

# Open Access Resources

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# Learning outcomes

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1. Be introduced to the concepts of Open Educational Resources
2. Understand various types and characteristics of Open access resources

# Open Educational Resources

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- The term "open educational resources" was first adopted at UNESCO's 2002 Forum on the Impact of Open Courseware for Higher Education in developing countries
- The Paris OER Declaration 2002 defines the OER as “teaching, learning and research materials in any medium, digital or otherwise, that reside in the public domain or have been released under an open license and permits no-cost access, use, adaptation and redistribution by others with no or limited restrictions

# Characteristics of OERs are:

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- The right of access, adaptation, and republication of educational materials are the characteristics of OER
- Everywhere it is clear that such resources as OER are used for educational purpose, research and development, teaching learning process
- OERs can be reused, redistributed, re-purposed and retained for educational, research and developmental purposes

# Types of Open Resources

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## Based on Media

- Text/Print
- These are printable books, materials available online. The text materials can be accessed openly by anyone in digitalized format over the internet (both online and via offline formats)
- The texts can also be procured in printed version

**Eg. Saide, RUFORUM etc.**

# Visual/Photographs

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- Some open educational resources are available in visuals or photographic format
- Eg. Flickr, Pixabay, Wikimedia Commons, Open Clip Art Library, Fotopedia etc.
- Pixabay and Open Clip Art Library images are public domain images which can be used freely for personal and commercial use without giving attribution to the original author

# Video/ Audio-Visual

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- Videos, audio-visual programmes or video lectures are uploaded in websites by some organizations
- These organizations record on-campus lectures and publish them as OER, licensed with Creative Commons

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- Eg. Open.Michigan, Al Jazeera, YouTube, Vimeo, Internet Archive, Open Yale Courses, MIT, UC Berkeley, Khan Academy etc. Open Yale Courses, MIT and UC Berkeley provide selected video lectures, notes, class lectures, syllabi, etc. online which are available as downloadable videos along with audio-only versions



# Based on Quality

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**a) Self-published** (through blogs, social networking etc.):  
These resources may not include qualitative contents since published by different individuals.

Eg. Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn are the most popular social networking sites

One can use these social networking sites to contribute materials

**b) Reviewed:** The resources need to be reviewed before being published in printed version or uploaded in certain websites

**MIT.** The resources published in MIT website are reviewed before publication

# Peer-reviewed

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- These are open educational resources reviewed by members of peer groups
- Texts contributed by individuals or groups are peer-reviewed by educators to ensure that they are readable, accurate, and meet the scope and sequence requirements of course
- MERLOT is a free and open online community of resources which provides collection of peer reviewed online learning materials, catalogued by registered members and a set of faculty development support services. Most of the resources in Merlot are licensed under Creative Commons

# Based on Authorship

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- **a) Individual:** Some educational resources are freely available and accessible under the licensing of Creative Commons. Some of these resources are contributed by individuals
- Eg. Abstracts or articles contributed in ignca.nic.in, Stanford.edu etc.

**b) Open authoring:** Some open educational resources are open for authors. It means anyone can edit, change or modify the resources published in the particular websites. Eg. Wikipedia

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## c) Collaborative work

- Some resource persons work in groups and publish a collaborative work. They contribute the resources under collaborative authoring.
- Eg. A Review of the Open Educational Resources (OER) Movement: Achievements, Challenges, and New Opportunities uploaded at [www.hewlett.org](http://www.hewlett.org). is a collaborative work of Daniel E. Atkins, John Seely Brown and Allen L. Hammond

# Based on Licensing

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a) **Copyright protected:** These are open educational resources available for the learners to only read and acquire knowledge about a particular topic

These materials are however copyright protected and cannot be reproduced or copied from the original source

**Eg. Books, journals, research papers etc.**

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**b) Creative Commons:** Creative Commons is a non-profit organization which provides different kinds of licenses for a variety of works

- One has to select a license preferred for his/her creative work and accordingly one can view, copy, share, modify or edit the resources as allowed under

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**c) Public Domain:** These OER are made publicly available. The learning materials provided under this category do not possess any reserved rights and can be used by anyone without seeking permission from the authors or publishers

**Eg. Pixabay, Open Clip Art Library etc**

# Open Access Journals

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- Open Access or OA means you have unrestricted access to a particular journal or
- Open access (OA) refers to free, unrestricted online access to journal articles
- OA content is open to all, with no access fees



# Open access journals have the following characteristics:

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- (1) they are scholarly
- (2) they utilize quality control mechanisms like those of conventional journals (e.g., editorial oversight and copy editing)
- (3) they are digital
- (4) they are freely available
- (5) they may allow authors to retain their copyrights
- (6) they may use Creative Commons or similar licenses

# DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals)

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- The DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) was launched in 2003 at Lund University, Sweden, with 300 open access journals
- Today, the independent database contains 12000 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social science and humanities
- Journals and their articles are categorised using a subset of the Library of Congress Classification

## Browse Subjects

Journals and their articles are categorised using a subset of the [Library of Congress Classification](#). You can either type a keyword into the box below or click the arrows in the tree to expand and collapse subjects. Clicking on a subject will reveal the number of available records in the box on the right.

Select a subject from the tree.

- Agriculture
- Auxiliary sciences of history
- Bibliography. Library science. Information resources
- Education
- Fine Arts
- General Works
- Geography. Anthropology. Recreation
- History (General) and history of Europe
- History America
- Language and Literature
- Law
- Medicine
- Military Science

13,772 Journals  
10,842 searchable at Article level  
130 Countries  
4,305,712 Articles

Select Language

- FAQs
- OAI-PMH, XML, Widgets
- Open Access Resources
- Transparency & Best Practice
- Download metadata
- Journals Added/Removed
- New Journals Feed

Funding for sustainable Open Access (incl. SCOSS)

Our members

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- DOAJ's mission is to increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation, usage and impact of quality, peer-reviewed, open access scholarly research journals globally, regardless of discipline, geography or language
  - DOAJ will work with editors, publishers and journal owners to help them understand the value of best practice publishing and standards and apply those to their own operations

# Advantages of OA Journals

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## 1. Access

- The reach of the articles or materials increases tremendously since readers can retrieve it regardless of their economic status or geographical location

## 2. Immediacy

- The research results can be made immediately available to not just others within that community but also those beyond, including other scientists and laypeople

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### **3. Search Options**

- An article can typically be more easily located if it is in the open-access domain and searching within the article or recommending and sharing it with others, is facilitated to a great extent

### **4. Publishing Costs**

- Since open-access publications are usually less expensive to produce and disseminate, both journals and publishers can benefit

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## 5. Author and Institution Visibility

- More readers can become aware of authors who publish in open access journals as opposed to subscription-only journals
- Institutions can enhance their profile by participating in or hosting open-access publishing

# References

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*Thank You*

*Stay Home, Stay Safe & Save Lives*