



# Literacy in Computing and Information Age

**Bishnu Raman Misir**

*Raiganj University, Raiganj, Uttar Dinajpur, West Bengal, India*

Corresponding author: bishnu@stintsolution.com

## ABSTRACT

---

Literacy is an important part of every person's life. Normally, we know literacy means the ability of reading, write, view, design, listen and speak in a way which allows us to communicate to each other effectively<sup>[12]</sup>. The area of literacy does not depend on the only read or write, in nowadays, literacy meaning has extended to include the ability to use Languages, Computer, Images, the Internet, Information Interchange and so on. The idea of literacy is extending in Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) nations to include skills to approach information through innovation and capacity to survey complex settings<sup>[9]</sup>.

**Keywords:** Literacy, digital literacy, computer literacy and education, computer literacy and knowledge, network literacy, web literacy, information literacy, information literacy framework, e-learning, information literacy

---

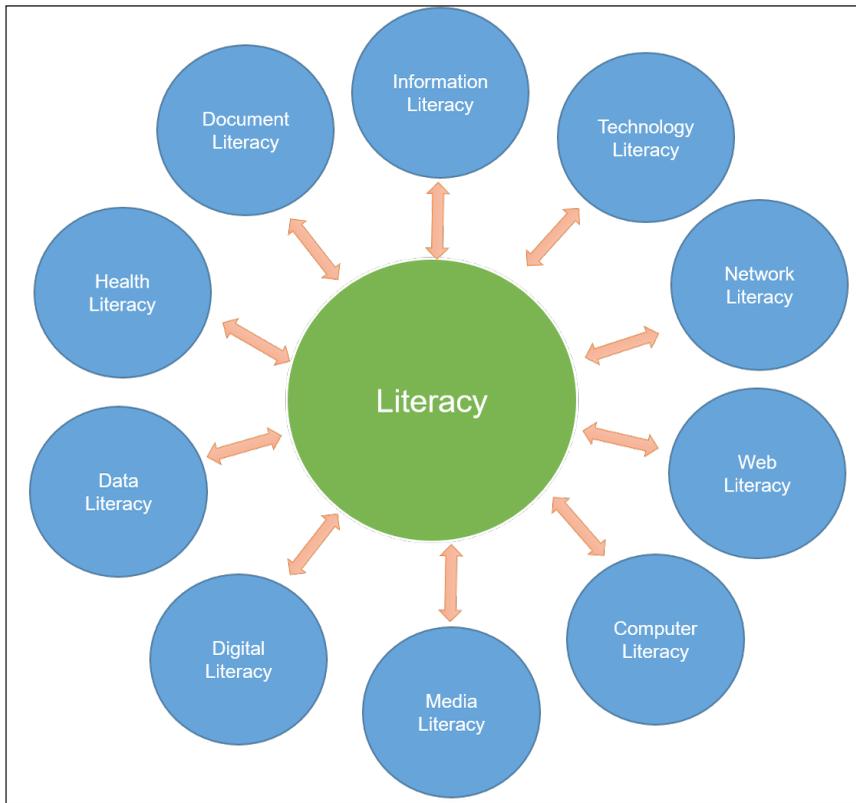
The Information age has changed how education can be characterized. Broadband access, alongside other advances, is changing the world and the data inside it (Headrick, 2000; Williams, 1997; Mason, 1986)<sup>[2]</sup>. Instruments utilized as a part of learning and education are advancing at an inconceivable rate (Baron, 1999; Bruce, 2001; Bruce, Michaels, and Watson-Gegeo, 1985). Many would argue that a solitary definition couldn't incorporate what Literacy in the Information age is. Further, the reasonable thought of education and Information is continuously advancing. Some would state that Literacy is relevant and like constructivism, as each circumstance requires unique and reliant skills<sup>[18]</sup>.

## Objective

The main aim and objective of this study are shown below:

- ♦ To learn about Historical Literacy vs Modern Literacy.
- ♦ To learn about areas of Modern Literacy.

- ◆ To know about effects of Computing Literacy in daily life.
- ◆ To find out how Computing Literacy removes Digital Divide.
- ◆ To find out how Computing Literacy in Information age makes a Healthy Information Society.



