

APPENDIX

INFORMATION LITERACY AMONG THE RESEARCH SCHOLARS OF UNIVERSITIES IN KERALA

QUESTIONNAIRE

Dear friend,

Please find enclosed a questionnaire, which is related to my Ph.D research programme. The topic of the research is “Information Literacy among the Research Scholars of universities in Kerala”. Kindly co-operate with me by filling in the questionnaire. Please tick the relevant answers in each case. More than one answer can be ticked under each category, if relevant. The information provided will be kept confidential and will be used only for data analysis of my research work. Your identity will not be revealed to anybody. Your cooperation is solicited

“Information Literacy is a set of abilities requiring individuals to “recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate and use effectively the needed information.”

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A. PERSONAL DETAILS

Name : _____

Category : University Research Scholar 1
Junior Research Fellow 2
Senior Research Fellow 3

Gender : Male Female

Qualification : P.G M.Phil

Discipline/Faculty : Science Humanities
Social Science

- 1 How did you identify the research topics?
 - (a) In consultation with the Research Guide
 - (b) By discussing with other research scholars, professional colleagues
 - (c) By discussing with teachers in the subject area
 - (d) By searching electronic resources in the specialized area
 - (e) By your familiarity with the topic
 - (f) By referring previous research work
 - (g) By referring other information sources
 - (h) Any other (please specify)
- 2 What general information sources have you used to increase familiarity with your research topic?.
 - (a) Bibliographies
 - (b) Subject glossaries /dictionaries
 - (c) General encyclopedias
 - (d) Subject encyclopedias
 - (e) Maps, atlases, gazetteers
 - (f) Feature articles in news papers
 - (g) Articles in general periodicals
 - (h) Papers in research journals
 - (i) Articles from electronic publications.
 - (j) Any other (please specify)
3. How do you search for information you need?
 - a) Through subject bibliographies, indexes etc.
 - b) Through Library catalogue
 - c) Search directly without the help of catalogue/index/bibliography
 - d) Search the Internet
4. Have you got useful information for your research in any one or more of the following formats. Indicate the order of importance as 1,2,3..... etc. according to their usefulness.

- (a) Printed material (books, periodicals, pamphlets)
- (b) Microforms (Micro film/microfiche)
- (c) Electronic and online information
- (d) Databases
- (e) Websites
- (f) Audio visual material (Video-Cassettes/CD/films)
- (g) Sound recordings (audio –cassettes/CD etc)
- (h) Multimedia sources
5. Which of the following types of material/information sources do you think will be useful for your research ?.
- a. Articles published in journals
- b. Books
- c. Rare, valuable and heritage documents
- d. Conference /Seminar proceedings
- e. Articles published in special issues brought out by the journal publisher
- f. Any other (Please specify)
6. Which of the following types of materials are of importance for your research? Arrange them as 1, 2, and 3 according to their usefulness?.
- (i) Original articles in research journals
- (ii) Conference and seminar papers
- (iii) Technical papers/reports
- (iv) Popular articles in journals
- (v) Feature articles in newspapers
- (vi) Patents standards etc.
- (vii)Articles from websites
7. How do you get printed materials for your research?
- a. From your Department /University library
- b. From other libraries in a locality
- c. From friends/colleagues/teachers
- d. From other special/public/University libraries
- e. Through inter library loan
- f. Through document delivery centres

8. Do you think it is desirable and feasible to study other regional languages or foreign languages to get needed information for your research?

Yes No

If yes, specify the language to be learn to support your research work

a. Tamil, Kannada, Hindi or any other regional language

b. French/German/Russian/Spanish/Portuguese

c. Any other (specify)

If no, Why

9. Which one of the following research methods do you consider as most useful for your purpose?.

a. Laboratory experiment

b. Simulations

c. Field work

d. Case studies and survey methods

e. Interview method

f. Observation method

g. Questionnaire method

h. Experimental method

i. Any other (specify)

10. Please write your research topic and express your research topic in the form of key words

Key words

11. What are the related terms/synonyms of the key words of you research topic you usually use to search for information for your research ?

12. While searching for information through internet do you use the following search engines?.

- (a) Google
- (b) Yahoo
- (c) Alta-Vista
- (d) MSN
- (e) Any other

13. While searching for information from distant databases or searching through search engines do you use the following techniques?

