Test Assertions Part 2 - Test Assertion Markup Language Version 1.0

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Abstract:
This defines a markup for writing test assertions.
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The non-normative errata page for this specification is located at [http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tag/](http://www.oasis-open.org/committees/tag/).
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1 Introduction

[All text is normative unless otherwise indicated.]

1.1 Terminology

Within this specification, the key words "shall", "shall not", "should", "should not" and "may" are to be interpreted as described in Annex H of [ISO/IEC Directives] if they appear in bold letters.

1.2 Normative References


1.3 Non-normative References

2 Markup Representation of Test Assertions

2.1 Binding to Test Assertions, Part 1 Test Assertions Model

This specification defines markup for test assertions conforming to the model defined in the OASIS TAG TC Test Assertions Part 1, Test Assertions Model [TAM] both Section 3 (Test Assertion) and Section 4 (Test Assertion Set).

Each 'class' in the Test Assertions Model is represented by an element of the same name in the Test Assertion Markup Language, with exceptions as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Name</th>
<th>Markup Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>variable</td>
<td>var</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>language</td>
<td>lg</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are classes in the Test Assertions Model [TAM] which are associated with the class 'shared'. These classes are suffixed with 'Shared' to distinguish them from classes of the same name associated with the 'testAssertion' class. In the Test Assertion Markup Language the names of the complex types which correspond to these 'shared' classes include the 'Shared' suffix while the corresponding element names do not.

All element and attributes names are given in lower camel case. Type names consist of the element name with the suffix '_type' appended.

Where the model specifies an attribute named 'content', usually with a base datatype 'string', the markup provides for this either with a base type of xsd:string assigned to an element's type (or a datatype derived from xsd:string such as xsd:normalizedString or xsd:token) or by allowing mixed content for the element's type.

Markup cardinalities are the same as those specified in the model.

Elements 'testAssertion', 'testAssertionSet' and 'testAssertionDocumentHeader' are declared as global elements and can be used as top level elements in a markup instance; all other elements are declared locally and are not valid as top level elements in a markup instance.

2.2 Convention Used for Representing the XML Markup

XML Representation:

```xml
<example
  id = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  text ? = 'xsd:string'>
  Content: Child ?, Sibling *, 'xsd:Any' *
</example>
```

In the example representation above there is an element called 'example' (not a real element, just an example to illustrate the XML representation convention used in this specification). The element has a mandatory attribute, shown without any following symbolic characters to signify that it is mandatory, called 'id' whose content type is the W3C XML Schema [XSD2] datatype 'normalizedString', shown as 'normalizedString' prefixed with the letters 'xsd:' to denote a W3C XML Schema datatype. The element called 'example' has another attribute named 'text' which is shown to be optional by the symbol '?' after the name: 'text ?'. The 'example' element has element children called 'Child' and 'Sibling'
listed after the label 'Content:' in italics. The '*' asterisk character signifies that the child element 'Sibling' has multiple cardinality and is optional. The '?' question mark character after the child element 'Child' signifies that this element is optional. If the 'example' element did not have elements as children but if its content had been of datatype 'integer' then it the content would have been represented as 'Content: xsd:integer'.

Finally, the example contains in the Content an 'xsd:any' which indicates that the element concerned can be extended with zero or more additional elements as long as they do not belong to the same namespace as the present markup. In the Test Assertion Markup Language these extra elements will not be validated by W3C XML Schema validation, they are skipped.

XML Representation:

```
<anotherExample
    choice ? = 1|2
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: Child +, Next, (Sibling|Other) ?
</anotherExample>
```

In the next example, above, an element called 'anotherExample' has an optional attribute named 'choice' whose content can be either the literal value '1' or the literal value '2'. The child element named 'Child' is both mandatory and multiple cardinality, symbolized by the plus character '+' after the name. Another child element follows the element called 'Child' and is mandatory and singular cardinality, denoted by the absence of any character following the name. There is also a choice of one of two possible other child elements named 'Sibling' and 'Other', the choice being denoted by a single vertical line character between the two elements and the group of choices being shown with round brackets surrounding these two choices. Following the brackets there is a '?:' question-mark character to denote that either of these is optional. The commas separating the child members of the 'Content' denote that there is a sequence. Spaces separating the child element names would denote that there is no required sequence. This is the convention used throughout this specification of the semantics and usage of the Test Assertion Markup Language.

The full definition of the syntax of the markup language is more formally stated in the XML Schema in Section 3. An XML instance or fragment conforming to this markup shall be valid according to the XML Schema designated as normative for this specification (see the conformance clause stated in Section 4).

The example contains the following note in the XML representation

```
{any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
```

and this indicates that the element concerned can be assigned any additional attributes as long as they do not belong to the same namespace as the present markup. In the Test Assertion Markup Language these extra attributes will not be validated by W3C XML Schema validation, they are skipped.

