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Sample Preview of the Solved Sample Question Papers

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QUESTION PAPER

June – 2024

(Solved)

LIBRARY, INFORMATION AND SOCIETY

B.L.I.-221

Time: 3 Hours] ***[Maximum Marks: 70***

Note: *The question paper is in two parts. Attempt both parts as per instructions given therein. Illustrate your answers with suitable examples and diagrams, wherever necessary. Write the relevant question number before writing the answer.*

PART-I

Note : Answer any four of the following questions.

Q. 1. Define 'Special Library'. Discuss its role in society.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 9, Q. No. 6.

Q. 2. State the five laws of Library Science. Discuss the implications of 4th Law of library Science.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-4, Page No. 15, 'Five Laws of Library Science', Page No. 16-17, 'Fourth Law: Save the Time of the Reader'.

Q. 3. Discuss the salient features of Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No. 24-25, 'Andhra Pradesh Public Libraries Act, 1960'.

Q. 4. Define 'Library Network'. Discuss the services of OCLC.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 51, 'Library Networks: International OCLC (Online Computer Library Centre)', Page No. 52, 'Other Services'.

Q. 5. Explain the activities and services of CILIP.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-13, Page No. 70-71, 'Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)'.

Q. 6. Define 'Resource Sharing'. Discuss the factors to be considered for deciding the kind of documents to be shared.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 40-41, Q. No. 1 and Q. No. 7.

PART-II

Note: Write short notes on the any six of following:

Q. 7. Hybrid Libraries.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 7, 'Hybrid Libraries'.

Q. 8. Data Centres.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 11, 'Data Centres'.

Q. 9. Code of Ethics

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-12, Page No. 63-64, 'Code of Ethics for LIS Professionals' and 'Code of Ethics in Digital Era'.

Q. 10. Reference Librarian.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 58, 'Reference Librarian'.

Q. 11. Activities of ILA.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-13, Page No. 73, Q. No. 3.

Q. 12. Library Networking.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-8, Page No. 41, Q. No. 8.

Q. 13. Services of CALIBNET.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 47-48, 'CALIBNET (Calcutta Library Network)', 'Services'.

Q. 14. IT Act, 2000.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 35, 'Information Technology Act, 2000'.

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QUESTION PAPER

June – 2023

(Solved)

LIBRARY, INFORMATION AND SOCIETY

B.L.I.-221

Time: 3 Hours] ***[Maximum Marks: 70***

Note: *The question paper is in two parts. Attempt both parts as per instructions given therein. Illustrate your answers with suitable examples and diagrams, wherever necessary. Write the relevant question number before writing the answer.*

PART-I

Note : Answer the following questions.

Q. 1. Explain the need, functions and services of a school library.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 5, 'Academic Libraries'.

Q. 2. Discuss the characteristics and features of an information society.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 1, 'Information Society'.

Q. 3. Discuss the objectives and activities of INFLIBNET.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-10, Page No. 145, 'INFLIBNET (Information and Library Networks), 'Objectives', Page No. 46, 'Services' and 'Human Resource Development and Databases'.

Q. 4. Discuss the salient features of Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-6, Page No. 24, 'Madras Public Libraries Act, 1948'.

Q. 5. Describe the role of ALA in the development of LIS profession.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-13, Page No. 70, 'American Library Association (ALA)'.

Q. 6. Write an essay on the objectives and activities of RRRLF.

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-14, Page No. 77, 'Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF), Kolkata' and 'Programmes and Activities of RRRLF'.

PART-II

Note: Write short notes on the following:

Q. 7. Special Library

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 9, Q. No. 6.

Q. 8. Knowledge Society

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-1, Page No. 2, 'Knowledge Society'.

Q. 9. IT Act, 2000

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 35, 'Information Technology Act, 2000'.

Q. 10. Hybrid Library

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-2, Page No. 7, 'Hybrid Libraries'.

Q. 11. Data Centre

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 11, 'Data Centres' and 'Page No. 13, 'Data Centres'.

Q. 12. Vocation *vs.* Profession

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-11, Page No. 59, Q. No. 1.

Q. 13. IPR

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-7, Page No. 33, 'Intellectual Property Rights'.

Q. 14. Referral Centre

Ans. Ref.: See Chapter-3, Page No. 11, 'Referral Centre and Clearing Houses' and Page No. 13, 'Referral Centres and Clearing Houses'.

