

Please note! This page describes the *nature of the error* using a hypothetical example and not the erroneous data of the input test file. You should however be able to apply this information to your error case.

## General description of the error:

**The format of the error message:** The processing instruction must begin with the name of the target.

**Error description in schema standard:** <http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-20040204/#NT-prolog>

**Meaning of error:** Parsing has found a "processing instruction", most likely a syntax which is supposed to start XML declaration but file is missing the name of the instruction.

**Possible causes for this error:**

- XML declaration is not valid. Example of valid declaration below.

## Example

```
<? encoding="UTF-8"?>
```

**Error message:** *Fatal Error PITargetRequired : The processing instruction must begin with the name of the target.*

**How to fix:** Add the missing information to declaration

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
```