NOTE:

Valid instances of XML representations defined here may omit optional parts as indicated with "?" and "*" (examples: testAssertion/target?, testAssertion/Predicate?). However, test assertion instances so represented shall comply with the normative cardinality requirements specified in the OASIS TAG TC Test Assertions Part 1, Test Assertions Model [TAM]. This actually requires in some cases that the optional elements in the XML representation be specified in other ways outside of this particular XML fragment (take, for example, an "implicit" test assertion target).

---

¹OASIS TAG TC Test Assertions Part 1, Test Assertions Model [TAM] Section 3.1, "Implicit Test Assertion Parts"
2.3 Test Assertion

testAssertion

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertion
    id ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    schemaVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: normativeSource ?, target ?, prerequisite ?, predicate ?,
             prescription ?, description ?, tag *, var *,
             report *, 'xsd:Any' *
</testAssertion>
```

A test assertion **shall** have a test assertion identifier unless it is implicit. The 'id' attribute **may** be implicit (by some special provision in a particular profile or implementation of the Test Assertion Markup Language, for example). If no provision is made for an implicit identifier to be assigned to a test assertion, a test assertion identifier **shall** be provided for every test assertion using the 'id' attribute of the 'testAssertion' element.

Like many of the elements in the Test Assertion Markup Language, the testAssertion element has a language attribute, 'lg'. This attribute is used to explicitly declare which prose or expression language is used for the logical expressions in the associated structure. It is possible to declare the language for an individual part of a test assertion such as the predicate or the prerequisite (discussed later). Declaring the language for the test assertion as a whole using the 'lg' attribute of the testAssertion element **shall** mean that every part in the test assertion uses that language for its expression. A profile **may** specify a set of language identifiers for use with this attribute.

An instance **may** have the element named 'testAssertion' as the top element. Such an instance or fragment **may** be a valid test assertion embedded within other markup such as the markup of a specification in which test assertions are embedded.

The role of a testAssertion element as a top level element is the reason that the testAssertion element has an attribute named 'schemaVersionId'. The testAssertion element 'schemaVersionId' **should** be used as part of the default Test Assertion Markup Language (version 1) version methodology which assigns a version identifier to every version of the markup language published schema. The version methodology allows that several versions of the schema **may** use the same namespace when they are considered to be compatible with previous versions using that namespace. These versions are denoted 'minor versions' while 'major versions' of the markup schema have differing namespaces. Test Assertion Markup Language schema 'minor versions' **should** be distinguished in the element at the top level of an XML instance or fragment (such as a fragment embedded within another markup) by the provision of a version identifier in the 'schemaVersionId' attribute of this element when that top level element is either the 'testAssertion' or 'testAssertionSet' element.

Each test assertion declares a normative source, a target and a predicate and for this reason the testAssertion element has child elements normativeSource, target and predicate. Conformance to the Test Assertions Model [TAM] requires that a test assertion **shall** have a normative source, a target and a predicate unless either or all of these are implicit. So the normativeSource, target and predicate elements **may** be implicit and also may be inherited from a test assertion set or document ancestor of the test assertion (specified later). Each conforming implementation of the Test Assertion Markup Language **should** ensure that a normative source, a target and a predicate are implicitly or explicitly provided for each test assertion.

A test assertion may also declare a prerequisite (either as a single entity comprising all prerequisites together or multiple prerequisites), a prescription level and any number of tags. For this the testAssertion element has optional child elements prerequisite, prescription and tag.
'tag' element has optional, multiple occurrence. Conformance to the Test Assertions Model [TAM] requires that a test assertion may have prerequisite(s), prescription level and tags, either implicitly or explicitly. It also specifies a part called a variable. The markup provides an implementation of the guidelines' variable component as an element which it calls 'var'.

One additional, optional element added for convenience to the usability of the markup and for tool support is 'report'. It is not a requirement of the Test Assertions Model [TAM] but is a allowed as a conforming extension.

**normativeSource**

XML Representation:
<normativeSource
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: comment ?, interpretation ?, refSourceItem *, textSourceItem *, derivedSourceItem *
   {this element also allows mixed content so text can be included directly as part of the main element's content}
</normativeSource>

The normative source includes an element named 'refSourceItem' so that a reference may be used to point to the original text as it exists in the specification itself.

XML Representation:
<refSourceItem
   name ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   uri ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   documentId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   versionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   revisionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   dateString ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceType ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceTypeVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceTypeSchemaId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceTypeSchemaVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   resourceTypeProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: xsd:string
</refSourceItem>

The refSourceItem element provides for metadata which may be used to specify the identification of a normative source item resource. The uri attribute may contain a URL or URI pointing to the location of the source item. The other metadata attributes includes information about the kind of resource involved and most appropriately its provenance (such as authorship identifiers to certify its authenticity) and version, etc.

An alternative to using a reference to point to the normative source in a specification is to actually quote verbatim the source item so the normative source includes an element named 'textSourceItem' which allows a direct, verbatim quote of the specification text.

XML Representation:
<textSourceItem
   extension ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   name ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: xsd:string
An alternative again to quoting verbatim the source item is to derive a form of words equivalent in meaning to the source item and for this the normative source includes an element named 'derivedSourceItem'. This is particularly useful when the source consists of tables, diagrams, graphs or text spread over several parts of the specification. The derivedSourceItem element provides for metadata which may be used to specify the identification of the normative source item resource from which the source information has been derived. The uri attribute may contain a URL or URI pointing to the location of the source item. The other metadata attributes includes information about the kind of resource involved and most appropriately its provenance (such as authorship identifiers to certify its authenticity) and version, etc.

XML Representation:
<derivedSourceItem
  name ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  uri ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  documentId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  versionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  revisionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  dateString ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceType ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceTypeVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceTypeSchemaId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceTypeSchemaVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  resourceTypeProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: xsd:string
</derivedSourceItem>

XML Representation:
<comment
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString', 'xsd:Any' *
</comment>

The comment element may be used to simply add comments of any kind (or as further specified in a conformance profile for this markup or a customization thereof) to a normative source test assertion part.

XML Representation:
<interpretation
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</interpretation>

The interpretation element may be used to simply add an alternative description in prose of any kind (or as further specified in a conformance profile for this markup or a customization thereof) to a normative source test assertion part. This allows a prose expression to be added to improve human understanding of its logic.

target

XML Representation:
<target
  type ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  schemeRef ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</target>
A target can either be a specific item or a category of items. The 'target' element has a 'type' attribute which should be used to specify the target category, and this may be implemented using a controlled vocabulary, ontology or other classification or taxonomy system. Where the scheme for listing or categorizing these types is defined in a document, the identifier, URL or URI for this document may be associated with the target using the attribute named 'schemeRef'. A target 'schemeRef' attribute or, for a set of test assertions, a shared target 'schemeRef' attribute (see later) may be used in cases where the target type scheme is defined using an expression or prose definition within the test assertion or set of test assertions.

The target content is a normalized string. This may be an expression in a specialized formal expression language which may be specified using the 'lg' attribute or using a complete conformance profile for that particular use of the markup. The target shall be the subject of the test assertion predicate and, during implementation of the test assertion, it should be the subject (target) of the corresponding test(s).

prerequisite

XML Representation:

