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Data and Information INFO 2

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What is Data?

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Raw facts and figures collected together, before they have been processed.

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Data

Raw facts and figures collected together, before they have been processed.

Data can come in a number of forms:

- Text
- Numbers or Statistics
- Images
- Moving images
- Sound

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Data Sources

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Data Sources

Data Source

A location from which data can be found.

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Data Sources

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A location from which data can be found.

They come in different forms:

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Data Sources

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A location from which data can be found.

They come in different forms:

→ Direct (or Primary)

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Data Sources

Data Source

A location from which data can be found.

They come in different forms:

- Direct (or Primary)
- Indirect (or Secondary)

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Data Sources

Data Source

A location from which data can be found.

They come in different forms:

- Direct (or Primary)
- Indirect (or Secondary)
- Static

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Data Sources

Data Source

A location from which data can be found.

They come in different forms:

- Direct (or Primary)
- Indirect (or Secondary)
- Static
- Dynamic

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Data Sources



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Data Sources

Direct Data

This is data is collected from its original source

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Data Sources

Direct Data

This is data is collected from its original source

Indirect Data

Data that is used for a different purpose to that that it was meant for. The people involved in collecting the data are different to those who use it.

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Static Data Source

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Static Data Source

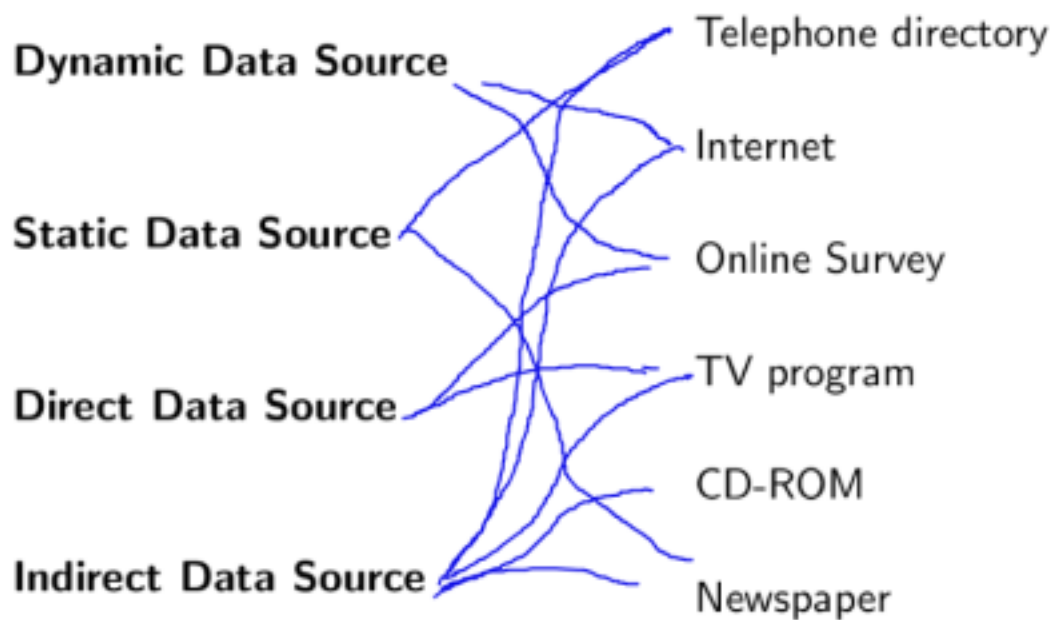
A source of data that's data remains the same over time.

Dynamic Data Source

A source of data that's data changes or is updated over time.

Data Sources

Match the data source to it's type.



Data Sources

Advantages of direct data:

- Total control over quality

Disadvantages of direct data:

- Cost

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Data encoding

Sometimes we use data encoding to represent data in an information system.

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Encoding

Putting data into a code or shorthand notation - by taking the original data and converting it in a different representation.

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Examples of Encoding include:

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- M or F ... for male or female

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Encoding

Putting data into a code or shorthand notation - by taking the original data and converting it in a different representation.

Examples of Encoding include:

- Jan, Feb. Mar ... for months of the year
- M or F ... for male or female
- Y or N ... for yes or no

We need more than just data

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Example

What does 190813 mean?

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We can not tell what data is supposed to mean with some prior knowledge or context.

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Knowledge

Application of Information in a Situation

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Knowledge

Application of Information in a Situation

If we know that our example is a date in the form ddmmyy, then the meaning is obvious. Our data represents 19th August 2013.

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Information

Information

The result of taking data and processing it. This involves giving the data meaning.

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Information = Data + [Context] + [Structure] + Meaning

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Example:

→ Data : 67

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→ Data : 67

→ Context: *ICT Exams*

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Information = Data + [Context] + [Structure] + Meaning

Example:

- Data : 67
- Context: *ICT Exams*
- Structure: *Percentage*

Information

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The result of taking data and processing it. This involves giving the data meaning.

Information = Data + [Context] + [Structure] + Meaning

Example:

- Data : 67
- Context: *ICT Exams*
- Structure: *Percentage*
- Meaning: *Average*

Information

Information

The result of taking data and processing it. This involves giving the data meaning.

Information = Data + [Context] + [Structure] + Meaning

Example:

- Data : 67
- Context: *ICT Exams*
- Structure: *Percentage*
- Meaning: *Average*

The information we get from this is that the average score in the ICT exam was 67%,

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Quality of Information

Computers are not intelligent, they are dumb! They only respond to commands and instructions.

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Computers are not intelligent, they are dumb! They only respond to commands and instructions.

They don't have any way of knowing whether data you enter is *correct* or *accurate*.

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GIGO

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GIGO

Garbage In, Garbage Out

GIGO means that if the user inputs the wrong or inaccurate data, the computer will output the wrong data.

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Quality of Information

The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

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Quality of Information

The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

→ Accuracy

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Quality of Information

The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

- Accuracy
- Relevance

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Quality of Information

The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

- Accuracy
- Relevance
- Age

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Quality of Information

The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

- Accuracy
- Relevance
- Age
- Completeness

Quality of Information

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- Accuracy
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- Presentation

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The *Quality* of Information is affected by six factors:

- Accuracy
- Relevance
- Age
- Completeness
- Presentation
- Level of Detail

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Quality of Information

Accuracy:

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If you have some information but it does not relate to the topic, it is worthless!

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If you have some information but it does not relate to the topic, it is worthless!

If you have a list of telephone numbers but you want a list of fax numbers, you have no information.

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Quality of Information

Age:

Information can change over time. If you know information is from the past, it may not be relevant now.

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If you only have part of the information then it is worthless!

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If you have a list of books in a library but half the books aren't on it, we have no useful information.

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Quality of Information

Presentation:

If the information is not presented in a way that you can understand it loses value.

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If you have a recipe but only the ingredients are listed with no quantities, then you don't know how to bake the cake!

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Data Checking

Although it can be tricky checking quality, we should be able to check if data is *valid*, though, using data validation and verification techniques.

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Although it can be tricky checking quality, we should be able to check if data is *valid*, though, using data validation and verification techniques.

Data Validation

A check of entered data that is carried out by the computer to stop data that does not conform to pre-set rules being entered.

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Data Validation

A check of entered data that is carried out by the computer to stop data that does not conform to pre-set rules being entered.

Data Verification

The process of ensuring that data entered into a computer matches the original paper version.

Data Checking

Match the problem to the checking type which ~~wish~~^{would} identify it.

