

THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
 INFORMATION STUDIES UNIT
 FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
 BA HONOURS IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION STUDIES
 FINAL EXAMINATION – 2025/26
 LEVEL 3 (SEMESTER I)
 HSU3301- LIBRARIES, LIBRARIANSHIP AND INFORMATION STUDIES



DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY

Date: 27.09.2025

Time: 9.30am. – 12.30pm.

Instructions

Index No:

- Answer only **five (05)** questions.
- All questions carry equal marks (20 marks).

1.
 - i. Define briefly what a modern library is? 5 marks
 - ii. What are the types of 'Library Resources' commonly available in a modern libraries? Write 5 library resources 5 marks
 - iii. 'Resource Organization' is fundamental for resource access in libraries. Briefly explain methods of organization and benefits of these methods. 10 marks
2.
 - i. How Eberhart in 2010, had defined the 'library User'? 5 marks
 - ii. What are the main impact areas on the society created by modern libraries? Explain with examples. 15 marks
3.
 - i. Traditional libraries face certain challenges when providing services to users. Briefly discuss 8 such challenges faced by traditional libraries. 8 marks
 - ii. Explain four (4) benefits of automated services in a modern library comparing with the traditional library services. 12 marks
4.
 - i. Explain the notable 3 differences between libraries and archives 10 marks
 - ii. What are the main rules in using archival collections? List and describe briefly 10 marks
5.
 - i. Briefly explain the prominent world civilizations and library culture that had emerged during pre-Christian era along the famous river valleys. 10 marks
 - ii. The clay tablets had been in existence from 3750 BC -612 BC, as a knowledge storage medium. Explain briefly the evidence of clay tablets libraries that existed in the pre-Christian era 10 marks

6. i. From the clay tablet era, there were alternative media that had been used for storing and communication of knowledge. Explain briefly the main writing medium used during pre-Christian era to Christian era. 8 marks
- ii. Write a brief account on the contribution made by the Chinese culture to the world literary tradition during 16th-26th century BC. 12 marks
7. i. Write down the stages of printing beginning from Wood Block printing? 9 marks
- ii. Write a brief account on introducing printing system to Ceylon by Dutch. 5 marks
- iii. Write down short accounts about 6 monastic libraries, that were evident in historical records in Sri Lanka during 5th century AD. 6 marks
8. i. Write six important skills that need to be propagated as library professionals 6 marks
- ii. Write down 4 main roles played by a professional librarian 4 marks
- iii. A professional librarian plays different roles when providing information services to the users. Briefly explain 6 important roles played by a librarian. 6 marks
9. Write short notes on 4 of the topics given below
- i. Library without walls
 - ii. Current Awareness services
 - iii. Emergence of 'Library Science'
 - iv. Pinakes of Alexandria
 - v. Chained books in Christian era.
 - vi. Sri Lanka Library Association
- 5x4= 20 marks