

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For the following qualifications :-

M.A.

Library & Info Studies - L4h4: Advanced Automation: Online Systems

COURSE CODE : **LAISL4H4**

DATE : **28-MAY-02**

TIME : **10.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 hours**

02-N0171-3-30

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TURN OVER

L.4(h 4): Advanced automation: database theory and practice

Answer **THREE** questions.

1. How do the techniques of E-R modelling and normalization work? How can they be used to improve the effectiveness of a database design?
2. Identify the main component stages of database development and briefly describe the tasks undertaken in each stage. In your view, which is the most important stage, and why?
3. Identify and describe the basic types of Internet search engine currently in mainstream use. How do their different methods of working typically affect precision and recall for the end user?
4. 'Garbage in, garbage out.' What aspects of data structure, representation and use should designers particularly consider when trying to create effective databases?
5. In the past, most computer applications software often came with copious paper-based manuals; nowadays, it is unusual to find applications being delivered with extensive paper-based documentation, and online manuals are the norm. Discuss the importance and different uses of documentation, and the benefits and drawbacks there are (and for whom) in this shift from paper to electronic delivery.
6. Discuss the importance of an appropriate interface to a database system for effective retrieval. Why is it apparently so difficult to design interfaces for systems with a potentially broad range of users?

END OF PAPER