```xml
<prerequisite>
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</prerequisite>
```

The prerequisite may be expressed using a specialized formal expression language which may be specified using the 'lg' attribute or using a complete conformance profile for that particular use of the markup. The Test Assertions Model [TAM] specifies how the semantics of the test assertion depends on the value of the prerequisite. Section 3.3 states:

"With regard to a Target instance

- 'Target not qualified': if the Prerequisite (if any) evaluates to 'false' over a Target instance.
- 'Normative statement fulfilled [by the Target]': if the Prerequisite (if any) evaluates to 'true' over a Target instance, and the Predicate evaluates to "true".
- 'Normative statement not fulfilled [by the Target]': if the Prerequisite (if any) evaluates to 'true' over a Target instance, and the Predicate evaluates to 'false'.

A test assertion predicate shall be worded as an assertion, not as a requirement. Any 'MUST' or 'shall' keyword shall be absent from the predicate but reflected in the prescription level. The predicate has a clear Boolean value: Either the statement is true, or it is false for a particular target."

These semantics require that the prerequisite evaluates to a boolean logical true or false. The prerequisite element is optional in a test assertion (including where a test assertion prerequisite is inherited from an ancestor test assertion set), unless otherwise made mandatory using a conformance profile of a customization for the markup language. The value of the prerequisite element shall evaluate to true or false. The prerequisite expression shall be used to determine whether (true) or not (false) the target qualifies for the test assertion (in particular for the predicate of the test assertion). The evaluation of the test assertion shall conform to the semantics of the outcome of the test assertion specified normatively in the Test Assertions Model [TAM].

predicate

XML Representation:
The predicate **may** be expressed using a specialized formal expression language which **may** be specified using the 'lg' attribute or using a complete conformance profile for that particular use of the markup. The Test Assertions Model [TAM] specifies how the semantics of the test assertion depends on the value of the predicate (see ‘prerequisite’ section above). These semantics require that the predicate evaluates to a boolean logical true or false.

A predicate **shall** be specified for every test assertion. The manner of its expression **shall** include where a test assertion predicate is inherited from an ancestor test assertion set. Therefore the actual predicate element shall be optional as a direct child of a testAssertion element (as specified in the markup XML schema) unless otherwise made mandatory using a conformance profile of a customization for the markup language. The value of the predicate element **shall** evaluate to true or false. The predicate expression **shall** be used to determine whether (true) or not (false) the target passes the test assertion. As already stated (see ‘prerequisite’ above), the evaluation of the test assertion **shall** conform to the semantics of the outcome of the test assertion specified normatively in the Test Assertions Model [TAM].

### prescription

**XML Representation:**

