



INFORMATION

06

Sources of Information

An information source is anything that might inform a person about something or provide knowledge of it. Information can come from different sources such as people, television or radio, newspapers, books, journals and magazines, encyclopedias, and web pages. Different types of questions require different sources of information. The type of information you need will change depending on the question you are trying to answer.

Study the following examples of common sources of information and do the activities that follow.



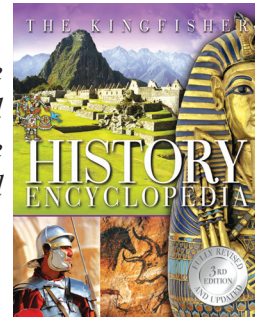
A. *These are collections of articles and pictures about various topics of popular interest and current events. Usually these articles are written by journalists or scholars.*

B. These are collections of articles about current events usually published daily. Since there is at least one in every city, it is a great source of local information.



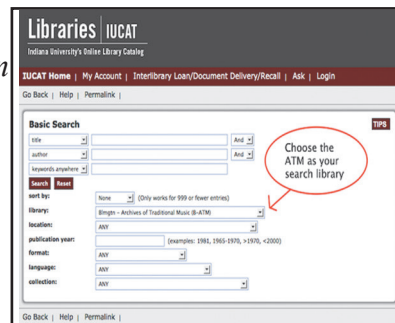
C. These cover virtually any topic, fact or fiction. This is one of the most common sources of information used by many people.

D. These are collections of short, factual entries. There are two types of these called general and subject. General ones provide overviews on a wide variety of topics while the others contain in-depth entries focusing on one field of study.



E. This allows you to access information on the Internet through a browser. One of the main features of this is speed. This contains information beyond plain text. It includes sounds, images, and video.

F. This is an organized and searchable collection of online records of every item in a library.



Activity 01

Reading

Study the pictures given above and read the descriptions that accompany them. Next match each description with a sub heading.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Sub heading</u>
A	Encyclopaedias
B	Online Library Catalogues
C	Websites
D	Newspapers
E	Books
F	Magazines

Activity 02

Read the descriptions on sources of information and say whether the following statements are true (T) or false (F).

1. A magazine contains articles on different topics.
2. Browsing the web is slower when compared to using other sources of information.
3. An encyclopaedia provides long articles on a particular topic.
4. All newspapers are published on a daily basis.
5. You need the internet facility to access information on the web.
6. A library catalogue provides easy access to the information available in a library.

 **Activity 03**

Speaking

Read the contents page of a magazine given below and answer the questions.

CONTENTS PAGE	
1. How to Develop your Personality	1
2. Ten Ways to Lose Ten Pounds	18
3. The Secret Language to Success	27
4. Foods That Fight Cancer	38
5. Heroes of the past	69
6. Laughter the Best Medicine	103
7. What Your Child Enjoys Most	107
8. Word Power	113
9. Disaster Preparedness	126
10. The Digital Era	137

1. Which chapter is likely to help you improve your language skills?
2. Which chapter will provide information about computer technology?
3. If you are interested in health matters, which articles would you read?
4. Which chapter do you think would contain the sub topic “punctuality”?
5. Which chapters will help you to relax? Give reasons for your choice.

Activity 04

Writing

Read the paragraph on 'newspapers'. Next write a similar paragraph on 'books' using the information given.



NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers contain news, information, entertainment and advertising. They are most often published daily or weekly. They give news as to what is happening around the world. Newspapers also express opinion about social and political problems through the editorial. They reflect public opinion as well. They arouse our consciousness on important matters and teach the citizens their rights and responsibilities.



BOOKS

contain information, articles and stories, most often published at any time according to the need. sometimes give information on what is happening around society and reflect opinion of the author. sometimes express opinion about the social and political problems. make us sensitive to certain issues in society.

 **Activity 05**

Use the information in the grid to write a paragraph about Hiruni's favourite book. You can begin like this.

Hiruni's favourite book is

Name of the book	The Adventures of Tom Sawyer
Author	Mark Twain
Type of story	Children's novel
Main characters	Tom Sawyer, aunt Polly, Huckleberry Finn
Story in brief	Tom is an energetic young boy whose constant search for fun and adventure leads him towards many dangers, but being brave and courageous he overcomes them and becomes famous.
Why you like it	It is funny, exciting and interesting

 **Activity 06**

Draw a similar grid and complete it with information about the most interesting book you have read. Now write a letter to one of your friends describing it. Include the following in your letter.

- name of the book
- the author
- characters
- story in brief
- why you found it interesting

Activity 07

Listening

Listen to the dialogue and underline the correct answer.

