

## SEC-3

2) What are files? Explain the access methods for files.

File organization refers to the way data is stored in a file. File organization is very important because it determines the method of access, efficiency, flexibility and storage device to use.

Access Method :-

1) Sequential Access :-

a) It is the simplest access mechanism, in which information stored in a file are accessed in order such that one record is processed after the others.

2) Direct Access :-

a) It is an alternative method for accessing file which is based on the disk model of a file.

Since disk allows random access to any block or record of a file.

b) For this method, a file is viewed as a numbered sequence of blocks or record which are read/written in an arbitrary manner.

3) Index Access :-

a) In this method, an index is created which contains a key field and pointer to the various blocks.

b) To find an entry in the file for a key value we first search the index and then use the pointer to directly access a file and find the desired entry.