Beyond the Facsimile: Early English Books Online (EEBO) and the Text Creation Partnership

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Enriching Scholarship

May 7, 2012
Goals

• Understand the relationship between Early English Books Online and Text Creation Partnership
• Develop ability to “read” an interface: to think about, ask questions of, and make sense of what is being revealed or hidden by websites for digitized resources
• Understand what the Text Creation Partnership produces and some of the ways it can be used—as well as what it cannot do
• Share ideas for using these resources in research and teaching
Agenda

• Introductions (5 min)
• Background: What is the Text Creation Partnership? What is its relationship to EEBO? (10 min)
• Walk through/demo different ways to search the texts (25 min)
  • ProQuest’s EEBO
  • UM’s EEBO-TCP
  • Differences, similarities, preferences?
• Behind the scenes (25 min):
  • What does the TCP really produce?
  • What are the challenges and goals of this work? What purpose does it serve?
  • document analysis exercise
• Ideas/examples for teaching and research (20 min)
• Critical thinking: gaps and limitations of these resources (10 min)
• Questions/discussion (10 min)
• Evaluation (5 min)

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Introductions

Who am I?
Rebecca Welzenbach, Text Creation Partnership Project Outreach Librarian

Who are you?
• Name
• Affiliation
• Do you already use EEBO or TCP? In what capacity?
• Any specific questions, concerns, or things you hope will be covered today?
Background: EEBO

• Contains more than 125,000 titles listed in Pollard & Redgrave’s Short-Title Catalogue (1475-1640) and Wing’s Short-Title Catalogue (1641-1700) and their revised editions, as well as the Thomason Tracts (1640-1661) and the Early English Books Tract Supplement

• Commercial product developed by ProQuest

• Purchased or licensed by libraries

• Grew out of Early English Books microfilm series

• Consists of scanned microfilm and (now) direct scans from books

• EEBO alone lets you search the MARC catalog records for each book and view the pages of the book. It does not provide full-text search capabilities

• Page images + searchable metadata

For more information: http://eebo.chadwyck.com.proxy.lib.umich.edu/about/about.htm
Background: EEBO-TCP

- More than 40,000 texts done so far. Goal is to complete ~70,000, or one edition of each unique work in the EEBO catalog

- Each page is keyed by hand (OCR doesn’t work; double/triple-keying) and mark-up added

- Product is a large set of searchable encoded text files that may be matched up with page images in EEBO for search and display, or put to other uses entirely

- Not-for-profit, library-based consortial project

- Libraries pay to support this work; gain immediate access to the output

- Text files belong to partner library institutions and will ultimately be made freely available to everyone

- Model has been replicated with ECCO- and Evans-TCP

For more information: http://textcreationpartnership.org

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Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface

EEBO
EARLY ENGLISH BOOKS
ONLINE

Search
Browse
About EEBO
Information Resources
What's New?

I shall therefore leave you: indeed I could not think of making some of the guilt, as well as some of the delight, to my self, and to myself. for my self, and to myself. I shall therefore leave you as both as an English and a


Now available – EEBO Interactions: A social network for Early English Books Online. (sign in, register as a new Interactions user, or find out more)

The EEBO Introductions Series, providing concise and informative commentaries on some of the less frequently discussed texts in EEBO

Send your suggestions, comments or queries to our Webmaster.
End Session | Site map | Accessibility

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Privacy policy

http://eebo.chadwyck.com.proxy.lib.umich.edu/

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Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface

http://eebo.chadwyck.com.proxy.lib.umich.edu/search

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Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface

How does the Variant Spellings feature work?

The Variant spellings box appears on the Basic Search, Advanced Search and Periodicals Search screens. It is checked by default.

If you type a search term in the Keyword(s) box and the Variant spellings box is checked when you submit your search, you will automatically retrieve all instances of your search term and its early modern variant forms in EEBO. For example, if the box for Variant spellings is checked and you type the word murder in the Keyword(s) field, when you submit your search you will retrieve all occurrences of the word murder and its early modern variants murther, murdre, murdr and mivrd.

