NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

FACULTY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE (HONOURS) DEGREE IN LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

PART II FIRST SEMESTER JANUARY 2011 EXAMINATIONS

ILI 2106: INDEXING AND ABSTRACTING

TIME: 3HOURS

Instruction to candidates
1.   Question number I in Section A is compulsory
2.   Answer any other three (3) questions from section B.
3.   Each question carries 25 marks.
4.   Importance is attached to accuracy, clarity of expression and legible handwriting.

SECTION A

Abstract: The study investigated the information needs and seeking behaviour of undergraduate students of Makerere University. A cross-sectional survey was carried out, with samples of respondents from the Department of Biochemistry in the Faculty of Science and the Department of History in the Faculty of Arts. The sample consisted of 104 undergraduate students selected from their first, second, and third year of study. Ellis' six generic information seeking activities were tested to establish how undergraduate students seek information. The chi-square statistic was used to test the stated hypotheses. The results provide an insight into the factors that influence students information seeking behaviour and the information sources used. The study makes recommendations that could lead to the improvement of students' information seeking behaviour and use of information resources.

1i. Identify the abstract above through an assessment of its characteristics.   (10 marks)

1ii. Assess how the abstract differs from a modular abstract.   (15 marks)

SECTION A

2.   Justify the effectiveness of the subject approach to indexing in an automated indexing system.

3i.   Classification schemes display networks and relationships between subjects whereas an alphabetical subject indexing language establishes labels specific for subjects. Discuss.
                                                                                           (15 marks)

3ii.   Identify and justify situations in which it would be best to use controlled vocabulary than natural language.   (10 marks)

4.   Identify five (5) recall and five (5) precision devices and assess their role in fostering index effectiveness.

5.   Evaluate, with concrete examples, the properties of an indexing language of your choice.

6.   The evaluation of an indexing system aims to establish the effectiveness and efficiency of the system. Discuss how this is done.

END OF PAPER