HOW TO PREPARE A THEMATIC PHILATELY EXHIBIT Some Guidelines

FIP Seminar

Taipei, October 24, 2016

Peter Suhadolc

THE THEMATIC EXHIBIT

has two essential properties:

1. It describes a story

2. The story is illustrated with appropriate philatelic material in its postal aspects

RULES: GREV, SREV, Guidelines

Does Thematic Philately have too many rules? No, in fact there are only FIVE:

- 1) The CONCEPT, as shown by the exhibit
 the MESSAGE, shoud be exhibitor's INNOVATIVE approach and work!
- 2) CHOICE OF MATERIAL: Philatelic criteria

 POSTAL aspects of philatelic material (no private prints or markings!)
- 3) CHOICE OF MATERIAL: <u>Thematic criteria</u>
 LINKED to the theme or development
- 4) CHOICE OF MATERIAL: Philatelic variety and quality

 A WIDE variety and BEST quality
- 5) PRESENTATION of the exhibit

 Understandable, nice looking, clearly presented, nicely arranged

RELIGIOZNI MOTIVI IZ 17. i 18. STOLJEĆA

SLIKARSTVO



D. Bačević, "Blagovijest", (JM 2580)



N. Nešković, "Rođenje Hristovo", (JM 2581)



T. Kračun-Dimitrijević, "Hristovo krštenje", (JM 2583)



T.J. Češljar, "Bogorodica i Hristos", (JM 2582)



Frederiko Benković "Abrahamova žrtva" (JM 2979)



"Hristovo rođenje", manastir Hilandar na Atosu, 17.st. (JM 2990)



Hristofor Zefarović "Jakovljeve ljestve" (JM 2981)



T. Kračun-Dimitrijević "Voznesenje Hristovo", (JM 1278)



František Jelovšek "Sveta obitelj" (JM1280)



Tripo Kokolja, "Krunisanje Majke božje" (JM1283)

NO STORY

An old "motive" exhibit

NOT THEMATIC!

Stojsavljević, 2005



Still no story ...

... but at least two types of material ...

Velika droplja (JM 720)

Šumska šljuka (JM 722)

ZAŠTITA PRIRODE

2.5. N.P. TRIGLAV

<u>Triglav</u>, planinska grupa Julijskih Alpa s istoimenim vrhom (2863m), najvišim u Sloveniji. Proglašen je Nacionalnim parkom 1981 godine. ■



Uspon na Triglav izvršen je po prvi put 1778 godine s Bohinjske strane.

> Vrata Triglava (DK 151/406)







↑ Aljašev dom (na 1015 m visine) u dolini Vrata, odakle slijedi uspon sa sjeverne strane (DK 93/⊔ I).

Uspon na Triglav (DK93 / LJ32) →

S usponom preko sjeverne strane Triglava povezan je početak alpinizma u Sloveniji. 1893 godine osniva se prvo Slovensko planinarsko društvo, 1903 godine se radi alpinistička staza iz doline Vrata. ■



A thematic exhibit with (although minimal) story

Stojsavljević, 2005

Appropriate material

A Thematic exhibit uses all kind of philatelic material in its postal aspects according to illustration, purpose of issue etc.

Guidelines:

Appropriate postal-philatelic material is that which, for the purpose of transmitting mail or other postal communications, has been issued, intended for issue, or produced in the preparation for issue, used, or treated as valid for postage by governmental, local or private postal agencies, or by other duly commissioned or empowered authorities.

There should be as much variety as possible (both within the whole exhibit and on the single sheet)!

- In the **TYPE** of material:

Stamps, cancellations, postal stationery, covers, proofs...

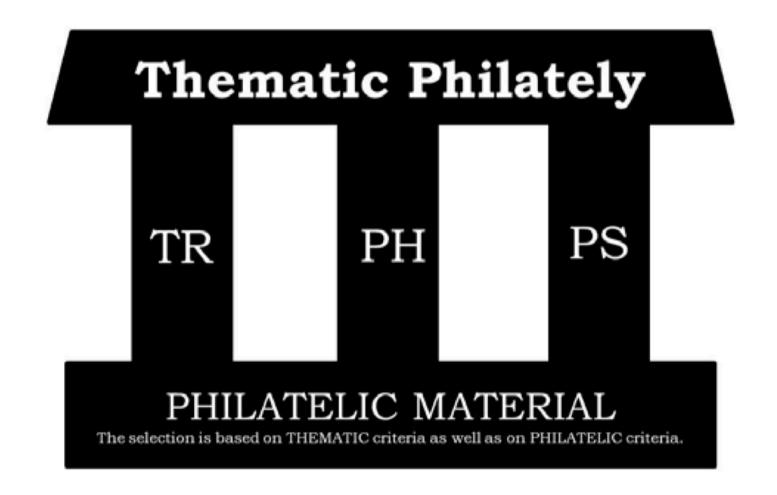
- Spatial:

