Classification

- It is important to everyday life as we use it in everything we do
- It makes things easier to find and recognise eg. A fork is a piece of cutlery, so I will look in the cutlery draw
- Classification can and should be used in sorting anything from documents to students
- If we went to a library without classification, where would we start looking for a particular book?
- Differentiation of objects is what allows us to classify them into groups
- Classification has been used by humans for thousands of years

Classification tips

- There has been many attempts at perfecting classification
- To classify objects first the objects must be examined to identify differences
- The classes must be different; an object should not fit into more than one category, so having mammals and vertebrates as the 2 classes is incorrect.
- Choosing the most appropriate class is also important to the success of the classification system.
  - Eg. Animals could be classed by invertebrate / vertebrates or mammals / everything else etc

Hierarchies

- To simplify classification hierarchies are set up, classifying into sub groups makes it much easier to find the object we are looking for.
  - Eg. A Labrador is an animal, but it’s also a mammal and a canine
- Objects could fit into 2 categories in a hierarchies if it is a different context. To elaborate on E. Hunter in *the future of classification* churches could be placed under religion, but it could also be placed under architecture, buildings as well.
Classification is vital to the success of any sort of collection of objects, without it, no one will know where to find anything. A well thought out classification system will be beneficial to users of the collection and will ensure that they continue to use and enjoy the collection.