

# Reading Habits by the Students of Karnatak Science College, Dharwad: A Study

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## Abstract

*Reading habit is necessary and most essential feature for generating the well-read society in this world. It outlines the activities of person and it useful them to develop the good thinking techniques and producing new information. This paper attempts to consider the reading habits by the students of Karnatak Science College, Dharwad, Karnataka and find out the trends in their reading habit. The paper aims to find out the outcomes of widespread use of the internet and other substitute multimedia resources in reading habits and in order to have a broad overview of the present reading habits.*

**Keywords:** Reading Habits, Reading Preference and Library use

## Introduction

At present proverb says ‘Today’s Readers are tomorrow’s Leader’ Reading is considered necessary for the overall improvement of a human being. A large amount of reading is necessity for the purpose of education, for the improvement of general knowledge and also for recreation. Reading habits establish the academic successes of students to an enormous scope. Both reading and academic success are consistent and dependent relative on each other (Bashir & Mattoo, 2012). Reading is essential opportunity of successful learning and reading is interconnected with the total educational development and educational achievement have need of successful reading (Palani, 2012).

According to Irvin (1998) defines the reading method as ‘The interaction of what is in the head with what is on the page within a particular context that causes students to comprehend what they read.’ Successful reading is the very important

opportunity of successful learning. Reading is interconnected with the whole educational development and educational success involved successful reading. The purpose of this study is to survey the reading habits of the Karnatak Science College, Dharwad students. Reading is a particular process. It includes communication between opinion and language. College students are usual to read several books so as to achieve something in academic. Reading habit manipulates in the support of individual development in particular and social development. Reading blazes the mind of the person by accumulation new prospect to eyes and new knowledge to mind.

### **Objectives of the study**

The general objective of the study is to consider the reading habits of students and how it influences their performance. The main objectives are as follows:

- i. To study the reading habits (methods) among Karnatak Science College students.
- ii. To assess the consequence of reading habits on students' performance.
- iii. To study the types of materials are using students at the time of when they visit the library.
- iv. To discover why students are engage in reading.
- v. To know the students spend time on various performance.

### **Methodology**

The present study is adopted survey based questionnaire method to use for data collection. A study included undergraduate students of Karnatak Science College, Dharwad, Karnataka, India. The researcher distributed 280 questionnaires in college and received two hundred forty six questionnaires from students. 97 of students were female and 149 were male students. A total of 246 questionnaires were completed by Karnatak Science College students. The data were summarized and percentages were calculated.

### **Review of literature**

**Baladhandayutham&Suji (2014)** explain analyze the Reading Habit of the students, awareness about library, satisfaction of library materials and drawback of reading at the library. The study adopted Random sampling method for collecting the data. The authors find out majority of the students daily visit library, almost one third of respondents are initiated by librarians for reading habits, 68.92 per cent of the respondents agree to that Library is appropriate place for reading. Finally the authors conclude Library is store house of knowledge and the librarians are answerable to motivate the persons to utilize the library sources.

**Acheaw and Larson(2014)** conducted a study on reading habits among students and its effect on academic performance and the study adopted data collection for questionnaire based survey of Koforidua Polytechnic students. The paper explains the importance of reading they preferred 62.5 per cent of respondents are reading novel or fiction, 14.9 per cent of students specified to learn new things and only 4 per cent of students indicated reading is bored. 62.0 per cent of students opinion is that they read lecture notes when they visit the library facility, 25.0% indicated they read textbooks. Finally the authors conclude majority of the respondents had the view that reading habits have consequence on academic performance.

**Akanda, Hoq and Hasan (2013)** explain Reading habit of students in social sciences and arts. The study included questionnaire based survey method. The authors investigate reading interest and habits of students; outline the major trends and manipulate the Internet, radio, television, a mass media on the reading habits of those students. The paper shows that majority 43.85 per cent of students read for 'to develop life', 44.62 per cent of students get information sources in 'library'. The authors recommended libraries should be developed to be a focus for young people.

**Annamalai, S & Muniandy. B. (2013)** Reading habit and attitude among Malaysian polytechnic students and study adopted descriptive study and sample was random sampling. A total of 119 respondents received in the study. The paper explains types of reading material, time spend on reading and activities during their leisure time. The author find out majority 68.9 per cent of students read newspaper daily for at

least a few times a week and 57.1 per cent of students read magazines. The author exposed that the polytechnic students do not like reading as much as other performance that engage technologies. They believed that there are other ways to learn new things than by reading as they find out reading boring and not motivating.

