

***MSc Danijela Mišić<sup>1</sup>***

Teacher-training faculty  
Vranje

## ***LIBRARIES – SOURCES OF KNOWLEDGE IN MODERN WORLD OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE***

**Abstract:** This paper emphasizes the role of library as a powerful informational system. In global society the borders are being removed so information could be available to the users. Library as a cultural center with its available literature and other kinds of media in national, and even greater usage of English language, provides its users the approach and insight into scientific achievements, rich vocabulary, bibliographic material as the source of information necessary for further research and evaluations.

**Key words:** Mission of library, globalization, English language, information.

Educational systems in countries which strive to progress, being aware that Serbia is one of them, with their contents should develop a positive attitude towards library as the center of knowledge that offers innumerable possibilities for learning, reading, searching through the information related to millennium experiences of civilization. This could be done if we realize the very essence of information literacy in the right way in order to reach the center of qualitative and authentic information which

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<sup>1</sup> ucfaxvranje@yahoo.com

would enable pupils, students and other users to accept and widen the contents in the field they are examining.

The mission of modern educational syllabi which are being realized on all levels of schooling, according to basic criteria, is enabling learners for individual (independent) work and lifelong learning. Knowledge noted down in the past, kept in books as cultural monuments of ancient nations and in their manuscripts, points to answers to many questions. Therefore, accumulated experience, if we use modern syntagm: knowledge as cultural funds kept in libraries and museums, prepares future generations for life and actions related to their jobs.

On the basis of many researches in the developed countries, in our country as well, and the importance of learning theories which emphasize the fact that for modern society where connections are made by using knowledge and information, it is necessary to know scientific and other sources of various areas that imbue mutually and in that way to contribute to setting and solving the problems, stimulating progress, developing the ability to transfer acquired knowledge. Abilities like these and many other by which modern world is recognized, contribute to self-education with the use of library and other scientific resources.

Libraries as the centers of knowledge, beside literature, publications and other written media, in modern world offer a variety of information, stimulate readers' and researchers' culture. Human aspiration to change by lifelong learning can be realized in the best sense of the word in the scope of organization of work among greater number of libraries. Users, with the help of the Internet and other media, start to communicate, and in that way a faster circulation of information and connections among worlds are provided, and the world today bases its development on knowledge and education.

Management with the help of knowledge, as the synonym for educational tasks in schools, takes more and more space in modern researches, textbooks and media. Without library funds, specialized magazines and without global network of classified data necessary to expand knowledge in certain areas, schools cannot realize their goals.

When we try to explain this problem, we have to mention that work without dictionaries intended for different purposes and their place in libraries is unthinkable. Dictionary as a medium in searching through the meaning and other elements of a concrete speech offer information and knowledge necessary for a modern human being if they are organized, systematically arranged in a way that provides social and cultural development of countries of the global world and individual freedom of speech and choice of information that would satisfy mental needs of the researcher. Data are usually expressed in English, so the knowledge of this language, in the whole world, especially in the developed and the developing countries, cannot be replaced. This can be supported by the following thought: "In contemporary world of fast communication through electronic networks, professional competences - knowledge gets special importance because this form of communication takes the leading place, borders between traditional scientific fields are fading away, and the focus is shifted from information to innovation. Instead of passive approach to the flow of information, in the front comes independent creating and application of knowledge which is divided in three types: the core of knowledge (data, information and expertise), new knowledge (ideas and inventiveness) and applied knowledge (products, services and know-how). (Vitković, *Knowledge-imperative of modern society in **Information literacy and lifelong learning***, 101, Belgrade: Philological faculty of Belgrade University, Serbian Library Association, 2008).

In order to achieve the effects of so called culture funds, primary resources of schools, universities and scientific-research institutions are: being informed, creativity, stimulating users to accept the knowledge, recognition of users, awareness of change as a possible development and constant adjustment to innovations. With the changes of educational system, concept of work in libraries should change as well, and with that aim, except textbooks, monographs, belletristic literature, various types of multimedia technology for obtaining information, research, learning and reading should be more widely used.

