Comparing blocks

A sample text to compare several types of block elements

Literal Blocks

The following syntax variants all translate to a “literal-block” docutils doctree element.

A paragraph containing only two colons (::) indicates that the following indented or **consistently** quoted text is a literal block.

Indented literal block

```
Whitespace, newlines, blank lines, and
all kinds of markup (like *this* or
\this) is preserved by literal blocks.
```

A literal block with Python code and “lstlisting“

```
import sys

text = "hello␣world"
print text
sys.exit()
```

A literal block with Python code and ”Verbatim“

```
import sys

text = "hello␣world"
print text
sys.exit()
```

A literal block with Python code and ”verbatim“

```
import sys

text = "hello␣world"
print text
sys.exit()
```

Quoted literal block

```
>> Great idea!
>
> Why didn't␣I␣think␣of␣that?
```

You just did! ;-)

Parsed Literal Block

The “parsed-literal” directive starts a parsed “literal-block”.

```
Whitespace, newlines, blank lines, are preserved, but
all kinds of markup (like this or
this) is not preserved but converted to inline elements
by parsed literal blocks.
```

Doctest Blocks

Doctest exemples are read into the doctree element: “doctest-block”. (This might change in future, as a “literal-block” works as well.)

```
>>> print 'this␣is␣a␣Doctest␣block'
this is a Doctest block
```

Line blocks

Line blocks are useful for addresses, verse, and adornment-free lists.

Each new line begins with a
vertical bar (“|”).
  Line breaks and initial indents
  are preserved.
Continuation lines are wrapped portions of long lines; they begin with spaces in place of vertical bars.
last line

Line Block directive

The “line-block” directive is deprecated. Use the line block syntax instead.

Lend us a couple of bob till Thursday.
I’m absolutely skint.
But I’m expecting a postal order and I can pay you back
  as soon as it comes.