The \textbf{Maltese} package

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1 Introduction

This package is intended to facilitate the input of Maltese characters with special diacritics ($\acute{c}$, $\acute{C}$, $\grave{g}$, $\grave{G}$, $\breve{h}$, $\breve{H}$, $\check{g}$, $\check{G}$, $\check{i}$, $\check{I}$, $\grave{z}$, $\grave{Z}$) in \LaTeX.\textsuperscript{2}

2 Requirements

This package requires the following \texttt{ucs} package to be already available.

3 Installation

To install, simply copy the available \texttt{maltese.sty} package file to an appropriate path for the \LaTeX\textsuperscript{2} distribution being used and refresh the system as necessary. (Refer to the local guide for further details.)

4 Usage

The package provides the commands given in Table 1. The commands for $\check{g}$ and $\check{i}$ are not simply shorthand, but are intended to prevent hyphenation to occur within these characters.

The following are samples in various styles of the default font:

\begin{itemize}
  \item \texttt{Hienja \acute{c}awla \acute{z}\-zh\-gh\-ira li qie\-gh\-da ti\- gri fil-ham\-ri\-ja.}
  \item \texttt{Hienja \acute{c}awla \acute{z}\-zh\-gh\-ira li qie\-gh\-da ti\- gri fil-ham\-ri\-ja.}
  \item \texttt{Hienja \acute{c}awla \acute{z}\-zh\-gh\-ira li qie\-gh\-da ti\- gri fil-ham\-ri\-ja.}
  \item \texttt{Hienja \acute{c}awla \acute{z}\-zh\-gh\-ira li qie\-gh\-da ti\- gri fil-ham\-ri\-ja.}
  \item \texttt{Hienja \acute{c}awla \acute{z}\-zh\-gh\-ira li qie\-gh\-da ti\- gri fil-ham\-ri\-ja.}
\end{itemize}
Table 1: \texttt{maltese} package commands

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Long Form</th>
<th>Short Form</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\maltesec</td>
<td>\mc</td>
<td>ċ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseC</td>
<td>\mC</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseg</td>
<td>\mg</td>
<td>ĝ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseG</td>
<td>\mG</td>
<td>G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseh</td>
<td>\mh</td>
<td>h</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseH</td>
<td>\mH</td>
<td>H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\maltesey</td>
<td>\my</td>
<td>gh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseY</td>
<td>\mY</td>
<td>Gh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\maltesei</td>
<td>\mi</td>
<td>ie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseI</td>
<td>\mI</td>
<td>Ie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\maltesez</td>
<td>\mz</td>
<td>ẑ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\malteseZ</td>
<td>\mZ</td>
<td>Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5 Notes

The package provides good results with the default \LaTeX\,2ɛ font. However, some characters may not look right with typewriter text or if a different font, such as \texttt{times}, is loaded.

6 Acknowledgements

Thanks go to Dominique Unruh (dominique@unruh.de), author of the \texttt{ucs} package, for kindly providing the current definitions for h̅ and H̅. Thanks to Sinclair Calleja for testing and helping with debugging.

7 Implementation

Redefine h̅ to safeguard from tabbing environment.

1 \texttt{\let\h@bar=\=}
   Define barred h lower and upper case.
2 \texttt{\DeclareUnicodeCharacter{126}{\leavevmode\rlap{\h@bar{\empty}}H\llap{\h@bar{\empty}}}}
3 \texttt{\DeclareUnicodeCharacter{127}{\leavevmode\rlap{\h@bar{\empty}}h}}

Declare shortcuts.

4 \texttt{\newcommand\mc{\unichar{10B}}}
5 \texttt{\newcommand\mC{\unichar{10A}}}
6 \texttt{\newcommand\mg{\unichar{121}}}
7 \texttt{\newcommand\mG{\unichar{120}}}
8 \texttt{\newcommand\mh{\unichar{127}}}
9 \texttt{\newcommand\mH{\unichar{126}}}

2
\newcommand{\mz}{\unichar{17C}}
\newcommand{\mZ}{\unichar{17B}}
\newcommand{\my}{{g\mh}}
\newcommand{\mY}{{G\mh}}
\newcommand{\mi}{{ie}}
\newcommand{\mI}{{Ie}}

Declare longer named versions.
\newcommand{\maltesec}{\mc}
\newcommand{\malteseC}{\mC}
\newcommand{\malteseg}{\mg}
\newcommand{\malteseG}{\mG}
\newcommand{\malteseh}{\mh}
\newcommand{\malteseH}{\mH}
\newcommand{\maltesez}{\mz}
\newcommand{\malteseZ}{\mZ}
\newcommand{\maltesey}{\my}
\newcommand{\malteseY}{\mY}
\newcommand{\maltesei}{\mi}
\newcommand{\malteseI}{\mI}

\maltesetext A utility macro to wrap Maltese text with a font that will correctly display the non-Latin characters.
\newcommand{\maltesetext}[1]{\bgroup\fontfamily{cmr}\selectfont#1\egroup}

Change History

v1.0
General: Initial version ..... 1
in a tabbing environment .... 1

v1.1
General: Resolved bug when using unicode characters 126 and 127

v1.2
General: Barred h definition changed ................. 1