```xml
<predicate
    lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</predicate>
```

The predicate **may** be expressed using a specialized formal expression language which **may** be specified using the 'lg' attribute or using a complete conformance profile for that particular use of the markup. The Test Assertions Model [TAM] specifies how the semantics of the test assertion depends on the value of the predicate (see ‘prerequisite’ section above). These semantics require that the predicate evaluates to a boolean logical true or false.

A predicate **shall** be specified for every test assertion. The manner of its expression **shall** include where a test assertion predicate is inherited from an ancestor test assertion set. Therefore the actual predicate element shall be optional as a direct child of a testAssertion element (as specified in the markup XML schema) unless otherwise made mandatory using a conformance profile of a customization for the markup language. The value of the predicate element **shall** evaluate to true or false. The predicate expression **shall** be used to determine whether (true) or not (false) the target passes the test assertion. As already stated (see ‘prerequisite’ above), the evaluation of the test assertion **shall** conform to the semantics of the outcome of the test assertion specified normatively in the Test Assertions Model [TAM].

### prescription

**XML Representation:**

```xml
<prescription
    level ? = mandatory|preferred|permitted
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</prescription>
```

The allowable values for the attribute 'level' of the element **may** be extended beyond the built-in values of mandatory, preferred and permitted. Custom values **may** be ignored by an implementation.

The prescription values correspond to the terms used in a specification to denote conformance requirements. [RFC 2119] terms conveying mandatory nature of a statement such as 'MUST' and 'MUST NOT' and in Annex H of [ISO/IEC Directives] terms 'shall', etc **shall** correspond to the prescription level value 'mandatory'. RFC2119 terms conveying optionality with preference such as 'SHOULD' and 'SHOULD NOT', 'RECOMMENDED', etc and ISO/IEC Directive terms 'should', etc **shall** correspond to the prescription level value 'preferred'. RFC2119 terms conveying optionality without preference 'MAY' and ISO/IEC Directive terms 'may', etc **shall** correspond to the prescription level value 'permitted'.

The RFC2119 terms for preference do not permit non-conformance without a reason and usually the same 'preferred' prescription level is acceptable but in some cases implementers **may** wish to make a distinction by making use of the extension facility and specify further enumeration values. The base datatype of any custom extended enumerations for prescription levels **shall** be W3C XML Schema [XSD2] datatype 'Qname'. Custom enumerations **should** be prefixed with a namespace prefix associated with a namespace declared in the markup. Default namespaces (without a prefix) **shall not** be used.

The prescription **shall not** affect the outcome semantics of the test assertion but **may** determine how the outcome affects conformance or otherwise of the implementation to a conformance profile or to the conformance clause of the specification.

Besides the use of the 'level' attribute, the element content (xsd:normalizedString) **may** be used to express further information regarding the prescription level using prose or as a logical expression.
**description**

XML Representation:

```xml
<description
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</description>
```

The `description` element may be used to add a description in prose of any kind (or as further specified in a conformance profile for this markup or a customization thereof) to a test assertion or set of test assertions. This may be especially useful when a test assertion is otherwise expressed purely in a specialized, formal, logical language which might not be intended for legibility to human readers; the description allows a prose expression to be added to such a test assertion to improve human understanding of its logic. It may also be used to explain the expressions used in a test assertion and to add comments.

**tag**

XML Representation:

```xml
<tag
   name = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</tag>
```

The Test Assertions Model [TAM] specifies the use of 'tags' assigned to a test assertion as a means to assign metadata and data of a similar nature. Special examples are to indicate to which versions of a specification the test assertion or set of test assertions applies and to specify that a test assertion or set of test assertions exist to define a particular normative property. The `tag` element of this markup may be used to attach such data to a test assertion or test assertion set. See below for the two special normative uses of this element.

**var**

XML Representation:

```xml
<var
   name = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</var>
```

The Test Assertions Model [TAM] specifies the use of variables to allow several parts of a test assertion or indeed several test assertions within a set to share a value between them. It also specifies how such variables may have their values supplied as parameters at a stage subsequent to the authoring of the test assertions. The `var` element of this markup may be used to implement variables as specified in the Test Assertions Model [TAM]. Their values may be declared with scope across specific test assertions by declaring the variables in the shared part of a set of test assertions of which all the test assertions in scope are members (either by reference to the test assertions or by their inclusion explicitly as descendants of the set or as otherwise specified for test assertion sets (see testAssertionSet section later, below). The variable, `var`, value may be used within a test assertion part expression using a notation such as `$variable1` where the corresponding variable is named 'variable1'. This is one method but others may be used instead.
The report element may be used to specify what messages and labels are included in any reports generated from any test cases based on the test assertion. It may also be used to specify which outcomes of the test cases result in which reports, so the report element is optional and of multiple cardinality in the testAssertion element.

The combination of allowing both mixed content (text can be interspersed with the XML tags) and extra elements from other namespaces ('xsd:any') means that the content of this element can be a mixture of text and, say, HTML or other simple formatting markup.

The attribute label shall allow values 'fail', 'pass' and 'notQualified' as content, corresponding to the standard possible outcomes defined in the Test Assertions Model [TAM]. Further values may be added which may be defined in a conformance profile.

The content of optional attribute message shall describe the assertion outcome stated in the attribute and this message may be used to provide a report with an error message. A more detailed diagnostic message may be provided in the content of the report element. Further attributes may be defined for the report element in a conformance profile.

The optional when attribute may be used to restrict, beyond the value label attribute, the circumstances which shall be true for the report to be generated. It shall contain an expression which evaluates to true or false.

2.4 Test Assertion Set

testAssertionSet

XML Representation:
<testAssertionSet
  id ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  schemaVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  date ? = 'xsd:date'
  time ? = 'xsd:time'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
</testAssertionSet>

The testAssertionSet element may be used to group together test assertions either by inclusion of the test assertion within the test assertion set of by references to their IDs.

An instance may have this as the top element.
A test assertion set may include any number of other test assertion sets. Care shall be taken to avoid infinite recursion: A test assertion set shall not include itself as an ancestor.

The testAssertionSet may be assigned an identifier using the 'id' attribute. This allows a drill down from the test assertion set through any ancestor test assertion sets to individual ancestor test assertions when referencing a test assertion or test assertion set.

A test assertion set may be used to wrap together all the test assertions in a document. In this case the testAssertionDocumentHeader may be used once within a document either on its own or as a direct child of the outermost testAssertionSet element. See section later on testAssertionDocumentHeader.

Another purpose of the test assertion set is that it may be used to provide a set of shared test assertion parts and their values in the same way to more than one test assertion (either to limit repetition or to ensure that the values correspond or to provide scope for variables across such test assertions). (See the section on the 'shared' element below.)

The testAssertionSelector child element may be used when test assertions are contained within a document but outside of the test assertion set and these test assertions may be defined by an XPath expression appropriate to the markup such as '//taml:testAssertion' which identifies for association with the test assertion set all current document test assertions written in the Test Assertion Markup Language. One case where this may be used is where such test assertions are distributed throughout a physical or logical document written in another kind of markup.

<testAssertionSelector
   lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
   {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
   Content: xsd:string
</testAssertionSelector>

shared

XML Representation:

<shared>
  Content: normativeSource ?, target ?, prerequisite ?, predicate ?,
   prescription ?, description ?, tag *, var *,
   report *, 'xsd:Any' *
</shared>

The child element named 'shared' of the testAssertionSet element may be used to provide one or more test assertion parts either as overrides (either overridden by or overriding any corresponding parts of the same kind of test assertions within the set) or as composites (composing as either conjunctions or disjunctions with any corresponding parts of the same kind of test assertions within the set) to all the descendant test assertions of the test assertion set.

The 'normativeSource', 'target', 'predicate', 'prerequisite', 'prescription', 'comment', 'interpretation', the identically named 'tag' elements, the identically named 'var' elements and the 'report', elements, when they are children of this 'shared' element, are extended with a 'conflict' attribute as follows:

shared/normativeSource

XML Representation:

<normativeSource
  conflict ? = conjunction|disjunction|overriding|overridden >
  Content: comment ?, interpretation ?, refSourceItem *, textSourceItem *,
   derivedSourceItem *

shared/target

XML Representation:
<target
  type ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  schemeRef ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  conflict ? = conjunction|disjunction|overriding|overridden
 {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</target>

shared/prerequisite

XML Representation:
<prerequisite
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  conflict ? = conjunction|disjunction
 {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</prerequisite>

shared/predicate

XML Representation:
<predicate
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  conflict ? = conjunction|disjunction|overriding|overridden
 {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</predicate>

shared/prescription

XML Representation:
<prescription
  level ? = mandatory|preferred|permitted
  conflict ? = overriding|overridden
 {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
</prescription>

shared/description

XML Representation:
<description
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  conflict ? = conjunction|disjunction|overriding|overridden
 {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: 'xsd:normalizedString'
Whether these test assertion parts compose, with conjunction or disjunction (that is, combine using a logical 'AND' or 'OR' respectively), or override or are overridden by any corresponding test assertion parts of the same kind (and, in the case of 'tag' and 'var', with the same 'name' attribute value) within the test assertion set shall depend on the corresponding values of the 'conflict' attribute.

Note that the part elements can each have different sets of allowed values for the 'conflict' attribute.

The values of the 'conflict' attribute may be extended. Custom values may be ignored by an implementation. The base datatype of the custom extended enumeration for the 'conflict' attribute is W3C XML Schema [XSD2] datatype 'Qname'. Custom enumerations should be prefixed with a namespace prefix associated with a namespace declared in the markup. Default namespaces (without a prefix) shall not be used.
2.5 Test Assertion Reference

testAssertionRef

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertionRef
    lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    name ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: testAssertionResource ?, testAssertionSetId ?, testAssertionId ?, 'xsd:Any' *
</testAssertionRef>
```