This will also work if you check the box and type search terms in other fields like Title keyword(s) and Imprint.

If you type a phrase in the Keyword(s) search field (for example Keyword(s): "so foul and faile a day"), and the Variant spellings box is checked when you submit your search, your results will include instances of the phrase where the spelling varies (such as so foule and faire a day). Similarly, if you type a series of terms connected by Boolean or proximity operators in this field (for example jealous and green-eyed), your search will include all available spelling and typographic variants of each term (such as jealous, green-eyed and green eyd).

When typing a search expression that includes Truncation and wildcard operators (e.g. Keyword(s): je?lo?sa*), you should uncheck the Variant spellings and Variant forms boxes.
Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface


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Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface

Catalog record only

Catalog record, images, illustrations, full text from TCP

Catalog record, images, illustrations
Demo: ProQuest’s EEBO Interface

TO THE RIGHT HONORABLE MY SINGULAR GOOD LORD, THE LORD CHARLES HOWARD, Earl of Nottingham, Baron of Effingham, Knight of the noble Order of the Garter, Lord High Admiral of England, Ireland, and Wales, &c. one of her Maiesties most honourable privie Counsell.

Right Honourable and my very good Lord, after I had been since published in First many Narratives and Discoveries of Stranglers in divers languages, as well at the Prince, as at the site of Paris, during my late vears abode in France, with the worthy Knight Sir Edward Stafford your brother in law, her Maiesties most prudent and careful Ambassador with the French King; and have seen on so further and farther in the sweet study of the history of Discoveries, that I began at first to conceive, that with diligent accordanct, some thing might be gathered which might commend our nation for their high courage and singular activity in the Search and Discoveries of the most unknown parts of the world. Hence, seeing no man to stop forth to undertake the recording of so many memorable actions, and many man to follow his private affaires, the action of my countryman discovered all difficulties, and as it were with a sharp good provided it and thrust me forward into this most troublesome and pastfull action. And after great charges and infinite cares, after many washings, tears, and travaile, and warning out of my weakly body, at length I have collected those several Volumes of the English Narratives, Travellers, and Discoveries, to strange, remote, and far distant countreis. Which works of mine I have not included within the compass of things only done in these latter days, so through life or nothing worth or memorials have been published in former ages; but much skilled by the record of many hundred yeares, have brought to light many very rare and worthy monuments, which long have lain miserably scattered in musty corners, and retains them hidden in miste darkness; and were very like for the greatest part to have been buried in perpetuall oblivion. The first Volume of these works I have thus far prepared to light, reserving the other two until the next spring, when by Gods grace they shall come to the Pasage. In this season setting forth my selfe of some manifest and bootfulfull Soveraigne. I called to mind your honourable Lordship, who both in regard of my particular obligation, and also in respect of the subject matter, might justly challenge the Patronage thereof. For first I considered how much I was bound, and how deeply indebted for my youngest brother Edmund Hakluyt, to whom for the space of four whole yeares your Lordship committed the government and instruction of that honourable yong abode man, your sonnes, and her present servaunt, the Lord William


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Demo: University of Michigan’s EEBO-TCP Interface

Basic Search
Boolean Search
Proximity Search
Bibliographic Search
Word Index (Phase I)
Word Index (Phase II)
Browse (Phase I)
Browse (Phase II)

About EEBO-TCP
Demo EEBO-TCP
comments to:
UMDL Help

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Which meets your needs? Try it...

In both interfaces...
  • Try a keyword/full text search for “cookery”
  • Try searching within verse for “love”

To make things more interesting, add these additional variables:
  • Try it with and without spelling/form variants allowed in EEBO
  • Try changing the limits in EEBO (all items, full text only, etc.)

What do you find?
  • Questions?
  • Frustrations?
  • Inconsistencies?
  • Do you find you have a clear preference for one over the other?

