
Library of Congress Classification

Module 12.3 Assigning Literary Author Numbers

Policy, Training, and Cooperative Programs Division
Library of Congress
September 2019

Introduction

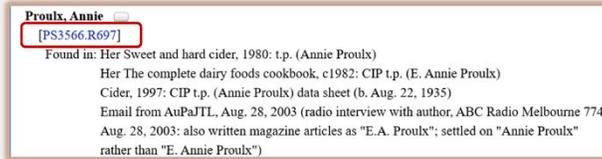
- In the previous module
 - Classifying individual literary authors
 - Including description of literary author numbers
- In this module
 - Assigning literary author numbers

In the previous module, we explained the policies for classifying individual literary authors – they are classed first by language, for example. We also defined literary author numbers.

In this module, we will explain how to assign literary author numbers.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the name authority record
 - Usually includes the literary author number



Proulx, Annie
[PS3566.R697]
Found in: Her Sweet and hard cider, 1980: t.p. (Annie Proulx)
Her The complete dairy foods cookbook, c1982: CIP t.p. (E. Annie Proulx)
Cider, 1997: CIP t.p. (Annie Proulx) data sheet (b. Aug. 22, 1935)
Email from AuPaJTL, Aug. 28, 2003 (radio interview with author, ABC Radio Melbourne 774,
Aug. 28, 2003: also written magazine articles as "E.A. Proulx"; settled on "Annie Proulx"
rather than "E. Annie Proulx")

The first step when classifying a work by an individual literary author is to consult the name authority file. If LC has assigned a number to the author, the number should be listed in the author's personal name authority record. We saw the example of Annie Proulx in the previous module. Her literary author number is provided in her authority record and is PS3566.R697.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the name authority record
 - Usually includes the literary author number

Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 1806-1861

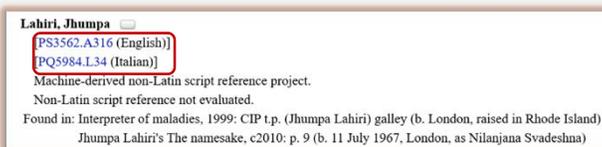
[PR4180-4198]

Machine-derived non-Latin script reference project.
Non-Latin script reference not evaluated.
Found in: Her Sonette aus dem Portuguesischen, 1991: t.p. (Elizabeth Barrett-Browning)
Her Poems, 1857: t.p. (Elizabeth Barrett Browning) half-title (Mrs. Browning)

If the literary author number is a span of numbers, the name authority record provides the span.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the name authority record
 - Usually includes the literary author number



Lahiri, Jhumpa

PS3562.A316 (English)

PQ5984.L34 (Italian)

Machine-derived non-Latin script reference project.
Non-Latin script reference not evaluated.

Found in: Interpreter of maladies, 1999: CIP t.p. (Jhumpa Lahiri) galley (b. London, raised in Rhode Island)
Jhumpa Lahiri's The namesake, c2010: p. 9 (b. 11 July 1967, London, as Nilanjana Svadeshna)

And if the author writes in more than one language, the literary author number for each language will be provided, if it has been assigned. The numbers are qualified by the language to which each refers.

Even if you find the literary author number in the name authority file, you need to consult the schedule. Only the schedule will instruct you on the correct table to use. We will discuss tables in the next module.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the name authority record
 - Usually includes the literary author number
 - Assigned by LC

053 #0 \$a [number]

053 #0 \$a PS3517.S73

Be careful when you use a literary author number from the name authority record. Most of the literary author numbers that appear are assigned by LC. If you are using the MARC format, you can recognize LC-assigned literary author numbers by the coding of the second indicator of the 053 field. It will be a 0 (zero).

