



READING HABITS OF B.ED TRAINEES' IN ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY

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ABSTRACT

This research aims to explore the current reading habits of university students. Moreover, it aims to determine the effects of widespread use of the internet and other digital resources in reading habits and to give some possible recommendation to improve students' reading habits in the digital era. The research design was descriptive survey research. The instrument of the research was questionnaire, which is based on The participants of the research were 130 students studying in six majors in Faculty of Teachers Training and Education at Alagappa University. They were selected through the cluster random sampling. The questionnaire involved six categories, namely demographic information, frequency of items read, contents of online reading, online activities, content first clicked when online, and techniques to develop reading habits. All research data was analyzed using SPSS Statistics.

KEYWORDS : reading habits, university students, digital era**INTRODUCTION**

Nowadays, the easy access to digital media is a big challenge for reading habits. It gives an impact for everyone unexceptionally students. Certainly, students need technology in the form of internet to share, discuss, and process the information simultaneously. Moreover, the numbers of these people are increasing significantly because they can gain information and entertainment easily through this media. Particularly, the shift of paper-based reading to internet-based reading is related to students' preference and motivation. They can have easy access to the source of information if they use digital resources. For example, as students, books are very important for them to have. Thus, considering the explanation, this paper focused on answering following research questions: what are the major trends of reading interests and reading mediums of university students and reading habits of B.Ed Trainees in Alagappa university how influential is the digital media on students' reading habits? And what are possible suggestions in order to improve students' reading habits in the digital era mainly at the university student level.

Reading Habits- Meaning

Here are five reasons you should develop reading habits young, and why are so important. Reading is one of the most fundamental skills a child needs to learn to succeed in life. Developing good reading habits is vital to your child's future not just academically, but in everyday life as well. Study habits are defined as those techniques, such summarizing, note taking, outlining or locating of the material which learners employ to assist themselves in the efficient learning of the material at hand. The term "Study Habit" implies a sort of more or less permanent method of studying.

Review of Related Literature

Busayo (2011) School library according to Busayo (2011) is an integral part of educational system that cannot be ignored without jeopardizing the quality of education in schools. The school library is an important part of elementary, middle and high school programmes without which students would not thrive academically and invariably find it most difficult to conduct academic research before they reach college level.

George (2011) School library is very important in shaping students' habit as regard reading for leisure, to pass examinations and to obtain information on different aspects of life (George, 2011). It is an inexhaustible store house of unrestricted information resources in diverse formats systematically organized for users.

Fatimayin&Lawal (2010), Reading according to

Fatimayin&Lawal (2010), connotes the ability to read well not only English language and literature texts, but also newspapers, magazines, journals, periodicals, and engaging in both recreational and academic reading.

Abdul Karim and Amelia Hasan (2007) conducted a study entitled 'Reading habits and attitude in the digital age'. This study knows the reading habits and attitude of Bachelor degree students of ITs and Arts from International Islamic University, Malaysia. The IT students rely more on websites and they use electronic resources more than the arts based students (DEVRAJAN, 1979).

Objectives

1. To identify the basic information needs of users reading habits.
2. To identify the use pattern and type of reading material required by the users.
3. To find out the information sources used by the library in the universities under study.
4. To highlight the problem faced by the users in obtaining information to keep up-to data with the latest research output / advances in their field of activity.
5. To learn about the preferred library service utilized by them.
6. To emphasis on the development and improvement of various services to the users.
7. To suggest the library authority to fulfil the user need by implementing new services.

Research Methodology

Design of this research was descriptive survey research. The participants of this research were all university students from six majors in Faculty of Teacher Training and Education at Alagappa University. They were first and second year students. The researchers used a questionnaire to get the data of this research. The questionnaire was made online so that the students could respond it easily, anytime and anywhere. It was part of considering the various background of departments from the participants involved in this research. From 130 students who were expected to respond the questionnaire, there were 117 students who gave their response. The number of participants was reduced because of the multiple response given by the same participants and the number of students who were not active/taking leave of absence at the time the research being conducted.

Data Analysis and Interpretation**Table:1 Gender-wise Respondent**

S.No	Gender	Frequency	Percentage
1	Female	88	75.2
2	Male	29	24.8
Total		117	100.0

Table 1 shows that the majority of the respondents are from male gender 88(75.2%) and 29(24.8%) of the respondents are female.

