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Phones, Slates, Netbooks & Desktop computers: Information use across devices

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# Phones, Slates, Netbooks & Desktop computers:

## Information use across devices.



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University of HUDDERSFIELD

# What we'll talk about…

- It's a mobile social world
- What this could mean for Information Literacy / digital literacy
- How do people use a variety of devices?
- What do you feel about this stuff?

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# Mobiles & social networks are everywhere

- More active mobile phones in the UK than there are adults…

- 350+ million active users currently access Facebook through their mobile devices

- Twitter has 100 million active users (Sept 11)

# Some mobile things from Huddersfield
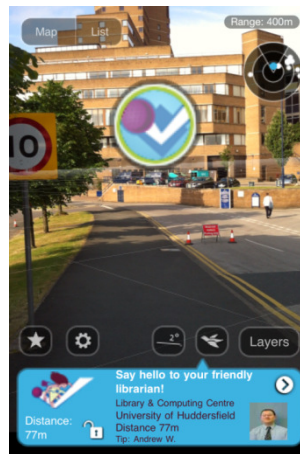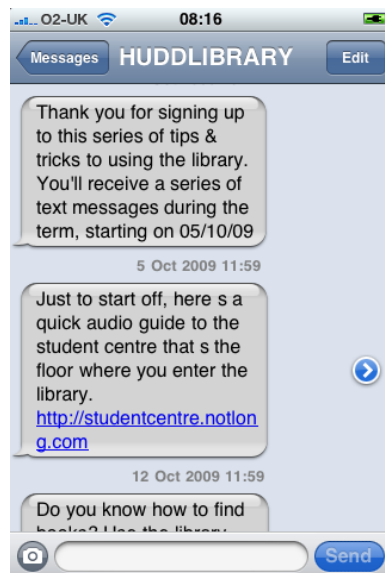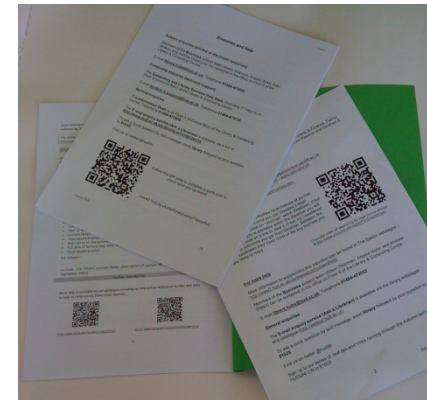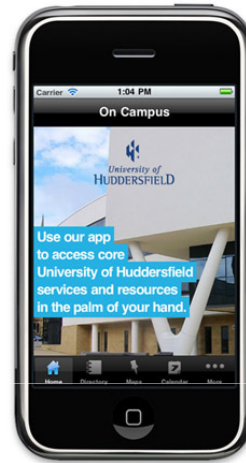










## Question in Poll anywhere

# But we're talking about digital literacies…

- How do you think information seeking and use changes with mobile devices?

- How do people act differently when they can access the 'net wherever they are?

# But we're talking about digital literacies…

- How do you think information seeking and use changes with mobile devices?

- How do people act differently when they can access the 'net wherever they are?

Choice of devices – not much use in tablets, but growing
Perception that its trendy to have an iPad
There isn't a one size fits all
Smart phones give learners more independence
Is the attention spans and learning habits of our learners
becoming shorter and more bite-size?
Media literacy is a key part of digital literacy
Learners have more autonomy and institutions have less
control over technology – increasing trend.
The role of the teacher has changed – no longer the sage on
the stage more of a guide on the side.
Learner expectation has changed how we deliver