**Fig. 1:** Shows various types Literacy

## Literacy - An Overview

Fig. 1 shows various types literacy<sup>[19]</sup> are described below:

**Digital Literacy:** Digital Literacy is the arrangement of skills required for full interest in an information society. It incorporates information, abilities, and practices including the successful utilization of advanced gadgets, for example, cell phones, tablets, portable PCs and desktop PCs for motivations behind correspondence, articulation, joint effort, and support. While computerized education at first centered around advanced aptitudes and remain solitary PCs, the concentration has moved from remain solitary to arrange gadgets including the Internet and online networking. The term Computerized Education was disentangled by Paul Gilster in his book Digital Literacy<sup>[6]</sup>. Gilster portrayed computerized education as the use and appreciation of data in the advanced age. He likewise underscored the significance of advanced advances as a “fundamental ability.”

Digital Literacy is unmistakable from Computer Literacy and computerized aptitudes. Digital Literacy went before advanced proficiency. Computer Literacy refers to information and aptitudes in utilizing customary PCs, for example, desktop PCs and portable workstations. Computer Literacy concentrates on handy abilities in utilizing programming application bundles. Computerized aptitudes is a more contemporary term and are constrained to down to earth capacities in utilizing advanced gadgets, for example, portable workstations and cell phones.

Computerized Literacy is the wedding of the two terms advanced and education. Be that as it may, it is significantly more than a mix of the two terms. Computerized data is an emblematic portrayal of information, and education alludes to the capacity to peruse for learning, compose rationally, and contemplate the composed word.

A carefully educated individual will have a scope of advanced abilities, learning of the essential standards of registering gadgets, and aptitudes in utilizing PC systems. The individual can take part in online groups and informal organizations while sticking to behavioral conventions. The individual can discover, catch, and assess data. Advanced education requires the person to comprehend the societal issues raised by computerized advances and have basic deduction aptitudes. These abilities can be had through computerized encounters that push people to think in an assortment of courses through a huge number of media stages. The development of computerized media has immediately incorporated into education.

Digital Literacy is one of the nine center components of digital citizenship. An advanced native can be dynamic subjects in online situations and has the specialized proficiency aptitudes important to viable draw in with the web. The web is open in their homes and people utilize the web daily.

**Data Literacy:** Data Literacy is the capacity to get important information from data, similarly as literacy in general is the capacity to get information from the composed word<sup>[1][5]</sup>.

The many-sided quality of Data Analysis, particularly with regards to Big Data, implies that Data Literacy requires some learning of Statistical Literacy and knowledge of mathematics. To manage that complexity, numerous associations are employing experts called Data Scientists, who have progressed diagnostic aptitudes. A few undertakings have likewise included a C-level representative, the Chief Data Officer (CDO), to guarantee that the association understands the full an incentive from its data<sup>[1][5]</sup>.

In any case, since data is so essential to a business' wealth, an expanding number of associations request some level of Data Literacy from all representatives.

Data Literacy abilities integrate the additional capacities:

1. Realizing what data is suitable to use for a specific reason.
2. Decoding data visualizations, for example, diagrams and outlines.
3. Planning about information yielded by data analysis.
4. Understanding data analytic stools such as Apache Hadoop, Lumify, MongoDB etc. and techniques and when and where to utilize them.
5. Observing when data is being one-sided or utilized misleadingly.
6. Conveying information about data to individuals lacking data literacy, a capacity once in a while proposed to as data describing.

**Information Literacy:** Information Literacy is a significant aptitude in the quest for learning. It includes perceiving when data is required and having the capacity to productively find, precisely assess, viably utilize, and obviously convey data in different configurations. It alludes to the capacity to explore the quickly developing data condition, which envelops an expanding number of data providers and additionally the sum provided, and incorporates assemblages of expert writing, prevalent media, libraries, the Internet, and considerably more. Progressively, data is accessible in unfiltered designs, bringing up issues about its validness, legitimacy, and dependability. This plenitude of data is of little help to the individuals who have not figured out how to utilize it viably<sup>[3][12]</sup>.

**Computer Literacy:** In the human-PC cooperation, we discover a procedure that starts with a caustically exercise of action upon the instrument, and that paves the way to the combination of the apparatus as a major aspect of nature of “activity upon the information”<sup>[2]</sup>. We comprehend this procedure in an accompanying way:

The procedure of PC education starts with a caustically connection of the individual with the apparatus, which manifests itself as “I need to... In what manner can I...? Do it...”<sup>[4]</sup> In time, the individual starts to distinguish an arrangement of patterns that sort out his activities while associating with the instrument.

