

# UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

*University of London*

## EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

*For the following qualifications :-*

*M.Sc.*

### **Inf Science GS.1: Database Applications**

COURSE CODE : INSTGS.1  
DATE : 28-MAY-02  
TIME : 10.00  
TIME ALLOWED : 3 hours

02-C0780-3-30

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**TURN OVER**

## **S.1: Database applications**

Answer **THREE** questions.

1. Discuss the use of XML in current digital library applications. What are the likely XML-based developments in the future and what are the important considerations in implementing them?
2. What are the benefits and drawbacks of using the MARC format? Do you think it has a long-term future?
3. **EITHER**  
(a) 'The usability of an OPAC depends more on its user interface than on its indexes.' Discuss, and mention examples from any OPACs with which you are familiar.  
**OR**  
(b) What factors have influenced the move towards Web-based OPACs in recent years? Has the move been a good one?
4. What should a library take into account when deciding whether to join a co-operative cataloguing system?
5. How do the techniques of E-R modelling and normalization work? How can they be used to improve the effectiveness of a database design?
6. SSADM is often referred to as a 'three-views' methodology. What are these three views? Why, when modelling systems, is it considered important to have more than one 'view'?
7. List and briefly describe the sorts of retrieval tools/mechanisms you would expect to find in a search language to enable you to express and execute your search efficiently.

**END OF PAPER**