DIY Research Data Management Training Kit for Librarians: Reflective writing questions

MANTRA Unit 1: Research Data Explained

1) For yourself, what kinds of data do you deal with regularly?

2) Thinking of your ‘adopted’ research community, what types of data are used? What categories would you put them into? Observational, experimental, simulation or model, derived or compiled, reference or canonical?

3) What ancillary data objects are there that go with the data (e.g. data records)?

4) Are the data encoded in some way? What is required (software, understanding) to ‘read’ the data?

5) Recommended reading: What was the most salient point for you from the Nature article on Data sharing?

MANTRA Unit 2: Data Management Plans

1) Where do you think learning the skill of data management fits in with researcher education? Is there a connection with information literacy? Do you think librarians could teach it?

2) Which components of the data management plan are librarians best equipped to provide support for?

3) Where would you refer a researcher for the other aspects? What gaps exist in Information Services support?

4) How ‘realistic’ is the satirical data management plan in MANTRA?

5) Recommended reading: Which approach do you prefer? UK Data Archive or Digital Curation Centre?