Table 2 Age-wise Respondents

S.No	Gender	Frequency	Percentage
1	20-24	102	87.2%
2	25-29	15	12.8%
Total		117	100.0

Table 2 shows that the majority of the respondents are 20-24 age of 102(87.2%), of the respondents are 25-29 age of 15(12.8%).

Table 3 Respondents opinion about Enjoy Reading

S.No	Enjoy Reading	Frequency	Percentage
1	Yes	109	93.2
2	No	8	6.8
Total		117	100.0

Table 3 shows that the majority of the respondents are yes 109(93.2%) and respondents are no 8(6.8%) about enjoy reading.

Table 4 Time for reading

S.No	Time do you spend	Frequency	Percentage
1	About 15minutes	15	12.8
2	About a half hour	52	44.4
3	About an hour	18	15.4
4	More than an hour	32	27.4
Total		117	100.0

Table 4 shows that the majority of the respondents are about a half hour 52(44.4%), of the respondents are more than an hour 32(27.4%) of the respondents are about an hour 18(15.4%) and respondents are about 15 minutes 15(12.8%).

Table 5 Information Gathered respondents

S.No	How you collect news	Frequency	Percentage
1	Newspapers	28	23.9
2	Online	48	41.0
3	Phone	16	13.7
4	Other	25	21.4
Total		117	100.0

Table 5 shows that majority of the respondents are online 48(41.0%) of the respondents are newspapers 28(23.9%) of the respondents are other 25(21.4%) of the respondents are Phone 16(13.7%).

Table 6 Spend reading web pages each day

S.No	Spend reading web pages each day	Frequency	Percentage
1	I don't read web pages	7	6.0
2	Less than two hours	80	68.4
3	Two to four hours	13	11.1
4	Five or more hours	17	14.5
Total		117	100.0

Table 6 shows that majority of the respondents are less than two hours 80(68.4%) of the respondents are five or more hours 17(14.5%) of the respondents are two to four hours 13(11.1%) of the respondents are I don't read web pages 7(6.0%).

Table 7 Respondents opinion about borrow books from the university

S. No	Borrow books from the university	Frequency	Percentage
1	Almost every day	24	20.5
2	Once or twice a week	56	47.9
3	Once or twice a month	24	20.5
4	Never or hardly ever	13	11.1
Total		117	100.0

Table 7 shows that the majority of the respondents are once or twice a week are 56 (47.9%) of the respondents are almost every day are 24 (20.5%) of the respondents are once or twice a month are 24 (20.5%) of the respondents are never or hardly ever are 13(11.1.3%).

FINDINGS

- Shows that the majority of the respondents are from male gender 88(75.2%) and 29(24.8%) of the respondents are female.
- Shows that the majority of the respondents are 20-24 age of 102(87.2%), of the respondents are 25-29 age of 15(12.8%).
- Shows that majority of the respondents are every day 109(93.2%) of the respondents are daily 2-3 times 36(30.8%) of the respondents are twice or thrice in a week 25(21.4%) and respondents of week 15(12.8%).
- Shows that majority of the respondents are online 48(41.0%) of the respondents are newspapers 28(23.9%) of the respondents are other 25(21.4%) of the respondents are Phone 16(13.7%).
- Shows that majority of the respondents are less than two hours 80(68.4%) of the respondents are five or more hours 17(14.5%) of the respondents are two to four hours 13(11.1%) of the respondents are I don't read web pages 7(6.0%).
- Shows that the majority of the respondents are easy for you are 64 (54.7%) of the respondents are very for you are 26 (22.2%) of the respondents are very hard for you 14 (12.0%) of the respondents are hard for you are 13(11.1.3%).
- Shows that the majority of the respondents are frequently are 41 (35.0%) of the respondents are every day are 35 (29.9%) of the respondents are once in a while, not often are 28 (23.9%) of the respondents are never are 13(11.1.3%).

CONCLUSION

As this article has outlined, the advances in technology alter people interest on reading from printed version to digitalized one. They prefer using gadgets to read information every day. It is supported by the length of their time accessing internet which is approximately one up to three hours a day. Without the cooperation among those elements, reading is never part of the culture. Yet, if it is considered seriously and supported wholly can bring a good impact for bringing reading not only as habits but also culture mainly in Reading Habits of B.Ed Trainees' in Alagappa University.

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