



Open Access E-Resources - Arts and Science College Library

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Open Access

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Abstract

Open access e-resources are freely available online materials that can be accessed, used, and shared without restrictions. Open access e-resources are freely available online scholarly materials that can be accessed and used without financial or legal restrictions. These resources, including journals, books, and other materials, are part of the open access, which aims to make research and knowledge widely accessible.

Keywords: open access, e-resources, e-books, e-journals, and online databases

Introduction

The purpose of e-resources

Electronic resources, such as e-books, e-journals, and online databases, provides numerous benefits, moving beyond printed materials.

The Various Electronic Resources

- websites.
- electronic journals and newsletters.
- on-line training.
- electronic conferences.
- databases and other resources on CD-ROM.
- databases on the Internet.
- image collections on the Internet.

Open Access E-Resources

Open access e-resources encompass a wide range of digital accessible resources readily available for anyone to access, use, and share.

This includes

- **Open Access Journals**
Journals that allow anyone to read, download, and copy articles without charge.
- **Open Access Books**
Books published under common access licenses, making them freely access for reading and often for reuse.
- **Institutional Repositories**
Online archives maintained by universities and research institutions that hold scholarly articles, theses, and other materials.



- **(OER)**

Education and studying information that are easily available for use.

Why are they important?

- **Increased access to Knowledge**

Open access resources remove financial barriers to information, making it available to a wider audience, including researchers, students, and the general public.

- **Enhanced Research Impact**

Open access materials are more likely to be read, cited, and used in further research, increasing the impact of scholarly work.

- **Promotes Collaboration and Innovation**

Open access fosters collaboration by allowing researchers to build upon each other's work.

- **Supports Education and Learning**

Open access resources provide valuable materials for students and educators, particularly in developing countries.

- **Supports the Open Access Movement**

This movement aims to create research easily available for all.

Types of Open Access Resources

- **Common Access Journals**

Periodical that create their content easily use to the public, often funded by author fees or institutional support.

- **Common Access Books**

When books are published under open licenses, they can be freely accessed and reused.

- **Institutional Repositories**

Universities and research institutions maintain online archives to store and share the work of their faculty and researchers.





- **Common Access Databases**

Databases that offer access to academic resources like research articles, datasets, and other scholarly articles.

- **Digital Libraries**

Freely accessible online collections of digitized books, journals, and other materials.

Examples of Open Access Resources

OPEN ACCESS E-RESOURCES			
S.NO	RESOURCES	ABOUT RESOURCES	LINK
1		The INFLIBNET Centre has developed a web-based interface called “Vidya-mitra: Integrated e-Content Portal” for all e-content	https://vidyamitra.inflibnet.ac.in/
2		SWAYAM is a programme initiated by Government of India and designed to achieve the three cardinal principles of Education Policy viz., access, equity and quality. SWAYAM MOOCs Courses	https://swayam.gov.in/
3		(NME-ICT)	https://epgp.inflibnet.ac.in/
4		Journals and Books.	https://www.doaj.org/

Benefits of Open Access

- **Increased Visibility and Impact**

Open access makes research more discoverable and accessible, potentially leading to greater impact and citation rates.

- **Enhanced Collaboration**

Open access facilitates collaboration among researchers by making it easier to share and build upon each other's work.



- **Improved Education and Learning**

Open access resources can be used in educational settings, providing students and educators with free access to learning materials.

- **Accelerated Innovation**

By making research more available, open access can accelerate the pace of innovation and discovery.

- **Reduced Barriers to Access**

Open access removes financial and legal barriers to accessing information, promoting equity and inclusion.

Open access e-resources offer significant advantages in terms of accessibility and dissemination of information, additionally, there are current issues related to quality control and financial sustainability. Merits include wider readership, increased visibility, and access for researchers in developing countries. Demerits include potential quality concerns, publication fees, and sustainability issues for journals.

Merits of Open Access E-Resources

- **Increased Accessibility**

Open access removes barriers like subscriptions and paywalls, making research freely available to anyone with internet access. This is particularly beneficial for researchers in developing countries and those with limited institutional resources.

- **Wider Dissemination**

With no cost barriers, research can reach a broader audience, potentially leading to higher impact, citations, and collaborations.

- **Faster Publication**

Research findings can be disseminated more quickly than traditional journals due to the faster publication times of open access journals.

- **Enhanced Visibility**

Open access makes research more visible and discoverable, potentially increasing its impact and reach.

- **Compliance with Funding Requirements**

The requirement or encouragement of common access publishing is now a critical aspect of research

dissemination due to the increasing number of research funders.

- **Potential for Increased Citations**

Studies indicate that public access articles may receive more citations, although this is not a universal finding.

- **Interdisciplinary Research**

Open access facilitates collaboration and the sharing of research across different disciplines, potentially leading to new insights and advancements.

- **Public Engagement**

Open access can make research findings accessible to the general public, fostering a greater understanding of scientific advancements and promoting public engagement with research.

Demerits of common Access E-Resources

- **Quality Concerns**

The offer of their products and services in some common access journals raises concerns about the quality and reliability of the research published. While some common access journals have rigorous peer-review processes, some may be predatory or prioritize profit over quality.

- **Publication Fees**

While many common access journals are free to publish in, many require authors to pay article processing charges (APCs), which can be a significant financial burden for researchers, particularly those in developing countries or without adequate funding.

- **Sustainability Issues**

Open access journals rely on various funding models, including APCs, institutional support, or grants. The long-term sustainability of these models can be a concern, especially for new or emerging open access journals.

- **Potential for Abuse**

The open access model can be susceptible to abuse, such as the spread of misinformation or predatory publishing practices.



Quality Control Challenges

Ensuring the quality and integrity of research in open access platforms requires robust peer review processes and editorial oversight.

- **Copyright and Licensing Issues**

While common access aims to promote free access, careful consideration needs to be given to copyright and licensing agreements to ensure proper attribution and usage of research.

- **Dependence on Internet Access**

Common access relies on internet access, which can be a barrier for some individuals and communities.

Conclusion

Open access e-resources provide many benefits by providing free and unlimited access to scholarly information. These resources enhance research, education, and overall knowledge dissemination, while also promoting transparency, collaboration, and global accessibility.

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