1. Abdul is going to read (Oliver Twist/ Huckleberry Finn)
2. Nethmini likes..... (adventure stories/ classics)
3. Oliver Twist was written by(Mark Twain / Charles Dickens)
4. Abdul.....(bought / borrowed) the book.
- 5 Abdul can keep the book for (two/ three) weeks.

Activity 08

Reading

A dictionary is a source of information which is useful to you in your studies. The activities given below will help you learn how to use it.

With your teacher's help refer to the dictionary page given on the next page and answer the questions.

- 1) List the words to which definitions are given on this dictionary page according to the order they appear.
Do you see any significance in the way these words are ordered? Discuss with your partner.
- 2) Which of the following information about a word does this dictionary page provide? Copy the correct ones into your notebook.
 - i. The spelling
 - ii. Meaning
 - iii. How to pronounce the word
 - iv The word class to which it belongs
 - v. Example sentences using that word
 - vi. Different forms of the words
 - vii. Plurals of the nouns
3. Get into small groups. Select a word from the dictionary page and find information about that word as required in question two above.
Present your findings to the class.

devote /drɪ'vəʊt/ verb (**devotes, devoting, devoted**)

give a lot of time or energy to something: *She devoted her life to helping the poor.*

devoted adjective

If you are devoted to somebody or something, you love them very much: *John is devoted to his wife and children.*

dew /dju:/ noun (no plural)

small drops of water that form on plants and grass in the night: *In the morning, the grass was wet with dew.*

diagonal /daɪ'æɡənl/ adjective


If you draw a diagonal line from one corner of a square to another, you make two triangles.  picture on page 161


diagram /'daɪəgræm/ noun

a picture that explains something: *This diagram shows all the parts of an engine.*

dial /'daɪəl/ noun

a circle with numbers or letters on it. Some telephones and clocks have dials.

dial verb (**dials, dialling, dialled**)


make a telephone call by moving a dial or pushing buttons: *You have dialled the wrong number.*  In American English the spellings are **dialing** and **dialed**.

dialog American English for **dialogue**


dialogue /'daɪələʊg/ noun


words that people say to each other in a book, play or film

diameter /daɪ'æmɪtə(r)/ noun

a straight line across a circle, through the centre  picture on page 161

diamond /'daɪəmənd/ noun

1 a hard stone that looks like clear glass and is very expensive: *The ring has a large diamond in it.*  a diamond necklace

2 the shape 

3 **diamonds** (plural) the playing-cards that have red shapes like diamonds on them: *the eight of diamonds*

diary /'daɪəri/ noun (plural **diaries**)

1 a book where you write what you are going to do: *I'll look in my diary to see if I'm free tomorrow.*

2 a book where you write what you have done each day

keep a diary write in a diary every day

dice /daɪs/ noun

(plural **dice**)

a small piece of wood or plastic with spots on the sides for playing games: *Throw the dice.*



dice

dictate /dɪk'teɪt/

verb (**dictates, dictating, dictated**)

1 say words so that another person can write them: *She dictated a letter to her secretary.*

2 tell somebody that they must do something: *You can't dictate to me where I should go.*

dictation /dɪk'teɪʃn/ noun

words that you say so that another person can write them: *We had a dictation in English today* (= a test when we wrote what the teacher said).

dictator /dɪk'teɪtə(r)/ noun

a person who has complete control of a country

dictionary /'dɪkʃənri/ noun (plural **dictionaries**)

a book that gives words from A to Z and explains what each word means

did form of **do**

didn't /'dɪdnt/ = **did not**

die /daɪ/ verb (**dies, dying, died** /daɪd/, **has died**)

stop living: *People, animals and plants die if they don't have water.*

die down slowly become less strong: *The storm died down.*

die of something stop living because of an illness: *She died of a heart attack.*

diesel /'di:zl/ noun

1 (plural **diesels**) (also **diesel engine**) an engine in buses, trains and some cars that uses oil, not petrol

2 (no plural) oil that is used in diesel engines

diet /'daɪət/ noun

1 the food that you usually eat: *It is important to have a healthy diet.*

2 special foods that you eat when you are ill or when you want to get thinner

be or **go on a diet** eat only special foods because you want to get thinner

difference /'dɪfrəns/ noun

the way that one thing is not the same as

p	b	t	d	k	g	tʃ	dʒ	f	v	θ	ð
pen	bad	tea	did	cat	got	chain	jam	fall	van	thin	this

 **Activity 09**

Reading and Writing

Read the passage about the Internet and write its positive and the negative effects in the table given at the end.

Internet: a boon or a bane?

With the advent of the Internet, life has been made easier with quick access to information and the number of tasks that can be performed online. But is it only convenient or are there any negative effects associated with its use?

