THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
INFORMATION STUDIES UNIT
BA IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES
LEVEL 5 (SEMESTER I)
FINAL EXAMINATION – 2024/2025
HSU5301 – INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE SOCIETY

DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY.

Date: 24. 08. 2024	Time: 1.30 pm – 4.30 pm

Instructions:

➢ Answer only <u>five (05)</u> questions.

➢ All questions carry equal marks.

1   i. According to Daniel Bell what are the three (3) successive phases of economic progress? Discuss.   **(6 marks)**

ii. Explain four (04) of the characteristics of post-industrial society.   **(14 marks)**

2   i. What are the three (03) main changes that occurred in post-industrial society according to Daniel Bell? Explain.   **(6 marks)**

ii. Briefly discuss four (04) criticisms over the post-industrial society.   **(14 marks)**

3   Explain five (05) characteristics of knowledge economy with suitable examples.   **(20 marks)**

4   i. What are the two (02) main sectors of information economy? Name them.   **(4 marks)**

ii. Explain four (04) main causes that affect for the information poverty.   **(16 marks)**

5   i. Briefly describe the concept 'social informatics'.   (5marks)

ii. "As librarians, we have to adjust to modern technology to full fill the information needs of contemporary users". Discuss how you can plan to adjust traditional library services according to the new technology as a librarian with five (5) examples.

(15 marks)

6   i. Define the concept 'community'.   (5 marks)

ii. Discuss the significance of identifying categories of community information for the effective information provision by a public librarian.   (15 marks)

7   i. Discuss the concept 'digital divide' in detail giving examples.   (10 marks)

ii. Discuss two (02) issues that have prevented the successful distribution of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in Sri Lanka and explain relevant suggestions to overcome those issues.   (10 marks)

8   i. Describe the difference between dynamic information and static information with examples.   (10 marks)

ii. What are the main clusters of Government Information (GI) categories? Describe these clusters with examples.   (10 marks)

9   Write short notes on any four (04) of the following topics (5 marks each)
- i. Digital living
- ii. Cyberspace
- iii. Community as a competitive social entity
- iv. E WOM
- v. Information as a factor of production
- vi. Actors of information environment   (5x4=20 marks)