A few examples arrange a collaboration with educational instruments on a level at which these devices are seen and operated as ancient rarities for finishing assignments without fundamentally being incorporated into day by day movement as an integral part of the person’s condition.

The authoritative and illustrative examples allude to the interface structures that permit us to understand what should be possible with the ancient rarity. These are structures that show up such that they clarify how the PC capacities inside. Along these lines, we find “notable” associations in the realistic environments that depict what is instantly conceivable and demonstrate the most widely recognized activities.

The examples of articles and their structures. PCs contain objects, everyone made up of defining attributes and different articles. An archive is a protest whose traits are those definitions connected to each of its parts. It may contain areas with particular characteristics that are not the same as the qualities of different parts of the document. One segment contains sections each passage contains words, and these contain letters. An object’s attributes influence the majority of its parts aside from those made up of articles with their particular characteristics

Concerning the example of procedures, they enable people to arrange the arrangement of activities that they do to achieve what they need. There is a procedure design that we could call “second-level” see that it alludes to the process of knowing the procedure for doing what I need to do.

On this second level of examples built by the person for cooperating with data apparatuses, one might be able at operation without fundamentally being PC proficient. This is accomplished on a third level where among different things, the individual deliberately proposes the generation of various portrayals of the protest in question so as to know it better, to find out about it.

This level is comprised of the blend of two examples: the treatment of data in such a way that implies purposeful activity upon the question alluded to, which is an activity in rearranging and processing information; and the example of meta cognition that enables people to represent the way they created what they delivered. This third level, sorted out on the premise of the person’s expectation, suggests opening new horizons of plausibility.

So, the PC educated are the individuals who can think about data and specialized instruments as part of their condition and work them all things considered deliberately in the hunt of more learning about the objects referred to by the data they are controlling and communicating.

**Network Literacy:** Network Literacy is a rising advanced education that arrangements with PC organize learning and abilities. It is connected to PC education and Information Literacy<sup>[13]</sup>.

Network Literacy identifies with the essential information and aptitudes required for nationals to take an interest in the organized society. Network administration is turned out to be omnipresent in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and a comprehension of Network frameworks, (for example, the Internet) and Network gadgets, (for example, cell phones) is fundamental for full support in numerous advanced social orders.

The information and aptitudes typically connected with Network Literacy include<sup>[11]</sup>:

1. Employments of Networks
2. Development of Networks
3. Estimation of Networks (counting Metcalf’s Law)
4. Working standards of computerized correspondence Networks
5. Network Security
6. Network Safety
7. Network as a Service
8. Online rights and duties
9. Network execution
10. Implementation for people, gatherings, groups, and countries.

Network Literacy may likewise grasp information of interpersonal organizations and individual learning systems. Behavioral conventions (“netiquette”) are regularly included.

The Internet of Things (IoT) will essentially expand the extension and reach of PC systems and put more prominent concentrate on Network Literacy.

A vital part of network education is the individual, monetary, political, social and societal effect of the development of systems on present day social orders. Disclosures by Edward Snowden delineated the potential clash between state security and individual flexibility made by the development of Networking.

**Web Literacy:** Web Literacy includes the abilities and skills required for perusing, composing and taking an interest on the web. It has been defined as “both substance and movement”<sup>[20]</sup> – i.e., web clients find out about the web as well as how to make their own particular website. Web education is closely identified with Digital Literacy, Information Literacy, and Network Literacy, however, contrasts in adopting a more comprehensive strategy.

**Media Literacy:** Media Literacy to get to, investigate, evaluate and produce correspondence in a variety of structures. Normally, a Media Literacy peoples can think about what they realize, receive, and read in books, daily papers, magazines, TV, radio, video, music, games and new emerging technology<sup>[21]</sup>. Media Literacy Project’s way to deal with media proficiency instruction originates from a media equity structure. Media Justice addresses the need to go past making more prominent access to a similar old media structure. Media Justice considers history, culture, benefit, and power. We require new associations

with media and another vision for its control, get to, and structure. Media Justice comprehends that this will require new strategies, new frameworks that treat our aviation routes and our groups as more than business sectors.

