

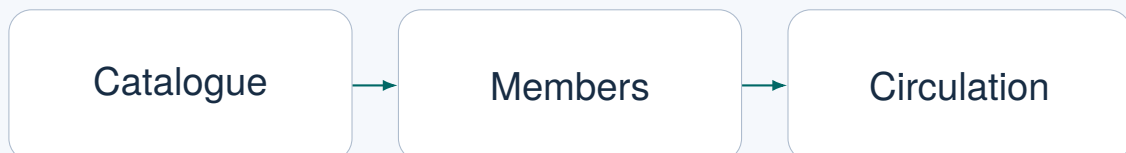
Librarika

Concepts and Core Features

An Integrated Library Management System

The central idea

Connect resource descriptions, individual copies, members and borrowing records so that library services work together.



Concise classroom and examination notes

MLIS (Library Science)

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1 Learning Objectives

After studying these notes, you should be able to:

1. Define Librarika and explain its hosted service model.
2. Distinguish title, copy, member and loan records.
3. Explain its main features and their library functions.
4. Trace how cataloguing, discovery and circulation connect.

Quick orientation

The emphasis is on how Librarika works as a connected library system, rather than on commercial arrangements or detailed configuration. Features operate according to the library's enabled settings.

2 Concept of Librarika

Definition

Librarika is a cloud-based **Integrated Library System (ILS)**, also described here as an **Integrated Library Management System (ILMS)**. It supports cataloguing, member management, circulation and online discovery within a connected service.

2.1 Cloud-based operation

Librarika follows the **Software as a Service (SaaS)** model: the provider hosts the application and the library accesses it through the internet. The library does not install its own server software for this service.

2.2 Integration: the organising principle

Cataloguing describes resources; member records identify borrowers; circulation connects borrowers with copies. The catalogue and account services use this connected information.

One title, several copies

A title description contains shared details about a resource. Each copy has its own accession number and location. Lending one copy does not mean that every copy of the title is on loan.

Record	Main purpose
Title / media	Describes the resource, such as its title and author.
Copy	Identifies an individual copy and its location.
Member	Identifies the library user and membership details.
Loan	Connects a member with a copy and its borrowing status.

Key point: Integration means connected records, not one undifferentiated record containing everything.

3 Main Features and Their Functions

Read each feature as a library function

Ask: What information does it manage, what action does it support, and how does it connect with another service?

Feature	Meaning and professional use
Catalogue management	Creates and organises resource descriptions and separately tracked copies.
Smart Add and manual entry	Retrieves descriptive information using an ISBN, or allows staff to enter details directly.
Member management	Maintains member identities, categories, groups and borrowing-related settings.
Circulation	Records issue, return, reservation and extension of borrowing dates.
Online catalogue (OPAC)	Enables users to search the collection and discover materials.
Member self-service	Allows authorised members to view borrowing information and perform enabled borrowing or return actions.
Branches and locations	Organises collections across branches and identifies where copies are held.
Reports and reminders	Summarises holdings and use; supports follow-up through due-date and overdue communication.
Import and export	Moves catalogue data in bulk, reducing repeated entry and supporting further analysis.

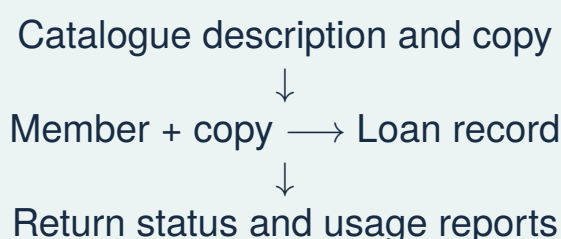
Quality depends on checking

Automatic retrieval saves effort but does not guarantee correct or complete metadata. Staff should check descriptions, copy identifiers and member information.

4 How the Features Work Together

1. **Describe the resource.** Retrieve or enter its details and create the required copy records.
2. **Identify the member.** Create or select the borrower record and check applicable borrowing settings.
3. **Discover and lend.** The user searches the OPAC; circulation records the selected copy's issue to the member.
4. **Return and review.** Record the return, check status and use reports to review borrowing activity.

Conceptual workflow



The diagram shows logical relationships, not the internal database design. Shared information connects discovery, borrowing and management review.

Practical relevance

For a school or departmental library, these connections support organised lending and reduce repeated recording. Reports help staff review collection use. Reliable internet access, suitable settings and accurate data remain important.

5 Essential Terms

Term	Simple meaning
SaaS	Software as a Service: a provider-hosted application.
OPAC	Online Public Access Catalogue: the search interface.
ISBN	International Standard Book Number: used for book identification.
Accession number	A local identifier for an individual copy.
CSV	Comma-separated values: a tabular data format.

6 One-Page Revision and Self-Check

Examination summary

Librarika is a hosted ILMS connecting catalogue, member and circulation information. Its core features support description, discovery, borrowing and operational review. The main benefit is coordinated library work; accuracy still depends on appropriate settings and reliable records.

Memory aid: *Describe – Connect – Lend – Review*. Use these four actions to organise an answer, not as official module names.

Common errors

- **Title = copy?** No: one description can relate to several copies.
- **OPAC = circulation?** No: discovery and loan processing differ.
- **Every ILMS has identical modules?** No: describe demonstrated functions rather than assume a complete generic module list.

Practice questions with answers

- Q1. What makes Librarika cloud-based?** The provider hosts the software; users access it over the internet.
- Q2. Why distinguish copies?** Each copy needs separate identification, location and borrowing status.
- Q3. How do discovery and lending connect?** The OPAC supports searching; circulation links the chosen copy to a member.
- Q4. How can staff review use?** Consult circulation reports and interpret the recorded activity in context.

Spaced recall

Day 1: Define ILMS and OPAC. **Week 1:** Reconstruct the workflow. **Month 1:** Explain the benefits and limitations unaided.

Final self-test

Without looking back: (1) define SaaS; (2) name four record types; (3) explain Smart Add; (4) trace an issue and return; (5) distinguish the OPAC from circulation.