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Different search results

Search Results

You searched: cookery

Sort: Numerically by date

Page 1 of 1

1. A. W. 1587

A book of cookery: very necessary for all such as delight therein / Gathered by A. W. Printed at London : by Edward Althe. 1587.

Date: 1587

Bib number: STC (2nd ed.) 42496

Physical description: 20 leaves in 4°

Copy from: New York Public Library (New York, N.Y.)

2. A. W. 1591


Date: 1591

Bib number: STC (2nd ed.) 24897

Physical description: 1 v. (20 leaves)

Copy from: Bodleian Library

3. Addison, John, 1632-1703.

West Barbary, or, A short narrative of the revolutions of the kingdoms of Fez and Morocco with an account of the present customs, sacred, civil, and domestic by John Addison ... (London, C. Watling) : printed at the Theatre in Oxford, and are to be sold by John Werrington. 1671.

Date: 1671

Bib number: Wing / 3492


Copy from: Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery

Found: 1 NLS

4. Aelian, 3rd cent.

Caelitus Atheniens, His various Fables, London : Printed for Thomas Dring.

Title: The accomplishments cook, or The art and mystery of cookery. Wherein the whole art is revealed in a more easy and perfect method, than hath been publish'd in any language. Expert and ready ways for the dressing of all sorts of flesh, fowl, and fish; the raising of pasties; the best directions for all manner of kickshaws, and the most pious sauces; with the learned art of carving and sewing. An exact account of all dishes for the season; with other a la mode curiosities. Together with the lively illustrations of such necessary figures as are referred to practice.

Author: May, Robert. b. 1588


Collection: Early English Books Online

Results by collection:

Title: The whole body of cookery dissected, taught, and fully manifested, methodically, artificially, and according to the best tradition of the English, French, Italian, Dutch, &c., or, A symphatie of all varieties of natural compounds in that mystery wherein is contained certain bills of fare for the seasons of the year, for feasts and common diets : wherein is annexed a second part of rare receipts of cookery, with certain useful traditions : with a book of preserving, conserving and candying, after the most exquisite and newest manner.

Author: Rabriah, William.


Collection: Early English Books Online 2

-- Search Results: 15 matches in full text

Results details | Table of contents | Add to bookbag

Title: The accomplishments cook, or The art and mystery of cookery. Wherein the whole art is revealed in a more easy and perfect method, than hath been publish'd in any language. Expert and ready ways for the dressing of all sorts of flesh, fowl, and fish; the raising of pasties; the best directions for all manner of kickshaws, and the most pious sauces; with the learned art of carving and sewing. An exact account of all dishes for the season; with other a la mode curiosities. Together with the lively illustrations of such necessary figures as are referred to practice.

Author: May, Robert. b. 1588


Collection: Early English Books Online

-- Search Results: 15 matches in full text

Results details | Table of contents | Add to bookbag

Title: The accomplishments cook, or The art and mystery of cookery. Wherein the whole art is revealed in a more easy and perfect method, than hath been publish'd in any language. Expert and ready ways for the dressing of all sorts of flesh, fowl, and fish; the raising of pasties; the best directions for all manner of kickshaws, and the most pious sauces; with the learned art of carving and sewing. An exact account of all dishes for the season; with other a la mode curiosities. Together with the lively illustrations of such necessary figures as are referred to practice.

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Author: May, Robert. b. 1588


Collection: Early English Books Online

-- Search Results: 15 matches in full text

Results details | Table of contents | Add to bookbag
Which one do I use?

**ProQuest’s EEBO Interface**
- search more than 120,000 books, whether or not they have full text
- Use fuzzy spelling or variant searching
- Easily download/print sections of a work as a PDF

**University of Michigan’s TCP Interface**
- Only search works with keyed full text
- Get most up-to-date batch of texts
- Some more precise searching options (e.g. proximity, sorting by frequency)

**Both can:** move between text and image view, display table of contents, restrict search to certain areas or kinds of text (e.g. letters, drama, verse, etc.)

