Null Language-Independent Type for YAML™ Version 1.1

Working Draft 2005-01-18

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Status

This specification is a draft reflecting consensus reached by members of the yaml-core mailing list [http://lists.sourceforge.net/lists/listinfo/yaml-core]. Any questions regarding this draft should be raised on this list.

URI: tag:yaml.org,2002:null
Shorthand: !!null
Kind: Scalar.
Canonical: ~
Regexp:

~ # (canonical)
| null |Null|NULL # (English)
| # (Empty)

Definition: Devoid of value.

A null value is used to indicate the lack of a value. This is typically converted into any native null-like value (e.g., undef in Perl, None in Python). Note that a null is different from an empty string and that a mapping entry with some key and a null value is valid and different from not having that key in the mapping.
Example 1. !!null Examples

# A document may be null.
---
---
# This mapping has four keys, 
# one has a value.
empty:
    canonical: ~
    english: null
    ~: null key
---
# This sequence has five 
# entries, two have values.
sparse:
    - ~
    - 2nd entry
    - ~
    - 4th entry
    - Null