title covers a lot of history topics as well so the category YNH – Children’s / Teenage general interest: History and the past is important. As the history topics are varied it does not need place or time period qualifiers. This information would be more appropriate and visible in the table of contents which should always be included in the ONIX file.

The qualifiers 5PBA – Relating to indigenous peoples and 5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent could be added as this title looks at racism as experienced by indigenous persons or of Black people of African descent. There are two national extension qualifiers that could also be used here, to enhance discoverability, as both these groups feature in the book 5PB-US-C – Relating to African American peoples or 5PB-GB-B – Relating to Black British people.

Using these qualifiers, as with any code, does not impose particular wording for display on a site, it is up to users to choose the appropriate terms for display on their own websites or in their own catalogues, depending on usage and cultural norms, providing they do not change the meaning of the codes. Thema headings and notes provide a meaning and usage guide for any code, but do not impose a choice of display text on those using the codes.
Example 21: Kiviūq and the Mermaid by Noel Mc Dermott and illustrated by Toma Feizo Gas (Inhabit Media)

This title is a story based on a traditional tale that is found across the indigenous peoples of the Arctic regions, hence the qualifier 1MTN and this version is based on one told amongst indigenous peoples of the Nunavut region of Canada – 1KBC-CA-K. 

5PBA – Relating to indigenous peoples as a qualifier tells us that this title has a topic relating to the indigenous peoples of the places highlighted using the place qualifiers (1MTN and 1KBC-CA-K) The 5PBA qualifier also refers to the Y* categories. The YFJ – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Traditional stories is the main subject of this title, but this primary category should be looked at in context with all the other categories and qualifiers. These build up meaning and allow for the detailed and comprehensive discoverability of titles. This is a traditional story, based on myth and legend - YNRU, a traditional story about mermaids - YNXB6, a traditional story about or associated with Nunavut and the Arctic regions, a traditional story from or about the indigenous peoples of these regions.

With Thema it is always important to think about meaning not only of individual categories and qualifiers but also meaning when two or more are included. The possibility to combine allows for a great level of detail when it comes to the discoverability of titles.

As Kiviūq appears in many stories and titles, a publisher could include in their ONIX the <NameAsSubject> composite. This data element is used to describe when a person is the subject of a book, like a biography or can also be used to describe the main character of a book. The <NameType> 07 (ONIX code list 18) - Fictional character name - indicates that this is a title featuring Kiviūq. As this is a character that appears in many traditional stories across the Arctic regions, it is possible to send this with variations of the name. I. Using this element about culturally significant figures both real and fictional, allows booksellers and other retailers to create promotions around the person or allow for interested readers to discover more titles.
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**Group 3 examples: Titles for teenagers (adolescents or young adults)**

The good use of *Thema* subject categories and qualifiers on titles aimed at young people allow for the rich and complex themes often covered in titles written for and about teenagers to be highlighted. NB *Thema* does not have a category called ‘Young Adults’ as this term is used differently in different markets and languages, however the notion of interest age is always possible using the 5A* age qualifier and complimentary information in an ONIX record. In fact, it is really important to add the appropriate 5A* age qualifier for these titles. Content which is suitable for average teenagers of 16 and up, might not be suitable for the average 14 year old or 12 year old. Age range is about giving guidance. Teenagers will read adult novels, adults will read children’s books, but the age guidance gives booksellers, librarians, educators, parents and young people some idea if they are going to find material that is age appropriate. Consulting with the writers here can be important as they will know their content and have a good idea what age they were targeting. This can be matched with advice and experience within the book trade. It is a very important aspect of metadata and the most appropriate guidance should always be sent for titles that could be classed in a very broad section. As the definition of young adult in some market is a range of 13 to 25, others 16 and up, others 18 and up, a book for the upper end of this market could cover themes in a way that a young person at the lower end of the market would not necessarily find appropriate, or yet be ready to understand, so give detailed guidance, so buyers can make informed choices. A retailer in any specific market, where there is a clear definition of young adult, can of course use the interest age to select the titles to put in their young adult section.

The ability to mix YF* fiction categories with non-fiction, especially YX* and YN* is a really powerful discovery tool for titles aimed at this readership as it allows for far more detail than a simple list of fiction sections. Fiction aimed at these age groups often deals with various subjects, so giving extra detail with the good use of non-fiction codes is very powerful. However, this method is used to highlight the main topics or themes of a story, not as an alternative to a list of keywords. This is important to identify topics that relate to diversity, inclusion and equality, when teenagers are often looking to understand what is going on around them or are looking to understand their own identity or find characters or storylines that reflect topics or feature characters they can relate to.

In the case of fiction titles, a fiction category YF* must always be sent as the primary subject or `<MainSubject/>` in ONIX. We do NOT recommend sending a non-fiction category as a `<MainSubject/>` and then including fiction categories as well², as this risks confusing data receivers. Highlighting a title as being fiction that deals with a non-fiction theme, gives a data receiver an option to create filters so that fiction titles do not go into non-fiction sections, but go into relevant fiction sections or show up in faceted searches. This principle applies to fiction for children, teenagers (or young adults) and adults.