Media proficiency abilities can help youth and grown-ups:

- ◆ Develop basic deduction aptitudes.
- ◆ Understand how media messages shape our way of life and society.
- ◆ Identify target advertising methodologies.
- ◆ Recognize what the media creator needs us to accept or do.
- ◆ Name the systems of influence utilized.
- ◆ Recognize inclination, turn, falsehood, and untruths.
- ◆ Discover the parts of the story that are not being told.
- ◆ Evaluate media messages in light of our own encounters, abilities, convictions, and qualities.
- ◆ Create and convey our own particular media messages.
- ◆ Advocate for media equity.

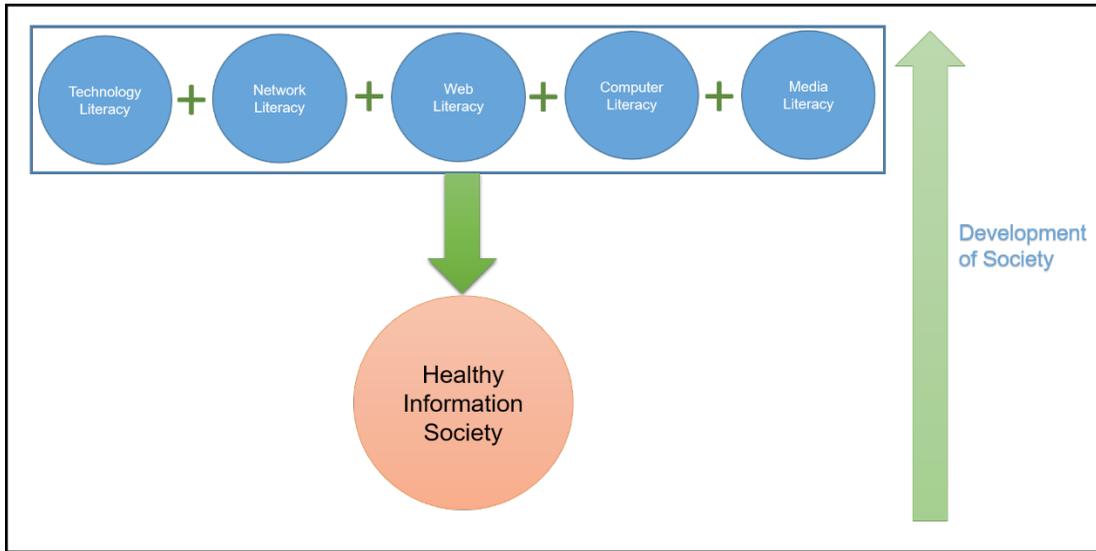
**Technology Literacy:** Technology Literacy is the capacity to successfully utilize innovation to access, integrate, evaluate, make and communicate data to upgrade the learning procedure through critical thinking and basic considering<sup>[8]</sup>. Technology Literacy encourages one to convey, take care of issues, and improve deep rooted learning aptitudes for future progress<sup>[16]</sup>.

**Health Literacy:** The most part of Health Literacy is mainly related to the capacity of people to access and utilize Health Information to settle on proper Health choices and keep up essential Health. There are many meanings of Health Literacy, to a limited range, since Health Literacy includes both the specific situation (or setting) in which Health Literacy requests are made (e.g., medicinal facilities, media, web or wellness office) and the abilities that individuals convey to that circumstance (Rudd, Moeykens, and Colton, 1999). Studies uncover that exclusive 12 percent of the grown-ups in the U.S. have capable Health Literacy<sup>[12]</sup>. This implies 77 million adults have essential or below fundamental Health Literacy. These people experience issues with regular Health Literacy assignments including perusing the name of a recommended drug. Low Health Literacy diminishes the achievement of treatment and builds the danger of restorative mistake. Health Literacy is basic to advance sound people and communities.

**Document Literacy:** This is about finding and utilizing information from particular records, for example, maps, graphs, work applications and medicinal structures and so on<sup>[7]</sup>.

## Importance of Computer Literacy

Computer Literacy is the information and understanding Computer ideas, confinements and capacity to utilize Computers and innovation proficiently. Computer Literacy can likewise allude to the solace level somebody has with utilizing Computer programs and different applications that are related to Computers<sup>[22]</sup>. By Computer Literacy in Information Age we also develop a Healthy Information Society<sup>[14]</sup> which is also part of Society Development (Shown Fig. 2).

