Year-4 Volume: I, Jan-March, 2022 ISSN: 2582-1296
The Asian Thinker
A Quarterly Bilingual Peer-Reviewed Journal for Social Sciences and Humanities

E-Resources: Features/Characteristics, Types, and Issues

Ms. Noor Bano
Asstt. Prof/ librarian
Mumtaz P.G college, lko
9307920395

Abstract:
This paper deals with the fundamentals of E-Resources, its characteristics, features, types, issues and disadvantages. In a latest trend, no one can't do anything in the absence of e-resources. It gives an exposure, comprehensiveness and completeness also. It means, e-resources touches and affects our life, education, Research and Development, etc in all manners. But on the other hand, everything has 2 aspects; positive and negative. So e-resources have some disadvantages/drawbacks also but not more than its characters tics/benefits.

Keywords: E-resources, Database, E-Journals, E-access

Introduction

An "electronic resource" is defined as any work encoded and made available for access through the use of a computer. It includes electronic data available by (1) remote access and (2) direct access (fixed media). In other words: Remote access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via computer networks. (AACR2, 2002 edition; glossary). Direct Access (electronic resources) refers to the use of electronic resources via carriers (e.g., discs/disks, cassettes, cartridges) designed to be inserted into a computerized device or its auxiliary equipment.

"**Acquire**" refers to any electronic resource (remote or direct access) which the Library provides
"**Access**" refers to through official contractual, licensed, or other agreements (any of these electronic resources may or may not be owned by or housed at the Library), the Library receives Acquisition processes (e.g., purchase, gift, exchange, copyright deposit, ISSN requests, and transfer).
"**Collect**" refers to electronic resources owned by the Library and selected for the permanent Collection. It may also include resources stored elsewhere for which the Library has permanent Ownership rights.
"**Link**" refers to pointers from the Library's web resources or bibliographic records to remote access data.
"**Archive**" refers to that process of maintenance in a secure and permanent digital repository managed by the Library or for the benefit of the Library.

Electronic resources form one of many formats that the Library collects to support its universal Collections. The increased production of and reliance on electronic resources demands sustained effort to identify and acquire them.
Electronic resources includes, but are not limited to: web sites, online databases, e-journals, e-books, electronic integrating resources, and physical carriers in all formats, whether free or fee-based, required to support research in the subject covered, and may be audio, visual, and/or text files.

Year-4 Volume: I, Jan-March, 2022 ISSN: 2582-1296
The Asian Thinker
A Quarterly Bilingual Peer-Reviewed Journal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Features and Characteristics of E Resources

- **Speed:** High speed and efficiency benefits the publishing and distributing electronically**.** Authority and Publishing system can be integrated easily by computer- readable text. Also, electronic transmission, especially in the review process, saves valuable time. (Acc. To 4th Law of Library Science)

- **Easy access**: Access e-resource is easier for the users. They can access the desired material within minutes, or even seconds, on their desktops, provided equipment is available. Large collections of material can be searched and retrieved simultaneously and instantly. There is an active dissemination of information by alerting the readers at their desktops about the new e-resource that are accepted into the database. In other words, E-resources allow intelligent full-text retrieval based on past use and interests.
- **Linkages:** Linkages can be enabled by hypertext and hypermedia formats among sections within an electronic resources. E- Mail contacts would be easier among users, publishers and suppliers. Users have more creative ways to have their information queries answered.
- **Costs:** The e-resources are published electronically rather than in paper and no new costs are introduced.
- **Multimedia:** Innovative ways of presenting research results can be supported by electronic page layout. Interactive three-dimensional models, motion video and sound are a few possibilities.
- Simple to implement
- Most of the time, No Restrictions on use
- Does not require much maintenance by library or the content providers
- Protects the IP of the content provider (CP)
- Does not breach the security of CP.
- Does not violate the privacy of the users
- Comprehensive subject covered (audio, visual, and/or text files).
- Access to every document by anyone; from any where
- Retrieval of e-resources is quicker than print resources
- The users can be guided to the document by providing a link.
- Easy to search the text
- The collection available in electronic format can be of any media.
- Ownership not that important
- In electronic environment the interaction between user and librarian is frequent.
- No defined user group
- The software can help the users in retrieving the desired information; hardly intermediate can help users

