

**READING HABIT OF STUDENTS IN GANDHINAGAR CITY: A CASE STUDY****<sup>1</sup>Jyotsnaben Gowami, <sup>2</sup>Dr. Bharti L. Vaja****<sup>1</sup>(Ph. D. Research Scholar)**, Department of Library and Information Science, Madhav University, Shirohi, Rajasthan, India. 307026**<sup>2</sup>(Ph. D. Research Guide & Associate professor)**, Department of Library and Information Science, Madhav University, Pindwara (Sirohi) Rajasthan, India**ABSTRACT**

Reading habit is the most effective way of developing reading skill among youth and it can improve their academic performances and become better people in the society. The study title “Reading habit of students in Gandhinagar City : A Case study ” this study was conducted among students form Gandhinagar city using simple random sampling as the sampling technique. The data was analyzed using tables and simple statistics. The findings revealed that most students are female (56%). Most students always reads textbooks, they spend 1 – 2 hours reading. They further claimed that watching television, chatting through social networks had negative influence on their academic performance. Therefore, spending more time reading, library time should be provide in their school timetable these can improve the students reading habit and academic performance.

**Key Words:** Reading, Reading Habit , Students, Gandhinagar city , Colleges.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

Reading is a quick association of the eye movement with the words. A person who can have more quick association with words and eyes, he can read more rapidly, that is why we call a person slow reader or fast reader. Reading depends upon habit formation and constant practice. Good habits of reading injected by motivating the students and by guiding them to read interesting content matter to vide their interest in reading.

Constant reading and study provide the vital intellectual equipment, the very basis and foundation of all that a noble, sagacious person is expected to say or to do. Reading imparts knowledge, without which a person would be condemned to perpetual, devastating and disastrous ignorance. An ignorant man is like a burden not only for himself, but also for his family and society. He is incapable of bringing credit to anyone.

**2. DEFINITION OF READING HABITS:**

Smith and Robinson defined reading as an “active attempt on the part adders to understand a writer’s message.” Reading is primarily an intellectual activity and its practice is influenced many factors like home environment, subject background, age, status etc. Reading helps in the

resolution of the personal need in the attainment of mental maturity and independence of thoughts.

Devarajan defines reading as an art of interpreting printed and written words. “It is a basic tool of education and one of the most important skills in everyday life. Habit is a psychological aspect and is developed of an individual.”

William S.Gray indicates that reading influences the extent and accuracy of information as well as attitude, moral belief, judgment and action of the reader. The reading habit has one of the most powerful lasting influences in promotion of one’s personal development in particular and social in general.

Herman emphasized that status, age, group, sex and information needs of the library users influence reading habit. It is lack of appreciation and understanding of good books and failure to derive pleasure from the habit of reading that effect of educational growth. The factors affecting the reading habits are: nature of reader, need of reader, cost of reading material, availability of reading material and way of interaction of users and information. Bryan relates the reading habits in relation to the library and mention that the librarian task is to find the right book for the right reader at the right time.

### 3. NEED and IMPORTANCE OF READING:

Good readers are good thinker because reading is a thinking process. Students who have difficulty in working at different stages of cognition will have difficulty in comprehending what they are reading. Consequently they would difficulty in reading their content are text books. Recent research about the human brain and cognition is providing new and interesting information that may affect our teaching practice. The human brain is actively involved in selecting, transforming, organizing and remembering information. Reading as active consumers of information relate, what they are reading to their past experience, they interpret information draw inferences from it, ignore some information and attend to other information.

Good readers are good planners too. Reading is a source for the achievement of developmental task because it gives knowledge, esthetic enjoyment and a supply of substituted experience that is merely in exhaustible. It is an excellent source for helping students cope with their emotional and adjustment problems and as such it can be used to stimulate students to read. If students observe that reading books help them to deal better with certain problems, students read more.

Reading habit has been an area of active interest among the librarians and information scientists. It result from the recognition of some need perceived by the user, who as a consequence makes demand upon formal system such as libraries, information centers or other persons in order to satisfy the perceived need. To read is a right denied during millennia to the most of the humanity for a variety of reasons.