A test assertion set may refer to one or more test assertions by their test assertion identifiers rather than include the test assertions literally within the set. A test assertion set in which references are made to other test assertions outside of the set (whether in the same document or other documents) shall use the testAssertionRef child element to do so.

The structure of this element allows for the possibility that test assertions may be contained in another document in another location by inclusion of a child element testAssertionResource.

Other child elements testAssertionSetId and testAssertionId allow for the possibilities that the test assertion may be within one or more layers of test assertion sets and might only be uniquely identifiable by nesting the identifiers of these sets around the test assertion identifier itself: The testAssertionSetId elements can be nested and the testAssertionId nested within the innermost testAssertionSetId. At the same time they also allow for the possibility that the test assertion has an identifier sufficiently unique to only require that test assertion identifier itself:

The testAssertionRef and the testAssertionResource can each include the testAssertionId as a direct child without the need for further identifiers when they are inappropriate.

The testAssertionRef may be used to refer to a test assertion set as a whole, rather than a reference to each test assertion individually.

testAssertionResource

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertionResource
    lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    uri ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    documentId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    versionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    revisionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    dateString ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceType ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceTypeSchemaId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceTypeSchemaVersionId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    resourceTypeProvenanceId ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
    {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
    Content: testAssertionId ?, testAssertionSetId ?
</testAssertionResource>
```

Here is the metadata which may be used to specify the identification of a resource containing test assertions. The uri attribute may contain data to help locate the resource but the expected
implementation is one where an identifier or URI is used to point to a repository of some kind which is a more appropriate container for the specific information needed to make the external test assertions available.

The other metadata attributes include information about the kind of resource involved and most appropriately its provenance (such as authorship identifiers to certify its authenticity) and version, etc.

testAssertionId

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertionId
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  ref ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
</testAssertionId>
```

This is a pointer to a test assertion identifier. It is used as part of a reference to a test assertion within a test assertion set. The ref attribute **shall** be used to contain the test assertion identifier itself.

testAssertionSetId

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertionSetId
  lg ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  section ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  ref ? = 'xsd:normalizedString'
  {any attributes with non-schema namespace . . .}>
  Content: testAssertionId ?, testAssertionSetId ?
</testAssertionSetId>
```

This is a pointer to a test assertion set identifier. It is used as part of a reference to a test assertion within a test assertion set or to a test assertion set within another test assertion set.

The ref attribute **shall** be used to contain the test assertion set identifier. A section within that test assertion set **may** also be specified where appropriate using the section attribute, bearing in mind that the test assertion set (perhaps called by another term) might not be written using this markup.

testAssertionDocumentHeader

XML Representation:

```xml
<testAssertionDocumentHeader>
  Content: common, 'xsd:Any' *
</testAssertionDocumentHeader>
```

The testAssertionDocumentHeader element **may** be used to provide metadata (author, location, etc) about the specification to which test assertions are associated when such test assertions are interspersed within a document written with a markup other than Test Assertion Markup Language.

The testAssertionDocumentHeader element **may**, alternatively, provide a container for metadata about the specification in the outermost testAssertionSet of a test assertion document or where an implementation only allows one test assertion set for each document.

An instance **may** have this as the top element.

There **shall** be no more than one testAssertionDocumentHeader element used in any given document.
Here some of the metadata about the source document to which the test assertions relate is assigned to the document containing those test assertions. The content should be the name or other identifier for the specification. The attributes specify its version information.

The namespaces element caters for a special case of usage of the markup. Here the content may be the set of namespaces used when the target implementation is itself XML. The namespaces may be included as the content of the element or the prefixes and URIs of the namespaces may be split into separate elements within the child element called namespace (singular). Other kinds of implementation of the markup may omit implementation of this feature.

See section on the namespaces element, above.
2.6 Reserved Tag Names

DefinesNormativeProperty and NormativeProperty

A test assertion may be tagged to show that it is a property test assertion using two reserved word tag names DefinesNormativeProperty and NormativeProperty.

TA id: widget-TA104-2
Normative Source: specification requirement 104
Target: widget
Predicate: [the widget] is from 5 to 15 centimeters long in its longer dimension.
Prescription Level: mandatory
Tag: normative_property = medium-sized

The Test Assertion Markup Language allows this to be represented as follows

