

## How to avoid Upside-Down Question Marks (¿) (UDQM) Using MS-WORD or Notepad.

- I. The following WORD autoformat features will cause upside-down question marks when cut-and-pasted into ISFD fields and then saved:
  1. Smart (“curly”) quotes.
  2. Smart (‘curly’) apostrophes
  3. Smart (facilities – new ) dashes
  4. Bulleted lists
  5. Special characters not on a PC keyboard:  
Examples: ™, ©, any foreign letter (Ä, à), graphic characters (¶) or other special character. Any unusual character that you need to use the WORD Symbol menu will likely cause a UDQM. Unfortunately, that may include some rather common symbols, such as the copyright © which actually shows copyrightÄ© or the trademark, which shows as â¿ç.
  6. Any of these characters double or triple in number and will include other characters (the above for copyright shows copyrightÄ¿Ä©?) when the page is saved again. Thus the problem grows quickly.

***NOTE: When you cut/copy and paste, the characters in ISFD will look correct. It is only after you save the page that the UDQM and associated error characters will appear.***

- II. To avoid them:
  1. Do not use bulleted lists. Either use numbered or lettered lists or use a character from the keyboard to define each line.
  2. Change options for automatic formatting:
    - a. On the MS-WORD choose both -Autocorrect and Auto format As You Type
    - b. Uncheck straight quotes with smart quotes
    - c. Uncheck hyphen with dash
    - d. Uncheck bulleted lists
  3. Check any cut-and-paste text for these types of punctuation and special characters.
    - a. WORD documents
    - b. ISFD Standard Paragraphs
    - c. Copy/Paste Internet text

The following paragraph was successfully updated:

This "test" paragraph - with Word's 'autoformat' options modified - was saved in ISFD "Actions" with:

1. No smart quotes
2. No smart apostrophes
3. No smart dashes

4. Numbered List, not bulleted  
No UDQMs ( $\grave{\cdot}$ ) generated (except this one!)

NOTE: Although we describe this problem as UDQM (upside-down question marks), we now see a multitude of UDQMs that manifest themselves as capital A with a tilde ( $\tilde{A}$ ) or with a circumflex ( $\hat{A}$ ) or small a with a circumflex along with UDQMs.