

U

Sec-3

Q3) What are files? Explain the access methods of files.

Soln

A file is a container in a computer system for storing information. Files used in computers are similar in features to that of paper document used in library & office files.

There are three ways to access files into a computer system: sequential-access, Direct Access, Index, sequential method.

1. Sequential Method Access :-

It is simplest access method. Information in the file is processed in order, one record after the other. This mode of access is by far the most common; for example, editor & compiler usually access the file in this fashion.

Page :

Date: / /

2. Direct Access :-

Another method is direct method also known as relative access method. A field-length logical record that allows the program to read & write record rapidly, in no particular order. The direct access is based on the disk model of a file since disk allows random access ~~any~~ to any file block.

3. Index sequential method :-

It is the other method of accessing a file which is built on the top of the direct access method. These methods construct an index for the file. The index, like an index in the back of a book, contains the pointers to the various blocks.