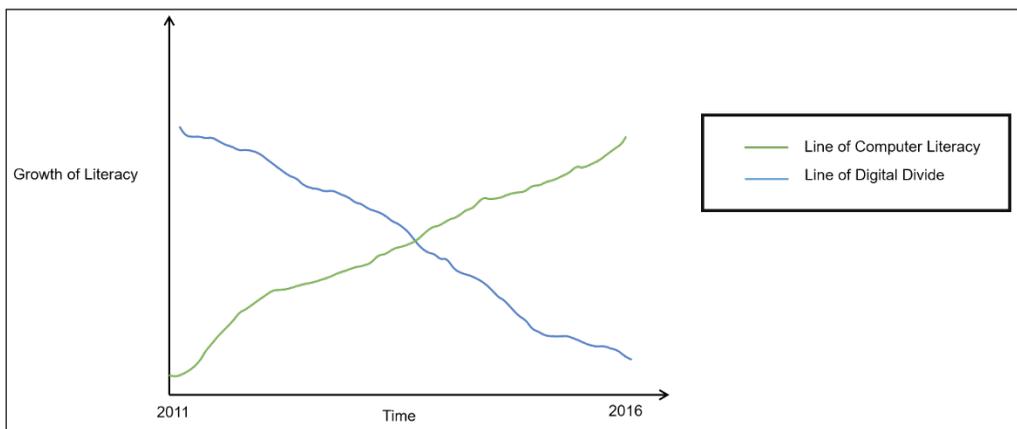


**Fig. 2:** Shows Digital Literacy is responsible for create a Healthy Information Society

### Computing Literacy and Digital Divide: Potentiality

We are leaving in the 21<sup>st</sup> century where the digital divide is an economic and social inequality with regard to access to, use of or impact of information and communication technology<sup>[10]</sup>.

Digital Divide nowadays is basic issues for developing nations. There will be more than 3 billion non-Internet clients around the globe on the web<sup>[9]</sup>. The regular perspective of this advanced partition is that it isolates the Internet “haves” from “have-nots” separating the peoples, who are online from the those who might want to get on the web. However, they are not able to get into it since accessibility or moderateness of access<sup>[15]</sup>.



**Fig. 3:** Shows Computer Literacy inversely proportional to Digital Divide

The Role of Computation Literacy to remove Digital Divide:

1. Computer Literacy helps to gain Human Computer Interaction.
2. Provides proper literacy about Computer, Network, Media, Technology etc.
3. Helps people to use the Internet, use the Technology easily.

Fig. 3. Shown Spread of Computer Literacy Inversely proportional to digital divide i.e. Increase of Computer Literacy removes Digital Divide from our society.

### Suggestion

1. Government and NGO should take the proper step for held awareness camp about Computer Literacy to rural people.
2. Proper planning, outline needs to take by the concerned Government for the development of the Society by provided Computer Literacy.
3. If possible by the Government or NGO to provide cost less Computational Literacy to rural areas which is also helping to remove Digital Divide from our society<sup>[17]</sup>.

### CONCLUSION

We believe that gatherings of children can figure out how to utilize PCs all alone, independent of who or where they are. This will happen if PCs are given to them in protected, open areas. This technique for procurement of Computer Literacy does not depend upon the presence of schools or teachers. It is likewise significantly more affordable than expensive techniques for Computer Literacy<sup>[2]</sup>. Along these lines, in those conditions where schools and teachers are missing. Spots influenced by natural disasters, for example, the current Tsunami in the Indian Ocean, or spots influenced by war, for example, Afghanistan or Iraq, or spots influenced by monetary or social issues, for example, destitution or HIV/AIDS in Africa are probably going to profit rapidly and dependably through such self-learning strategies.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I would like to express my special thanks to Dr. P. K. Paul as well as other faculties of Department of Computer and Information Science, Raiganj University, West Bengal, India for their guidance and encouragement for writing this chapter.