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² There are exceptions, for example when a reference book is about a genre of fiction – an encyclopaedia of Fantasy writers, for example.
There are many reasons why a child or teenager may not want to read; boredom or disinterest in the reading materials offered, poor attention span, or a general disinterest in the medium of books and the benefits of reading. There are many titles that are suitable for these ‘reluctant readers’ and it is important to highlight them, especially for groups that may be marginalised by the educational systems.

In Thema there is a qualifier **5AR – For reluctant or struggling readers (children / teenagers)** to identify titles that are suitable for those readers who are having difficulties with reading. These titles tend to have a reading age that is lower than the interest age. In the example, the ONIX is used to indicate that the interest age of the book is from about 12 years to 16 years old, whereas the recommended reading age of the text is 8 years old. It is important to include the information about interest age and reading age in ONIX for titles for younger readers and when they are suitable titles for reluctant readers the **5AR** qualifier allows teachers, librarians or parents to find and recommend these titles to the potential reader.

This title is also made so it is suitable for readers with dyslexia, hence the **<EditionType/> HRE** from list 21

As this is a title aimed at younger people you would also include the Thema age qualifier **5AN – Interest age: from c 12 years** – note that Thema uses the interest age, not the reading age.

The title also uses the Thema subject categories **YFR – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Sporting stories** as this is a novel set in the world of football, which is indicated by using the non-fiction category **YNWD1 – Children’s / Teenage general interest: Ball games and sports: Association football (Soccer)**
Example 23: Accidents of Nature by Harriet McBryde Johnson (Henry Holt)

This is a novel aimed at teenagers (or young adults) and deals with themes around aspects of, and attitudes towards, physical disability. ‘The main character, Jean has Cerebral Palsy and is a wheelchair user. She goes to a special summer camp where the enthusiastic young staff are kind, energetic and almost excruciatingly upbeat as they deliver their programme of carefully planned, ‘appropriate’ activities, but the character starts seeing things from a different perspective for all the non-disabled world’s good intentions, it will never really understand disability.’ The fiction category YFS is accompanied by YXK – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Disability, impairments and special needs to indicate that this is the major theme of the novel.

The qualifier 5PMB – Relating to people with mobility or physical disabilities or impairments gives an opportunity for the title to be discovered when searching for titles that deal with themes or feature main characters with disabilities.

It is also set in the 1970s (3MPQV) but was published in 2006. The time period of the story is important as the author uses her own experiences to use language from the period which might sound slightly jarring to a modern audience.

The example also shows the use of <ContributorDescription> which is a way of sending a headline sentence about a contributor along with the biography. This one shows that this author was writing based on her own experience, possible what could be labelled now as an #ownvoice writer. This information is important as it gives context to the way the story is told, and the language used is more understandable to a reader.
Example 24: I Was Born for This by Alice Oseman (HarperCollins)

The story follows Angel Rahimi, a hijabi Muslim teen whose life revolves around The Ark, an internationally famous boyband. She leaves for London to attend their concert with an internet friend she’s known for years but has never met in real life. And Jimmy Kaga-Ricci, a biracial gay trans musician and a member of The Ark. This book is what happens when their paths unexpectedly collide.

This book is very much about being a teenager and not just featuring teenage characters, hence 5LF. The main character is a Muslim teenage girl and as the story looks at the hero’s identity as a Muslim girl, as well as her love of the music and her relationships with her friends the qualifier 5PGP highlights this aspect of the novel. As this is a story about relationships between teenagers, all of which are non-romantic and based on friendships, the category YFM should be accompanied by YXHB as this effectively acts as a qualifier to the main subject.

It is also a story that deals with the main characters’ search for their own identities so YXD. Another major topic is mental health, so the YXLD category tells us that this is a story that deals with that topic.

As the other major character is a trans musician the use of the 5PT is appropriate here. The Thema categories and qualifiers here, allow this title to be discovered via multiple possible search combinations. This example could also have had a UK place qualifier 1DDU* to highlight the location of the title.

Something else that could be sent in the ONIX are reviews from those who are of the same group as the main characters, sometimes called #ownvoices reviews. These are an important aspect of discoverability and sales of titles to persons who are looking for books that they feel may accurately reflect some of their own experiences.

