

Types of Information Sources for Research

No	Type	Description
A		
1	Academic Journal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Academic journals are peer-reviewed periodicals issued by an institution, corporation or a professional or scholarly society in which researchers publish current news or reports in the form of articles of their research work ▪ Includes articles written by and for specialists/experts in a particular field ▪ Articles must go through a peer review process before they are accepted for publication ▪ Articles tend to have a narrower focus and more analysis of the topic than those in other types of publications ▪ Includes cited references or footnotes at the end <p>Types of Academic Journal Articles: Journal articles come in different types, depending upon the field and specific type of journal. Academic journals usually include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Letters/Communications - These are short descriptions of important latest study or research findings which are usually considered urgent for immediate publication. Examples of these would be important breakthroughs regarding cures or treatments for previously incurable conditions, or cure for a particular outbreak of disease, (example-swine flu). ▪ Research Notes - Research notes are typically short descriptions which are considered less urgent compared to letters. These contain information on current research findings of an expert or a researcher. ▪ Articles - These are usually around 5-20 pages and are complete description of current and original research findings. ▪ Supplemental Articles - These mostly consist of large-volume tabular data that details all the results of current research. ▪ Review Articles - Review articles, unlike the previous types, do not cover original research but instead accumulate results of multiple articles on a particular field or topic into a coherent narrative about the state of the art in the said field. They provide information about the subject and at the same time provide journal references to the original research.

2	Almanac	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Usually not used for extensive research but are good for looking up specific facts, statistics, tables and list of people, places, events, countries, organizations, and popular culture such as sports and entertainment ▪ Generally, almanac covers a broad period of time while year book contains similar information only for a given year ▪ Usually a one-volume work with statistics and compilation of specific facts
3	Artifacts	<p>Physical facts created and used by humans. Artifacts may include items such as eating utensils, tools, clothing and coins. When written records are scarce, these items help researcher discover how people lived</p>
4	Atlas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Atlas is a book of maps and geographical information ▪ Contains an organized group of pictorial or illustrated political, cultural, physical, road, and/or thematic maps ▪ Atlas may be organized around a specific subject, theme, or geographical area
5	Audio recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Audio plays an important role not just in the field of music but in scholarly research as well. Sound recordings can serve as evidence, information, data, or the soundtrack for a creative project

B

6	Books	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covers virtually any topic, fact or fiction • Useful for complete background of an issue or in depth analysis of a theory or person • Contains comprehensive information on a topic but not as current as internet or newspaper because of the time it takes for them to be published <p>Types of books:</p> <p>1). Academic books –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ It is a long-form publication, as opposed to a short-form publication like an article, and is the result of in-depth academic research, usually over a period of years <p>2). Text books –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A text book is a comprehensive compilation of content in a branch of study. Textbooks are produced to meet the needs of educators usually at educational institutions. Example- school books are text books. Text books are prepared according to the demand of educational institutions. ▪ A book that is written primarily for students. Whilst the textbook may also be of interest to other audiences such as researchers, the main audience are students
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		<p>3). Edited books –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An edited book is a collection of articles or chapters written by different authors on the same subject ▪ An edited book can also be a collection of published articles or essays by a single author ▪ Edited books are a good resource for people looking for a concentration of material focusing on a single subject or a collection of works in a particular genre
7	Bibliography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Comprehensive list of resources that shares one or more common attributes about a particular subject ▪ Some also briefly describe the resources that are listed
8	Biography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Contains information about people both living and deceased ▪ They can contain brief summaries of data about individuals, list of citations of resources about a person, or be full length books detailing the life of one particular person ▪ One would use a biography to look up facts or detailed information about a person or a group of people
C		
9	Chronology/ Time line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summarizes the advancement of an event or happening by supplying brief milestones in the progression of the event ▪ The summaries can be presented day by day, year by year or any other chronological break down
D		
10	Diary	<p>Primarily used in research as a method of collecting qualitative data. They can provide a rich source of meaningful data and can avoid the difficulties of participants trying to precisely recall events after some time has elapsed</p>
11	Directory	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lists names and addresses of individuals, companies, organizations and institutions ▪ Contains an organized list of people and/or organizations and is used to find out information such as addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of the organization or people included within the scope of the directory
12	Dictionary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Defines words and terms; confirms spelling, definition, pronunciation; used to find out how words are used ▪ Helps to locate synonyms and antonyms ▪ To trace the origin of words

13	Dissertation/ Thesis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A long essay on a particular subject, especially one written for a university degree or diploma. ▪ Can be a rich source of information and typically has an extensive references list ▪ They are considered grey literature, so are not ‘peer reviewed’ ▪ The accuracy and veracity of the paper may itself depend on the school that awarded the doctoral or masters degree to author
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14	Encyclopedia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collection of short, factual entries often written by different contributors who are knowledgeable about the topic Types: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ General – provides concise overview of a wide variety of topics ▪ Subject-specific – Contains in-depth entries focusing on one field of study
15	E-resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Electronic resources (or e-resources) are materials in digital format which can be accessed digitally ▪ An electronic resource can be defined as a source which requires electronic device to be accessed. Examples – e-Books, e-Journals, e-Newspapers, e-Magazines