```xml
<testAssertion id="widget-TA104-2">
  . . .
  <predicate> [the widget] is from LENGTH-A to LENGTH-B long in its longer </predicate>
  . . .
  <tag name="DefinesNormativeProperty">true</tag>
  <tag name="NormativeProperty">medium-sized</tag>
</testAssertion>
```

A test assertion having a reserved word property tag DefinesNormativeProperty or NormativeProperty may have an absence of the 'prescription' element.

VersionAdd and VersionDrop

```xml
  tag: VersionAdd: the lowest numerical version to which the test assertion applies.
  tag: VersionDrop: the lowest numerical version number to which the test assertion does NOT apply.
```

Both VersionAdd and VersionDrop are optional tags. The absence of both tags shall mean that the test assertion is valid in all specification versions. If only a VersionAdd tag exists and its value is X, the test assertion will be valid in version X of the specification and all subsequent versions. If only a VersionDrop tag exists and its value is Y, the test assertion shall be valid in all versions of the specification prior to version Y. If both VersionAdd and VersionDrop tags exist, the test assertion shall be valid in version X and all subsequent versions up to but not including version Y. Based on these rules, the set of test assertions that apply to a specific version of the specification can be determined.
3 XML Schema

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<xs:schema xmlns="http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/tag/taml-201001/
xmlns:xs="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema"
targetNamespace="http://docs.oasis-open.org/ns/tag/taml-201001/
elementFormDefault="qualified" attributeFormDefault="unqualified"
version="1.0">
  <xs:element name="testAssertion" type="testAssertion_type"/>
  <xs:element name="testAssertionDocumentHeader" type="testAssertionDocumentHeader_type"/>
  <xs:element name="testAssertionSet" type="testAssertionSet_type"/>
  <xs:simpleType name="codeExtension_type">
    <xs:restriction base="xs:QName">
      <xs:pattern value="[\c-[:]]+:[\c-[:]]+"/>
    </xs:restriction>
  </xs:simpleType>
  <xs:complexType name="comment_type">
    <xs:simpleContent>
      <xs:extension base="xs:string">
        <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
        <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
      </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
  </xs:complexType>
  <xs:complexType name="common_type">
    <xs:sequence>
      <xs:element name="sourceDocument" type="sourceDocument_type" minOccurs="0"/>
      <xs:element name="authors" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"/>
      <xs:element name="location" type="xs:string" minOccurs="0"/>
      <xs:element name="namespaces" type="namespaces_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      <xs:any namespace="#other" processContents="skip" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    </xs:sequence>
  </xs:complexType>
  <xs:complexType name="derivedSourceItem_type">
    <xs:simpleContent>
      <xs:extension base="xs:string">
        <xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
        <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
        <xs:attributeGroup ref="resource_attributeGroup"/>
        <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
      </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
  </xs:complexType>
  <xs:complexType name="description_type">
    <xs:simpleContent>
      <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
        <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
        <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
      </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
  </xs:complexType>
</xs:schema>
<xs:complexType name="descriptionShared_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="description_type">
      <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="descriptionConflictCode_type"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="interpretation_type">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
      <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="namespace_type">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="prefix" type="xs:token"/>
    <xs:element name="uri" type="xs:anyURI"/>
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="namespaces_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="namespace" type="namespace_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="normativeSource_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="comment" type="comment_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="interpretation" type="interpretation_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="refSourceItem" type="refSourceItem_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="textSourceItem" type="textSourceItem_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="derivedSourceItem" type="derivedSourceItem_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>
<xs:complexType name="prerequisiteShared_type" mixed="true">
    <xs:simpleContent>
        <xs:extension base="prerequisite_type">
            <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="prerequisiteConflictCode_type"/>
        </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="prescription_type">
    <xs:simpleContent>
        <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
            <xs:attribute name="level" type="prescriptionLevelCode_type"/>
            <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
        </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:simpleType name="prescriptionConflictBaseCode_type">
    <xs:restriction base="xs:normalizedString">
        <xs:enumeration value="overriding"/>
        <xs:enumeration value="overridden"/>
    </xs:restriction>
</xs:simpleType>

<xs:simpleType name="prescriptionConflictCode_type">
    <xs:union memberTypes="prescriptionConflictBaseCode_type
codeExtension_type"/>
</xs:simpleType>

<xs:complexType name="prescriptionShared_type" mixed="true">
    <xs:simpleContent>
        <xs:extension base="prescription_type">
            <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="prescriptionConflictCode_type"/>
        </xs:extension>
    </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:simpleType name="prescriptionLevelCode_type"
<xs:complexType name="shared_type">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="normativeSource" type="normativeSourceShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="target" type="targetShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="prerequisite" type="prerequisiteShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="predicate" type="predicateShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="prescription" type="prescriptionShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="description" type="descriptionShared_type" minOccurs="0"/>
    <xs:element name="tag" type="tagShared_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="var" type="varShared_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="report" type="reportShared_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:any namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="sourceDocument_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:attribute name="revision" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:attribute name="version" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="tag_type">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