“and it’s really what makes her books stand out: they’re so devoid of any romanticising of reality. That and the fact that they’re always so casually diverse and as a Muslim teen, I can’t convey how important it is to have a book about a Muslim teen facing normal teenage problems (questioning her sexuality, finding her identity, friendships/family problems, etc) just like everyone else”.
Example 25: They Both Die at the End by Adam Silvera (HarperCollins)

YFM – Children’s / Teenage fiction: Relationship stories - Romance, love or friendship
YXHB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Friends and friendships
YXB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics
LGBTQ+
YXG – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: Death and bereavement
5AQ – Interest age: from c 14 years
5LF – Relating to adolescence / teenage years
5PSB – Relating to bisexuals or pansexuals
5PSG – Relating to gay people
5PB-US-H – Relating to Latin / Hispanic American people

‘On September 5th, a little after midnight, Death-Cast calls Mateo Torrez and Rufus Emeterio to give them some bad news: they’re going to die today. Mateo and Rufus are total strangers, but, for different reasons, they’re both looking to make a new friend on their End Day. The good news: there’s an app for that. It’s called the Last Friend, and through it, Rufus and Mateo are about to meet up for one last great adventure – to live a lifetime in a single day’. This is a novel not only aimed at teenagers, but is about being a teenager, so could have used the qualifier 5LF, as in the previous example, but the use of the 5AQ qualifier for age, gives a clear indication this is for teenagers. The story’s main themes are more about friendship and identity hence YFM and YXHB. As it is also a story about death and bereavement YXG is an appropriate category to add.

It also features a gay Puerto-Rican and a bisexual Cuban as its main characters and is set in a USA city, so it is apt to use the qualifier 5PB-US-H. There is also the two qualifiers 5PSB – Relating to bisexuals or pansexual and 5PSG – Relating to gay people to give more precise detail. The more detailed qualifiers are especially useful as the categories include the YXB – Children’s / Teenage personal and social topics: LGBTQ+ which is a broader more inclusive term that covers the wide range of sexuality and identity and allows, in conjunction with the subject category YFM – to indicate this is a work of fiction about a LGBTQ+ relationships. Effectively a retailer receiving these two subject categories, as well as the associated qualifiers, could automatically map this title to an LGBTQ+ fiction section and maintain a filter option to sort by titles featuring a gay character, or a bisexual character, etc.
Example 26: The Black Flamingo by Dean Atta (Hodder)

‘A boy comes to terms with his identity as a mixed-race gay teen - then at university he finds his wings as a drag artist, The Black Flamingo. A bold story about the power of embracing your uniqueness. Sometimes, we need to take charge, to stand up wearing pink feathers - to show ourselves to the world in bold colour.’

This is a contemporary novel aimed at teenagers - YFB, written in verse - YFV, a novel about identity - YXD, a novel about growing up in a mixed culture background - YXM and about a teenager understanding their sexuality - YXB.

The novel takes place in London, so we can use the place qualifier to identify setting 1DDU-GB-ESL, in the first 20 years of the 21st century, so we can use a time period qualifier to indicate the period the action takes place in 3MRB.

There are two qualifiers used here to indicate themes around diversity and inclusion 5PS – Relating to LGBTQ+ people, although if it was more appropriate a more detailed qualifier could be used instead.

The other qualifier is specific to identifying topics or characters who are of Black British Caribbean heritage 5PB-GB-BC. There is an option to use the much broader qualifier for the UK 5PB-GB-M – Relating to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) peoples although as this is a very broad term it lacks the level of detail of the actual qualifier used. The detail qualifier is better as this gives a greater visibility and discoverability but does not preclude a retailer deciding to add this title to a broader section.

This particular UK national extension could also be accompanied by the qualifier 5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent as this qualifier would be perhaps more useful for data receivers outside the UK.

This example shows the use of <ContributorDescription> a headline text to accompany the main contributor biography, that can contain useful key information about an author or an illustrator.
Group 4 examples: Fiction for adults

With fiction aimed primarily at adults, the same principles apply as have been seen in the examples for children and teenagers. The use of qualifiers across different genres is applicable to adult tiles and so the idea of finding all titles about, for example, peoples of African descent / of the African diaspora (5PBD) or Australian Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders (5PB-AU-A) or the Irish Travellers (5PBR-IE-T) is much easier if all the relevant titles use these qualifiers.

Thema also has generational qualifiers, 5L* that allow for the identification of themes about a stage of life. So, if there is a novel about coming of age as a twenty something or dealing with the issues linked to growing old, especially if these are themes relating to characters from a diverse background, they are important extra bits of information. These qualifiers are about subject, they are not to be used as a marketing code for a potential audience.

The use of non-fiction categories with fiction categories F* allows for greater descriptive detail of the topic and themes of a novel, particularly of contemporary fiction, where there are a lot of titles, but it is often hard to do detailed searches or discover diverse titles. Again, the fiction category should be the primary subject code or <MainSubject/> in ONIX and non-fiction categories should be used to indicate the major theme of a story and not as a replacement of keywords. The idea of having non-fiction codes associated with fiction categories allows retailers, booksellers or those creating websites to do far greater filtering or faceted searches. A contemporary fiction section could have filters allowing searches for all titles about the environment relating, or about discrimination, or mental health topics.

Example 27: Frying Plantain by Zalika Reid-Benta (House of Anansi)

A collection of contemporary short stories, hence the use of FBA – Modern and contemporary fiction and FYB – Short stories. It is set in the ‘Little Jamaica’ area of Toronto, so the Place qualifier 1KBC-CA-OSM – Southwestern Ontario: Greater Toronto area gives the detail of setting here. Some of the stories take place in Jamaica and Jamaican culture and
identity are a very important part of these stories, so the place qualifier 1KJWJ – Jamaica could be used as well.