Material from ALL OVER the world

- Temporal:

Material from ALL PERIODS from pre- to modern-philately

THE PILLARS OF THEMATIC PHILATELY





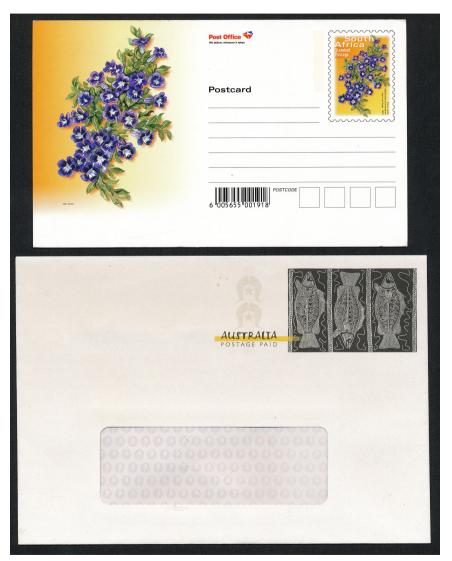




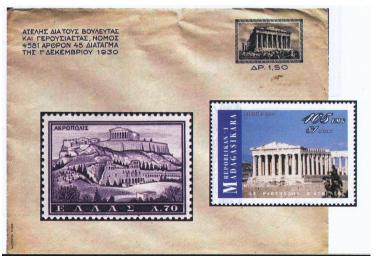




Stamps, meter marks, booklets







.... postal stationery.....







.... machine cancellations.....











.... watermarks.....











.... perfins.....

Artist die proof Piem Bigut 12/12

MATERIAL



Phase stage die proof

18. April 1961

10h

588

Meter mark archive card

variant (no

black color)



B. Longoni (1876-1956)

BREVKORT CARTE POSTALE BREVKORT CARTE POSTALE

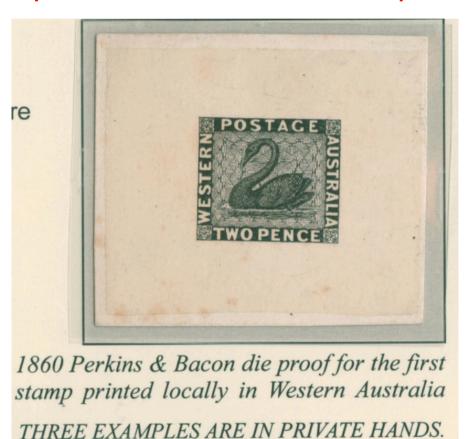
Proof (above) and issued (below) postal stationery



Multiple franking with correct postage

PROOFS

Example of material of world importance



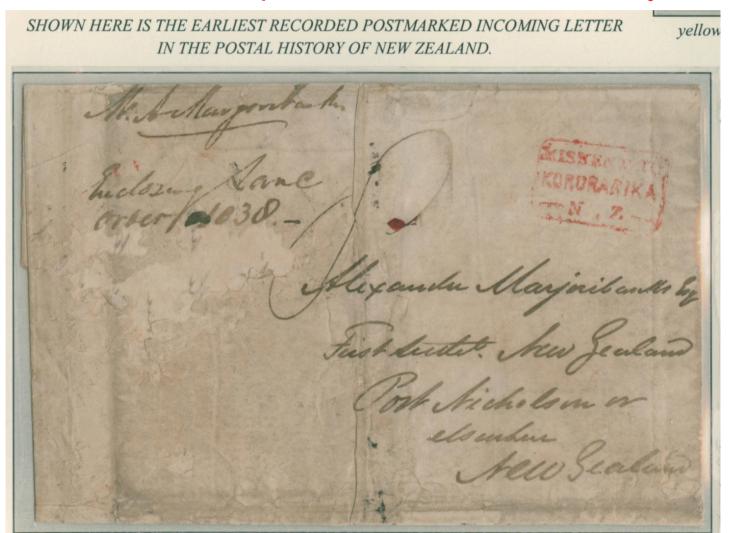
Damian Läge

Degree of importance of philatelic material

- Stamps
- Postal stationery and booklets
- Other: cancellations, telegrams, frankings ...
- Artist sketches and examples of printing process*
- Examples from postal history
- (*) Depends on the issuing country and printing hose (e.g. Tonga vs. House of Questa)

