Describing JSON in IETF Documents

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"Though this be madness, yet there is method in 't."

- What is the high-level purpose for defining a JSON schema language in the IETF?
  - Provide a consistent and/or better means to describe JSON in IETF documents

  Or

  - All of that plus
    - Enabling tools
    - Describing JSON-related ecosystems
    - Decoupling specified data models from data formats
    - …

"Brevity is the soul of wit"

- Requirements for a method to describe JSON in IETF documents
  - Probably the MUSTS
    - Non-tedious (easy to read and easy to write), easy to understand, concise, precise
      - Subjective!
  - Probably the Nice to Haves
    - Interleave with document prose, uses JSON, data-type constraints, extensibility hooks, modularity
      - objective

"As good luck would have it"

ABNF

```
reputon = "{" [ reputon-object
        *(value-separator reputon-object) ] "}"
reputon-object = "reputon" name-separator response-set
```

Reputon the Second

```
reputation-object: an OBJECT containing a MEMBER
    reputation-context and a MEMBER reputon-list
```

JSON Content Rules

```
reputation-object { reputation-context, reputon-list }
```

"Nothing will come of nothing."

- "I think schemas can be useful (but designing good schema languages is horribly hard, and so easy to get wrong)." – Tim Bray
  - "Hard? Nah, it's just an exercise in re-inventing the same wheel again." – Nico Williams
- "I think clear English prose is *essential*, the one thing a specification must have. Thus, schemas can be actively harmful if arguing over them distracts attention from crafting the prose properly." – Tim Bray
  - "We do need prose-mostly descriptions of protocols. We need formal languages to avoid accidents and to convey concisely and precisely things that can be difficult to do in prose (in any natural language)." – Nico Williams

"An honest tale speeds best, being plainly told"

- Charter item, take 1:
  - A set of natural-language terms and/or phrases for use in future specifications that use JSON. This explicitly excludes schema languages and similar formalisms.

- Take 2:
  - A method to describe JSON data in IETF specifications for the IETF, which may include formalisms necessary to aid descriptive prose.