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the name authority record
 - Usually includes the literary author number
 - Assigned by LC

053 #0 \$a [number]
053 #0 \$a PS3517.S73

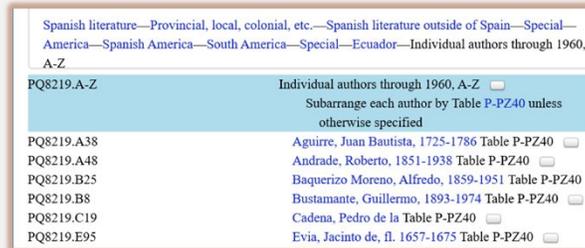
- Assigned by another library

053 #4 \$a [number] \$5 [MARC organization code]
053 #4 \$a PS3517.S572 \$5 QwertY

Other libraries may add their local literary author numbers to the records. If they do, the second indicator of the 053 field will be a 4 and the library's MARC organization code will appear in a subfield \$5.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the schedules
 - Most authors are not listed



The screenshot shows a schedule for Spanish literature. The title is "Spanish literature—Provincial, local, colonial, etc.—Spanish literature outside of Spain—Special—America—Spanish America—South America—Special—Ecuador—Individual authors through 1960, A-Z". Below the title is a table with two columns: call numbers and author names with subarrangement instructions. The call numbers are PQ8219.A-Z, PQ8219.A38, PQ8219.A48, PQ8219.B25, PQ8219.B8, PQ8219.C19, and PQ8219.E95. The author names and instructions are: Aguirre, Juan Bautista, 1725-1786 Table P-PZ40; Andrade, Roberto, 1851-1938 Table P-PZ40; Baquerizo Moreno, Alfredo, 1859-1951 Table P-PZ40; Bustamante, Guillermo, 1893-1974 Table P-PZ40; Cadena, Pedro de la Table P-PZ40; and Evia, Jacinto de, fl. 1657-1675 Table P-PZ40. There are checkboxes next to each author name.

PQ8219.A-Z	Individual authors through 1960, A-Z <input type="checkbox"/> Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40 unless otherwise specified
PQ8219.A38	Aguirre, Juan Bautista, 1725-1786 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.A48	Andrade, Roberto, 1851-1938 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.B25	Baquerizo Moreno, Alfredo, 1859-1951 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.B8	Bustamante, Guillermo, 1893-1974 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.C19	Cadena, Pedro de la Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.E95	Evia, Jacinto de, fl. 1657-1675 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>

If there is not a literary author number in the name authority record, consult the schedule. The number may be in the schedule, but was just never input into the authority record. If you find the number in the schedule, use it.

To consult the schedule, you need to know what language the author uses, and depending on the schedule you may need to know the time period and/or geographic location of the author.

The example on your screen is a partial list of authors from Ecuador who began their literary production before 1960. If you were cataloging a work by Guillermo Bustamante, you would assign PQ8219.B8, and subarrange according to the instructions in Table P-PZ40.

Only a small number of individual literary authors are printed in the schedule. The conditions under which authors' numbers are printed are provided in CSM instruction sheet F 632.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the catalog
 - Predict the number based on the schedules

If neither the schedules nor the name authority file includes the literary author number that you need, consult the catalog to see if one has been assigned. You have already consulted the schedules, so you know the general area where the author should be classified. Use that information to predict the number and search the catalog for it.

If you find the literary author number, assign it. If you work at the Library of Congress, you should add the number to the name authority record for that author.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the catalog
 - Predict the number based on the schedules

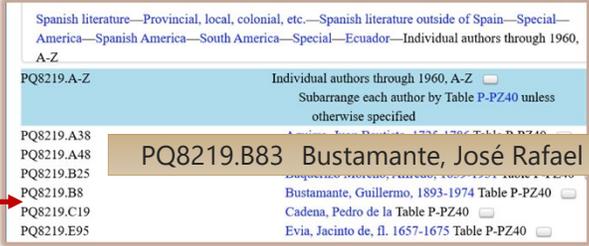
Spanish literature—Provincial, local, colonial, etc.—Spanish literature outside of Spain—Special—America—Spanish America—South America—Special—Ecuador—Individual authors through 1960, A-Z	
PQ8219.A-Z	Individual authors through 1960, A-Z <input type="checkbox"/> Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40 unless otherwise specified
PQ8219.A38	Aguirre, Juan Bautista, 1725-1786 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.A48	Andrade, Roberto, 1851-1938 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.B25	Baquerizo Moreno, Alfredo, 1859-1951 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.B88	Bustamante, Guillermo, 1893-1974 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.C19	Cadena, Pedro de la Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PQ8219.E95	Evia, Jacinto de, fl. 1657-1675 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>

Say that you are cataloging a resource by José Rafael Bustamante, who is an Ecuadorian author who wrote in Spanish before 1960.

His name authority record does not include his literary author number, and neither does the schedule. However, we can determine that he should be classified in PQ8219.B.