General importance

An example of material of world rarity



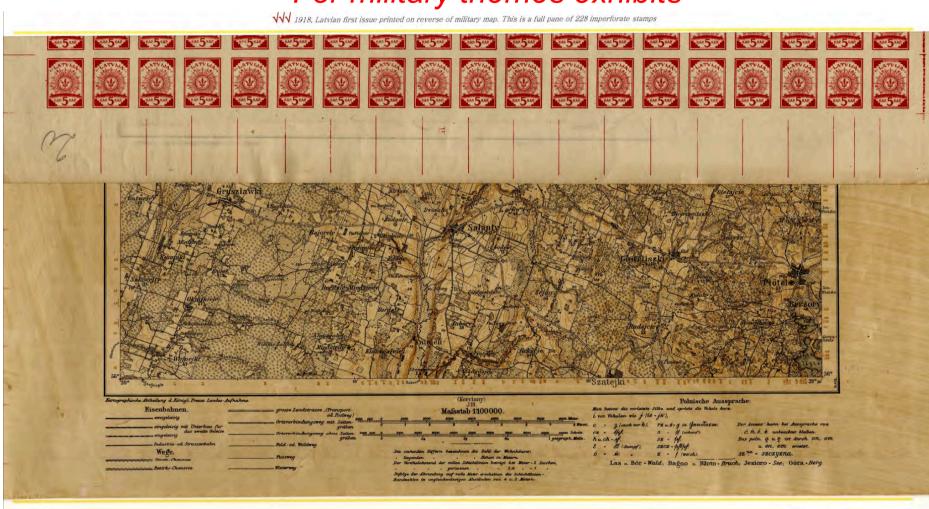
Damian Läge

Specific importance



Specific importance

For military themes exhibits



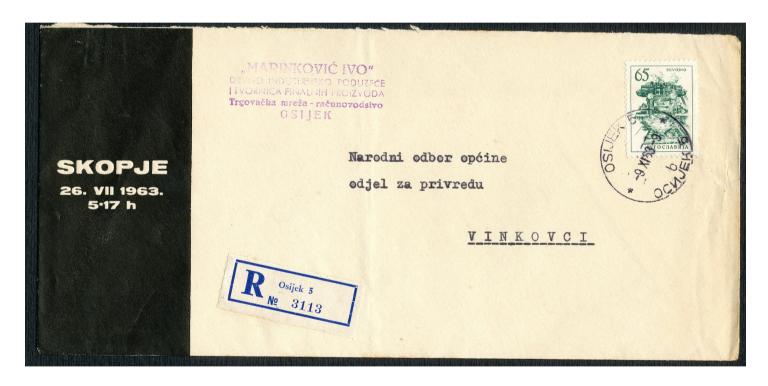
Non-postal aspects of philatelic material

Some of the most common such material:

- 1. Postal stationery with added private print (repiquage)
- 2. Illustrations on FDCs
- 3. Revenues (some exceptions allowed!)
- 4. Private decorations on covers and cards
- 5. Picture postcards (unless postal stationery)
- 6. Private vignettes (e.g. aero-philatelic)
- 7. Private additional cancellations (e.g. Antarctic bases, research vessels etc.)
- 8. Content of letters, postcards (both text and drawings)
- 9. Non postal administrative marks, that do not imply the privilege of free postage

Non-postal aspects of philatelic items

Example

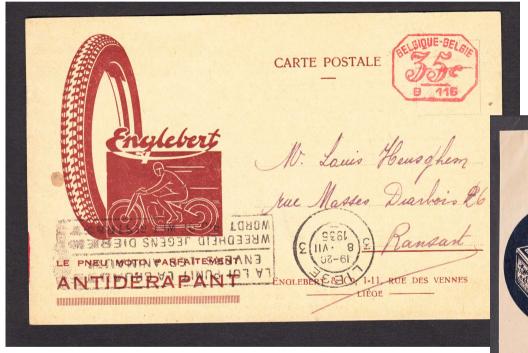


The print on the left (Skopje, date and hour of the earthquake)

MUST NOT BE USED

Non-postal aspects of philatelic items

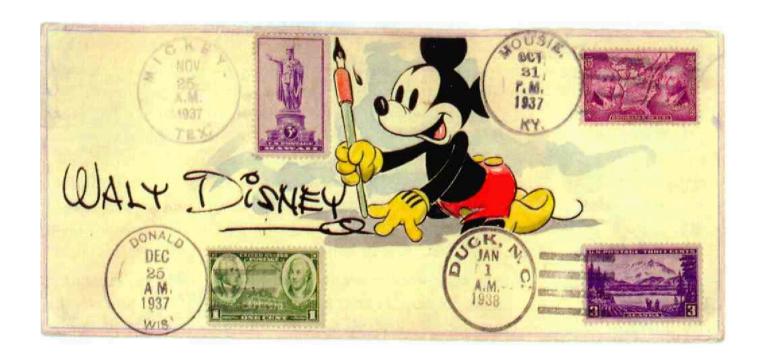
Examples of private prints on card and envelope





Non-postal aspects of philatelic items

Example



Private illustration on cover, cancellations applied to order NB: The cancellation on the stamp can be used, but must be windowed

