

Information Literacy and Scientific  
Communication  
SES22613  
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# What is information?

- The American Library Association (1987) defines information as “...all ideas, facts, and imaginative works of the mind which have been communicated, recorded, published and/or distributed formally or informally in any format”.
- A collection of facts or messages which have some meaning for the person receiving them; communicated knowledge

***(Machet & Behrens, 1999).***

# Information skill

- This is the **knowledge base and skills framework** you **utilize** when you use information.
- Information literacy is possible only if you have an awareness of the **role of information in society** and in your own life.
- Information skills are based on a very strong awareness of the **role of information in your life**.
- This awareness encompasses some ones knowledge of **what information** is and **why it is important**,
- Some ones, knowledge and skills which enable you to know where and how to find information.

# Information is valuable

- People use information to increase chances of survival and improve the quality of life.
- Information is a crucial resource in the economic, political and social life of nations.
- Information is precious resource (like gold or oil) and that countries need to use it wisely if they are to be successful economically and politically.
- Information can help us to solve problems and make decisions
- More importantly, we need information for effective teaching, learning and research.



# Information overload

- We are surrounded by a growing ocean of information in all formats.
- Not all information is created equal: some is authoritative, current, reliable, but some is biased, out of date, misleading, and false.
- The amount of information available is going to keep increasing.
- the types of technology used to access, manipulate, and create information will likewise expand.
- Skills is to enhance our capacity to consume the available information and increase our value creating capacity



## Needs of information

- Personal (පුද්ගලික)
- Professional (වෘත්තීය)
- Pedagogical (අධ්‍යයන)
- පුද්ගලික, වෘත්තීය, හා අධ්‍යයන කටයුතු සඳහා සීමිත කාලයකදී තොරතුරු විශාල ප්රමාණයක් අතුරින්, අවශ්යය, අදාළ තොරතුරු ඉතා ඉක්මණින් සපයා ගැනීම



# Information literacy is a key component in,

- Development of an independent life-long learner
- Ability to work confidently with information and IT tools
- Develop essential critical thinking skills
- All these are essential attributes for the modern graduate and the modern employee.



# Lifelong learning (LL)

- This is continuing path of education throughout life.
- Lifelong learning implies that whatever knowledge and skills you acquire through learning; these should be effective throughout your life and enable you to continue learning throughout your life.
- Information literacy is a 'prerequisite' and 'essential enabler' for lifelong learning.



# What is Information Literacy (IL)?

- Information literacy is the ability to think critically and make balanced judgements about any information we find and use (CILIP, 2018).
- is the ability to identify, locate, evaluate, organize and effectively create, use and communicate information to address an issue or a problem  
(Wijetunge, 2005)
- Is knowing when and why you need information, where to find it and how to evaluate, use and communicate it in an ethical manner.
- ගැටළුවක් හෝ ප්රශ්නයක් නිරාකාරණයේදී නමන්ට අවශ්ය තොරතුරු හඳුනාගැනීම, ලද තොරතුරු ඇගයීම, සහ නීතිගරුක ලෙස නම අවශ්යතාව පිණිස ඵලදායී ලෙස යොදාගැනීම සඳහා තිබිය යුතු හැකියාවයි

## *What is IL cont....*

- a set of abilities requiring to “recognize when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate, and use effectively the needed information (ALA, 2000).
- තොරතුරු අවශ්‍යයන්‍යාවයක් ඇති බව හඳුනා ගැනීම, අවශ්‍යය තොරතුරු සොයාගැනීම, ඇගයීමකට ලක්කිරීම, හා සොයාගත් තොරතුරු ඵලදායී ලෙස යොදාගැනීමට පුද්ගලයකු සතු හැකියාවන් සමූහය, තොරතුරු සාක්ෂරතාවයි.

# Information literate person

- “It is the cumulative experience from a range of subjects and learning experiences which creates the information literate person” (Bruce, 1994).
- Capable of problem-based learning and enquiry-based learning



# Capabilities of an Information Literate Individual

- Access information effectively and efficiently
- Be aware of and understand the information environment e.g. library, databases, printed, e-resources, among others
- Evaluate information critically and competently
- Use information accurately and creatively
- Be an independent learner and pursue information related to personal interest
- Strive for excellence in information seeking

# Models of IL

- **Five** components model (Introduced by ALA)
- **Empowering 8** model (Developed by Dr. P. Wijethunga, Librarian, university of Colombo, Sri Lanka (2005).