Finding a Previously Assigned Number

- Consult the catalog
 - Predict the number based on the schedules



Spanish literature—Provincial, local, colonial, etc.—Spanish literature outside of Spain—Special—America—Spanish America—South America—Special—Ecuador—Individual authors through 1960, A-Z	
PQ8219.A-Z	Individual authors through 1960, A-Z <input type="checkbox"/> Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40 unless otherwise specified
PQ8219.A38	
PQ8219.A48	
PQ8219.B25	
PQ8219.B8	
PQ8219.C19	
PQ8219.E95	

Searching the catalog shows that he has already been assigned the number BQ8219.B83.

Now, you can find the same information by searching the catalog by the personal name heading, but you should always verify any number that you find that way against the schedule to make sure that the number is in the correct place. You should also search the catalog for that classification number to ensure that it allows the author to file alphabetically with the other authors.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Assign a cutter that fits alphabetically relative to the other cutters already assigned
- Author represented by a whole number
 - Propose the number

If you have consulted the schedule, the name authority record, and the catalog and it is clear that a literary author number has not been assigned yet, you will need to create one.

If the author's name is represented by a cutter, you should assign a cutter that fits alphabetically, relative to the other authors already classified in that number. If you work at LC or your library is a member of SACO, you need to make a proposal in some situations, which are explained in CSM instruction sheet F 632. If you work at the Library of Congress and you do not need to make a proposal, *and* the number you create is a literary author number – that is, the first cutter represents the author's name and it is not in the PZ schedule – add the number to the name authority record.

A proposal is necessary if the author is represented by a whole number or a range of numbers. When this occurs, the author is usually from the 19th century or earlier.

Creating a Literary Author Number

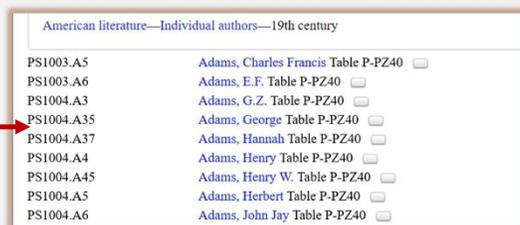
- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - May be based on
 - First letter of name
 - Second letter of name
 - Some other element
 - Schedule indicates the basis for the cutter

Literary author numbers for current authors almost always include a cutter representing the name, and those types of numbers almost never require a proposal.

The letter in the cutter for a literary author may be the first letter of the name, the second letter, or a different element altogether. The schedule indicates what the cutter should be based on.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on first letter of name



American literature—Individual authors—19th century	
PS1003.A5	Adams, Charles Francis Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1003.A6	Adams, E.F. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A3	Adams, G.Z. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A35	Adams, George Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A37	Adams, Hannah Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A4	Adams, Henry Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A45	Adams, Henry W. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A5	Adams, Herbert Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A6	Adams, John Jay Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>

Here is a segment of the list of 19th century American authors from the PS schedule.

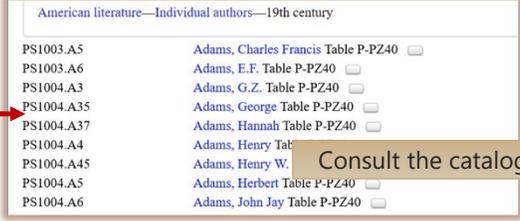
Say that you had to fit Hank Adams between George and Hannah Adams.

You would assign PS1004, and then compare the name with the cutter.

Adams has been assigned cutters that begin with an A, so you would do the same.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on first letter of name



American literature—Individual authors—19th century	
PS1003.A5	Adams, Charles Francis Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1003.A6	Adams, E.F. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A3	Adams, G.Z. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A35	Adams, George Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A37	Adams, Hannah Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A4	Adams, Henry Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A45	Adams, Henry W. Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A5	Adams, Herbert Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PS1004.A6	Adams, John Jay Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>

Consult the catalog!

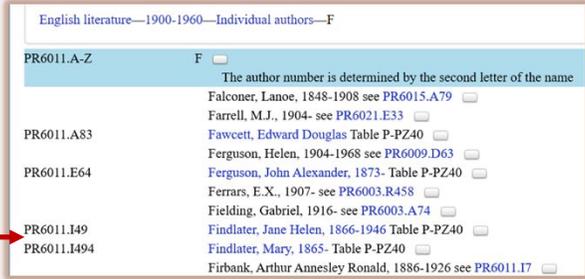
You should check the catalog to determine what the cutter should be, because – as we know – most literary author numbers are not printed in the schedules.