Unappropriate material

Items, that should not be used in a thematic exhibit

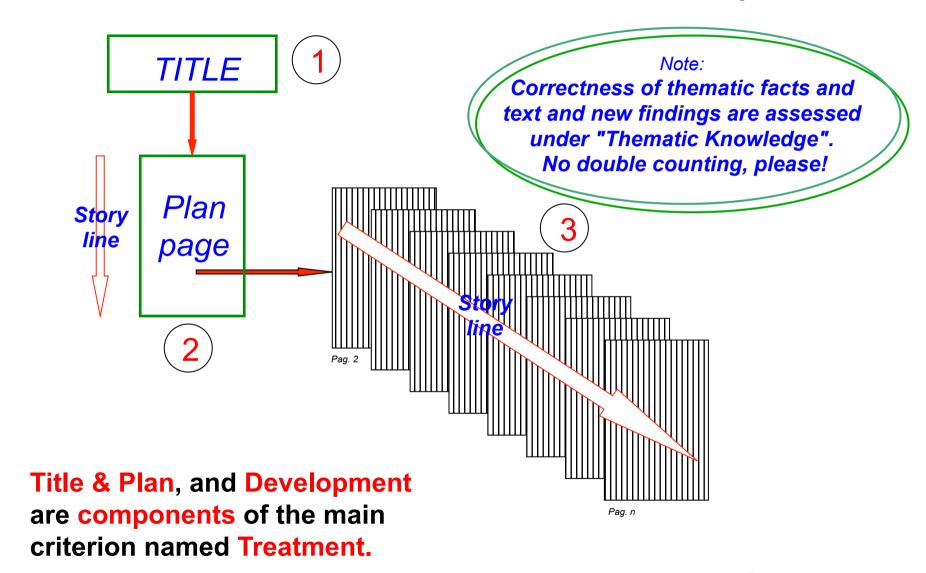




French gravure

Belgian souvenirs

TREATMENT: Title, Plan, Development



TITLE

The concept of the exhibit: about what will my story be

Any theme can be illustrated with philatelic material:

Invitation to dinner, Simmetry, Hands, Angels, Circus, Dens sano in corpore sano (dentistry), Orbs of beauty

If the theme is too wide, it is difficult to prepare an original exhibit, So it is better to narrow the theme (spatially, temporally, sub-themes....)

E.g. Archeology Archeological jewels of Egypt
Olympic games.... Runs, throws, jumps

For some very particular or specialized subjects, there is less material available, but the story can be shown at least in one-frame exhibits.

RUBBISH IN DAILY LIFE

With increusing standard of living and advancement in urbanization level, rubbish aduly life has also increased leading to competition with people for living space. When people we faced with the rubbish left from daily life, they have to worry bout where they have to go? And are they useful or useless? And how to reduce them from originating.

Plan

1. Where are They From ?

- 1.1 Clean body
 - 1.2 Daily life activities

2. Damages Brought By Them

- 2.1 Hotbed for disease transmitter
- 2.2 Effect on water resources
- 2.3 Deteriorating air

3. Recoverable Rubbish

- 3.1 Meaning of recycling symbol
- 3.2 New life in wastepaper baskets
- 3.3 Recycling of glass and plastics
- 3.4 Rebirth of scrap metal
- 3.5 Salvage of old clothes

4. Kitchen Rubbish

- 4.1 Classification and characteristics
- 4.2 How to dispose them
- 4.3 Magical effect of bones

5. Harmful Rubbish

- 5.1 Chemical rubbish
- 5.2 Cigarette butt and secondhand smoking
- 5.3 Invisible garbage——noise

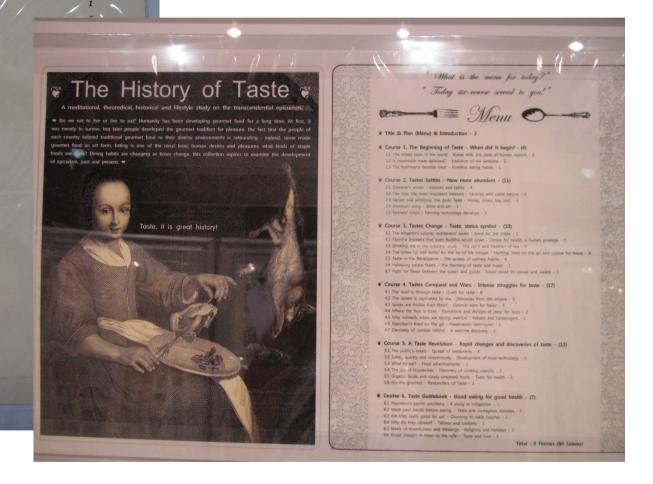
6. Other Rubbish

- 6.1 Combustible rubbish
- 6.2 Interred rubbish
- 6.3 Excremen
- 6.4 Floral and foliage droppings

7. Reducing The Generation Of Rubbish At Its Source

- 7.1 The struggle for energy saving
- 7.2 Repair and maintenance of objects
- 7.3 Saving water
- 7.4 Living frugally

Innovative Themes



Plan Should be efficient and well structured!