Year-4 Volume: I, Jan-March, 2022 ISSN: 2582-1296
The Asian Thinker
A Quarterly Bilingual Peer-Reviewed Journal for Social Sciences and Humanities

Types of E-Resources : The different types of e-resources are, **E-books, E-journals, Databases, CDs/DVDs, E-conference proceedings, E- Reports, E-Maps, E-Pictures/Photographs**, E-Manuscripts, E-Theses, E-Newspaper, Internet/Websites - Listservs, Newsgroups, Subject Gateways,

- ✓ E-Journals
- ✓ E-Books
- ✓ E-Newspapers
- ✓ E-Theses
- ✓ Mobile access to E-Resources
- ✓ E-Integrated Resources
- ✓ Web Sites
- ✓ Database Such as 19th Century Master file, Art Index, Business Insights, JSTOR, NTIS, Policy File. AGRICOLA, Care and Health Law, Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers, Fedstats, etc

Sl. No.	Types of E resources	Description
1	E book	E books is the many formats competing for prime time, including Adobe PDF , Microsoft reader, e reader, Mobipocket reader, EPUB, Kindle and iPad
2	E journal	It is very important part of every library collection. E -journal are one application of information technology
3	E newspaper	It is also known as online newspaper or web newspaper that exists on the internet
4	E magazine	It is very important part of every library collection. E- magazine are one application of information technology
5	Indexing & abstracting databases	These are the reference sources which provide Bibliographic information about journal including abstracts of the articles
6	Full text database	Today's there are number of databases available on the network. They are either free or with charges. E- databases is an organized collection of information of a particular subject or multi-disciplinary subject areas, information within e databases can be searched and retrieved electronically
7	Reference database	These are many dictionaries, almanacs, and encyclopedias, which are available on internet in e form
8	Statistical databases	These databases contain the numerical

Year-4 Volume: I, Jan-March, 2022 ISSN: 2582-1296
The Asian Thinker
A Quarterly Bilingual Peer-Reviewed Journal for Social Sciences and Humanities

		data useful for the mass community
9	Image collection	Due to adventure of e images facility, this type of databases is developed
10	Multimedia products	These type of databases are included images, videos, audios and text etc
11	E thesis	These databases are contained with PHD thesis and dissertation published through e format
12	E clipping	The main objective of e clipping is retrospective search and comprehensive analysis of new items
13	E patents	E patents is the exclusive right granted by the government to make use of an invention for a specific period of time
14	E standards	Written definition, limit rule, approved and monitored for complains by authoritative agency

- **Impact of E-Resources on Library and Information Services :**

The Internet e-resources is transforming the library system and as well the way in which we view information sources. It has made simple and speedy purchase of information sources like books, journals, & e publications. Many publishers catalogue tools like "books in prints" as well as forms for ordering documents are available on the internet. The librarians need quick access to books, journals and electronic publications. Internet access is the simple and efficient method for access and updating the documentation and interface of catalogue of all libraries. The request for Inter Library Loan (ILL) can be sent via e-mail and the photocopies may be sent by post fax, via e-mail after scanning the documents. The development of information technology and the dissemination of Web environments have a dramatic effect on the user behaviors in information usage. The workflows from acquisitions to user services and the life cycle of electronic resources is quite different from that of print resources since it is characterized by access without holding the physical objects. As libraries build ever-larger collections of electronic resources, finding ways to manage them efficiently becomes a major challenge. The number of electronic journals, citation databases, and full-text aggregations held by most libraries has grown rapidly. Managing these electronic resources involves providing the library's user with convenient ways to find and access them and providing library staff with the tools to keep track of them. Most of the Library resources in the recent past are being made available in electronic formats such as e-journals, e-books, databases, etc. Libraries are moving from print to e resources either subscribing individually or through consortia because of it advantages over print resources. Recent studies show that users prefer e-journals than the print. As licensing electronic resources has greatly increased in recent years, libraries have struggled to control this information in paper files, integrated library systems, separate databases stored on local computers or network.