There may in fact be seven other authors between George and Hannah, and you have to fit yours into the proper place alphabetically.

Here, though, the cutter follows the general rules, which is to use the first letter of the name as the letter in the cutter. Pretty easy, right?

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on second letter of name



English literature—1900-1960—Individual authors—F

PR6011.A-Z	F
	The author number is determined by the second letter of the name
	Falconer, Lanoë, 1848-1908 see PR6015.A79
	Farrell, M.J., 1904- see PR6021.E33
PR6011.A83	Fawcett, Edward Douglas Table P-PZ40
	Ferguson, Helen, 1904-1968 see PR6009.D63
PR6011.E64	Ferguson, John Alexander, 1873- Table P-PZ40
	Ferrars, E.X., 1907- see PR6003.R458
	Fielding, Gabriel, 1916- see PR6003.A74
PR6011.I49	Findlater, Jane Helen, 1866-1946 Table P-PZ40
PR6011.I494	Findlater, Mary, 1865- Table P-PZ40
	Firbank, Arthur Annesley Ronald, 1886-1926 see PR6011.I7

Now say that you are creating a literary author number for an author named Louise Findlater, who was British and wrote in English in the first part of the 20th century.

She has to fit between Jane Helen and Mary Findlater. Of course, you would check the catalog to find a cutter that fits.

But notice that the cutter begins with an “I,” not an “F,” as you might expect. It is due to the instruction at the beginning of this subhierarchy.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on second letter of name

PR6011.A-Z	F
	Falconer, Lanoe, 1848-1908 see PR6015.A79
	Farrell, M.J., 1904- see PR6021.E33
	Fawcett, Edward Douglas Table P-PZ40
PR6011.A83	Ferguson, Helen, 1904-1968 see PR6009.D63
PR6011.E64	Ferguson, John Alexander, 1873- Table P-PZ40
	Ferrars, E.X., 1907- see PR6003.R458
	Fielding, Gabriel, 1916- see PR6003.A74
PR6011.I49	Findlater, Jane Helen, 1866-1946 Table P-PZ40
PR6011.I494	Findlater, Mary, 1865- Table P-PZ40
	Firbank, Arthur Annesley Ronald, 1886-1926 see PR6011.I7

It says, “The author number is determined by the second letter of the name.”

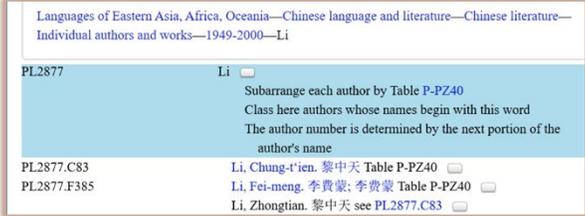
Why use the second letter? Because the number PR6011 already represents the first letter of the name, F. If we cattered by F, the cutter for every author in this number would start with an F, which would make a very crowded catalog and also be redundant. Cuttering based on the second letter spaces the authors out.

Therefore, ignore the F for cattering and use the second letter. In the case of Louise Findlater, it is an “I.”

The first *digit* in the cutter represents the third *letter* of the name and the second digit represents the fourth letter in the name. Of course, in this example you will not use the cutter table because you have to fit Louise between .I49 and .I494 – or do you? As always, consult the catalog. You do not know what other authors named Findlater are already classed in this number!

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on some other element



The screenshot shows a classification table for Chinese literature authors with the surname Li. The table is titled "Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Chinese language and literature—Chinese literature—Individual authors and works—1949-2000—Li". It lists the classification number PL2877 and the cutter Li. Below this, there are instructions: "Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40", "Class here authors whose names begin with this word", and "The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name". The table also lists specific authors and their classification numbers: PL2877.C83 for Li, Chung-t'ien (黎中天), PL2877.F385 for Li, Fei-meng (李费蒙), and Li, Zhongtian (黎中天) which refers to PL2877.C83.

Classification Number	Author Name	Notes
PL2877	Li	Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40 Class here authors whose names begin with this word The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name
PL2877.C83	Li, Chung-t'ien. 黎中天	Table P-PZ40
PL2877.F385	Li, Fei-meng. 李费蒙; 李费蒙	Table P-PZ40
	Li, Zhongtian. 黎中天	see PL2877.C83

Sometimes the cutter is based on some other element of the name.

