BACKGROUND: *Hierarchical references represent levels of superordination and subordination. In LCDGT they are indicated by the notations narrower term (NT) and broader term (BT). Terms in LCDGT display the genus/species (a.k.a. class/class member) relationship. Examples:*

> **Catholics**
> BT Christians
>
> **Fighter pilots**
> BT Military air pilots

Only the BTs are explicitly included in LCDGT authority records; the NTs are computer-generated for display. Example:

> **Nurses**
> BT Medical personnel
>   *[explicitly coded]*
>
> **Medical personnel**
> NT Nurses
>   *[computer-generated]*

This instruction sheet provides general guidelines on assigning BTs. For specific information about terms in particular categories, see the instruction sheet for the category (e.g., L 550, Religion category).

1. General rule. Make one or more BT references when one group is by definition part of another, following the general principle above. Also follow the guidelines for making BT references for particular types of terms that are given in specific instruction sheets for the categories. *Examples:*

> **Marines**
> BT Soldiers
>
> **New Hampshirites**
> BT Americans
>
> **Children of gay men**
> <u>not</u> BT Children
>   *[Although **Children of gay men** appears to refer to people under thirteen years of age, the term refers to any child of gay men, including those who have reached adulthood. The BT **Children** is therefore not appropriate.]*

1. General rule. (Continued)

Link a new term only to the next broader term in the logical hierarchy by means of a BT. *Example:*

> **Watercolorists**
> BT Painters

> *[not* **Watercolorists**
> BT Artists
> BT Painters*]*

2. Number of BTs.

> *a. General rule.* Demographic group terms may have a single BT, multiple BTs, or no BT at all; that is, terms may be orphans.

> *Note:* Most terms have a single BT or are orphans.

> *(1) Single BT.* Assign one BT when the term is intrinsically part of a single, broader, demographic group that is in the same category. *Examples:*

> > **Virginians**
> > BT Americans
> > *[Virginians and Americans are both in the Nationality/Regional category.]*

> > **Greek Americans**
> > *not* BT Americans
> > *[***Greek Americans*** is in the Ethnic/Cultural category, and* ***Americans*** *is in the National/Regional category. They do not have a hierarchical relationship.]*

> *(2) Multiple BTs.* Assign multiple BTs when the term is intrinsically part of two or more groups. The BTs may be from different categories. See L 465 for general guidelines on assigning categories. *Examples:*

> > **Boys**
> > BT Children
> > BT Males

> > **Librarians**
> > BT Information scientists
> > BT Library employees

2. Number of BTs.

a. General rule. *(Continued)*

(3) Orphan terms. Assign no BTs when the term is not intrinsically part of another established demographic group. Generally, do not attempt to establish broader terms only to fill hierarchical gaps. Instead, bring related terms together through inverted UFs when possible (see L 473). *Examples:*

> **Business school students**
> UF Students, Business school
> > *[Business school students are by definition students, but a general term for students is not authorized because it is unlikely that the creators or contributors of a resource will be students of all levels, in all disciplines, or that students in general will be the intended audience of a resource. Instead, all demographic group terms for students are collocated by means of inverted UFs.]*

> **Ukrainian speakers**
> > *[Ukrainian is a Slavic language, but terms for language groups are not generally established in LCDGT; a BT is not assigned.]*

3. Revising existing BTs. When establishing a new term as an intermediate term in a hierarchy, add the new term as a BT to the authority records for all existing narrower ones, and delete any BTs that link any existing terms to terms broader than the newly-established intermediate term. *Example:*

The terms **College freshmen**, **College sophomores**, **College juniors**, and **College seniors** were assigned the BT **College students**. When **Undergraduates** was proposed due to literary warrant, the BTs on the existing terms for **College freshmen**, etc., were cancelled and the BT **Undergraduates** assigned, resulting in the following hierarchy:

College students
NT Undergraduates

Undergraduates
NT College freshmen
NT College juniors
NT College seniors
NT College sophomores