It is telling the story of Kara a second generation Canadian teen of Jamaican descent so the qualifier 5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent indicates that this is a title dealing with themes or topics relating to people who are part of the African diaspora. The stories are about a young woman growing up, so the subject category FXB – Narrative theme: Coming of age is appropriate as well as the FXN – Narrative theme: Identity / belonging as the stories look at the main characters different identities, from her mother and grandmothers ideas from Jamaican tradition to the growing up Black in a predominantly white Canadian society. This topic of cross-cultural questions or conflicts can be highlighted using the Thema category JBCC7 – Cross-cultural studies and topics.

The qualifier 5PBC – Relating to migrant groups / communities is used to identify this as a work that talks about topics that relate to the experience of immigrants in a new country. All the subject categories and qualifiers used in this example are all useful for discovering titles and creating interesting lists, as an example, searching for all fiction titles that use 5PBD would create an interesting long list, that could be refined using other categories and qualifiers. The use of 5PBD – Relating to peoples of African descent on appropriate titles would make it easier to highlight and promote works that could be of interest during seasonal promotions, such as Black History month or to target a Black readership, or just to create catalogues and lists that can be used to increase awareness or improve discoverability of diverse titles, to help booksellers create promotions around these titles or maybe to highlight suggested titles to non-traditional media outlets.

This example also includes a set of keywords sent by the publisher. Keywords are used by some data receivers in search and discoverability, but these words should be relevant, not repeats of words in the subject categories, titles, formats, description, table of contents etc.

It is better to send a well-chosen and closely curated short list of keywords rather than to try and send a long list that may well be ignored by the data receiver. Keywords are an important area for including current, trending terms and topics, using words that are linked to identity and diversity. They can be updated on a fairly regular basis with new relevant and appropriate terminology.
Example 28: Gifted by Nikita Lalwani (Penguin Random House)

This is a novel - Modern and contemporary fiction - about Rumi, a maths prodigy, the daughter of Indian migrants in Cardiff. The fact that the story deals with Rumi’s teenage years and growing up is indicated by use of Narrative theme: Coming of age. As a novel that deals with the adolescent years is conveyed using Relating to adolescent / teenage years, this is not an audience code, as this is a novel aimed at adults, it means this is one of the primary themes of the story.

Two possible and useful non-fiction categories that could be used for this title are Cross-cultural studies and topics as the main character is dealing with the Indian traditions of her parents contrasting with the life she encounters in Cardiff and Oxford. Teaching of gifted or talented students is another good option as Rumi is a very gifted student and passes her exams and goes off to Oxford university at an early age and the story examines some of the issues faced by very talented students. The place qualifiers Cardiff and Oxford give us the main settings of the book although a retailer could for example just map the two back to the core qualifier United Kingdom if they did not want that level of detail.

Relating to migrant groups / communities is an important qualifier to flag up titles that may deal with topics or be of interest to migrant groups in different cultures. As the novel deals with the issues faced by Indian migrants it is an appropriate qualifier. There is an option to use a qualifier that says this title is about a specific group Relating to British South Asian people. When the 5* qualifiers are used correctly they are very powerful tools for identifying and discovering titles that are more diverse.
Example 29: David Mogo Godhunter by Suyi Davies Okungbowa (Abaddon Books)

An example of Nigerian ‘God-Punk’ - a powerful and atmospheric urban fantasy set in Lagos. This title is an example of Afrofuturism or Black Speculative Fiction - FDM - which mixes fantasy or science fiction genres with elements of Black culture or history. The setting of this novel is Lagos 1HFDN-NG-A, and as with all the national extensions of a place qualifier, if a data receiver did not want to use this level of detail, they can use the core qualifier code, in this case 1HFDN – Nigeria. The setting and the action of this novel takes place in a very contemporary urban setting, so this title could be categorised as FMX – Urban Fantasy. This is a novel that uses traditional Yoruba mythology as a major element of the story, so the category FNM – Myths and Legends is important to indicate that this is either a retelling of a traditional story or is based on traditional mythology. The fact that it is based on traditional African spiritual beliefs is highlighted using the Themæ non-fiction category QRRN. The main characters are described in the books description "...To fix his mistake and keep Lagos standing, David teams up with his foster wizard, the high god’s twin sister and a speech-impaired Muslim teenage girl to defeat the wizard...". Depending on the importance of the teenage girl, and her identity, in the story, this title could also use qualifiers from 5PM* and 5PGP but if this is not a major aspect or theme, then it is better to put this information in descriptions and / or keywords and use the categories for the major topics.

