



INFORMATION REGARDING READING HABITS AND USE OF LIBRARY FACILITIES: THE IMPORTANCE. (A SMALL CASE STUDY).

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ABSTRACT :

Library and Information Science is a profession that is full of people passionate about making a positive change in the world, and they tend to be wildly happy about what they do. ... In their professional lives, librarians and information professionals work to: Design and develop knowledge-organization systems.

KEYWORDS : *Library, Information, Importance, Motivation, Inspiration.*

INTRODUCTION:

Library, traditionally, collection of books used for reading or study, or the building or room in which such a collection is kept. The word derives from the Latin liber, "book," whereas a Latinized Greek word, bibliotheca, is the origin of the word for library in German, Russian, and the Romance languages. to have a vibrant role in the development of a culture that promotes wider reading, motivated readers and learners for life. to provide a place for collaborative learning, creativity, and for developing independent research and information literacy skills.

A library plays a very important role in promoting the progress of knowledge. There are many people who love reading. But they can't afford to buy books because the prices of books are very high. So when one becomes a member of a library, he can borrow valuable books. A member can borrow two books at a time and he can keep it with him for two weeks. Libraries are particularly useful for poor children. Even those who are better off can't afford to buy all the books they require for their studies. For instance, invaluable books like Encyclopedias and large dictionaries cannot be purchased.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

1. To promote literature to young readers and to make them love reading.
2. To examine how young people in fact use the library, and get to know as much as possible about their reading preferences.

METHODOLOGY: The study combines individual interviews with a survey of 30 teen-agers' reading habits, and library use at three schools in my home town Kansabel, dist. Jashpur, Chhattisgarh, as shown in the table no.1. Secondly the author also has used the secondary information, wherever it is required.

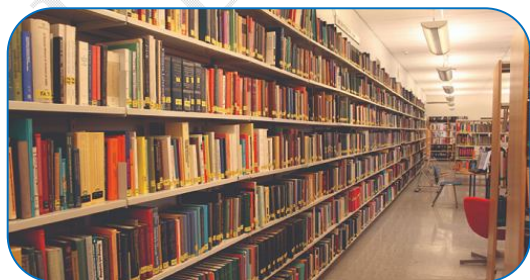


Table no.1

SN.	Name of the schools	No. of sample size students
1.	St. Joseph Higher Secondary School Kansabel	10
2.	DAV Public school Kansabel	10
3.	Govt. Higher Secondary School Kansabel	10

The author had interview sessions with the 30 students of the mentioned three schools and found out that 100% students do want to read library books in the schools during allotted time/period. They are reluctant to read or study at home. Most of them go to the library out of compulsion, as depicted in the table no. 2.

Table no. 2

SN.	Name of the schools	No. of sample size students	School Library available	Want to read/ use library at school	Want to read at home
1.	St. Joseph Higher Secondary School Kansabel	10	Yes	Yes (with compulsion)	No
2.	DAV Public school Kansabel	10	Yes	Yes (follow the time-table)	No
3.	Govt. Higher Secondary School Kansabel	10	Yes	Yes (time-table)	No

Challenges:

This small case study throws a big challenge for the existence of the library itself especially in the schools of rural area. One has to take up the challenge to motivate the present students to have the reading habits and acquire knowledge. The school management should time to time organize some debates, seminars on the role and importance of the library in the life of the students. From the part of parents/guardians an effort should be made to inculcate motivation from within to have the reading habits. The second challenge is the advent of mobile world. Mobile has taken up the place of library. At present, the students take out the study materials for their exams from the net. So there is no need of going to the library and consult the books.

The third challenge is that the students enroll themselves in schools and colleges just to get the certificates and degrees; and not for the knowledge.

Therefore, it can be said that the students cannot be forced to use the library facilities. However, if they can be made understand the use, importance of library then only something can be done. For this first of all the students have to be inspired from within about the role and importance of the Library facilities.

IMPORTANCE:

In "Reading habit" we get two words "reading" and "habits". Reading is an action of a person who reads and habit is a product of this action or learning. Like all other habits, the habit of reading in "an individual develops during the course of time. Smith and Robinson defined "Reading as an active attempt on the part of reader to understand writer's message". Devarajan defines reading as an "art of interpreting printed and written works". Nowadays, a common allegation is raised that the reading habit is decreasing. It is true that if we go to the reading room of a library, we find most of the seats are dusty. It is really a matter of concern. Reading is a precise process. It involves exact, detailed, sequential perception and identification of letters, words, spelling patterns and large language units. More simply stated, reading is a psycholinguistic guessing game. It involves an interaction between thoughts and language.

Today, the reading has social, academic, economical and survival significance, because democracy of a country can survive when people at large have reading competence. Reading is always a means to an end and not an end in itself. Further, reading is the process of using “eyes” over our “mind” to understand the literal as well as the hidden meaning of what the writer was attempting to convey. Therefore, reading gives both power, and pleasure with understanding.

CONCLUSION:

As gateways to knowledge and culture, libraries play a fundamental role in society. The resources and services they offer create opportunities for learning, support literacy and education, and help shape the new ideas and perspectives that are central to a creative and innovative society. They also help ensure an authentic record of knowledge created and accumulated by past generations. In a world without libraries, it would be difficult to advance research and human knowledge or preserve the world’s cumulative knowledge and heritage for future generations.

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