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14. DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES

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ABSTRACT
This chapter introduces the use of classification schemes in organising Internet resources. Brief background of classification is provided. The vast size of information available over the Internet has called for the need of systematic classification. The literature indicated the use of traditional library classification has been extended to Internet resources as well.

14.1 THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLASSIFICATION SCHEMES
The development of principles for the construction of system for the organisation of information began in ancient Greek (Langridge, 1992). Stating with traditional logic, Aristotle formulated two doctrines, which were fundamental to the theory of classification. The first doctrine was the idea of categories, referring to the various kinds of concept that are possible, or the most general classes to which all existence can be reduced. The second doctrine was the idea of substance, which means things or entities. From those ideas the foundation of classification theory was laid.

Aristotle’s concept of classification had been adopted and reformulated by scientists and librarians since the beginning of sixteenth century to the nineteenth century. Francis Bacon, Thomas Jefferson.