



WORKSHEET 21

School: Ba Sangam College

Year / Level: 11

Subject: Computer Studies

Name of Student: _____

Strand	Information Management
Sub strand	Storing ,Managing and retrieving information
Content Learning Outcome	Discover how computers store, manage and retrieve information

Advantages of a Database

Sharing

- ❖ In organizations, information from various departments can be readily shared with other departments and users.

Security

- ❖ Enables user's proper and authorized access to only the kind of information they need to know. For example the payroll department may have access to employees pay rate but other departments may not. Access is restricted to authorized users only.

Fewer files

- ❖ Mean less storage requirements. With several departments having access to one file, there are fewer files in the information systems. Excess storage (extra copies of information) called data redundancy is also reduced.

Data Integrity

- ❖ Enables data to be updated instantaneously.
- ❖ Older filing systems did not have data integrity i.e. a change made in a file in one department might not be made in another copy of the file holding the same information in another department.
- ❖ This can cause serious problems and conflicts when data is used for important decisions affecting both departments. Data integrity is when changes made in one file to a particular data, updates are made in other files which contain the same data as well.

Disadvantages of Databases

Increased costs

- ❖ For maintaining database systems since it requires sophisticated hardware and software. The cost of hardware maintenance, software licensing, upgrades and skilled DB professional needed incur quite a significant cost.

Management complexity

- ❖ Are the systems interfacing cost in terms of company's resources and culture as well as the security issues prevalent must be assessed constantly

Maintaining currency

- ❖ Is keeping the system current, up-to-date and personnel training costs tend to be significant.

Vendor dependence

- ❖ With the heavy investment related to DB systems, companies might be reluctant to change vendors. This leads to limited choice of database system components.

Frequent upgrade/replacement cycles

- ❖ Occur when vendors frequently upgrade their products which companies have to keep par with
- ❖ Some of these upgrades require hardware upgrades as well as personnel training (users and administrators) incurring additional cost

Activity

1. Discuss 2 advantages of database(2m)

2. Discuss 2 disadvantage of database (2m)

3. Complete diagram below (9m)