### REFERENCES

1. Wolff, A., Gooch, D., Cavero Montaner, J.J, Rashid, U. and Kortuem, G. 2016. “*Creating an understanding of data literacy for a data-driven society*”. *The Journal of Community Informatics*, **12**(3): 9-26.
2. An Important Component of Computer Literacy (<http://i-a-e.org/iae-blog/entry/an-important-component-of-computer-literacy-1.html>) (Retrieved on 22-07-2017)
3. Doyle and Christina S. 1994. “*Information Literacy in an Information Society: A Concept for the Information Age*”, DIANE Publishing, (ISBN: 0788170120, 9780788170126).

4. Computer Literacy ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer\\_literacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_literacy)) (Retrieved on 21-07-2017)
5. Data Literacy (<http://whatis.techtarget.com/definition/data-literacy>) (Retrieved on 01-08-2017)
6. Digital Literacy ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital\\_literacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_literacy)) (Retrieved on 21-07-2017)
7. Kirsch, Irwin, S. and Peter B. Mosenthal. 2014. “*Understanding Document Literacy: Variables Underlying the Performance of Young Adults*”, Educational Testing Service (ISSN: 2330-8516)
8. Mitra Sugata, Ritu Dangwal, Shiffon Chatterjee, Swati Jha, Ravinder S. Bisht and Preeti Kapur: “*Acquisition of computing literacy on shared public computers: children and the (“hole in the wall”)*”, Centre for Research in Cognitive Systems NIIT Limited, pp. 1 – 16.
9. Warschauer, Mark (in press). “*A literacy approach to the digital divide*”. In M.A. Pereyra (Ed.), *Las multialfabetizaciones en el espacio digital*. Malaga, Spain: Ediciones Aljibe.
10. Misir, Bishnu Raman “*Internet Society its Past, Present with reference to its Future Potentiality: A study*”, The International Conference on Recent Developments in Science, Technology, Humanities and Management (ICRDSTHM-17), 28-29 April, 2017 Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, pp. 41-44.
11. Network Literacy ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network\\_literacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Network_literacy)) (Retrieved on 21-07-2017)
12. Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the Minister responsible for Statistics Canada, 2000. “*Literacy in the Information Age*”.
13. Paul, Prantosh K and Shivraj, K.S. 2014. “Information, Technology and their Application to the Society: Ultimate Foundation of Information Science”, *Asian Journal of Information Science and Technology*, 4(1): 26 - 30.
14. Paul, Prantosh Kumar “Social Computing in Indian Scenario”, *Abhinav National Monthly Refereed Journal of Research In Commerce & Management*, 2(3): 22 – 28.
15. Paul, Prantosh Kumar and Jena, S.K. 2012. “*Digital Divide to Information Divide: Contemporary Overview*” in *International Journal of Information and Communication Technology*, (ISSN-0973-5836), July-Dec, 2012 Page- 143-147, Serials Publications, New Delhi, India.
16. Paul, Prantosh Kumar “Mobile phones: emphasizing its role as communication tool in contemporary information age with special reference to India- Social & Economical Development Perspective” in *International Journals of Neural Networks and Applications*, 5(2): 99-102, International Science Press, Haryana, India.
17. Paul, Prantosh Kumar, K Kumar, D Chatterjee, “*Social Computing: Wonerful Interdisciplinary tool of Computing and Electronics- The way of healthy Information Transfer Cycle*” in *IEEE/IETE/CSI/DRDO Co-sponsored Proceedings of ‘Nationnal Conference on VLSI, Embedded System & Communication Technology’ [NCVESCO-13]*, (ISBN- 978-93-81208-22-9), AVIT, Chennai VM University, Page 149-153, GK Publisher, Chennai.
18. Radi, Odette “*The Impact of Computer Use on Literacy in Reading Comprehension and Vocabulary Skills*”, Seventh World Conference on Computers in Education, Copenhagen, July 29–August 3, 2001.
19. Types of Literacy (<http://bamfieldcommunity.ca/programs/literacy/types-of-literacy/>) (Retrieved on 22-07-2017)
20. Web Literacy ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web\\_literacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Web_literacy)) (Retrieved on 21-07-2017)
21. What is Media Literacy? (<http://medialiteracyproject.org/learn/media-literacy/>) (Retrieved on 22-07-2017)
22. Why is literacy important? (<http://www.3plearning.com/literacy-important/>) (Retrieved on 22-07-2017)

