Writing good definitions

The definition defines only one term.

The definition is not a tautology, i.e., it does not contain any circular references

The definition only uses defined terms (e.g., generic terms).

There are no circular references to other terms used.

The definition only consists of one or more generic terms and one or more limiting characteristics.

The generic terms are as specific as possible.

The definition does not contain any explanations, justifications or examples. These belong to the notes.

The attributes are atomic, they cannot be broken down into smaller units.

The attributes are orthogonal and, therefore, "free of overlaps." This also ensures that the definition uses as few attributes as possible.

The attributes are simple and binary.

The attributes do not extend the generic term

Attributes must be "pure" and must not contain explanations, examples and justifications.

The references in a definition must be absolutely clear.