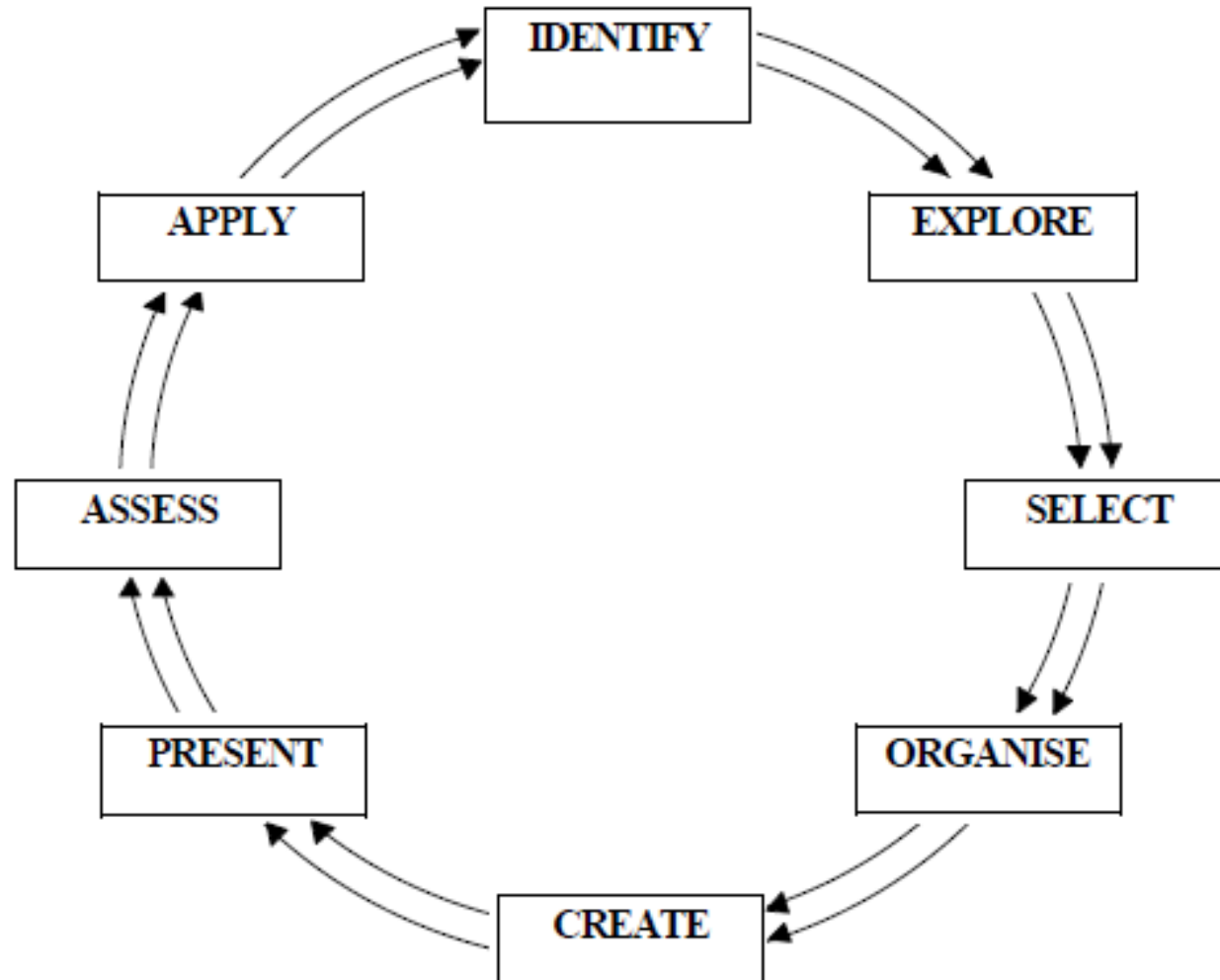
# Information literacy: 5 Components model



<http://www.ala.org/Template.cfm?Section=Home&template=/ContentManagement/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=33553#f1>



# Empowering 8 model



(Wijethunga, P. 2005)

# IL Module drafted for the HSS - UR

- Universities are research-oriented institutions
- Scholars in an academic environment must have a sound knowledge and practice of IL
- Humanities students specially have to deal more with human subjects and diverse information sources.
- Modern educational systems has identified IL as an important component of HSS curriculums in higher education.
- [IL module for HSS, University of Ruhuna](#)

“Higher education must serve the interests of the larger community” with the application of knowledge to real world problems.

“මම අනාගත විශ්ව විද්‍යාලය ලෙස හඳුන්වන්නේ සත්‍ය සෙවීමට එරෙහි කොන්දේසි කිසිවක් නොමැති, අලුත් දේ දැනගැනීමට හා විවේචනය කිරීමට නිදහස ඇති, ප්‍රශ්න කිරීමට හා සැක කිරීමට වරම හිමිවන දේශපාලනික හෝ ආගමික බලය විසින් කිසිසේත් සීමා නොකෙරෙන පරමාදර්ශී තැනකි.”

-ජැක් ඩෙරිඩා



Thank You