BACKGROUND: This instruction sheet provides Library of Congress catalogers with policy guidelines for assigning subject headings to serials. For information on classifying serials, see F 210.

1. General rule. Assign a full set of subject headings in accordance with normal guidelines. Choose headings that characterize the scope and intent of the serial as a whole, not headings that would be appropriate only for the content of the specific issue(s) at hand.

2. Serials linked to previously cataloged serials. Assign appropriate and valid subject headings without regard to the headings assigned to previously cataloged serials that are linked to the new serial, even if the numbering continues from one to another. The subject headings that were assigned to the previously cataloged serial may be corrected or updated if necessary, but the headings assigned to the earlier and later serials need not be exactly the same.

3. The subdivision -Periodicals. Use the form subdivision -Periodicals according to the guidelines provided in H 1927.