

XQuery Syntax in HXQ

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Symbols in **blue font** are lexical tokens (terminals), symbols in regular font are either meta-symbols or non-terminals. Here is the meaning of the meta-symbols (ϵ matches the empty input):

(a)	=	a	
$a b$	=	a then b	(concatenation)
$a \mid b$	=	either a or b	(alternation)
$[a]$	=	$a \mid \epsilon$	(optionality)
$\{ a \}$	=	$a \mid a a \mid a a a \mid \dots$	(repetition)
$\{ a , \}$	=	$a \mid a , a \mid a , a , a \mid \dots$	
$\{ a ; \}$	=	$a \mid a ; a \mid a ; a ; a \mid \dots$	
$\{ , a \}$	=	$\epsilon \mid a \mid a , a \mid a , a , a \mid \dots$	

query	::= { declare variable var := e declare function qname ({ var [as type] , }) [as type] { e } e ; }	(a variable declaration) (a function declaration) (an XQuery)
qname	::= [id :] id	(a qualified name is namespace:localname)
var	::= \$ id	(variables should begin with \$)
string	::= “ { { { e , } } } char } ”	(you may embed XQuery values in a string)
type	::= qname [()] [* +]	(types are currently ignored)
e	::= (for fbinds let lbinds) { for fbinds let lbinds } [where e] [orderby] return e some fbinds satisfies e every fbinds satisfies e if e then e else e insert e into e delete from e replace e with e @ step predicates step predicates { path } element e binop e unop e e instance of type integer double string	(FLOWR expression) (existential quantification) (universal quantification) (insert the former inside the latter) (remove from parent) (replace the former with the latter) (an XPath path) (element construction) (binary operation) (unary operation) (type check (ignored)) (integer constant) (floating point)
fbinds	::= { var [at var] in e , }	(for-bindings)
lbinds	::= { var := e , }	(let-bindings)
orderby	::= order by { e [ascending descending] , }	(default is ascending)
binop	::= to + - * div idiv mod = != < <= > >= << >> is eq ne lt le gt ge and or not union intersect except	
unop	::= + - not	
element	::= < qname { qname = string } > content </ qname > < qname { qname = string } /> element (qname { e }) { { e , } } attribute (qname { e }) { { e , } }	(empty element)
content	::= { { { e , } } string text element }	
path	::= / step predicates // step predicates /@ step predicates //@ step predicates /.. predicates	(child-of) (descendant-of) (attribute-of) (descendant-attribute-of) (parent-of)
predicates	::= { [e] }	
step	::= var qname [:: (qname *)] . * ({ , e }) qname ({ , e })	(an XPath step is axis::test) (current context) (any name) (sequence construction) (function call)

Figure 1: XQuery BNF