- □ Presence of the introductory page with the plan
- □ Consistency between the plan and the title
- □ Adequacy of the plan (= efficient for understanding the structure)
- □ Covers all main aspects necessary to develop the theme
- ☐ The structure is correct, logical and balanced (guidelines: the degree to which a story is told and not a list of various aspects, e.g. enumeration)

MOUNTAINS IN PHILATELY

Both Title

0. PLAN	1
U. P.LAIN	

and Plan

1. Mountains in EUROPE 2-50

are BAD

1.1.1 France

1.1 Alps

1.1.2 *Italy*

(enumeration, unbalanced, not logical)

1.1.3 Switzerland

1.1.4 Austria

1.1.5 Slovenia

1.2 Pyrenees

1.3 Carpathians

1.4 Dinarides

1.5 Other mountain chains

3. Mountains in the rest of the World 66-76

3.1 North America

South America 3.2

New Zealand 3.3

2. Mountains in ASIA

51-65

2.1 Himalaya

2.2 Pamir

2.3 Tien Shan

2.4 Zagros

2.5 Mountains on islands

4. Mountains on ANTARCTICA

4.1

Mountain expeditions

77-80

A balanced Plan

A story is started to be told

THE CONQUEST OF THE UNPROFITABLE WORLD History of mountaineering

Total 80

0. PLAN	1
1. PRE-HISTORY OF MOUNTAINEERING	19
1.1Mithological beginnings 1.2War conquests 1.3Trade routes 1.4First known ascents 1.5Religious motivations 1.6Sustainment motivations 1.7Scientific motivations 1.8First influences on art and literature 1.9Mountaineering forerunners	3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
2. THE ALPS - BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF MOUNTAINEERING	36
2.1Birth of mountaineering: Triglav and Mont Blanc 2.2Mountaineering in diapers 2.3The mountaineering organizations 2.4The golden age of mountaineering 2.5Mountaineering without guides 2.6The revolution in the Eastern Alps 2.7Roads and cable cars bring more alpinists 2.8The last problems in the Alps 2.9Artificial climbing 2.10 Free climbing	2 3 4 3 3 3 3 8 4
3. EXPEDITIONS TO OTHER MOUNTAINS	24
3.1The Caucasus - A playground for future expeditions 3.2The Americas - Preparations for Himalaya 3.3From Africa and New Zealand to Asia 3.4The conquest of the giants 3.5Conquering Mt. Everest - world's roof 3.6Where is mountaineering heading to?	2 6 4 8 2 2

A better Plan:

The main chapters tell a STORY

THE CONQUEST OF THE UNPROFITABLE WORLD / History of mountaineering

	Sheets		
0. PLAN 1. MOUNTAINS ARE MUCH OLDER THAN MEN 1.1 The earth beneath our feet is moving 1.2and this movement causes also mountain building 2. BUT AT FIRST FEAR PREVENTED MAN FROM ASCENDING MOUNTAINS 2.1 Mountains as the seat of gods 2.2 Fear of evil creatures 2.3 Worshipped rocks and humans turned into stones 3. ALTHOUGH LATER ON HE WAS FORCED TO APPROACH THEM 3.1 Military expeditions 3.2 Subsistence motivations 4. AND HE STARTED TO KNOW THEM BETTER 4.1 Religious motivations 4.2 Trade routes 4.3 Scientific motivations 5. THEIR BEAUTY STIRRED HIS IMAGINATION AND HE MADE HIS FIRST ASCENTS	Sheets 1-2 3-4 1 5-12 3 13-18 3 19-27 3 3 28-34	8. THEN GOT ORGANISED AND BECAME POPULAR 8.1 The mountaineering organizations 8.2 Dangers, safety and rescuing 8.3 Roads, railroads and cable cars allow an easier and faster access 8.4 Mountain cabins provide shelter near peaks 8.5 Alpine journals and telephones in cabins 9. AND STARTED TO EXPAND TO ALL CONTINENTS 9.1 The Americas 9.2 Africa and New Zealand 9.3 The Caucasus - A playground for future expeditions 10. REQUIRING NEW TECHNIQUES TO CONQUER ALL MOUNTAIN FACES 10.1 The revolution in the Eastern Alps 10.2 The "last" problems in the Alps 11. AND EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS THAT PERMITTED THE "IMPOSSIBLE" 11.1 Equipment improvements 11.2 Artificial climbing, winter and ice ascents 11.3 "Impossible" ascents throughout the world 12. LEADING TO THE CONQUEST OF THE GIANTS	52-66 3 3 4 2 67-77 5 4 2 78-84 4 3 85-96 3 5 4 97-116
4. AND HE STARTED TO KNOW THEM BETTER 4.1 Religious motivations 4.2 Trade routes 4.3 Scientific motivations	3 3 3	10.2 The "last" problems in the Alps 11. AND EQUIPMENT IMPROVEMENTS THAT PERMITTED THE "IMPOSSIBLE" 11.1 Equipment improvements 11.2 Artificial climbing, winter and ice ascents	3 5 4

An even better Plan:

Balanced, structured, tells ONLY the STORY!

