Library and Web Technology (9212)

Semester: Autumn, 2024

Level: BS-LIS

Assignment No. 1

(Units 1-5)

Q.1 Explore the benefits of federated searching in metasearch engines. How does federated searching improve the efficiency of information retrieval for users? (20)

Federated searching allows users to retrieve information from multiple databases and search engines simultaneously, improving efficiency by reducing the need to search each source separately. It offers benefits such as time-saving, comprehensive results, enhanced relevance ranking, and seamless access to diverse resources. By aggregating search results, federated searching enhances user experience, making information retrieval more effective and efficient.

Q.2 Discuss the significance of blogs as a platform for sharing information, opinions, and news in various fields, including Library & Information Sciences. (20)

Blogs serve as a dynamic medium for sharing expertise, industry trends, and research findings. In Library & Information Sciences (LIS), blogs facilitate professional discourse, knowledge dissemination, and community engagement. They allow librarians and researchers to share insights, provide updates on technological advancements, and foster collaboration. Blogs also enhance public awareness and serve as educational resources for students and professionals alike.

Q.3 Compile a list of specialized dictionaries commonly used in Library & Information Sciences. How can these dictionaries help researchers to understand the specialized terminology and concepts in the field? (20)

Dictionary of Library and Information Science – Joan M. Reitz

Harrod's Librarians' Glossary and Reference Book – Ray Prytherch

ALA Glossary of Library and Information Science – American Library Association

Online Dictionary for Library and Information Science (ODLIS) – Joan M. Reitz

The Information Science Dictionary – Compiled by various LIS experts

These dictionaries aid researchers by clarifying terminology, standardizing definitions, and offering contextual meanings, ensuring precise comprehension of LIS concepts.

Q.4 Write short notes on the following topics: (20)

JSTOR (Journal Storage): JSTOR is a digital library providing access to academic journals, books, and primary sources across multiple disciplines. It supports scholarly research by offering high-quality, peer-reviewed content.

Google Scholar: A freely accessible search engine indexing scholarly literature, including articles, theses, books, and

conference papers. It enhances academic research by providing citation tracking and access to full-text articles where available.

British Library Online Catalogue: A vast digital database providing bibliographic records of books, manuscripts, and digital resources available at the British Library. It aids researchers in locating historical and contemporary resources.

Europeana: A digital platform offering access to millions of cultural heritage items, including books, artworks, photographs, and audiovisual materials from European museums, galleries, and archives.

Q.5 Explore the features and functionalities of popular online directories of diseases. What search and browsing options do these directories offer to users? (20)

Online directories of diseases, such as the **WHO Disease Outbreak News**, **MedlinePlus**, **CDC's A-Z Index**, and **Orphanet**, provide extensive information on diseases, symptoms, treatments, and public health guidelines. They offer advanced search filters, alphabetical browsing,

multilingual support, and integration with medical databases, enhancing user accessibility and information retrieval.

Assignment No. 2

(Units 6-9)

Total Marks: 100

Pass Marks: 50

Q.1 Explain the role of real-time communication services like chat and instant messaging in facilitating reference and research assistance in libraries. How do these technologies improve patron satisfaction and engagement? (20)

Real-time communication services such as live chat and instant messaging enable immediate assistance, making library services more accessible. They enhance patron engagement by providing quick responses, personalized guidance, and remote support. These technologies bridge gaps in traditional reference services, improving user satisfaction and fostering an interactive learning environment.

Q.2 Compare and contrast the features and services offered by different financial information portals. How do they differ in terms of content, usability, and reliability? (20)

Financial information portals like Bloomberg, Reuters, Yahoo Finance, and Google Finance provide stock market updates, financial news, and investment analysis. Bloomberg offers real-time data and expert insights, while Reuters focuses on in-depth market reports. Yahoo Finance provides user-friendly interfaces with historical data, whereas Google Finance integrates financial news with search features. Reliability varies based on data sources, with Bloomberg and Reuters being more authoritative.

Q.3 How can web accessibility, HTML, cascading style sheets, and related web tools contribute to the creation of user-friendly and accessible web pages in a library or information setting? (20)

Web accessibility ensures that digital resources are usable by individuals with disabilities. HTML provides the foundational

structure, while CSS enhances visual presentation. Web tools like ARIA (Accessible Rich Internet Applications) and screen readers improve usability. Libraries implementing these technologies create inclusive, user-friendly digital platforms that comply with accessibility standards.

Q.4 Explore effective methods for librarians to teach internet skills in educational or library settings, emphasizing active learning. How can librarians engage users in hands-on activities, group discussions, and real-world examples to promote critical thinking and responsible navigation of online resources? (20)

Librarians can use interactive workshops, role-playing, and real-time research assignments to teach internet skills. Group discussions on misinformation, search engine evaluation, and ethical browsing foster critical thinking. Hands-on activities such as database navigation exercises and website credibility assessments enhance engagement and practical understanding.

Q.5 Discuss the use of multimedia resources, including videos, interactive tutorials, and infographics, in

supplementing traditional instruction methods and catering to visual and auditory learners. (20)

Multimedia resources enhance learning by catering to diverse learning styles. Videos provide visual demonstrations, interactive tutorials facilitate self-paced learning, and infographics summarize complex information effectively. These tools complement traditional teaching methods, improving comprehension and engagement for students with different learning preferences.