THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF SRI LANKA
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
INFORMATION STUDIES UNIT
BA HONOURS IN LIBRARY AND INFROMATION STUDIES
FINAL EXAMINATION- (2025/2026)
LEVEL 5 (SEMESTER II)
HSU5306: TYPES OF LIBRARIES AND INFROMATION SERVICES

DURATION: THREE (03) HOURS ONLY

Date: 09.05.2026 Time: – 9.30a.m.-12.30p.m.

Instructions

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

1. Critically analyze the importance of the National Library and Documentation Services Board as the umbrella institution of Sri Lanka's integrated library system, with reference to its role in information management, cultural preservation, and support for education and research. 20 marks

2. i. Define the difference between an academic library and a special library. Compare their objectives, user groups, collections, and services, using relevant examples 10 marks

   ii. As a school librarian, how does the school library contribute to preparing students for higher education? Discuss the answer supporting relevant examples. 10 marks

3. Discuss how academic libraries in Sri Lanka have adapted to the changing needs of university students and researchers in the digital era. In your answer, discuss major service developments, technological innovations, and support for teaching and research, with suitable examples from one selected university library. 20 marks

4. i. How can public libraries in Sri Lanka strengthen lifelong learning in both urban and rural communities? Discuss giving suitable examples. 10 marks

   ii. Discuss at least two (2) new services a public library should introduce to remain relevant in the digital age, with suitable examples. 10 marks

5. In the provision of library services to differently abled users, libraries must pay attention to amending and introducing services and facilities to suit their needs.

   i. What are the four (4) categories that should be paid special attention to when providing services to differently abled users? List them. — 04 marks

   ii. Describe the possible services and facilities provided by a library to differently abled users under the four service categories indicated above by giving two (2) examples for each. — 16 marks

6. i. Define the term on "User of a library" — 02 marks

   ii. As a librarian, how would you analyze user needs and information-seeking behavior in the modern library environment? Write an answer with suitable examples. — 18 marks

7. i. Define, what is Current Awareness Service (CAS)? — 02 marks

   ii. Write three (3) types of Current Awareness products? — 03 marks

   iii. Discuss three (3) different methods of providing Current awareness service to modern library users. — 15 marks

8. i. What is information repackaging? explain — 02 marks

   ii. Mention three (3) importance of information repackaging. — 03 marks

   iii. "Information repackaging is an essential service in modern libraries." Discuss this statement supporting examples. — 15 marks

9. Write short notes on any four (4) topics of the following.

   i. Library extension service

   ii. The Open University Library

   iii. Information products

   iv. SDI service

   v. IFLA/UNESCO school library manifesto

   vi. Library consortia — 4x5=20 marks