The <Prize> composite, as shown in the example, is another very important aspect of metadata linked to highlighting diverse voices. The Nommo prize clearly identifies award-nominated speculative fiction by writers from Africa and this would be a valuable piece of information to allow booksellers or librarians the chance to discover and promote this genre of fiction to a potentially more diverse audience. Including prize information allows retailers to clearly display lists of titles nominated for, or winners of one of the many prizes that highlight diverse authors, illustrators, etc...
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Example 30 Gods of Jade and Shadow by Silvia Moreno-Garcia (Del Rey Books)

Another example of a work of fiction using stories from traditional mythologies and incorporating those into speculative fiction. This Mexican-Canadian author has taken stories from the mythology of the Mayans and woven it into this story. It is a fantasy story set in an historical period, so the subject category FMH tells us this is historical fantasy, and the period is the 1920s so the time period qualifier 3MPBGH gives us this detail. The fact that this is fiction based on myths and legends is indicated with the FNM category and the fact that it is from one of the pre-Colombian traditions is indicated using the category QRRT1 – the note of the category is very important here as it tells us some of the traditions that are covered here - Class here: Aztec, Mayan, Olmec, Inca religions and myths. Use for: works about spiritual beliefs, including mythology, religion, ceremonial practices, rituals and observances that have existed or were present in the Americas prior to contact with Europeans.

The fact that these are based on traditional myths from Mexico and that the action takes place in Mexico are both covered by the Place qualifier 1KLCM. Place qualifiers are important for identifying not only non-fiction titles about a place but also the setting or themes of works of fiction. This qualifier tells us this title is set in and is about aspects of Mexico.

The ONIX <Subject> shows a list of keywords, that give more information about, amongst other things, the mythological characters and places (both real and imagined). These can be sent as general keywords, using code 20 from list 27 as in the example, but ONIX also allows you to send a keyword list of key character names (code B4 from list 27) and key place names (code B5 from code list 27). Both of these options allow a publisher to send a specific list of characters and places that are searchable and that can supplement the words sent as ordinary keywords. This sort of information can be used to build cross title discoverability of particular characters and places that may be significant for particular diverse audiences and appear in different books.
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**Example 31: Kitchen by Banana Yoshimoto, translated by Megan Backus (Faber)**

As with some of the examples shown for children, language can be very important when searching diverse voices. Part of that diversity comes from discovering and reading works that were originally written in a different language. These will give readers the opportunity to discover other perspectives and cultures. In regard to fiction titles, Thema allows a publisher to highlight when a novel is a translated work by using the category FYT – Fiction in translation. The language it was translated from, as well as the name of the translator are included in the ONIX file. There is also a subject category to indicate fiction in translation for children and teenagers YFZT.

One of the main characters of the novella, that makes up most of this volume, is a transgender person, so the use of the qualifier 5PT is appropriate here.

The main fiction category FBA is used in conjunction with the two fiction categories that can be used to highlight major themes FXD and FXL. These narrative themes could have further clarification added by using a non-fiction category if this was appropriate, but only if this represented the principle or major theme of the story.

**Group 5: Adult non-fiction**

There are many Thema categories and qualifiers that could be appropriate to titles that examine various aspects of diversity, equity and inclusion. A few examples are shown here, but this is by no means exhaustive and there’ll be aspects of diversity that have not been illustrated as examples. Please explore the online browser – [https://ns.editeur.org/thema](https://ns.editeur.org/thema) – to see what other codes exist.

For example, Thema has the option to add style qualifiers - these start with 6* - and are used with categories starting with A* in the Arts or with the certain D* categories. There are style qualifiers that can be used to improve the discoverability of works about diverse topics in the Arts.
Example 32: Diversify: How to challenge inequality and why we should by June Sarpong (HarperCollins)

This title looks at groups who are often marginalised in society, including women, ethnic minorities, those living with visible or hidden disabilities, impairments or conditions and the LGBTQ+ community, and the costs of exclusion. It looks at a new approach to how we learn, live and do business. The category JBFA – Social discrimination and equal treatment has the note “Use for: works about various forms of discrimination, about equality or inequality, about prejudice based on a person’s identity and also about measures to address these issues, such as diversity and inclusion policies, positive discrimination, work on unconscious bias”, so relates closely to the major topic of the title, and it’s a good choice to be the main subject code. The category JBFB – Social integration and assimilation covers another major theme of the book, and JBSL1 – Ethnic groups and multicultural studies because the title looks at inequality linked to ethnic identity and possible ways of challenging this. Finally, the code KJMV22 – Diversity and inclusion in the workplace is suggested as the title would be suitable for those interested in questions of diversity and inclusion in the workplace or inside companies.

This example also includes an endorsement from a well-known figure, who mentions the authors work on diversity and who himself is a well-known advocate for social justice. Using ONIX to send review quotes and endorsements, is very important for discoverability but it is better to choose relevant ones, rather than sending too many or texts that are too full of adjectives or exclamations.
This title provides another good illustration for a title on an area of diversity and inclusion which is inclusive or universal design. This is a professional approach to design focusing on the needs of those with special needs or limitations, ensuring design does not deliberately exclude anyone. The book covers a broad range of design topics, including products, services, interfaces and environments. As this title is dealing with many aspects of professional design, the category AKP – Product design seems to be the most suitable main category, as the note includes “Class here: universal or accessible design for products, Industrial design...”