PL2877 represents Chinese authors of the late 20th century whose surname is Li.

Creating a Literary Author Number

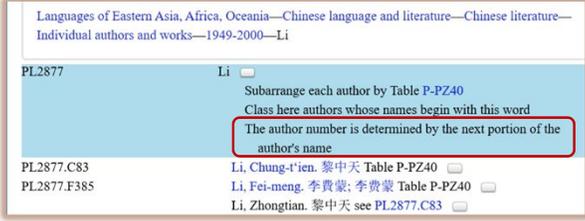
- Author's name represented by a cutter
- Based on some other element

Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Chinese language and literature—Chinese literature— Individual authors and works—1949-2000—Li	
PL2877	Li <input type="checkbox"/>
	Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40
	Class here authors whose names begin with this word
	The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name
PL2877.C83	Li, Chung-t'ien. 黎中天 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
PL2877.F385	Li, Fei-meng. 李费蒙; 李费蒙 Table P-PZ40 <input type="checkbox"/>
	Li, Zhongtian. 黎中天 see PL2877.C83 <input type="checkbox"/>

Notice the instruction: “Class here authors whose names begin with this word.”

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on some other element



The screenshot shows a classification table for 'Li' authors. The table is titled 'Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Chinese language and literature—Chinese literature—Individual authors and works—1949-2000—Li'. The main heading is 'Li' with a checkbox. Below it, there are instructions: 'Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40', 'Class here authors whose names begin with this word', and 'The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name'. A red box highlights the last instruction. Below the instructions, there are three rows of classification numbers and author names with checkboxes:

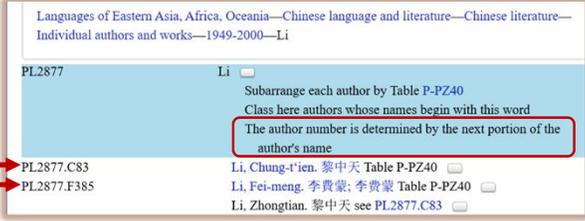
Classification Number	Author Name	Table Reference	Checkbox
PL2877	Li		<input type="checkbox"/>
PL2877.C83	Li, Chung-i'en. 黎中天	Table P-PZ40	<input type="checkbox"/>
PL2877.F385	Li, Fei-meng. 李费蒙; 李费蒙	Table P-PZ40	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Li, Zhongtian. 黎中天	see PL2877.C83	<input type="checkbox"/>

Now read the second instruction: “The author number is determined by the next portion of the author’s name.”

In other words, skip the surname altogether and use the forename for the cutter.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
- Based on some other element



The screenshot shows a classification screen for 'Li' under the heading 'Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Chinese language and literature—Chinese literature—Individual authors and works—1949-2000—Li'. A blue box highlights the 'Li' cutter and its instructions: 'Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40' and 'Class here authors whose names begin with this word'. A red box highlights the instruction 'The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name'. Below this, a list of authors is shown with their corresponding classification numbers and checkboxes:

Classification Number	Author Name	Table Reference	Checkbox
PL2877.C83	Li, Chung-i'ien. 黎中天	Table P-PZ40	<input type="checkbox"/>
PL2877.F385	Li, Fei-meng. 李费蒙; 李费蒙	Table P-PZ40	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Li, Zhongtian. 黎中天	see PL2877.C83	<input type="checkbox"/>

The practical effect is to create an alphabetical list of authors named Li, organized by forename.

You can see the results on the screen: PL2877.C83 and PL2877.F385.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on some other element

PL2877 Li
Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40
Class here authors whose names begin with this word
The author number is determined by the next portion of the author's name

PL2877.C83 Li, Chung-t'ien. 黎中天 Table P-PZ40
PL2877.F385 Li, Fei-meng. 李贲蒙; 李贲蒙 Table P-PZ40
Li, Zhongtian. 黎中天 see PL2877.C83

PL2878 Lia - Lit
The author number is determined by the third letter of the name
Subarrange each author by Table P-PZ40

PL2878.N1479 Lin, Shih-ts'un. 1915- 林遠存; 林遠存 Table P-PZ40

In some cases, the third letter of the name is used. PL2878 is used for authors of Chinese literature from the second half of the 20th century whose surnames begin with Lia-Lit.