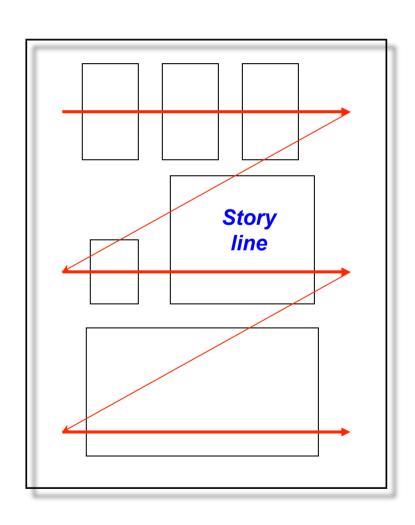
In the plan keep Chapters and Subchapters only, the rest should go on the single sheets This exhibit tells the amazing story of the slow conquest of the highest parts of our world's territory, the mountains, a mostly unprofitable world, conquered by man for exploring it, for curiosity, for its natural beauties and to overcome one's limits.

bounded und to oversome one a minus.				
0. TITLE and PLAN	Sheets 1			
PART THE STORY FROM MAN'S FIRST TIMID APPROACHES INTO THE REALM OF MOUNTAINS				
1. MOUNTAINS ARE MUCH OLDER THAN MEN				
2BUT AT FIRST FEAR PREVENTED MAN FROM ASCENDING MOUNTAINS				
3ALTHOUGH LATER ON HE WAS FORCED TO APPROACH THEM				
4SO HE STARTED TO KNOW THEM BETTER				
5THEIR BEAUTY STIRRING HIS IMAGINATION, SO HE APPROACHED THEM FOR PLEASURE	25-28			
PART II TO THE BIRTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF WORLD MOUNTAINEERING				
6THE BIRTH OF MOUNTAINEERING BEING AT FIRST A DISCOVERY OF NATURE	29-34			
7BUT SOON MOUNTAINEERING BECAME A CHALLENGE TO ONE'S LIMITS				
8 THEN GOT ORGANISED, BECAME POPULAR				
9 AND STARTED TO EXPAND TO OTHER CONTINENTS				
PART III AND TO ITS MATURE PHASE, AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD AND LOOKING BEYOND				
10REQUIRING NEW TECHNIQUES TO CONQUER ALL MOUNTAIN FACES	60-64			
11AND TECHNICAL IMPROVEMENTS THAT PERMITTED THE "IMPOSSIBLE"				
12WITH THE CONQUEST OF THE HIMALAYA AND KARAKORUM GIANTS				
13FOLLOWED BY PRESENT CLIMBING TRENDS THAT STARTED IN THE AMERICAS 85-93				
14THAT SHOULD RESPECT AND PRESERVE THE MOUNTAINS FOR OUR SUCCESSORS.	94-96			
	Total 96			
Thematic text in normal font. Bold font indicates connection to material. Philatelic text in italics and smaller font.				

Scarce and rare material surrounded by thick frames.

DEVELOPMENT

Story line ("red thread") – details on the sheets



Development

- > BASIC requirements:
 - ☐ Correct choice, order and positioning of the items on the page in agreement with the plan
 - □ Link between items and thematic text
 - □ Synthesis of page content by page (sub)titles
 - ☐ Treatment of ALL aspects of the Plan
- > FURTHER requirements:
 - □ Balance, given to each thematic aspect and detail, according to its importance within the theme
 - □ Depth, shown by links, cross-correlations, structures, causes and effects

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Example of cross-correlation







Use of thematic text in development

Block text on top or in the middle

8.3 Roads, railroads and cable cars allow an easier and faster access

The intrest for mountains grows and traffic increases. During 1810 - 1830 most of the roads over the Alps passes are built, some Alpine roads even much later. The road over the Grossglockner is inaugurated in 1935.



Building roads



Road through the Areuse Schlucht



Inauguration of the Grossglockner road





Flexenstrasse



Sometimes even today roads are closed due to bad weather.... Road from Julieralpenpass to St. Moritz waited, due to bad weather, two day in Chur, before being delivered.

BETTER if connected to the items. according to your story !!

8.3 Roads, railroads and cable cars allow an easier and faster access

During 1810-1830 most of the roads over mountain passes are built.



Right stamp: Variety "6" instead of "S The Grossglockner road over the massif is built is

inaugurated in 1835.

Harsh terrain involved also the building of many bridges .

> ... so that public transport, coaches and later busses, allows a rapid access to mountains.



Booklet of postal cards,



The interest for mountains grows and traffic increases, new roads are built

Postkarte

Carte postale

Cartolina postale

Sometimes, even today, roads are closed due to bad weather conditions.