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16	Gazetteer	Dictionary of geographical places (no maps) (e.g., Webster’s New Geographical Dictionary)
17	Glossary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A glossary, also known as a vocabulary or clevis, is an alphabetical list of terms in a particular domain or knowledge with the definition for those terms ▪ If a book includes rare, unfamiliar, specialized or made up words or terms, the glossary serves as a dictionary for the readers to understand the meaning of those terms
18	Guidebook	Provides detailed descriptions of places; intended primarily for travelers

H

19	Handbook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A handbook contains facts about a specific subject or instructions that can be used to accomplish something ▪ A handbook can come in several forms such as manuals for completing tasks or guidebooks providing information about a subject, region, etc. (such as travel guide book) ▪ Handbooks are often designed for quick consultation and easy portability
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I

20	Index	Alphabetical list of names, subjects, etc. with reference to the pages on which they are mentioned
21	Internet Source	An internet source is material you find online. It can be online newspapers, magazines or websites. Peer-reviewed journals, web pages, forums and blogs are also online sources. Some other names for internet sources are electronic sources, web sources and online sources.
22	Interview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An interview is a one-on-one conversation between an interviewer and an interviewee ▪ Interviewing is a popular way of gathering qualitative research data ▪ Interview is one of the most important and powerful method of data collection in research. ▪ Different modes of interview: 1) Phone 2) Face-to-face 3) Online (e.g., Skype)

L

23	Library catalog	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Organized and searchable set of records of physical books in the library as well as links to online eBooks, articles from database, videos, audio clips etc. ▪ A library catalog allows you to search for an item owned by a specific library, including books, movies, journals, magazines, music scores, government documents etc.
24	Library database	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Online collection of articles (from magazines, journals and newspapers), abstracts (brief summaries) etc. ▪ Many database also include multimedia materials, such as podcasts, blogs, videos, images, audio clips etc.

M

25	Magazines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Includes articles on diverse topics of popular interests and current events ▪ Typically written by journalists or professional writers ▪ Geared towards the general public
26	Manual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A manual provides instructions or guidelines on how to perform activity and serves as a reference book on the activity. ▪ Manuals are flexible document that can be used for different purposes: Policy manual, Procedure manual, Operation manual, User's and Operator's manual, Service and Maintenance manual, Training manual

27	Monograph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A detailed written study of a single specialized subject or an aspect of it ▪ It is a long, detailed scholarly piece of writing on specific subject. Example: A book on how the human body uses vitamin D
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28	Newspaper	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A newspaper is a collection of articles about current events usually published daily ▪ Provides very current information about events, and places at the time they are published ▪ Useful for information of current events or to track the development of a story as it unfolds ▪ Also provides primary reporting
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29	Patent	<p>Patents are a form of intellectual property which can provide useful technical information. It gives its owner the legal right to exclude others from making, using, or selling the invention</p>
30	Periodical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A magazine or newspaper published at regular intervals. ▪ Includes journals, bulletins, transactions, proceedings or similar works which appear at regular period in numbered sequence
31	Photograph	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Picture made using a camera ▪ Contains a wealth of information which may be used effectively in historical research. Visual images may be used as evidence, for illustration, for comparison and contrast, and for analytical purposes
32	Proceeding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In academia, proceedings are a collection of academic papers published in academic context ▪ They are usually distributed as printed volumes or in electronic forms either before the conference opens or after it has closed ▪ Proceeding contains the contributions made by researchers at the conference ▪ A conference proceeding is a published record of congress, symposium, or other meetings sponsored by a society or association usually but not necessarily including abstract or reports of paper presented by the participants ▪ When the entire text of paper presented is included, it is called transaction

S

33	Statistics and Government Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Available free of copyright and certain publisher compiled and index them for use of libraries and other researcher ▪ In addition to loss, regulation and agency document, the government produces a lot of statistic for public release
34	Social media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Computer based technology that facilitates sharing of ideas, thoughts, and information through building networks and communities ▪ Web based communication platforms that enable people to interact with each other by sharing and consuming information. Example- Twitter, Facebook, Pinterest
35	Survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In research of human subjects, a survey is a list of questions aimed at extracting specific data from a particular group of people. Surveys may be conducted by phone, mail, internet or verbally

V

36	Video Recording	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Video recording is a qualitative research method that involves capturing moving images, with or without sound to study the visual details of interaction and behavior
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37	Web	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A group of worldwide web pages usually containing hyperlinks to each other and available online. Web contains information beyond plain text, including sounds, images, and videos ▪ A website is a collection of web pages and related content that is identified by a common domain name and published on at least one web server. Notable examples are Wikipedia.org, google.com, and amazon.com. All publicly accessible website collectively constitute the world wide web
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38	Yearbook	<p>Covers the trends and events of the previous year, may be general in coverage, limited to one subject, or restricted to one geographical area (e.g., Britannica Book of the Year)</p>
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