- | | Yes | No |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| (a) Simple search | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (b) Advanced search | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (c) Boolean operators (and, or, not) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (d) Truncation key | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (e) Proximity of terms. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (f) Phrases | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

14. How do you locate books that you require from your library?

- (a) Identify the book from the card catalogue
- (b) Identify the book from the online computer catalogue (OPAC)
- (c) Locate the book from the bookshelf by classification number
- (d) Physically verify each book on the shelf where books on your subject are kept
- (e) Ask the library staff
- (f) Take the help from a friend.
- (g) Any other (please specify)

15. What are the options you usually use in OPAC to search for documents in your library?

- (a) Author
- (b) Title
- (c) Subject
- (d) Keyword
- (e) Combination of words (Truncation)
- (f) Part of words

16. How do you locate particular information from a book?

- (a) By looking through pages
 - (b) By looking at contents page and then reading the relevant chapter
 - (c) Locate through subject index at the end of the book
 - (d) Any other (please specify)
17. What is your experience with regard to inter library loan facility to get a book for your research work?
- a. I have used inter library loan facility
 - b. I know about interlibrary loan facility but never used it
 - c. I tried inter library loan facility but I could not get the book
 - d. Do not know about interlibrary loan facility
18. If your search for a particular information through websites / distant databases etc does not get enough information what will you do ?
- a. Search under alternative key words
 - b. Search under broader terms
 - c. Search under other search engines/database
19. When you get a number of journal articles relevant to your research topic what will you do?
- a. Photocopy all the relevant articles
 - b. Photocopy only the important articles
 - c. Photocopy the important articles and note down the name of the author, title journal title and volume number etc. of the article for future reference
 - d. Download and save the important articles at the desktop
 - e. Copy and paste relevant pages/parts
 - f. Photocopy the abstract of the article
20. What will you do when you have to take information from an article you need?
- a. Read the article and select conceptual ideas
 - b. Restate relevant parts of the article in your own language suitable to research topic
 - c. Take sentences or paragraphs from the article and use them with or without quotation marks but cite the reference
21. Which of the following criteria will you use for evaluating a research article?
- (a) Reliability

- (b) Validity
- (c) Accuracy
- (d) Timeliness
- (e) Uptodateness
- (d) Authority of the author
- (e) Bias or point of view
22. Are you able to do the following, after reading a new article in your area of study?
- (a) Draw a conclusion
- (b) Compare one new knowledge with the old one
- (c) Identify contradictory information
- (d) Determine the accuracy of information
- (e) Personal bios in the article
23. Are you able to manipulate digital test images and data as appropriate to your context?
- Yes No
24. Do you maintain a diary or record of your activities related to information seeking, Evaluating and communicating process.
- Yes No
25. Do you use the following equipments/materials for presentation of ideas in oral communication of information according to the type of audience?
- a) Black board and chalk piece
- b) Overhead projector and transparencies
- c) LCD projectors
- d) Photocopies/computer printouts of brief summaries of talks
26. In what forms do you publish your research findings for communicating with other research workers and subject experts in your subject?
- (a) Short communications in research journals.
- (b) Conference proceedings
- (c) Research papers in subject journals
- (d) Articles in popular journals
- (e) Information blogs
- (f) Any other (Please specify)

27. When you cite an information source in a research paper or in your thesis do you constantly follow a style manual or some other standard?

(Example—Modern Language Association (MLA Hand book)

Yes No

28. If your answer is yes for the previous question, name the style manual or the standard you use for bibliographic citation.

29. If you do not have a style manual or standard do you simply follow the citation pattern in the dissertations of your Department. ?

Yes No

30. In your opinion which of the following statements are violation of copyrights?

(a) Photocopying an original text in multiple numbers for commercial purpose

(b) Photocopying an original text in limited number for restricted circulation

(c) Photocopying specific part of a document for study and research purpose

31. Which of the following are plagiarisms according to your opinion?

(a) Take ideas from others and present them as your own ideas

(b) Add sentences from the works of other authors in your work without bibliographic references

(c) Quote sentences from other authors in your work with bibliographic references

(d) Quote sentences from other authors in your work without bibliographic references

32. Do you think that there is need for including information literacy as apart of the curriculum?

Yes No

Thank you