Many developing countries have been launching extensive literacy campaigns, with a view to teaching people to write and to read but knowledge of characters and reading techniques along are not suffice to develop real reading societies. People should be motivated to read and informed how to utilize reading material to improve their own personality and their social environment. In this context role of universities, academic institutes, colleges, libraries and family are very important for mutual cooperation to promote reading habits to students, especially, the role of libraries is very essential as libraries are fast emerging important institutions of information centre and lifelong educational agencies.

#### 4. OBJECTIVES STUDY:

The main objective of the study is to understand the reading Habit by the Students of Gandhinagar city Aims of the study are.

1. To assess the consequence of reading habits on students' performance.
2. To study the types of materials are using students at the time of when they visit the library.
3. To discover why students are engage in reading.
4. To know the students spend time on various performance.

#### 5. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE:

Reading is one of the primary habits of conventional education that continues in the developing world, first in families and subsequently in kindergartens. Prior to the 1970s, the behavioral approach characterized reading as "voicing the written symbols," placing emphasis on the observed component of reading. While, Reading is stressed as a metacognitive process that is regulated in today's definitions of the term. Reading a newspaper is one of the most common habits which have been developed among the literate people worldwide. Reading the newspaper is one of the best practices. It enables us to get more familiar with global politics. We learn about the most recent events from a trustworthy source. Newspaper can be considered as a storehouse of knowledge and it always played a major role in informing and educating the readers about their surroundings. It gives information about various aspects of day to day life, whether it can from politics, social structure, religion, science, sports, entertainment, jobs and so many other aspects. With this practice, you will not only increase your general understanding but also your language proficiency and vocabulary. (Ocak & Karsh, 2022)

One of the most important habits for acquiring knowledge is reading. Because reading fosters creativity and helps readers build their creative lateral thinking, an effective reader who enjoys reading may stand in front of an audience with assurance. Every person has unique

routines, tastes, and options, and as a result, their reading preferences vary according to their areas of interest, concentration, aptitude, and circumstance. Males and females have different reading inclinations and reading abilities, and reading curiosities, interests, or habits also vary between the sexes. Age and gender also influence one's reading preferences because different age groups have different levels of interest, curiosity, or propensity. Girls tend to like reading more than boys do, on average. According to Clark & Foster's (2005) hypothesis, girls have a much higher aptitude for reading than boys do. Girls like reading for pleasure and a break from the daily grind more than boys do. Males tend to read more with a utilitarian goal in mind, such as the possibility of landing a good career in the future. (Mirza, et al., 2021)

## 6. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

A structured questionnaire has been designed to collect data from the students. The 300 copies of the questionnaire were distributed to the students, and 246 filled- in copies were returned

## 7. DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Table- 1

### Population study

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

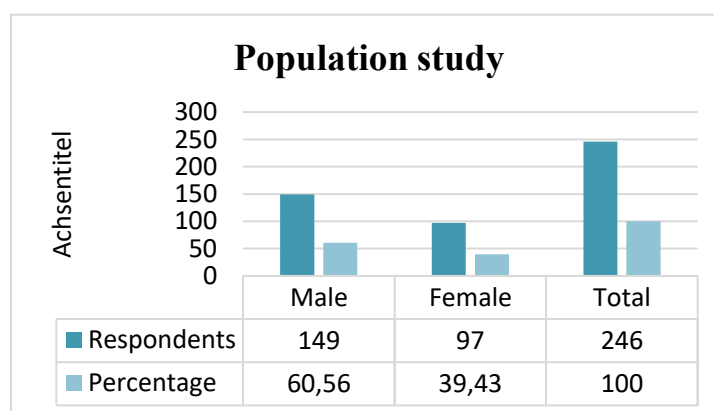


Table-1 Shows gender wise distribution of respondents. Among them 149 (60.56%) respondents are male and 97 (39.43%) respondents are female. This table represents the number of male respondents is more than the numbers of female respondent.