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Sample Preview of The Chapter

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LIBRARY, INFORMATION AND SOCIETY

LIBRARY AND INFORMATION IN SOCIAL PERSPECTIVE

Libraries, Information and Knowledge-based Society

1

INTRODUCTION

Since knowledge and information are important for all round human development, libraries are indeed invaluable. Libraries play an important role in the educational process of formal and non-formal learning, in research and development, in cultural activities, in spiritual and ideological realms, in recreation and entertainment. With spectacular advances in information technologies and increasing categories of users and their information needs in different situations, modern society is heading towards an information society in which the central instrument of change, force and direction of change are knowledge and information.

CHAPTER AT A GLANCE

MODERN SOCIETY: SOME CHARACTERISTICS

Modern society is characterised by technological progress and advancement. Communication has been so easy and people are now more aware about their development. People want to lead a cultured, prosperous and developed life. Emphasis has been given on certain the development of basic values in life and adhering to them. Members of society thus should make suitable arrangements to achieve these purposes.

Many educational and research institutions have been established for education and training. All these institutions have library to meet the needs of the students and the teachers.

Role of Libraries in Society

According to Brophy, library has the following roles:

(i) Library as a collection of resources
(ii) An organisation of resource sharing
(iii) A provider of access, and
(iv) Library is embedded or immersive

Library is the interface between the users and the vast amounts of published and unpublished information available. Libraries facilitate and support learning.

There is some paradigm shifts happening in libraries. It is changing from custodian of books to service oriented information provider, one medium to multi-media, own collection to library without walls, in good time to just-in-time, in sourcing to out sourcing and local reach to global reach. The library also now comes to you.

Some experts also opine that the existence of libraries is under threat because of the technological development and demand for just-in-time information.

Information and Its Impact on Society

Information has played an important role in the society. It has affected the polity, the economy and the culture. We need information in our day-to-day life and in the daily discharge of duties. The impact of information can be seen in a number of human activities such as education, research and development. Information plays a vital role in the transformation of the society from the agrarian society to industrial and industrial to post-industrial society.

INFORMATION SOCIETY

Information society describes the changes happened and the present society which depends so much on information.

Information Society: Evolution of the Concept

Information society was used for the first time in the 1970s. It gained its popularity in the 1980s. It has been used by scholars, writers and academicians.

The emergence of the professionals, scientific and technical group and introduction of the computer technology have led to the development of information society.

The writings of Masuda, Stonier and Naisbitt present a new kind of society – a technological utopianism. Toffler argued that the US changed from industrial to an information society in the 1960s and 1970s. Computer played an important role.Toffler said there would be a powerful shift in the society because of the information and the society would depend on knowledge.

Definition and Meaning of Information Society

Branscomb defines information society as a society where the majority of people are engaged in creating, gathering, storage, processing or distribution of information.

Manfred Kochen says most members in the society generate knowledge by knowledge based procedures that are knowledge-intensive. He states that information

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reflects the basic social variants. Reasons and human values are given importance in such society.

James Martin says that information society has come to represent societies at an advanced post-industrial stage. It is characterised by high degree of computerisation, large volume data transmission and economy is influenced by information technology.

Factors Determining the Arrival of Information Society

Data explosion, growing information consciousness and information dependence of society at large and accelerating developments in computing and communication technology build the information society. Cawkell says a telecommunication based information service infrastructure is the pre-requisite for an information society.

Different Perceptions of Information Society

According to Webster, there are five perceptions about the information society:

***(i)* Technological Perception:** Technological perspective effectively draws attention to the potential benefits of information technologies for the society.

***(ii)* Economic Perception:** The dominant characteristic of an information society is the nature of its economy.

***(iii)* Occupational Perception:** Information society also occupational changes. The IT sector has opened avenues for teachers, researchers and other professionals.

***(iv)* Spatial Perception:** Networking for connecting different locations and regions all over the world is important in this sector.

***(v)* Cultural Perception:** All types of development have an impact on our living and culture. The Information sector also affected our culture and our tradition.

***(vi)* United Nations World Summit on the Information Society:** The summit that was held in Geneva on December 10-12, 2003 aimed to develop a common vision of information society. The summit debate ended with two approaches: information society for driving economic development and helping it for accelerating the human development process.

***(vii)* Alternate Definitions or Proposals:** Technological revolutions have led to the ideas that information is a public good and not a commodity.

KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

Knowledge societies include social, cultural, political, economical and educational dimensions. It captures the complexity and dynamism of the changes taking place. It is thus preferable to information society.

