



AI

SEMINAR 5 The World of Information

Task 1

Try to explain the difference, if there is any, between the following terms.

library vs. bookcase vs. bookshop
donation vs. purchase
reading area vs. stacks
database vs. catalogue
newspaper vs. magazine vs. periodical vs. journal
publication vs. volume
on-site reference vs. available on loan
bibliography vs. publication details

Task 2

Read the text carefully and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each space. There is an example at the beginning.

A FAMOUS LIBRARY

The most famous library of all time was (0) B by Alexander the Great over 2,300 years ago, in Alexandria. It was (1) _____ at the crossroads of Europe, Africa and Asia, and was the perfect location for a centre of learning. The library was (2) _____ to have around 700,000 books, and at the time people thought it contained 'all the knowledge in the world'. Copies of these books were (3) _____ there, and these were then (4) _____ around countries in the ancient world. But then the library was (5) _____ by fire. Thousands of works of philosophy, science and literature were lost, and it took centuries to (6) _____ them.

Now a new, modern library has been built in Alexandria, at a (7) _____ £ 120m. It has a vast reading area seating 2,000 people, and (8) _____ in the library for eight million books. The (9) _____ of the building is spectacular, with amazing use of light and space. There is a huge circular roof which (10)

Page 1 (of 9)



_____ at a special angle. This means that it can (11) _____ light from the sun into the museum. (12) _____ of sunlight shine through green and blue glass onto the desks and bookshelves below, and letters from every known alphabet are carved* on the walls. People in Alexandria (13) _____ that the library will once again be a (14) _____ where scholars from all over the world come to study and (15) _____ research.

- | | | | | |
|----|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| 0 | A originated | B founded | C instituted | D based |
| 1 | A situated | B stationed | C installed | D inserted |
| 2 | A stated | B told | C spoken | D said |
| 3 | A got | B made | C formed | D achieved |
| 4 | A beamed | B sent | C transmitted | D relayed |
| 5 | A broken | B injured | C destroyed | D hurt |
| 6 | A recover | B plan | C write | D reveal |
| 7 | A price | B cost | C worth | D charge |
| 8 | A room | B place | C volume | D extent |
| 9 | A model | B creation | C invention | D design |
| 10 | A slopes | B falls | C increases | D expands |
| 11 | A show | B mirror | C reflect | D demonstrate |
| 12 | A Sections | B Pieces | C Rays | D Slices |
| 13 | A hope | B want | C aim | D target |
| 14 | A scene | B place | C position | D part |
| 15 | A follow | B have | C accept | D do |

Adapted from: Newbrook, Jacky, Judith Wilson and Richard Acklam. *New First Certificate Gold*. Harlow: Longman, 2004.

Discussion questions

Why are libraries important?

Which libraries have you used?

Have you ever visited a foreign library? Are there any differences from Czech libraries?

What do you think is the future of printed books?

How do you imagine a library in 2050?



Task 3 – Reading – The future of libraries, with or without books

Six paragraphs have been removed from the article. You have to choose from the paragraphs A – G the one which fits each gap (1 – 6). There is one extra paragraph which you do not need to use.

(CNN) -- The stereotypical library is dying -- and it's taking its shushing* ladies, dank* smell and endless shelves of books with it.

Books are being pushed aside for digital learning centers and gaming areas. "Loud rooms" that promote public discourse and group projects are taking over the bookish quiet. Hipster staffers who blog, chat on Twitter and care little about the Dewey Decimal System are edging out old-school librarians.

1.

Authors, publishing houses, librarians and Web sites continue to fight Google's efforts to digitize the world's books and create the world's largest library online. Meanwhile, many real-world libraries are moving forward with the assumption that physical books will play a much-diminished or potentially nonexistent role in their efforts to educate the public.

2.

"The library building isn't a warehouse* for books," said Helene Blowers, digital strategy director at the Columbus [Ohio] Metropolitan Library. "It's a community gathering* center."

Think of the change as a Library 2.0 revolution -- a mirror of what's happened on the Web.

Library 2.0

People used to go online for the same information they could get from newspapers. Now they go to Facebook, Digg and Twitter to discuss their lives and the news of the day. Forward-looking librarians are trying to create that same conversational loop* in public libraries. The one-way flow of information from book to patron* isn't good enough anymore.

"We can pick up on all of these trends that are going on," said Toby Greenwalt, virtual services coordinator at the Skokie Public Library in suburban Chicago.

Greenwalt, for example, set up a Twitter feed and text-messaging services for his library. He monitors local conversations on online social networks and uses that information as inspiration for group discussions or programs at the real-world library.

3.