TNKA – Accessibility in buildings and building design could be another good category to use depending on how much the book discusses practical and technical aspects of accessible design in buildings or building components. RPC – Urban and municipal planning and policy could be appropriate for this title, as this is a book about theories and will include ideas for urban planners. The note for RPC includes “Use for: works on city, town and suburban planning and policies, universal design, accessibility and accessible environments, sustainable or eco-cities, housing policies, etc.”. It could also be appropriate to use the qualifier 5PM – Relating to people with visible or hidden disabilities, impairments or conditions. As with all qualifiers, this provides extra detail and allows for curated list creation, greater discoverability and enhanced search options.

Other categories that could be considered, depending on the contents of the title, include TTW – Assistive technology and JBFM – Disability: social aspects.

The descriptive texts that accompany titles are really important. In this example it is the book description aimed at the general public, which includes explanations about the content. However descriptive texts can include the table of contents, which are really important for non-fiction titles and are a valuable source of keywords and search options. Descriptive texts can also be targeted to specific sectors of the book chain or specific markets. All of this information is valuable when it comes to the discoverability of titles.
Example 34: Words Apart compiled by Llinos Dafydd (Rily Publications)

‘This book brings together four true stories from Wales - from an actor, poet, child and mum - sharing accounts of learning to live and succeed with Dyslexia. Of the six voices in this slim, easy-to-read book, three stories are first-hand accounts of the experience of being dyslexic, the fourth comes from the mother of a son with dyslexia, and the final two chapters offer advice from someone who works with people who are dyslexic.’

This title has the qualifier **5AX – For adult emergent readers** which has the note “Use for: books that are specifically aimed at adult literacy or helping adult readers with reading difficulties or books that are suitable for adult readers who are not confident in their reading abilities or suitable for the newly literate.”. This title is part of a series specifically written or adapted for this readership and it is important to use these qualifiers to allow people to find these titles aimed at those who may for one reason, or another feel alienated from reading.

The main Thema subject category is **DNX – True stories: general** as the theme of this work is people telling their own stories. The other subject code is **VFJR3 – Coping with dyslexia and learning difficulties** adds the information that this is a title about dyslexia and is aimed at a general readership rather than a technical one.

Along with **5AX** the qualifier **5PMJ – Relating to people with learning disorders, difficulties or disabilities** flags this as a title of interest to a person who has or who is interested in learning disorders and would allow for a higher visibility and discoverability of titles that cover these topics across genres.
Example 35: One Hundred Years of Dirt by Rick Morton (Melbourne University Press)

This is a memoir about growing up poor in the rural outback of Queensland. It looks at a host of important issues including poverty and privilege, the class system, mental health, drug addiction, domestic violence, homophobia and intergenerational trauma. It is also a story about family and how the forces within and without can shape and test and impact familial units. And very often it is the personalities within those families that have the most influence — and not always in a good way.

Socio-economic groups, such as the working class or the rural poor, can also be excluded or marginalised from more traditional publishing and so titles that explore themes and topics around socio-economic groups can be important when boosting the visibility of diverse titles.

The main subject is DNC – Memoirs and to highlight the major topics included in this memoir and to facilitate its discovery it is appropriate to add subject categories from the J – Society and Social Sciences section which offers a broad range of categories that can be used in conjunction with other codes. For these memoirs the strongest themes seem to be the struggle his mother had to manage on very little, so use JBFC – Poverty and precarity. This is a memoir about a working class family so add JBSA – Social classes and that it deals with a family in Australia’s outback so JBSC – Rural communities is another category that allows people to discover works about the rural poor. The memoir is also about family, about the issues with different members of the family and how his single mother managed so using JHGBK – Sociology: family and relationships is a possible option. The place qualifier is used to indicate that he is describing his life in Queensland and finally as it also deals with his sexuality the qualifier 5PSG – Relating to gay people is also appropriate.

The sample of ONIX shows the use of review quotes in ONIX and how text in these can be important when looking at questions around diversity and inclusion. This example talks about identity linked to class, and poorer, working class people often feel excluded or marginalised from access to books. Reviews can be used to highlight #ownvoice reviews or peer reviews that highlight aspects of diversity.
Example 36: The Hanging of Angélique by Afua Cooper (University of Georgia Press)

‘Writer, historian and poet Afua Cooper tells the astonishing story of Marie-Joseph Angélique, a slave woman convicted of starting a fire that destroyed a large part of Montréal in April 1734 and condemned to die a brutal death. In a powerful retelling of Angélique’s story -- now supported by archival illustrations -- Cooper builds on 15 years of research to shed new light on a rebellious Portuguese-born black woman who refused to accept her indentured servitude. At the same time, Cooper completely demolishes the myth of a benign, slave-free Canada, revealing a damning 200-year-old record of legally and culturally endorsed slavery.’