**Vandenhoeck (2013)** describes screen reading habits among university students and author examine the common preferences and habits of university students and the study included online survey method with 630 students. The author finds out majority of respondents preferred for paper reading and 74 per cent of respondents replying in support of paper-based reading. More than 60 per cent of respondents like print less than 30 per cent of students read article.

**Thanuskodi. S. (2011)** conducted a study on reading habits among library and information science students and study included survey based questionnaire in the Library and Information Science students in the Directorate of Distance Education, Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu. The study highlights frequency of reading library and information science materials, purpose of reading and students spending time. The author find out one third of the students 30.12 percent sometimes read library and information scienceconnected materials on the internetand 29.82 percent of students are rarely read library and information science newsletters. 77.48 per cent respondents use more time for reading books. About 20 percent of the respondents never read nonfiction, internet publications, comic books, poetry and novels. The author concludes the library is the best place for silent study.

## Data Analysis and Interpretatios

**Table- 1 Population study**

Gender	Respondents	Percentage
Male	149	60.56
Female	97	39.43
Total	246	100

Table-1 Shows gender wise distribution of respondents. Among them 149 (60.56%) respondents are male and 97 (39.43%) respondents are female. This table represents the number of male respondents is more than the numbers of female respondents.

**Table-2 Frequency of visiting to the library**

Visiting the library	Respondents	Percentage
Daily	113	45.95
2-3 times in a week	82	33.33
Once in a week	28	11.38
Once in a month	15	06.09
Rarely	08	03.25
Total	246	100

Table-2 discusses the regularity of visiting the library. 113(45.95%) respondents are every day visitors and 82 (33.33%) respondents visit the library 2-3 times in a week, 28 (11.38%) visit library once in a week, 15 (06.09%) visit library once in a month and 08 (03.25%) respondent's visit library rarely. Hence the majority of the students visit library daily for reading.

**Table-3 Purposes of visiting library**

Purpose of visiting	Respondents n=246	Percentage
To study particular subject books	178	72.35
To borrow library materials	163	66.26
To photo copy reading materials	64	26.01
To use the internet	136	55.28

*(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)*

Table-3 presents the reason for which the students visit the Library. 178(72.35%) student's shows interest to go to the library for reading specific subject books. Many students visit the library for other purposes, such as borrowing reading materials 163(66.26%), to photocopying the reading materials 64(26.01%) and to browse the internet 136 (55.28%), etc.

**Table-4 Frequency of reading**

<b>Reading Frequency</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Less than an hour	14	05.69%
2-4 hours	96	39.02%
5-6 hours	76	30.89%
6-8 hours	42	17.09%
Above 8 hours	18	07.31%
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table-4 indicates the Time used to read the books and other reading materials. 96(39.02%) respondents spent two to four hours for reading, 76(30.89%) respondents spent five to six hours for reading, 42(17.09%) respondents spent six to eight hours for reading, 18(07.30%) respondents spent more than 8 hours for reading and 14(05.69%) respondents spent less than an hour for reading. Therefore the bulk number of the student's two to four for reading. It suggests that librarian should give confidence to the students to spend more hours for reading.

**Table-5 Purposes of Reading**

<b>Purposes</b>	<b>Respondents n=246</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
To pass the examination	210	85.36%
To get the knowledge and information	196	79.67%
To be well informed	148	60.16%
To increase life style	168	68.29%
To while away time	110	44.71%
To get a job	229	93.03%
To time pass	42	17.07%
To prepare Assignments	63	25.60%
To prepare Seminar	47	19.10%

*(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)*

Table -5 explains that students are read books not only to set up for exams or acquire knowledge but also a number of additional reasons. The largest number of

respondents are interested in reading to pass the examination 210(85.36%) and to get a good job is 229(93.03%). Other than these to reason students are interested in reading is to get the knowledge is 196(79.67%), to be well informed about current events is 148(60.16%), to increase life style is 168(68.29%) and to prepare assignment and seminar 63(25.60%) and 47(19.10%)respectively .