Page 3 (of 9)



The Public Library of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, in North Carolina, has a multimedia space where kids shoot videos and record music. It also runs a blog dedicated to gaming and hosts video game tournaments regularly.

Kelly Czarnecki, a technology education librarian at ImaginOn, a kids' branch of that library, said kids learn by telling their own stories.

"Our motto here is to bring stories to life, so by having the movie and music studio we can really tap into a different angle of what stories are," she said. "They're not just in books. They're something kids can create themselves."

Czarnecki believes that doesn't have to come at the expense* of book-based learning.

4.

The library features an "info column," where people share digital news stories; an "info galleria" where patrons explore digital maps layered with factoids; a digital floor that lets people immerse* themselves in information; and RFID-tagged book phones that kids point at specific books to hear a story.

"The library has never been just about books," said Rolf Hapel, director of the city's public libraries.

Librarians

This shift means the role of the librarian -- and their look -- is also changing.

5.

They're also no longer bound to the physical library, said Greenwalt, of the library in Skokie, Illinois. Librarians must venture* into the digital space, where their potential patrons exist, to show them why the physical library is still necessary, he said.

A rise in a young, library-chic subculture on blogs and on Twitter is putting a new face on this changing role, said Linda C. Smith, president of the Association for Library and Information Science Education. Some wear tattoos, piercings and dress like they belong on the streets of Brooklyn instead of behind bookshelves. They're also trying on new titles. Instead of librarians, they're "information specialists" or "information scientists."

6.

"It's a source of tension in the field because, for some people, trying to re-brand can be perceived as a rejection of the [library] tradition and the values," she said. "But for other people it's a redefinition and an expansion."



- A. In a world where information is more social and more online, librarians are becoming debate moderators, givers of technical support and community outreach coordinators.
- B. Libraries like the "Urban Media Space," which is set to open in 2014 in Aarhus, Denmark, are taking on new names, too. And all of that experimentation is a good thing, Smith said, because it may help people separate the book-bound past of libraries from the liberated future.
- C. Some libraries are trying to gain an edge* by focusing on the "deeply local" material -- the stuff that only they have, said Blowers, the librarian in Ohio.
- D. Other libraries are trying new things, too.
- E. Some books will still be around, they say, although many of those will be digital. But the goal of the library remains the same: To be a free place where people can access and share information.
- F. The Aarhus Public Library in Aarhus, Denmark, takes things a step further.
- G. And that's just the surface. By some accounts, the library system is undergoing a complete transformation that goes far beyond these image changes.

The Internet – Friend or Enemy?

Task 4

a) *Match the verbs on the left with an appropriate word or phrase on the right:*

visit	music
download	a CD
go	online
key in	a website
surf	the internet
burn	a password
switch on	your computer

Page 5 (of 9)



b) Complete the text below using words or phrases from the exercise above:

When I get home from college, the first thing I do is _____(1) my computer, key in my _____(2) and _____(3) to check my email. Then I log off and start my homework. I don't often _____(4). When I do, I usually _____(5) websites that I know – often those of my favourite bands. Sometimes I'll _____(6) some new music and maybe _____(7) my own CD.

Adapted from: MacAndrew, Richard. Instant Discussions. London: Thomson Learning, 2003.

Task 5 – Read the text below and look carefully at each line. Some of the lines are correct, and some have a word which should not be there. If a line is correct, put a tick (✓) at the end of the line. If a line has a word which should not be there, write the word at the end of the line. There are two examples at the beginning.

There has never been exist anything like the Internet in the history of the world, but it is not without its dangers. After all this, when you log on to the Internet you are linking up* to a vast network of computers which is extends all over the world. The internet doesn't belong to any single only person, organization or government, and controlling it is not easy. Millions of people use it, and some may use it in the wrong way. There are three main problems which to watch out for. The first is people who they pretend to be someone else. The second is unsuitable material, and the last is by dishonest on-line shops. But the Internet also offers its users a huge benefits. You can find out information about anything in the world, in just a few seconds. You can watch part of an old movie, or enjoy to hearing a new song by your favourite group. If you are aware of the possible dangers and use it carefully, the Internet is a one wonderful opportunity to learn about and be entertained, and to communicate with such people from other countries and cultures.

exist

✓

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____

Adapted from: Newbrook, Jacky, Judith Wilson and Richard Acklam. *New First Certificate Gold*. Harlow: Longman, 2004.



Discussion

Which of the following is the most serious problem with the internet?

1. Teenagers spending too much time on it.
2. Buying things with a secure system of payment.
3. Children seeing unsuitable material.
4. People using work time to send personal messages.