Mail from Julierpass to St. Moritz had to wait for two days in Chur, due to bad weather conditions, before being delivered.



The Flexenstrasse over the Flexenpass in Austria was built between 1885 and 1909.

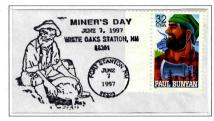
Examples of development

3.2 Subsistence motivations

Mountains were visited by men looking for crystals, especially quartz for jewelry making (Col des Cristaux near Aiguille Verte in Mont Blanc massiff). Iron was also looked for in mountain environments. Gold (El Dorado!) and sliver prospectors and colonizers crossed the Rocky mountains during the gold rush.







Prospecting for gold ...



... and silver

Vor- und Zuname:

Kreis: XIV

Tierre Dorbier

Ort: Paris - Jens Lieu de déstination:
Straße: 15



Iron Mountain Zemstvo stamp, Baldai administration



Quartz crystals



Prisoner of war concentration camp STALAG VI J mail, Germany 1942

efangenenpost (Gebührenfrei)

Thematic text mainly in a block on top

Gefangenennummer III 20644

Krefeld-Fichtenhain

3.2 Subsistence motivations



1950 Portuguese postal entire

Men visited mountains searching for quartz crystals for iewerly making.



Pen cancelled 1858 cover, handwritten postoffice name and date. Mineral Ridge (1854 - 1913), lowa.

Sheep could venture on much steeper ground, where and special shoes had to be devised, and men looked for quartz crystals and minerals ore sites in the mountains.





, and when the sheep got with primitive shoes lost, they climbed the steep fitted with iron nails.





Prisoner of war concentration camp STALAG VI J mail, Germany 1942.



Iron Mountain, Zemstvo stamp. Baldai administration.



In mountain environments also minerals like iron were looked for.

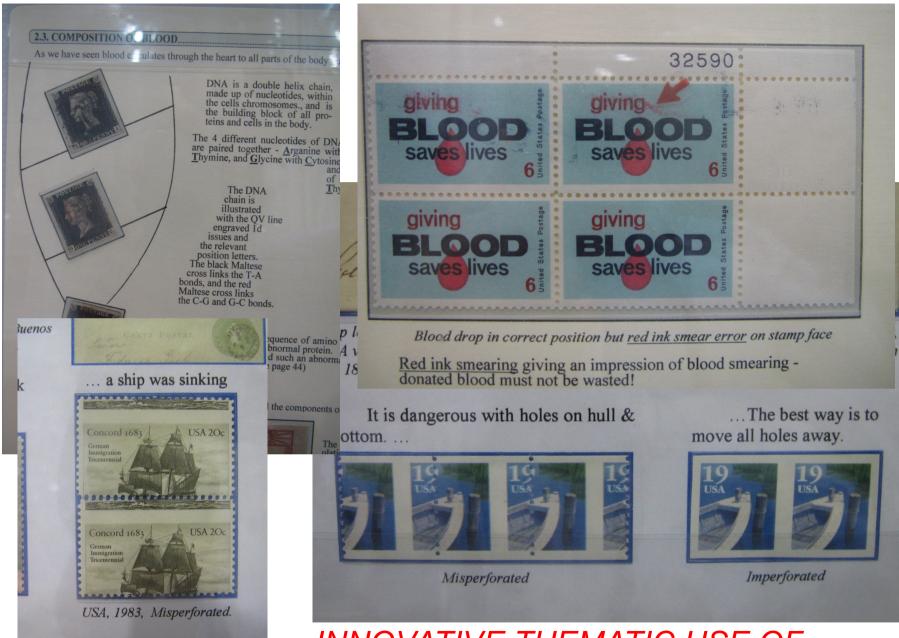
BETTER:

Appropriate thematic text positioned near each item - Story line runs through the page

INNOVATION

Innovation is demonstrated by a personal elaboration of the theme, that transforms an exhibit from a sequence of classified items into an "original" story

- Introduction of new themes
 - ➤ A new theme, by itself, is not sufficient, when not sustained by an innovative plan & development
- New approaches for known themes
 - > E.g. Historical approach, that widens the scope for analysis
- New aspects of an established or known theme
 - > New chapters, paragraphs
- New thematic application of material
 - > To support new thematic facts



INNOVATIVE THEMATIC USE OF PHILATELIC ELEMENTS

What should you pay attention to in TREATMENT

- The TITLE is the reference to determine the goal of the exhibit
- 2. Analyse the PLAN i.e.:
 - ☐ Consistency of the exhibit structure given the goal, implied by the title
 - of the main chapters and subchapters within a "red thread", that demonstrates the flow and development of the plan, more than a enumeration of the main aspects
 - Coverage of all main aspects, relevant for the title
- 3. Analyse DEVELOPMENT i.e.:
 - ☐ Consistency with the plan
 - Correct order and balancing of thematic details within the "red thread" that is based on the sequential positioning of each item on the sheet
 - Depth and width of what is shown

In the above BE INNOVATIVE: original title for a new theme, original story in the plan, introduce new aspects, new use of material.