This is a history book about slavery, so the primary subject category has to be NHTS. The other categories here give more detail about the history topics. NHTB as the title cover’s aspects of social and cultural history and NHK to indicate that is a history of a particular area in the Americas - detail of where is given using place qualifiers; so, in this case we have two 1KBC-CA-QMM – Montréal and an historical place qualifier 1QBK-CA-Q – New France which gives us the detail that this is about the French colonial empire in North America. The period covered by the history book is given as early 18th century 3MLB although more detail could be given by using two sub-categories for the 1730s and the 1740s. This title is also covered by the period of ‘New France’ in North America, so it is useful to include the specific national extension for this 3MD-CA-A.

As this is a title that deals with a story of the enslavement of Black Africans the qualifier 5PBD is very important here.

This example also shows the use of the <NameAsSubject> element in ONIX, which can be used to say, for example, who is the subject of a biography or history book. This ONIX composite is the same structure as the <Contributor> and so you can send names broken up into their constituent parts, alternative names, name types and also name identifiers like the ISNI. As Angélique was the name imposed on her by her last owner, and this is sometimes presented in different ways, the use of an identifier like the ISNI helps link data across titles, formats, genres, languages and into other areas, such as film, documentary, music etc. This is another potential important way to boost the discoverability of diverse titles.
Example 37: Dark Emu by Bruce Pascoe (Magabala Books)

‘Dark Emu argues for a reconsideration of the 'hunter-gatherer' tag for pre-colonial Aboriginal Australians and attempts to rebut the colonial myths that have worked to justify dispossession. Accomplished author Bruce Pascoe provides compelling evidence from the diaries of early explorers that suggests that systems of food production and land management have been blatantly understated in modern retellings of early Aboriginal history, and that a new look at Australia’s past is required.’

This is a history book, reassessing and looking at the history of Australia’s aboriginal peoples. The fact that it is Australian history is conveyed with NHM – Australasian and Pacific history and the place qualifier 1MBF – Australia. This is an examination of a major topic of social history NHTB, agriculture and farming, so the category TV is very important here as it indicates that this is a title about agricultural history.

Finally, the qualifier 5PB-AU-A – Relating to Australian Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders tells us this is a title about or relating to this group and again, a very important qualifier for identifying all the titles, across ages and genres, allowing for greater search and discoverability around the topic.

Another piece of information, sent in ONIX, is the relationship between various titles and formats. In this example, this title has a separate classroom book, that helps teachers use this book to teach Australian Aboriginal history from a different perspective. This example of <RelatedProduct> is using code 40 from list 51 indicating that the title Dark Emu has related teacher materials and giving the relevant ISBN.
Example 38: Romantic Encounters of a Sex Worker by Nalini Jameela, translated by Reshma Bharadwa (Om Books International)

‘The term ‘sex worker’ often conjures up images of solitary women standing on streets, soliciting clients. Romantic Encounters of A Sex Worker, an engaging memoir by Nalini Jameela presents a fascinating story of the streets, the clients and life before and after the encounters. Nalini leads the reader through the night-time fields and hedges, sleazy lodges hidden on the outskirts of cities, plantations shrouded in darkness, arak shops in the suburbs, vacant construction sites... Her narrative brings to life an array of clients--landlords, forest officers, travelling salesmen, field hands, small-town lodge managers, police officers, supervisors and more, capturing humorously the pomposity, patronising behaviour and pettiness of her clients.’

This is a memoir that has been translated from the Malayalam language, as shown in the ONIX example. The <LanguageRole> 02 from list 22 says what the original language of the title was and 01 – indicates the language of this version. This ONIX record also indicates that it was also originally written in Malayalam script.

The fact that this is a woman’s memoir that has been translated is important when looking at questions around the visibility and discoverability of diverse voices.

In the Thema categories shown here, the fact that is principally a memoir is indicated with DNC. The primary topics of this memoir are some of the social aspects of sex JBFW - the note says class here sex work – and the sociology of different kinds of relationship JHBK.

The memoir is mostly about her life in Kerala so the place qualifier 1FKA-IN-LE indicates this takes place in this region. The use of place qualifiers and language information are both ways of discovering works about people’s experiences in other cultures or places and is a way of finding titles from diverse groups or around diverse topics.
Group 5 examples: Comic books

When it comes to categorising comic books, graphic novels or manga, the same principles apply as for the other sections, except all of these should be using as their primary subject code or <MainSubject/> in ONIX at least one category that starts with X* to indicate that the title is of this genre. These X* categories can be used with other categories from Thema to give more detail about the subject matter. Y* categories should only be used with titles that are aimed at children or teenagers, otherwise use categories from other parts of Thema, especially the F* categories to give more detail about the style of story. Usually for comic books, graphic novels, manga, there should be at least two X* categories, one to say what the main genre or subject is (codes starting with XQ*) and another to say from what tradition the title is from, (codes starting with XA*)

Example 39: Black vol. 1 by Kwanza Osajyefo, illustrated by Tim Smith III (Black Mask Studios)

![Black Vol. 1 cover](image)

XQK – Graphic novel / Comic book : super-heroes and supervillains
XQG – Graphic novel / Comic book : action and adventure
FDM – Afrofuturism / Black Speculative fiction
XAK – American / British style comic books and graphic novels
5PB-US-C – Relating to African American people

‘In a world that already hates and fears them - what if only Black people had superpowers. After miraculously surviving being gunned down by police, a young man learns that he is part of the biggest lie in history. Now he must decide whether it’s safer to keep it a secret or if the truth will set him free.’