If this is to be successful, important place in educational system of Serbia should belong to school which would give special attention to learning foreign languages, primarily English, which has become language of business communication, except being language of belletristic literature as well. Although English and other foreign languages are taught in classes, it is necessary, in the spirit of learning theories, to pay a greater attention to defining and creating methodical-didactical conditions for acquiring and learning a foreign language, so that language gets its practical use from the first days of learning. The advantage of learning this foreign language in educational systems is contribution to expansion of intercultural exchange and, mutual understanding. By listening to the living language one gets to the essence of linguistic system of English as a foreign language, and then it is possible to expand the knowledge of culture, tradition, religions, people's interests, events relating history and existence.

Pupils of all ages, students and others who want to widen their spiritual and learning world, as actors in the process of a lifelong learning, with the knowledge of language provide themselves an immediate insight into original scientific materials, belletristic literature and other types of information. Different standards of national education point to the place of

native and foreign language learning, in this case English, and in accordance with educational systems of the developed and the developing countries, the need for modern approach to language learning with the aim to apply gained knowledge in phenomena typical for English language is widely recognized in our country as well. Significant support comes from the libraries, starting with school libraries which include basic material (dictionaries, textbooks, magazines for children, comics and picture books) and going towards university libraries where various kinds of multimedia technology are used for accumulating data, research work, reading. In developed societies and centers, a larger part of the funds is formed electronically, simultaneously with the English language so that information from our environment could be available to foreign users. In order to justify this kind of information literacy, we shall state the research data from the field of linguistics which show that there are about 25 000 scientific magazines being published in the world, and thanks to the Internet and the knowledge of English language, about 1 000 are available to the users for online search.

Open library and information systems, as the segments of educational process, establish cooperation and communication and in that way make research and scientific work easier. Interlibrary cooperation through a variety of performing systems contribute to the development of intellectual freedom in libraries of the world, but respecting ethical code in using author's rights protected by the law.

Likewise, translated literary and other works enable the approach to various materials, belletristic literature, science - popular literature which take an important place in libraries. Translated literary works become available to those readers who cannot directly get into linguistic system of a concrete literary work, and by reading a translation they become familiar with the world and events that present foreign culture and history.

Good organization of library is very important for educational and scientific work and is the subject of many scientific debates and conferences. The need for enlarging the funds and innovation is emphasized as well. Cultural context and development of a certain society can be recognized according to library and the ways precious resources are used. Here is the example of how British Library organizes help for researchers in the shape of various courses, discussions and workshops concerning themes and subjects from a variety of scientific fields. The following webpage is taken from the British Library site <http://www.bl.uk>.



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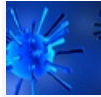
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## Conclusion

In this paper the role of library in contemporary modeling of educational syllabi is pointed out being the support to technological development of the society as well. With this knowledge, we cite the following thought as the conclusion: “Changing the way of acquiring knowledge understands a greater usage of library resources, including printed and electronic resources. Therefore, libraries have to provide a free approach to information, have actual funds and modern equipment, in order to fulfill the needs of its users and keep being important centers for lifelong learning inside a local community. This means stronger connections among all types of libraries concerning sharing resources, especially when interlibrary lending is concerned. Librarians, on one side, should give their support to educational institutions in forming strategies and implementation of information literacy,

but to offer practical instructions to their users if needed abilities contended in this concept are to be developed.”

### **Biblioteke – izvori znanja u svetu modernog obrazovanja i nauke**

**Rezime:** U ovom radu ističe se uloga biblioteke kao moćnog informacionog sistema. U globalnom informacionom društvu brišu se granice kako bi informacije bile dostupne svojim korisnicima. Biblioteka kao kulturološki centar sa raspoloživom literaturom i drugim vrstama medija na nacionalnim i sve većom upotrebom engleskog jezika, svojim korisnicima omogućava pristup i uvid u naučna dostignuća, rečničko bogatstvo, bibliografsku građu kao izvoru informacija neophodnim za dalja istraživanja i vrednovanja.

**Ključne reči:** Misija biblioteke, globalizacija, engleski jezik, informacije.

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