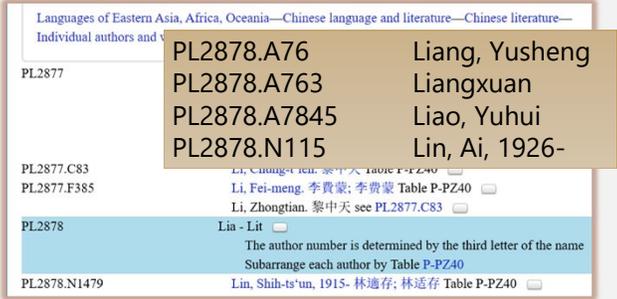
We have already seen that PL2877 is for authors whose surname is Li.

This next number is for authors whose names *begin* with the letters L-I.

Because the first *two* characters are the same as in the preceding number, the third letter of the surname is used as the basis of the cutter.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
- Based on some other element



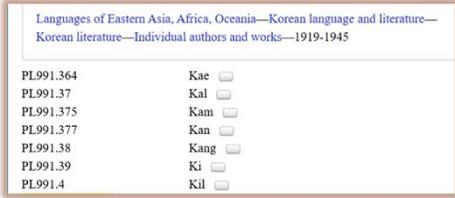
The screenshot shows a list of authors and their corresponding literary author numbers. A callout box highlights the author numbers and names for Liang, Yusheng; Liangxuan; Liao, Yuhui; and Lin, Ai, 1926-.

Author Name	Literary Author Number
Liang, Yusheng	PL2878.A76
Liangxuan	PL2878.A763
Liao, Yuhui	PL2878.A7845
Lin, Ai, 1926-	PL2878.N115

Again, this policy leads to an alphabetical list of authors, as you can see in this selection of literary author numbers assigned at the Library of Congress.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on some other element



The screenshot shows a classification schedule for Korean literature authors. The title is "Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Korean language and literature—Korean literature—Individual authors and works—1919-1945". Below the title is a list of classification numbers and their corresponding cutters, each with a small square box next to the cutter name.

Classification Number	Cutter
PL991.364	Kae
PL991.37	Kal
PL991.375	Kam
PL991.377	Kan
PL991.38	Kang
PL991.39	Ki
PL991.4	Kil

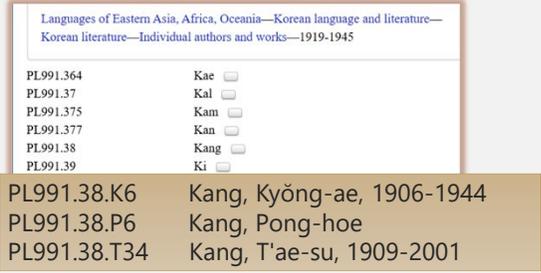
Here is one more example.

It is a list of classification numbers for individual authors of early 20th century Korean literature. Each classification number – PL991.375, PL991.377, etc., represents a Korean surname.

We hope that by now the culling policy for these numbers is clear to you. Since each number represents a surname, basing the cutter on the surname would be redundant. Instead, we should assign a cutter based on the next portion of the name, as we did with Li in the Chinese literature schedule.

Creating a Literary Author Number

- Author's name represented by a cutter
 - Based on some other element



The screenshot shows a search interface for the Library of Congress Classification. The title is "Languages of Eastern Asia, Africa, Oceania—Korean language and literature—Korean literature—Individual authors and works—1919-1945". Below the title is a list of call numbers and their corresponding authors. The results are:

PL991.364	Kae <input type="checkbox"/>
PL991.37	Kal <input type="checkbox"/>
PL991.375	Kam <input type="checkbox"/>
PL991.377	Kan <input type="checkbox"/>
PL991.38	Kang <input type="checkbox"/>
PL991.39	Ki <input type="checkbox"/>

Below the search results, a highlighted box shows the following call numbers and authors:

PL991.38.K6	Kang, Kyöng-ae, 1906-1944
PL991.38.P6	Kang, Pong-hoe
PL991.38.T34	Kang, T'ae-su, 1909-2001

You can see the results for the surname Kang.

In the next module we will demonstrate how to subarrange the works of a literary author.

Exercises

•=====•
Click when you are ready to begin