# Four areas where mobile IL varies – Where?
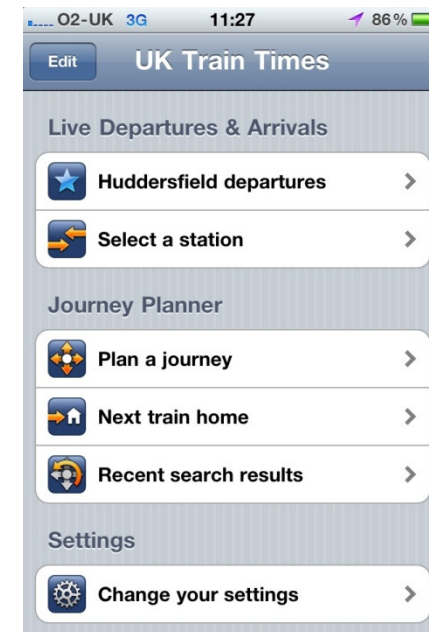
*"Someone sends me a link at work …. You just BANG, instapaper it … when I'm on a bus journey or something I can just call up instapaper on my phone…"*
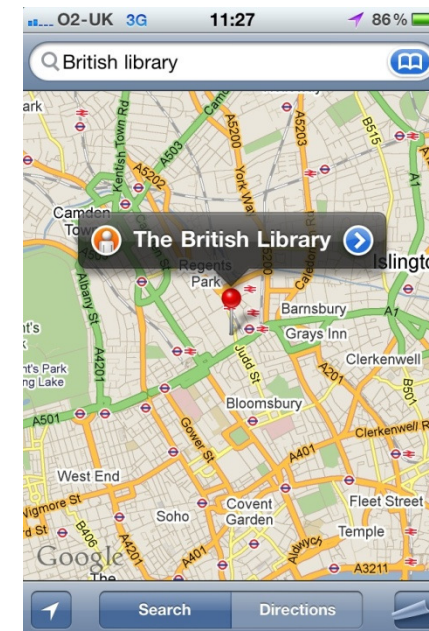
# Four areas where mobile IL varies – What?

- *"I did install a trainline.com app … when I was coming back from a gig in Manchester we got off one stop too far down the line so I was trying to find the train times to come back…"*

# Four areas where mobile IL varies – How?

*"Where I've a preferred provider for any time of information … my first port of call would normally be their website … (or) … an app if it was a website I would always go for that sort of information…"*
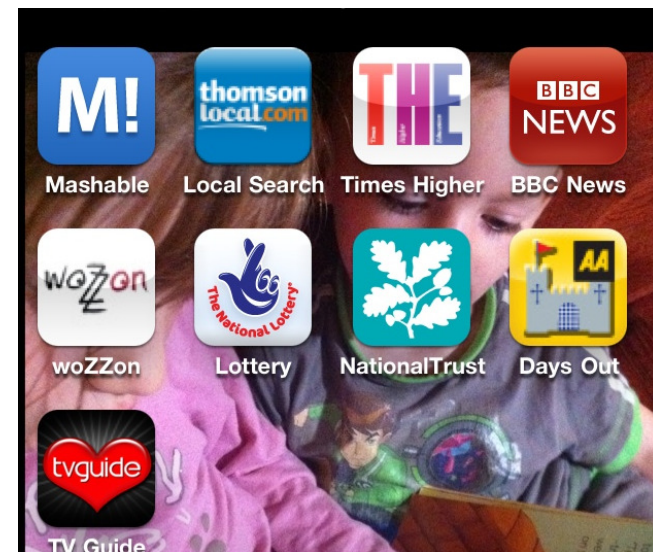
# Four areas where mobile IL varies – Time spent?