What do you think should be done about any or all of these problems?

Adapted from: MacAndrew, Richard. Instant Discussions. London: Thomson Learning, 2003.

Task 6 – Text editing

Edit the following paragraph, correcting any errors in noun phrases. There is more than one way to correct the paragraph. Discuss the reasons for your choices.

During the past decade, developments in computer industry have had an immense* impact on libraries. Not long ago, most libraries maintained* card catalogue of their holdings*. Each time library added book to its collection, someone typed card telling title, author, and subject of book, as well as other information. These cards were then filed alphabetically in the drawers of large cabinet. Library patron who wished to find books on particular subject searched through the drawers of cabinet, and librarians held classes for patron teaching them how to use card catalogue. Such system now seems extremely unsophisticated. Library's holdings are now listed in computer database. The database includes information on not only the subject, author, and title of book but also its status (whether it is on shelves or checked out*, if checked out, its due date*). In addition, libraries now have databases with information about article found inside books and journal. Librarians continue to hold classes for patron, but the classes are now about how to use computer.

Adapted from: Ackles, Nancy M. The Grammar Guide: Developing Language Skills for Academic Success. University of Michigan Press, 2003.

Page 7 (of 9)



Grammar – Conditionals

Exercise 1 – Fill in the gaps with suitable forms of the suggested verbs.

- a) If the international community _____, the library in Alexandria _____. (not to help, not to reopen)
- b) If you _____ to consult microfilms or rare books, you _____ use special reading rooms. (wish, have to)
- c) If it _____ against copyright laws, I _____ the whole book. (not to be, copy)
- d) If you _____ the book a month ago, you _____ it by now. (request, read)
- e) If the ancient scholars _____ today, the new library _____ them. (live, surprise)
- f) I wish I _____ this place last semester. (know)
- g) If you _____ a word, _____ it _____ in the dictionary. (not to understand, look up)
- h) In recent years, the modernization of the library _____ possible if the staff _____. (not to be, train)
- i) Egypt _____ the right place for "an institution of dialogue, tolerance, understanding and rationality" if its religious authorities _____ banning books. (be, not to keep)
- j) I have got lost. If only I _____ the right way to the Moravian Regional Library. (take)

Exercise 2 – Compose sentences using the following words. Do not change the order of the words, but add any words or change any word forms as necessary.

1. if / two / atom / combine / form / molecule
2. if / have / difficult / goal / must / work / hard
3. government / respond / if / military threat
4. if / population / be / homogeneous / marketing / be / easier
5. if / company / face / financial / crisis / bank / may / lend / money
6. I / not / worry / if / I / be / you
7. production method / be / popular / if / it / not / consume / so much / energy
8. people / get / help / if / public / have / enlightened* attitude / toward alcoholism
9. if / professor / draw / better / diagram / yesterday / I / understand / problem
10. if / committee / assemble* / necessary information / earlier / they / finish / report / last week
11. reporter / be granted* / interview / yesterday / if / submit / written request
12. mayor / not / be reelected / if / she / advocate / increased taxes / last year
13. if / companies / accept / government mediator / conflict / be solved / quickly

Adapted from: Ackles, Nancy M. The Grammar Guide: Developing Language Skills for Academic Success. University of Michigan Press, 2003.



Vocabulary

1. carved	vyřezaný, rytý
2. to shush	zasyčet, pšť!
3. dank	vlhký, plesnivý
4. warehouse	sklad, skladiště
5. conversational loop	debatní kroužek
6. patron	pravidelný návštěvník, stálý zákazník
7. at the expense of	na úkor něčeho
8. immerse	ponořit se, pohroužit se, zabrat se do něčeho
9. tag	štítek, cedulka
10. edge	výhoda, přednost, náskok
11. link up	dát se dohromady, spojit se, spolčit se
12. immense	obrovský, nesmírný
13. maintain	udržovat
14. holdings	sbírky, exponáty, fondy
15. enlightened	osvícený
16. check out	vypůjčit si (knihu)
17. due date	datum/termín vrácení
18. assemble	shromáždit
19. grant	poskytnout, udělit

Word bank

1. to become a member	stát se členem
2. to pay a membership fee	zaplatit členský poplatek
3. to fill in/complete a form	vyplnit formulář
4. membership card	členská průkazka
5. to renew a membership	obnovit členství
6. the main librarian	hlavní knihovník
7. to browse through the books	listovat knížkami
8. bookworm	knihomol
9. to be overdue from the library (of a book/magazine)	knih/časopis s uplynulou výpůjční lhůtou
10. branch of a library	pobočka knihovny

Page 9 (of 9)