*Undoubtedly, the Internet has many positive effects as Internet search engines **have advanced** to provide quick information retrieval systems providing access to any kind of information for internet users within a very short time.*

*In addition it **has paved** the way for some of the most effective means of communication among people, including email chat and Skype. It **has also enabled** businessmen to do online transactions with their clients and customers without meeting them.*

*In addition to these, it **has also allowed** the exchange of ideas and materials among scientists, university professors, and students. It **has also provided** servers, resource centers and online tools for their research and scholarly activities. Moreover, millions of books, journals and other material **have been made available** online through the Internet which **have enabled** people to learn all sorts of new things.*

Along with these positive things, the internet can have negative effects, too. One such negative effect is the misinformation that it may provide. Many people trust the Internet for information. Students use it for research to

help them with their homework while adults use it to find information on things, such as medical or financial advice. The Internet, for all its wondrous abilities, is still unreliable due to bogus sites and misinformation. Addiction to the internet is another negative effect.

Many cases **have been reported** where the addiction to online social networks such as Facebook, Twitter and online games **have affected** the studies and day-to-day work especially of students. Moreover, the convenience of the Internet **has allowed** people to become less active.

As people are able to shop online, and with the amount of time they spent on checking emails and surfing the World Wide Web, they **have become** less active causing many health problems. Sociologists have also warned about the gradual decrease of interpersonal relationships among family members due to excessive use of the Internet.

Among the negative effects, cyber bullying is another aspect which cause stress and anxiety to many victims. Sometimes people are robbed of their identities and their possessions through the Internet. Theft is easily committed by experienced computer hackers. Therefore the negative effects of the Internet on privacy have become a major threat to its users. Many users of the social networks such as Facebook expose their privacy not knowing of its adverse effects. Sometimes they are exposed to the entire world without their knowledge or consent which can lead to disaster. Many such cases **have been reported** recently. Therefore, the users of the Internet have to be aware of its proper use in order to minimize its negative effects.

Positive Effects	Negative Effects

Learning Point

Present Perfect Tense (passive)

The present perfect tense is a grammatical combination of the present tense and the perfect aspect. It is used to express a past event that has results in the present.

In the passage on “Internet: a boon or a bane?” the verbs in bold refer to present perfect tense actions. Although these actions are over, the results are still felt.

Here is how present perfect is formed.

Subject	Has/Have	Past participle form of the verb
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It• Internet search engines• This action• Facebook, Twitter and online games• The internet• People	has / have	advanced paved enabled allowed provided disturbed allowed become

Activity 10

Now write the following Present Perfect tense sentences in passive voice.

Eg :-

Online games have affected the studies of students.

The studies of students have been affected by online games.

1. The principal has signed the report cards.
2. Somebody has conveyed the message about the Shramadana to the students.
3. Doctors have cured many deadly diseases.
4. A computer virus has deleted all my essential documents.
5. The internet has provided a quick way of communication.

Activity 11

Write the following negative sentences and questions in Passive Voice.

e.g. :

Nobody has found a faster way of retrieving information like the internet.

A faster way of retrieving information like the internet has not been found by anybody.

1. We have not taken the dinner yet.
2. The students have not swept their classroom today.
3. Have you made the reservations for the train seats?
4. Have you posted all the invitations for the English Day?
5. Ruwan has not coloured the picture he drew for the exhibition yet.

Learning Point

Prepositions (1)

during, beyond, before, after, against, upon

Read the following sentences paying attention to the underlined prepositions.

- 1) Students can go to the canteen only during the interval.
- 2) There is a large forest beyond those hills.
- 3) I had not known how to operate a computer before I completed the computer course.
- 4) You have a special meeting today after the interval.
- 5) The guest speaker explained how to protect ourselves against dengue.
- 6) The responsibility of preventing dengue is upon all of us.

 **Activity 12**

Fill in the blanks with the most suitable preposition.

1. Little Mary was so curious about what is there
(upon, beyond) the horizon.
2. I need to go to the bank(before, during) I join you in shopping.
3. Many parents take the responsibility of shaping the future of their children themselves.(against, upon)
4. Many people do not know how to protect themselves
(beyond, against) injustice.
5. The poor patient died (during, before) the doctor had arrived.

 **Activity 13**

Fill in the blanks with a suitable preposition from the given list.

during, after, upon, against, before

Kasun wanted to play cricket with his brother..... coming home from school, they went to the playground together. Their mother asked them not to get late they went out. Once they started playing they forgot about the time. Mother finished all the house work their absence and waited for their return. There were dark clouds in the sky and she was worried that it might rain and make the two brothers wet. Their father laughed saying that children should learn to protect themselves bad weather..... their return, Kasun and his brother apologized to their mother for being late.