Definition of Knowledge Society

Knowledge society is the society built on knowledge as a core resource for economic growth and employment. Knowledge plays a crucial role in the development process in knowledge society. In a knowledge society, patents, research and development, availability of knowledge workers are the measures of competitiveness instead of the traditional labour costs, recourse endowments and infrastructure.

Characteristics of Knowledge Society

Knowledge society has many elements. *(i)* The newly created knowledge in all fields are expanding. *(ii)* Knowledge is not related to any individual but connected with the society.

In a perfectly knowledge society, all people have open and timely access to information and knowledge; the ability to absorb and interpret information. People also have avenues and opportunities to use knowledge and decision-making.

Establishment of Knowledge-based Society

Setting up a knowledge-based society is desirable. Political will of the government is also needed for establishing a knowledge-based society. Well-educated and skilled workforce is required for developing such a society.

Knowledge-Based Economy (KBE)

Knowledge is the key resource in a knowledge-based economy. There are different types of knowledge: know-what, know-why, know-how and know-who.

KBE is needed for measuring knowledge inputs, knowledge stocks and flows, knowledge outputs, knowledge networks, knowledge and learning.

Developing Countries

Knowledge has been the cornerstone of wealth creation in a knowledge society. Intellectual capital includes three primary types of capitals: human capital, structural capital and customer capital. Human capital is the most important and developing countries have to emphasise on the development of human capital and knowledge creation. Knowledge leads to social equality. It enables the developing countries to emerge as strong economies and become independent of cheap labour improving productivity and income.

CHECK YOUR PROGRESS

Q. 1. Explain the role of libraries and information in meeting the requirements of modern society.

Ans. Libraries collect, stock, process, organise, disseminate and distribute information/knowledge recorded in documents. Since knowledge and information are so vital for all round human development, libraries and other institutions that handle and manage knowledge and information are indeed invaluable. Libraries play an important role in the educational process of formal and non-formal learning, in research and development, in cultural activities, in spiritual and ideological realms, in recreation and entertainment, etc. With spectacular advances in information technologies and increasing categories of users and their information needs in different situations, modern society is heading towards an information society in which the central instrument of change, force and direction of change are knowledge and information.

Q. 2. Briefly explain the essence of *Information Society* concept as reflected in the conceptual analysis of literature.

Ans. Webster stated that there are five perceptions about the information society: Technological Perception, Economic Perception, Occupational Perception, Spatial Perception and Cultural Perception.

***(i)* Technological Perception:** With the development of technology, all the areas of the society has been benefitted by it. Mainly the development in

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information processing and storage and transmission have led to more efficiency and increased the productivity. Technological perspective effectively draws attention to the potential benefits of information technologies for the society.

***(ii)* Economic Perception:** The dominant characteristic of an information society is the nature of its economy. Information technology has led to the growth of the service sector in the developed countries and the decline of employment in manufacturing. Authors like Machlup has concluded that the knowledge industries would outpace the industrial sector.

***(iii)* Occupational Perception:** Information society also has caused occupational changes. The IT sector has opened avenues for teachers, researchers and other professionals. It has caused changes in the distribution of occupation.

***(iv)* Spatial Perception:** Networking for connecting different locations and regions all over the world is important in this sector. Information technology has connected the world. It has helped in the globalisation of everything. We can now connect to people from all parts of the world in seconds.

***(v)* Cultural Perception:** All types of development have an impact on our living and culture. The Information sector also affected our culture and our tradition. We now get and send messages about ourselves and others. This has been possible because of the information technology.

Q. 3. State the attributes of an Information Society.

Ans. In an information society, majority of people are engaged in creating, gathering, storage, processing or distribution of information.

Most members in the society generate knowledge by adopting knowledge based procedures that are knowledge-intensive. Information reflects the basic social variants. The information society give importance to reasons and human values.

James Martin says that information society has come to represent societies at an advanced post-industrial stage. It is characterised by high degree of computerisation, large volume data transmission and economy is influenced by information technology.

Data explosion, growing information consciousness and information dependence of society at large and accelerating developments in computing and communication technology build the information society. A tele-communication based information service infrastructure is the pre-requisite for an information society.

Q. 4. What are the economic implications of an Information Society?

Ans. Information society has impact on the economy. There are different types of knowledge: know-what, know-why, know-how and know-who. Peter Drucker has argued that there is a transition from an economy based on material goods to one based on knowledge. Marc Porat distinguishes a primary (information goods and services that are directly used in the production, distribution or processing of information) and a secondary sector (information services produced for internal consumption by government and non-information firms) of the information economy.