**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        |

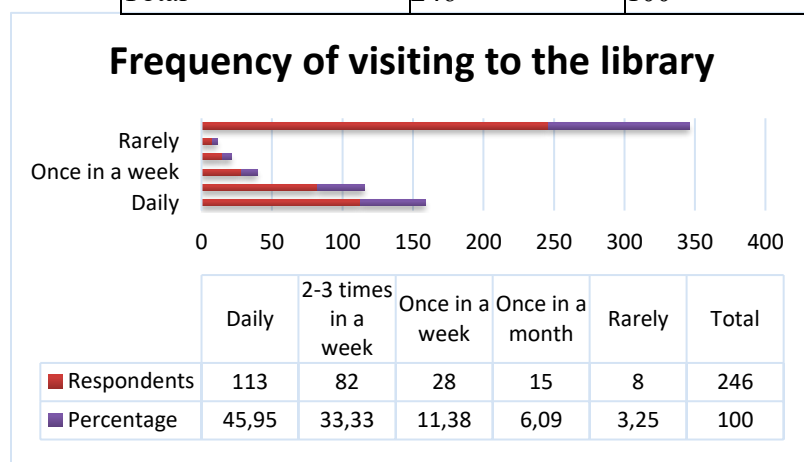


Table-2 discusses the regularity of visiting the library. 113(45.95%) respondents are every day visitors and 82 (33.33%) respondents visit the library 2-3 times in a week, 28 (11.38%) visit library once in a week, 15 (06.09%) visit library once in a month and 08 (03.25%) respondent's visit library rarely.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

**Table-3**  
**Purposes of visiting library**

| Purpose of visiting               | Respondents | Percentage |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| To study particular subject books | 178         | 72.35      |
| To borrow library materials       | 163         | 66.26      |
| To photo copy reading materials   | 64          | 26.1       |
| To use the internet               | 136         | 55.28      |
| <b>Total</b>                      | <b>246</b>  | <b>100</b> |

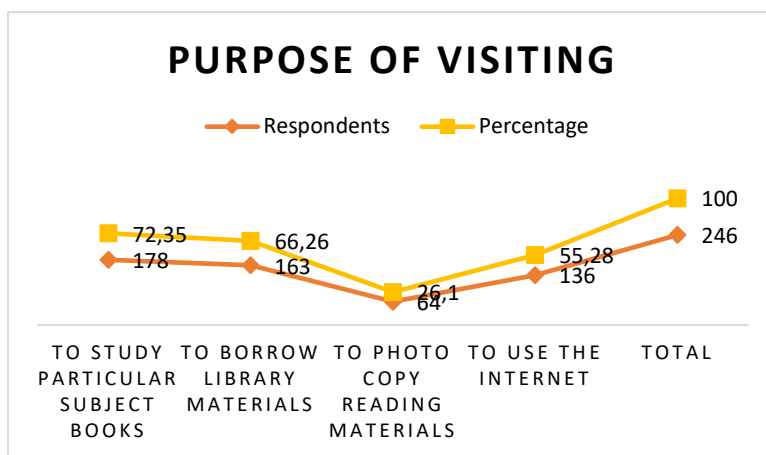


Table-3 presents which the Library. 178(7

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%),

the reason for students visit the 2.35%) student's

**Table-4**  
**Purposes of Reading**

| Purposes                             | Respondents | Percentage |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 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      |

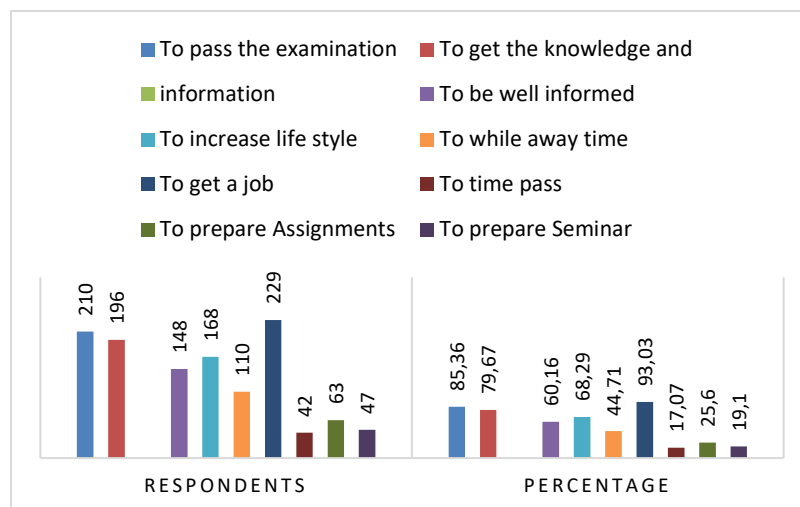


Table -4 explains that students are read books not only to set up for exams or acquire knowledge but also a number of additional reasons. The largest number of respondents are interested in reading to pass the examination 210(85.36%) and to get a good job is 229(93.03%). Other than these to reason students 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-5**  
**Frequency of preferred time for reading**