Some more examples of improvements in the evolution of my exhibit

Good

2.1. Mountains as the seat of gods

According to Greek mithology **Hephaistos** forged lightnings on **Mount Aetna**, whereas the **Muses**, the nine goddesses who presided over literature, arts and sciences, lived on the **Parnassos**.





Hephaistos





Aetna

Aetna



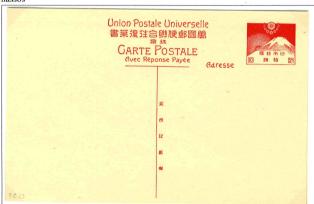






The nine Muses

Parnassos



Fuji-san, the sacred mountain of the Japanese. According to shintoism higher spirits named Kami dwell in the nature.

Better...

2.1. Mountains as the seat of gods



According to Greek mithology Hephaistos ...

1865 letter sent unpaid from New York to Reims, France, via London and Calais in a closed French mail bag on the Inman line steamship 'Etna'. Processed at the Paris foreign mail section was marked 8 decimes postage in black ink (15 cents, of which 9, see New York marking, were due to the Americans under the 1857 US-French postal commention.



... forged lightnings on Mount Etna...







...lived on Mt. Parnassos.

...whereas the Muses, the nine goddesses who presided over literature, arts and sciences,...



Fuji-san is still the sacred mountain of the Japanese. According to shintoism higher spirits named Kami dwell in the nature.

Good?

6.2 Birth of mountaineering: Triglay and Mont Blanc





Triglav depticted between the legs of the "chainbreaker" first Slovenian stamp

Variety: unperforated on top, stain on country name

The top of the Small Triglay, on the route to the Triglay top. Kingdom of Yugoslavia, 1938, fifth edition of illustrated postal cards





Commemorative cancellations: 200 years of Triglav ascent

Balthasar Hacquet

Balthasar Hacquet, a physician and natural scientist, ascends in the year 1777 from Srednja vas over Velo polje on the Small Triglav. Local people Luka Korosec, Stefan Rozic and Matija Kos accompanied the local doctor Lovrenc Willomitzer on top of Triglav on August 26, 1786. Next year during the second ascent also Hacquet reaches the top.

Better...



Good?

12.2 Conquering Mount Everest - world's roof

After WWII the British try again with a Commonwealth expedition and Everest is conquered on May 28, 1953: Hilary and Tenzing ascend it from the South saddle.







Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norkay









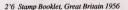


12.2 Conquering Mount Everest - world's roof

The **news** of the conquest **spread** rapidly, to Hillary's home country, New Zealand and to the whole world.

Hillary becomes a world hero and writes his autobiography.





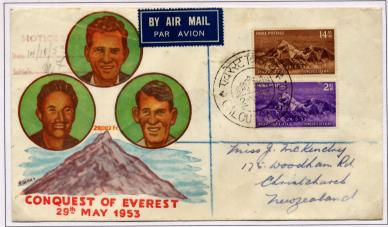








Many other countries soon try to repeat the success. The Swiss are the second, followed by the Americans the **Indians**, and the **Chinese**, who climb it from the north in 1975.



Registered letter from Calcutta to Christchurch

Better...





FEPA Jury Seminar - Essen, May 6-7, 2011

Good

14. THAT SHOULD RESPECT AND PRESERVE MOUNTAINS FOR OUR SUCCESSORS

14.1 National parks

Mountain environement has been safeguarded through national park first in the **USA** and then in the whole **world** in order to protect...







... flowers ...



... animals ...

SLOVENSKO RIPEM RUGIM SLOVENSKO VERICE ENVELOPEMENTO PER SU STATE POR SU STATE POR



... nature!





Stelvio national park



Hohe Tauern national park

All visitors should respect the mountain environment!

Better...



ALLOTMENT OF POINTS IN THE THEMATIC CLASS

	Judging criteria	Points	
Treatment			35
1.1	Title and plan	15	
	Correct, logical, balanced, original		
	Consistency between the plan and the title		
1.2	Development	15	
	Elaboration of all aspects of the plan		
	Positioning of items and their connection to thematic t	text	
1.3	Innovation	5	
	Originality of treatment, new aspects		
Knowledge, person	nal study and research		30
2.1	Thematic	15	
	Correct, concise text and new thematic findings		
2.2	Philatelic	15	
	Widest variety and balance of all types of material in		
	respect of philatelic rules		
	Philatelic comments (text)		
Condition and rari	ty		30
4.1	Condition (quality of material w/r to its rarity)	10	
4.2	Rarity (w/r to its importance and difficulty of acquisi	ition) 20	
Presentation			5
5.1	Overall aesthetic balance, clarity of display and text		
TOTAL		1	00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION !!