Issues:

Stability and storage: The volatility of e-resources makes preservation a major concern. In case of the benefits of access are enhanced, the ability of electronic resources to transmit information through time is not completely confirmed. Offline storage methods suggested are magnetic media, such as tape, hard disks, and floppy disks, and optical media such as CD-ROMs. There are issues of preservation of storage media, hardware and software dependency and dynamic versions of electronic resources that also need to be dealt with.

IPR Issues : There are certain issues like; protection of the intellectual property of the author in order to preserve the originality and integrity of the work; warrant for the attachment of the author and the work in public; protection of the author's ideal and economic interest and benefits, including publication and reproduction of his/her work. This is usually accomplished through the publishers, who disseminate the work in an appropriate, protected and retraceable manner. Electronic resources presently emphasize information access instead of ownership.

Selection and acquisition: The selection criterion for e–resources resembles the selection of other media. The library selection policies can be applied to electronic resources, there are considerations unique to electronic resources that should be addressed by libraries, such as: standards, effectiveness of the search engine, ability to limit to local holdings (if not full text), and hardware and software compatibility.

Cataloguing: E- resources can be classified according to the ordinary guidelines, such as LC call numbers. Libraries should be alert to emerging standards for cataloguing electronic publications.

Users' access: Depending on the licensing agreement and local funding, downloading and printing can be provided in libraries as well as at the desktops of the users. Minimum hardware and software requirements are going to progress as technology progresses, but basic entities such as hard drives, color monitors, external disk drives, printers, security cables, tables and chairs are often inevitable to be equipped onsite. Internet connection and bibliographic linking software are extras to provide value added service.

Training and support for staff and users : With the number of e- resources being published and the variety of different interfaces, more sophisticated searching and retrieving skills are necessary. If library staff is provided with adequate training and support in order to be aware of new development of technology, more flexible and suitable services can then be available for users. The information provider role of libraries remains important but the delivery and type of services might have to adapt to the changing technology and users' needs.

Licensing: E-Resources need the license from the published to the library for making use of it.

b. IPR: E-Resources can be easily copied and forwarded to the another person so librarian should be alert about IPR(Intellectual Property Rights)

c. Standards of metadata: There are standards for metadata description like MARC21 but the available e-resources in the market are not standardizing by MARC21.

d. Low budget: Libraries are non-profit organization so they cannot purchase and afford the costly electronic resources.

e. Skill manpower: to handle the electronic collection the proper skills are required among the staff but libraries are lacking of skill manpower.

f. Lack of infrastructure: Electronic collection is supported by Information and communication Technology components.

Disadvantages:

Financial constraints: The infrastructure required displaying, storing or print electronic resources are expensive. Downloading and printing will be a costly affair. This means a net increase in economic and ecological costs and it becomes a relatively expensive way to acquire a single copy.

Social constraints: Electronic interfaces can take a long time to master. Electronic searching, downloading and printing replace the traditional activities of physically browsing, scanning and photocopying. The intricate steps to accomplish the previously simple or habitual tasks might frustrate users. People read up to 25 to 30 percent more slowly on a computer screen than on paper

Technological constraints: The academic community can be divided into "haves" and "have-nots" because of access to equipment and network. The network or connection speed can be too slow. Screen quality of graphics and photos is still primitive when compared to print

References:

- Ramaiah, Chennupati, k (Eds.). (2013). *Electronic Resources Management for Libraries.* New Delhi, ND: Allied Publishers
- http://www.library.qmul.ac.uk/e-resources
- http://www.loc.gov/acq/devpol/electronicresources.pdf
- Schlembach, Mary C, & Mischo, William H (Eds.). (2013). *Electronic Resources and Services in Sci-Tech Libraries.* NeW York, NY: Howarth Information Press
- http://www.imdr.edu/Use%20of%20Open%20Access%20E%20Resources.html
- http://www.library.qmul.ac.uk/e-resources
- Weir, Ryan O. (2012). *Managing Electronic Resources. USA :* Library and Information Technology Association
- http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in/eresource.php
- https://uomustansiriyah.edu.iq/media/lectures/8/8_2018_12_19!10_28_26_PM.pdf