**Table-6 Preferred favourite place for reading**

<b>Favourite place for reading</b>	<b>Respondents n=246</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Central Library	212	86.17%
Class Room	96	39.02%
College lab	34	13.82%
Home	216	87.80%
Park or Garden	47	19.10%
In the bus	18	07.31%
Campus Ground	08	03.25%
College canteen	04	01.62%
Other places	24	9.75%

*(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)*

Table-6 presents that at home is the dominating place for reading as majority of students 216(87.80%) prefer to read in home followed by library 212 (86.17%). Then class room reading 96(39.02%), park / garden 47(19.10%) and college lab 34(13.82%) The provision of reading room service in the libraries with all necessary infrastructure and other facilities can attract students in the direction of libraries for reading from home.

**Table-7 Frequency of preferred time for reading**

<b>Preferred time</b>	<b>Respondents n=246</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Morning	192	78.04%
Evening	110	44.71%
Afternoon	70	28.45%
Late night	170	69.10

*(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)*

Table-7 describes that the students are prefer to read in the morning is 192(78.04%) compared to night 170(69.10%) and evening 110 (44.71 %) and afternoon reading habit of the students is very less 70(28.45%). This table shows morning as the pet time for reading.

**Table-8 Preferred language for reading**

Language preferred	Respondents n=246	Percentage
English	210	85.36%
Hindi	78	31.70%
Kannada	186	75.60%
Others	17	06.91%

(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)

Table-8 presents that highest number of students prefer English language 210(85.36%) followed by kannada language 186 (75.60%), 78 (31.70%) respondents prefer to read in hindi language and only a small number of respondents 17 (06.31%) prefer to read in other languages like Sanskrit, Marathi and urdu.

**Table-9 preferred items for reading**

Items for reading	Respondents n=246	Percentage
New paper	170	69.10%
Magazines	110	44.71%
Text books	190	77.23%
Stories and novels	86	34.95%
Journal articles	36	14.63%
Reference books	78	31.70%
Employment news papers	86	34.95%
Reference books	119	48.37%
Competitive books	78	31.70%
Others	37	15.04%

(Note: multiple answers permitted n=246)

Table.9 interprets that text books reading interest among students is higher 190(77.23%). Followed by newspaper reading is 170(69.10%), magazine reading 110(44.71%), employment news papers reading and stories reading is



86(34.95%),reference books and competitive exam books 86 (31.70%) and 76(30.89%) respectively and 37(15.04%) respondents are chosen the other reading items for their study. However, comparing the top four items of reading, it is evident that the two items (news papers and textbooks) among the four is showing highest interest from the readers.

**Table-10 Reading enjoyment of the respondents**

Reading enjoyment	Respondents	Percentage
Very much	79	32.11%
Enjoyable	127	51.64%
Just okay	32	13%
Not at all	8	03.25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table reveals that majority of students 127 (51.64%) enjoy reading, 79(32.11%) respondents very much enjoyed the reading, 32(13%) respondents reply is just okay and other than these categories 8(03.25%) not enjoying their reading

## Findings

- i. This article represents the number of male respondents is more than the numbers of female respondents.
- ii. Majority of the students visit library daily for reading.
- iii. Large number of student's shows interest to go to the library for reading specific subject books.
- iv. The bulk number of the students spent two to four for reading regularly.
- v. The largest numbers of respondents are interested in reading to pass the examination and to get a good job.
- vi. Home is the dominating place for reading as majority of students prefers to read in library followed by home.
- vii. This research shows morning as the pet time for reading.

- viii. This is an evident that news papers and textbooks are gained more popularity and interest from the readers.

## Conclusion

The reading skill is precious tools for everyone. Nnadozie & Egwin (2008) describes that reading is most important process of acquiring information, knowledge, experience and learning. Reading habit is most important happenings in the development of learning. In the progress of human culture, it has been specified a better consequence and attractive one of the most important aspects of the operation of human beings. Library is knowledge centre and the library professionals should to encourage the students to utilize the library sources. The Karnatak College library professionals should encourage the reading habits to the students and support them to read. Reading includes the person's contribution growth literate society. Thus, reading habit outlines good qualities, information, exact ideas and attitude change. Hence students who are concerned in reading habit to build knowledgeable society in our country and reading habit can change the developed country.

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