*"I just love the thought of not being tethered to go and fire up the old laptop or desktop machine…"*
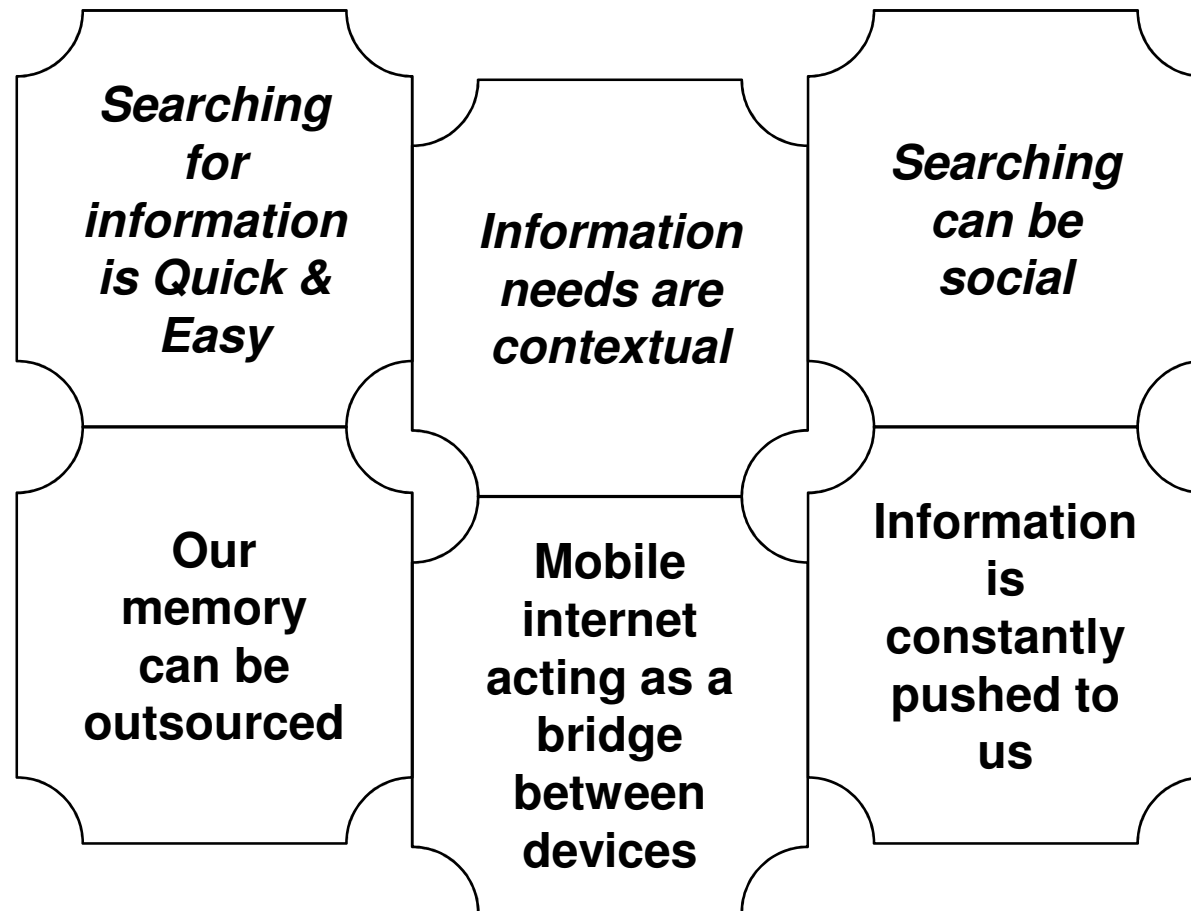
"old laptop" from
http://www.flickr.com/photos/running_like_an_antelope/2307016308/

# Four areas where mobile IL varies

| | "Fixed" IL | "Mobile" IL |
|---|---|---|
| **Where?** | Largely in "set" places. At a desktop computer (with little variation in software); at a fixed workplace; within a library. | Anywhere; any mobile device (phone, games device, eBook reader – massive variation in device). |
| **What?** | Anything? | Normally quick information, often context or location specific?. |
| **How?** | Range of established tools to access and manage wide range of information sources. Standard search engines. | Often narrow Apps and individual specialist sites rather than open web. |
| **Time spent?** | Varies. Often slow, long access. People spending long periods searching for, organising and extracting information, especially for academic use. | Quick / Fast only. Shorter searches. Little pondering and extracting information. Favour short chunks of info. "Convenience" of device. |

*"It's interesting that having something like this (iPhone) will allow you to kind of delegate remembering facts and free you up for kind of critical thinking…"*

# Breaking news! Aspects of mobile IL

*Searching for information is Quick & Easy*

*Information needs are contextual*

*Searching can be social*

**Our memory can be outsourced**

**Mobile internet acting as a bridge between devices**

**Information is constantly pushed to us**

# So what does this mean?

- Do we need to:
- think about what search tools our users want via mobile?
- learn new tools to move information between devices?
- Learn how to extract information online and organise it via mobiles?

# Thanks for listening and joining in!

More stuff from me at
http://bit.ly/staffpageAW

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