Porat uses the total value added by the primary and secondary information sector to the GNP as an indicator for the information economy. The OECD has employed Porat's definition for calculating the share of the information economy in the total economy (e.g. OECD 1981, 1986). Based on such indicators, the information society has been defined as a society where more than half of the GNP is produced and more than half of the employees are active in the information economy.

For Daniel Bell the number of employees producing services and information is an indicator for the informational character of a society. "A post-industrial society is based on services. (…) What counts is not raw muscle power, or energy, but information. (…) A post industrial society is one in which the majority of those employed are not involved in the production of tangible goods".

Jean-François Lyotard has argued that "knowledge has become the principle [sic] force of production over the last few decades". Knowledge would be transformed into a commodity. Lyotard says that postindustrial society makes knowledge accessible to the layman because knowledge and information technologies would diffuse into society and break up Grand Narratives of centralized structures and groups. Lyotard denotes these changing circumstances as postmodern condition or postmodern society.

Q. 5. Discuss the important characteristics and features of a knowledge society.

Ans. Knowledge Society has the following characteristics: *(i)* Newly created knowledge in all fields are expanding by time. *(ii)* Knowledge is not related to any individual but connected with the society. All the people get benefitted by the development of knowledge in the society. *(iii)* In a perfectly knowledge society, all people have open and timely access to information and knowledge; the ability to absorb and interpret information. *(iv)* People also have avenues and opportunities to use knowledge and decision making. Nobody can put restriction on anybody for the use of knowledge in such society.

Q. 6. Explain the different kinds of knowledge important in the knowledge-based economy.

Ans. The types of knowledge important in the knowledge-based economy are: know-what, know-why, know-how and know-who.

Other knowledge types are:

***(i)* Technological Knowledge:** Technological perspective effectively draws attention to the potential benefits of information technologies for the society.

***(ii)* Economic Knowledge:** The dominant characteristic of an information society is the nature of its economy. Economic activities depend on economic knowledge.

***(iii)* Occupational Knowledge:** Occupational knowledge is required for the Information society.

***(iv)* Cultural Knowledge:** All types of development have an impact on our living and culture.

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The Information sector also affected our culture and our tradition.

Q. 7. Explain what is meant by the term Knowledge-Based economy (KBE) and discuss some of the important indicators that help to measure KBE.

Ans. Knowledge is the key resource in a knowledge-based economy. KBE is needed for measuring knowledge inputs, knowledge stocks and flows, knowledge outputs, knowledge networks, knowledge and learning. A knowledge-based economy is defined as "an economy that is capable of knowledge production, dissemination and use; where knowledge is a key factor in growth, wealth creation and employment, and where human capital is the driver of creativity, innovation and generation of new ideas, with reliance on information and communication technology (ICT) as an enabler". Moreover, there is a positive correlation and mutual interaction between the "knowledge society" and the "knowledge-based economy". In addition, "knowledge" has become a critical requirement for enhancing competitiveness of countries in the twenty first century. A knowledge-based economy is based on utilisation of the outputs of the knowledge system to create new products and services through innovation. Although, according to the Global Innovation Index, innovation in the Kingdom is still a significant challenge, a springboard for development of innovation has been put in place. For example, national industries have developed significantly over the past three decades, and now have strong bases of knowledge upon which to build towards the new economy, particularly with the adoption of the National Industrial Strategy, and its implementation mechanism that espouses knowledge-based economy, and the Strategy for Giftedness, Creativity and Innovation.

Q. 8. Discuss the steps to be taken by developing nations to progress towards knowledge society and knowledge-based economy.

Ans. The last decades of the 20th century have represented a turning point in the global development process. It is knowledge that has become the engine of the social, economic and cultural development in the today's world. Knowledge-intensive economic activities are now a factor of production of strategic importance in the leading countries. They have also become the main indicator of the level of development and the readiness of every country for a further economic and cultural growth in the 21st century. Knowledge is the cornerstone of wealth creation in a knowledge society. Intellectual capital includes three primary types of capitals: human capital, structural capital and customer capital. Human capital is the most important and developing countries need to emphasise on the development of human capital and knowledge creation. Knowledge leads to social equality. It enables the developing countries to emerge as strong economies and become independent of cheap labour improving productivity and income. Economic activities associated with the production and utilization of information and knowledge have become an engine of economic growth in the developing economies, increasingly transforming all the other dimensions of development.

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