BACKGROUND: This instruction sheet provides general guidelines on the use of parenthetical qualifiers in authorized medium of performance terms.

1. General rule. When proposing a word or phrase as a new medium of performance term or UF reference, it may be necessary to use a parenthetical qualifier if the word or phrase has more than one dictionary definition. Add the qualifier to the word or phrase to indicate which of the several definitions is intended for the term or reference in question. Examples:

   angklung (rattle)
   angklung (xylophone)

If the term or UF reference that is being proposed is in direct conflict with an already established term or UF reference, make an additional proposal to revise the qualifier on the already established term or reference (see M 622 and M 630). Example:

   The term kacapi already existed in LCMPT and referred to a type of plucked lute. When a term for a type of zither called the kacapi was proposed, both were qualified. A proposal was made to revise the existing term kacapi to kacapi (plucked lute), and the new term kacapi (zither) was proposed at the same time.

2. Phrases vs. qualifiers. In some cases the parenthetical qualifier can be avoided by adding an adjectival qualifier to create a phrase instead. Prefer phrases of this type to parenthetical qualifiers. Example:

   plucked lute
   not lute (plucked)

3. Choice of qualifier. Match the parenthetical qualifier to the BT whenever possible. Example:

   yoochin (dulcimer)
   BT dulcimer

The geographic origin of the medium of performance may be used as the qualifier if it is the only viable way to disambiguate among homonyms. Example:

   setār (Iranian instrument)