

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 XML declaration must end with `<?>`.

Error description in schema standard: <http://www.w3.org/TR/2004/REC-xml-20..04/#NT-XMLDecl>

Possible causes for this error:

- XML declaration is not closed correctly
 - ? Characters `?>` could be missing at the end of the declaration
 - ? Declaration could be closed too early, while there still are attributes after closing character(s): `<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?`

Example

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

Error message: *Fatal Error XMLDeclUnterminated : The XML declaration must end with "<?>".*

How to fix: Add the missing character `>` after `?`.

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