      <xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:simpleType name="tagConflictBaseCode_type">
  <xs:restriction base="xs:normalizedString">
    <xs:enumeration value="overriding"/>
    <xs:enumeration value="overridden"/>
    <xs:enumeration value="conjunction"/>
    <xs:enumeration value="disjunction"/>
  </xs:restriction>
</xs:simpleType>

<xs:simpleType name="tagConflictCode_type"/>
<xs:complexType name="tagShared_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="tag_type">
      <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="tagConflictCode_type"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="target_type">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
      <xs:attribute name="type" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:attribute name="schemeRef" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="targetShared_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="target_type">
      <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="targetConflictCode_type"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertion_type">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element name="normativeSource" type="normativeSource_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="target" type="target_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="prerequisite" type="prerequisite_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="predicate" type="predicate_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="prescription" type="prescription_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="description" type="description_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="tag" type="tag_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="var" type="var_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
  </xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>
<xs:element name="report" type="report_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
<xs:any namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
</xs:sequence>
<xs:attribute name="id" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
<xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
<xs:attribute name="schemaVersionId" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
<xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionDocumentHeader_type">
<xs:sequence>
<xs:element name="common" type="common_type" />
<xs:any namespace="##other" processContents="skip" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded" /></xs:sequence>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionId_type">
<xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:attribute name="ref" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionRef_type">
<xs:sequence>
<xs:choice>
<xs:element name="testAssertionResource" type="testAssertionResource_type" minOccurs="0"/>
<xs:element name="testAssertionSetId" type="testAssertionSetId_type" minOccurs="0"/>
<xs:element name="testAssertionId" type="testAssertionId_type" minOccurs="0" />
</xs:choice>
<xs:any namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded" />
</xs:sequence>
<xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionResource_type">
<xs:sequence>
<xs:choice>
<xs:element name="testAssertionId" type="testAssertionId_type" minOccurs="0"/>
<xs:element name="testAssertionSetId" type="testAssertionSetId_type" minOccurs="0"/>
</xs:choice>
<xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString" />
<xs:anyAttribute namespace="##any" processContents="skip"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionSelector_type">
<xs:simpleContent>
<xs:extension base="xs:string">
</xs:element>
<xs:complexType name="testAssertionSet_type">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:element ref="testAssertionDocumentHeader" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="shared" type="shared_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="testAssertionRef" type="testAssertionRef_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element ref="testAssertionSet" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    <xs:element name="testAssertionSelector" minOccurs="0" type="testAssertionSelector_type"/>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute name="id" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:attribute name="schemaVersionId" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:attribute name="time" type="xs:time"/>
  <xs:attribute name="date" type="xs:date"/>
  <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="testAssertionSetId_type">
  <xs:sequence>
    <xs:choice>
      <xs:element name="testAssertionId" type="testAssertionId_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
      <xs:element name="testAssertionSetId" type="testAssertionSetId_type" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    </xs:choice>
  </xs:sequence>
  <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:attribute name="section" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
  <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="textSourceItem_type">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="xs:string">
      <xs:attribute name="extension" type="xs:boolean"/>
      <xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:anyAttribute namespace="##other" processContents="lax" minOccurs="0" maxOccurs="unbounded"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>

<xs:complexType name="var_type">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="xs:normalizedString">
      <xs:attribute name="name" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
      <xs:attribute name="lg" type="xs:normalizedString"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>
<xs:complexType name="varShared_type" mixed="true">
  <xs:simpleContent>
    <xs:extension base="var_type">
      <xs:attribute name="conflict" type="varConflictCode_type"/>
    </xs:extension>
  </xs:simpleContent>
</xs:complexType>
4 Conformance

Conforming test assertions shall be instances valid according to the schema accompanying this specification with the namespace as defined under 'Declared XML Namespace(s)' in the heading area of this specification. This schema is copied in-line in section 3 but in the case of any discrepancies between the in-line copy and the schema accompanying this specification it is the separate schema which shall be used as the authoritative definition of the validating schema. In addition to this the conforming test assertions shall conform to mandatory normative statements (those using the keyword shall) within the applicable, implemented normative sections of this specification.

A conforming implementation shall implement Section 2.3 (test assertions) of this specification.

A conforming implementation may implement Section 2.4 (test assertion sets), 2.5 (test assertion references) and 2.6 (reserved tag names) of this specification.

A conforming test assertion implementation implementing Section 2.4 (test assertion sets) may choose not to implement the nesting of test assertion sets inside other test assertion sets.
Appendix A. Acknowledgments

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Participants:
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