The fact that this is a ‘super-hero’ genre comic, is indicated using XQK and that it falls into the action and adventure genre as well XQG.

This title can also be categorised as Afrofuturism, so the FDM category should also be included here.

With all comic book, graphic novels, manga it is also recommended to include a category to indicate which ‘tradition’ the title is an example of. In this case the North American / British style comic book- XAK.

Finally, this is a title that is set in the USA and features African American characters and plot lines, so the qualifier 5PB-US-C should also be included.
Example 40: Kindred graphic novel adapted by Damian Duffy and John Jennings (Abrams)

XQV – Graphic novel / Comic book : historical
XQB – Graphic novel / Comic book : literary adaptations
XAK – American / British style comic books and graphic novels
FLG – Science fiction: time travel
FXS – Narrative theme: Social issues
JBFA1 – Racism and racial discrimination
NHTS – Slavery and abolition of slavery
1KBB-US-WPCA – Los Angeles
1KBB-US-SEM – Maryland
3MNBF – c 1810 to c 1819
3MPQV – c 1970 to c 1979
5PB-US-C – Relating to African American people

Example 41: Kindred by Octavia E. Butler

FLG – Science fiction: time travel
FXS – Narrative theme: Social issues
JBFA1 – Racism and racial discrimination
NHTS – Slavery and abolition of slavery
1KBB-US-WPCA – Los Angeles
1KBB-US-SEM – Maryland
3MNBF – c 1810 to c 1819
3MPQV – c 1970 to c 1979
5PB-US-C – Relating to African American people

These are two versions of the same title. The first is the graphic novel version and the second is the original novel.
The graphic novel version uses the same subject categories and qualifiers as the novel, along with some extra categories to indicate that it is a graphic novel.
These examples are showing a possible selection of options to give detailed suggestions for the main themes and settings of both the novel and the graphic version.
These titles both show the use of the qualifier 5PB-US-C – Relating to African American people as this title specifically deals with characters and experiences for people of African descent living in the USA.
Example 42: Aya: Life in Yop City by Marguerite About, illustrated by Clement Oubrerie, translated by Helge Dascher (Drawn and Quarterly)

‘Ivory Coast, 1978. It’s a golden time, and the nation, too—an oasis of affluence and stability in West Africa—seems fuelled by something wondrous. Aya is loosely based upon Marguerite Abouet’s youth in Yop City. It is the story of the studious and clear-sighted nineteen-year-old Aya, her easy going friends Adjoua and Bintou, and their meddling relatives and neighbours. It’s a wryly funny, breezy account of the simple pleasures and private troubles of everyday life in Yop City.’

This is a graphic novel, translated from the original French, so could also include the subject category FYT to indicate it is translated fiction. The author is originally from the Cote d’Ivoire and uses her own life experiences to talk about life in part of Abidjan, called Yopougon, colloquially known as Yop City, hence the use of the Place qualifier 1HFDY-CI-A. As this is partly autobiographical, slice-of-life style, the main subject could be XQA. It is also a work that looks at family life so adding the FS also could be appropriate or it could use another F category such as FQ – Contemporary lifestyle fiction. It is set in the 1970s, so a time period qualifier 3MPQV is also an appropriate addition. As with other examples, this title would have information in the ONIX about the contributors, where they are from, information about the original language and so on. This example illustrates why the place qualifiers can be so important.
Example 43: A Silent Voice by Yoshitoki Oima (Kodansha)

‘Years ago, Shoya Ishida led his peers in tormenting a hearing-impaired classmate, Shoko Nishimiya. When she transfers schools, Shoya finds he has gone from bully to bullied, and is left completely alone. Now Shoya struggles to redeem himself in Shoko’s eyes and to face the classmates who turned on him.’

Exactly the same principles apply to manga and other Asian style comic books as to the graphic novel examples. This is a title aimed at teenagers, hence the use of categories starting with YX* along with the X* categories. It is dealing with bullying - YXQF - and friendships - YXHB. The fact that it is a manga style comic book - XAM - and that it is mainly a school based story - XQS - are included and at least one X* category must be labelled as the main subject. The story deals with the lives and issues faced by teenagers and growing up, so the use of the 5LF qualifier is apt here.

The 5PMF is included here as one of the main characters is a hearing-impaired teenage girl and her hearing impairment is one of the themes of the story arc.