



THE READING HABITS OF LIBRARY USER IN ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY: A STUDY

Education

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ABSTRACT

Reading habit is termed as an intellectual activity for getting information, knowledge and learning of various types of professions. In individualistic terms, the habit of reading is also one of the most important foundations of a robust and developed personality. University students are groups that are expected to have a high level of reading habit, which is among the individual and social development criteria. the majority of department wise distribution of the respondents by their use of reading habits of library user English 21(17.9%) of the respondents are Tamil 18 (15.4%) ,and followed by the respondents M.Lib.I.Sc. department15 (12.8%), and followed by the social work department10 (8.5%), and the followed by the respondents zoology ,9(7.7%) ,and the followed by the department of chemistry 8(6.8%),and followed the economic 7(6.0%) and the followed for the department maths 6(5.1%), and Botany 6(5.1%) followed then history (3.4%) using library for students. the 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%). Thus, the determination of reading habits of university students is considered important in both areas they need and in their self developments through out their lives.

KEYWORDS

Reading Habits, Library User, User study, University Library.

INTRODUCTION

Reading is an art of interpreting printed and written words and it is a basic instrument of education. Reading is particularly important in education as well as for unhindered intellectual growth of a person. A good reading habit is an important tool for the development of personalities and mental capacities. Reading transfers experiences to the individual so that the reader may expand one's horizons, identify, extend and intensify his or her interest and gain deeper understanding of the world. Reading loads the mind with new software. Reading is the passion of the greatest personalities of all times since ages which helped to pass on knowledge through generations.

OBJECTIVES

- To assess the consequence of reading habits on students' performance.
- To study the types of materials are using students at the time of when they visit the library.
- To know the students spend time on various performance.
- To identify the use pattern and type of reading material required by the users.
- To find out the information sources used by the library in the universities under study.
- To learn about the preferred library service utilized by them.
- To emphasis on the development and improvement of various services to the users.

Purpose Of The Study

The purpose of this study is to determine the reading habits of “The Reading Habits of Library User in Alagappa University: A Study”.

METHODOLOGY

Research methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem by adopting various steps. Since this study was designed to investigate the reading habits of library users in Alagappa university. The use of survey method was considered suitable. Survey method is a device for collecting data or factual information on certain decided characteristics of a population. The purpose of the survey research is to study social conditions. Survey research is a form of planned collection of data for the purpose of description or predication or for the purpose of analysing relationship between certain variables.

This study is being relied upon the survey method to provide descriptive data concerning the information requirement & reading habits of library users and the use of type's source within information channels by them.

Sample

It is the process of obtaining information about an entire population by examining only a part of it. The comparative study of Alagappa University the investigator distribution 117 questionnaires in different categories of users in each of the Departments. Out of 160 respondents

only 117 answered the questionnaire in Alagappa University.

DATAANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1. Gender-wise Respondents

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. Department -wise Respondents

S.No	Department	Frequency	Percentage
1	BOTANY	6	5.1
2	CHEMISTRY	8	6.8
3	DLIS	8	6.8
4	ECONOMICS	7	6.0
5	ENGLISH	21	17.9
6	HISTORY	4	3.4
7	MATHS	6	5.1
8	MLIS	15	12.8
9	PHYSICS	5	4.3
10	SOCIAL.WORK	10	8.5
11	TAMIL	18	15.4
12	ZOOLOGY	9	7.7
TOTAL		117	100.0

Table 2. Show that the majority of department wise distribution of the respondents by their use of reading habits of library user English 21(17.9%) of the respondents are Tamil 18 (15.4%), and followed by the respondents mlisc department15 (12.8%), and followed by the social work department10 (8.5%), and the followed by the respondents zoology ,9(7.7%) ,and the followed by the department of chemistry 8(6.8%),and followed the economic 7(6.0%) and the followed for the department maths 6(5.1%), and Botany 6(5.1%) followed then history (3.4%)using library for students.

Table 3. 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 3. shows that the 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 4. Respondents Opinion About Borrow Books From The University

S.No	Borrow books from the university	Frequency	Percentage
1	Almosteveryday	24	20.5
2	Onceortwiceaweek	56	47.9
3	Onceortwiceamonth	24	20.5
4	Neverorhardlyever	13	11.1
Total		117	100.0

Table 4. 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.
- Show that the majority of department wise distribution of the respondents by their use of reading habits of library user English 21(17.9%) of the respondents are Tamil 18 (15.4%), and followed by the respondents mlisc department 15 (12.8%), and followed by the social work department 10 (8.5%), and the followed by the respondents zoology ,9(7.7%), and the followed by the department of chemistry 8(6.8%), and followed the economic 7(6.0%) and the followed for the department maths 6(5.1%), and Botany 6(5.1%) followed then history (3.4%) using library for students.
- Shows that majority of the respondents are every day 41(35.0%) 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 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%).

Recommendations

Access of university students to reading materials in different genres in their spare times may be ensured. Activities may be organized with a view to developing the reading habits of the university students. University students may be encouraged to develop their reading habits. Activities where persons such as authors, journalists, and publishers appear as guests may be organized and the interaction of university students with them may be ensured. Activities may be organized for the purpose of promoting books advised by students.

CONCLUSION

Since most of the users purpose of library visit for study, to read newspapers, gets some information to prepare competitive examination and access internet. The library should increase more number of latest books, periodicals/magazines added to requirements of the users. Since most of the library users are not aware with the library collections and services. It is, therefore suggested that proper user education/library orientation Programmes should be provided for the users. Still the library is the best place for quiet study. Reading is a wonderful habit and multi kinds of therapy, which can worked under frenzied minds and frayed nerves. Library and Information Science Professionals can play a significant role in developing reading habits among its users.

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