| Preferred time | Respondents | Percentage |
|----------------|-------------|------------|
| Morning        | 192         | 78.04      |
| Evening        | 110         | 44.71      |
| Afternoon      | 70          | 28.45      |
| Late night     | 170         | 69.10      |
| Total          | 246         | 100        |

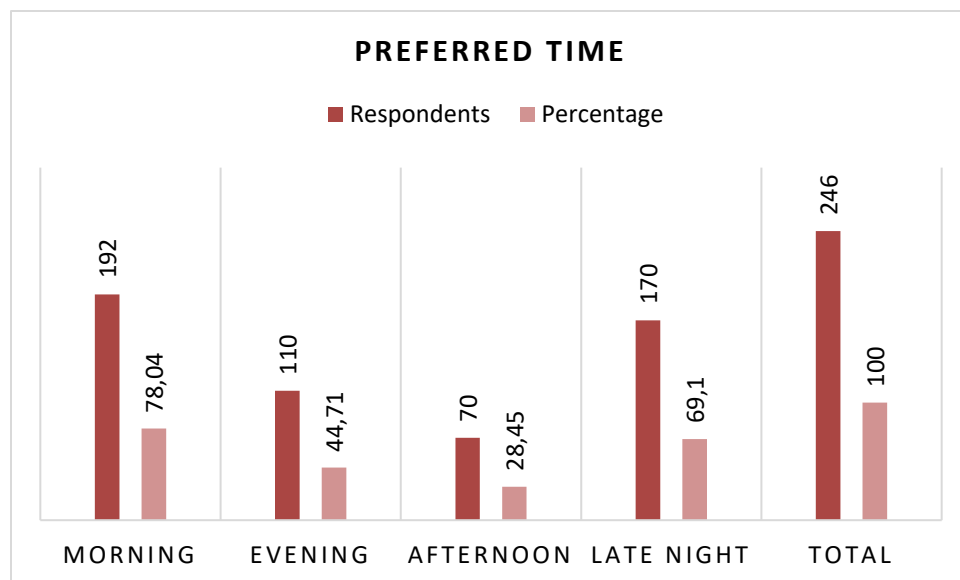


Table-5 describes that the students are prefer to read in the morning is 192(78.04%) compared to night 170(69.10%) and evening 110 (44.71 %) and afternoon reading habit of the students is very less 70(28.45%). This table shows morning as the pet time for reading.

**Table-6**  
**preferred items for reading**

| Items for reading      | Respondents | 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      |
| Total                  | 246         | 100        |

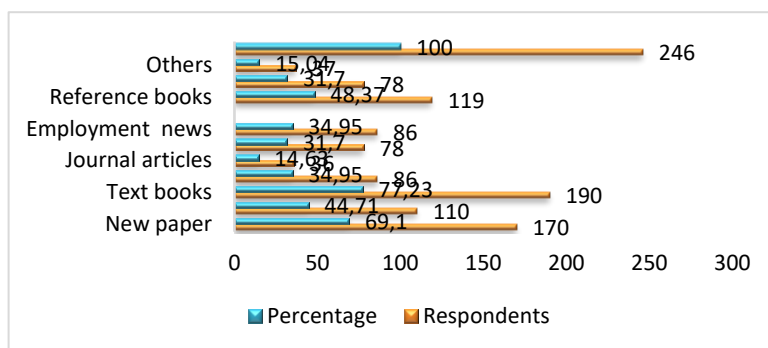


Table.6 interprets that text books reading interest among students is higher 190(77.23%). Followed by newspaper reading is 170(69.10%), magazine reading 110(44.71%), employment news papers reading and stories reading is 86 (34.95%), reference books and competitive exam books 86 (31.70%) and 76(30.89%) 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-7**  
preferred language for reading

| Language preferred | Respondents | Percentage |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|
| English            | 210         | 85.36      |
| Hindi              | 186         | 75.60      |
| Sanskrit           | 78          | 31.70      |
| Others             | 17          | 06.91      |