**Big picture:** many of the same capabilities, some differences. Use what you’re comfortable with and what meets your needs. If something seems missing from one, try the other. Be aware that both—and any interface—will cause things to look and behave slightly differently, even with the same data underneath.

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What’s going on behind the scenes?

Two key components:

• Accurately transcribed text
• Structural markup: XML (more precisely, SGML)

That is: tags that explicitly describe the structure of a document, allowing a computer to “read” and understand the relationship of parts of the text to one another, just as we have learned to do when looking at a page.
SGML Markup

```xml
<TEXT MODE="XML">
<DOCTYPE SGML SYSTEM "SGML.dtd">
<SGML>
<TEXT>
<ELEMENT HEAD>
<TITLE>THE EPISTLE OF PAUL TO PHILEMON</TITLE>
</HEAD>
<ELEMENT ARGUMENT>
<P>1 Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, and</P>
<P>2 ...</P>
</ARGUMENT>
<ELEMENT NOTE PLACE="marg1">
<NOTE TEXT="By fellowship of faith, he meaneth those duties of charity which are bestowed upon the Saints; and those forth of an effectual faith."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg2">
<NOTE TEXT="That this means all men may perceive how rich you are in Christ, to wit, in faith, charity, and all bountifulness."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg3">
<NOTE TEXT="For we have great joy and consolation in thy love, because by thee, brother, the Saints..."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg4">
<NOTE TEXT="And erelong shall refresh the Saints, that they conceived not hurt, and the remission of their sins..."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg5">
<NOTE TEXT="Now therefore, though I be very bold in Christ to command thee, that which is convenient."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg6">
<NOTE TEXT="Yet I beseech thee..."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg7">
<NOTE TEXT="Whom I have sent to thee my name..."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg8">
<NOTE TEXT="Oncimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg9">
<NOTE TEXT="Which in times past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable both to thee and to me."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg10">
<NOTE TEXT="Whom I have sent against thee, that is mine own..."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg11">
<NOTE TEXT="As mine own son, and as if I had begotten him of mine own body."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE PLACE="marg12">
<NOTE TEXT="Whom I would have retained with me, that in thy stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the Gospel."/>
</NOTE>
</NOTE>
</TEXT>
</SGML>
</TEXT MODE="XML">
```
Document analysis exercise

• Pick a printout or several
• Work in small groups
• Identify elements of the document’s structure: what can you tell by looking at the page that a computer wouldn’t know? What information would you want to have pulled out?
• Do you agree about what is important to tag, and how to categorize it?
What is the point of all of this?

• An interface/program can only work with what information you give it in the first place.

• Our goal is to produce a lot of high-quality data that can more or less be generally agreed upon. This gives a search engine something useful to grab onto, but also leaves room for further enhancements.

• We turn wheat into flour, and hope you’ll make bread.
Examples of new projects built on TCP data

- Specialized scholarly editions: The Holinshed Project
- Alternative search/display interfaces: PhiloLogic @NU
- Additional analysis: Monk Workbench
- Thematic groupings/websites: Witches in Early Modern England
- For readable, scholarly comments on text analysis: Ted Underwood’s blog
EEBO-TCP in the classroom

• Sample assignments:  
  
  http://www.lib.umich.edu/tcp/eebo/scholarship.html

• 2012 Spring Term course on history of taste: mining EEBO- and ECCO-TCP for recipes

• Document analysis?

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Critical Thinking: Reading the Database

What problems, gaps, shortcomings do you see? (in the interfaces we looked at or in the data underneath)

What would you/do you warn your students about when encouraging them to use EEBO or TCP?
Further questions/discussion

• Please get in touch if we can be of help with your research, or with an assignment in your classroom (happy to give targeted overviews/presentations)

• Thanks and good luck!

• Please fill out the evaluation: http://www.umich.edu/~teachtec/es.html