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Non-ASCII Characters in Input

As mentioned [here](#), MetaMap accepts only ASCII text—not UTF8.

If MetaMap encounters any non-ASCII characters in its input, it will abort, create an empty output file, and display to stderr an error message such as

```
### MetaMap ERROR: MetaMap supports ASCII-only input.  
The input contains 6 non-ASCII chars: "ñøÁŠǫĩ".  
Remove all non-ASCII chars from input before trying again!
```

A Java program that converts the most common non-ASCII characters to their closest ASCII equivalents is available [here](#).