Information Formats

1. 1. Information Formats: an Introduction
2. [2.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-2-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)• What do we mean by “format” when wetalk about information?• What are the characteristics of commoninformation formats?• How does digital information differ frominformation we access in physical form?
3. [3.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-3-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Format is…• “The organization, plan, style, or type ofsomething.” --Random House Unabridged Dictionary, 2006• A set of properties• The result of a process
4. [4.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-4-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Cycle of Info ProductionHours to Weeks Months + Years Years +DaysNews Magazines Academic Books ReferenceSources Journals Sources
5. [5.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-5-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)News
6. [6.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-6-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)News SourcesQualities:• Focus on events as they happen• Emphasize current developments over detailed analysisGood for:• Getting timely information on a topic• Getting a local perspective on a topic (especially for topics that may be of regional interest and not covered nationally)• Tracking how events unfold over time• Getting primary source informationLook elsewhere for:• In-depth, analytical analysis• Research data
7. [7.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-7-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Magazines
8. [8.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-8-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)MagazinesQualities:• Provide deeper coverage of issues/topics than newspapers• Frequently include articles on impacts of primary research data or interpreting reports from primary news sources• Often aimed at general audiences (frequently popular as opposed to scholarly in nature)Good for:• Getting a more expansive view of topic or subject.• Finding interviews, photos, and opinions about events• Tracking how events unfold over timeLook elsewhere for:• Timely event reporting• In-depth, scholarly analysis
9. [9.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-9-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Academic Journals
10. [10.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-10-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Academic JournalsQualities:• Articles contain detailed, thoroughly researched analyses of topics• Common method of sharing primary research in the sciences and socialsciences• Aimed at other academics and specialists• Articles usually pass peer-review and contain detailed referencesGood for:• Finding original research• Getting in-depth perspectives on topics from scholars• Identifying academic debates (scholarly discourse) on a subjectLook elsewhere for:• Timely event reporting• Personal interviews, photos, and popular coverage
11. [11.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-11-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Books
12. [12.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-12-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Scholarly BooksQualities:• Provide in-depth, thorough treatments of topics• Usually organized into chapters with topical themes• Aimed at academic communities and professionals• Contain extenisve referencesGood for:• Getting a detailed analysis of a topic• Getting a scholarly interpretation of a topic, event or phenomenon (secondary source)Look elsewhere for:• Timely event reporting (primary sources)• Brief, factual overviews
13. [13.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-13-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Reference Sources
14. [14.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-14-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Reference SourcesQualities:• Provide general overviews, often factual in nature• Point users to more detailed sources, such as books• Designed for quick look-ups, usually contain subject indexes or are searchable• Contain extensive referencesGood for:• Familiarizing yourself with a topic• Identifying key issues, controversies and facts about a subject• Starting your researchLook elsewhere for:• Analytical, in-depth treatments
15. [15.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-15-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Physical vs. Digital Image Source: Flickr Creative Commons, the15
16. [16.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-16-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Printed… …and Online
17. [17.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-17-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Web Formats Image Source: Flickr Creative Commons:, amayzun
18. [18.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-18-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Web Formats
19. [19.](https://image.slidesharecdn.com/introtoformat-120308170626-phpapp01/95/information-formats-19-728.jpg?cb=1331227407)Formats Online• Each of the formats covered here can appear in physical form or digitally (online)• Formats reproduced digitally are the same as their physical (print) counterparts because: –Format is determined by when and how information was produced –Formats have unique characteristics that remain consistent• Web sites: –Can present existing formats (news, journal articles, etc.) digitally –May or may not require a subscription or login (frequently the case for scholarly content) –Are frequently good reference sources (organizational sites) –May not fit into existing format categories –Are pushing the evolution of information formats!