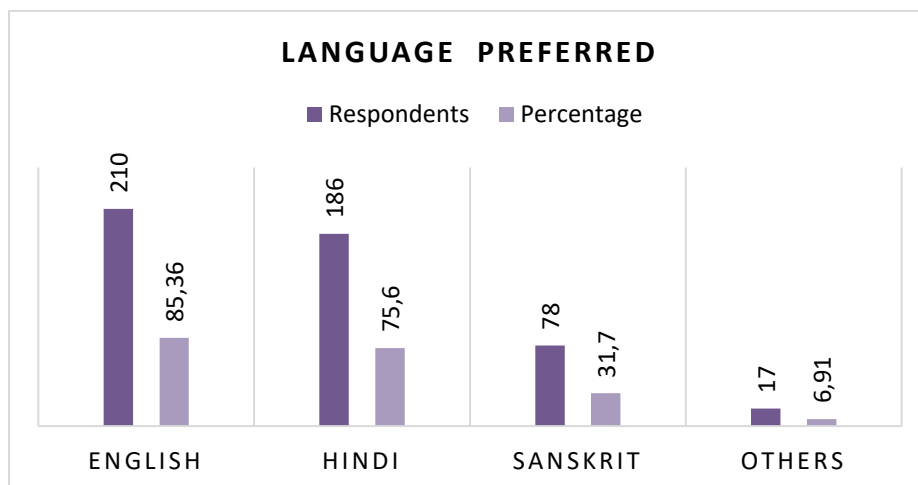


Table-7 presents that highest number of students prefer English language 210(85.36%) followed by Hindi language 186 (75.60%), 78 (31.70%) respondents prefer to read in Sanskrit language and only a small number of respondents 17 (06.31%) prefer to read in other languages like Sanskrit,

**Table-8**  
**Preferred favorite place for reading**

| Favorite place for reading | Respondents | Percentage |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|
| 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          | 09.75      |

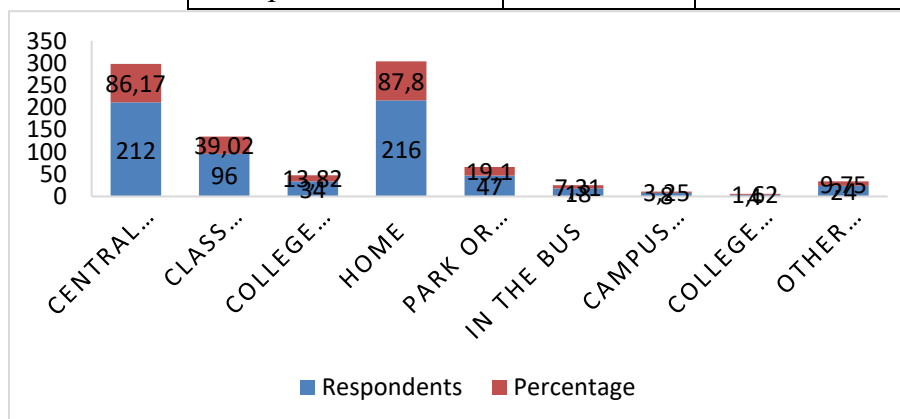


Table-8 presents that at home is the dominating place for reading as majority of students 216(75.44%) prefer to read in home followed by library 212 (86.17%). Then class room reading 96(39.02%), park / garden 47(19.10%) and college lab 34(13.82%) The provision of reading room service in the libraries with all necessary infrastructure and other facilities can attract students in the direction of libraries for reading from home.

## CONCLUSION:

Reading is a creative activity and is involved deeply with all phases of life but it seems that reading habit of the students has declined very much. Reading habit should be inculcated in the

young minds in their home, in their colleges . There should be reading atmosphere at home which will help a students to form reading habits. Parents should motivate their children by providing good books of their interest. Reading is highly enjoyable, it helps to develop creativity and improve imagination. Librarians and teachers should encourage the students to improve their talents by reading books, newspapers etc. Since the Libraries are the central focus of learning process so emphasis must be given to develop the libraries. The role of Librarians is to do everything possible to cultivate reading habit amongst the students through the use of various library resources.

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