



News Paper Reading Habits among the Students of Dental College, Visnagar: a Survey

DR. RAJANIKANT P. PATEL

Librarian,

Narsinhbhai Patel Dental College and Hospital, Visnagar (Gujarat).

Abstract:

News paper is a well-liked reading materials and given us day to day information. This paper presents to understand the news paper reading habits of the dental college students. A self structured questionnaire was designed on the basis of previous studies conducted on the subject. The target population for the present study was 200 undergraduate and postgraduate students. Apply random sampling methods in this study. This study revealed that college students regularly read both Gujarati and English news papers. They prefer to read education and sports section in the newspaper and lack of time is the major negative factor. 89% respondents read news paper in Gujarati language, 76% respondents used print format of news paper. News paper reading habit helps the students to get current information as well as to improve their thinking and observation skill.

Keywords: *News paper, Reading habit, Students, Dental*

1. Introduction

Reading is one of the oldest ways of put knowledge and culture within reach of people. It helps to enrich the personality of an individual in society as in increases intellectually motivational interactions. The news paper is one of the most popular reading material gives us day –to-day information and comments on the news. According to ALA glossary, News paper is a publication and published in frequent intervals, usually daily, weekly or twice a week that reports events and discusses topics from current interest. News papers are considered the mirror of the world. This is an important source of follow-up news and its impact on the national media and international affairs. News papers are important element sources of information because they contain abroad a range of news on all topics and activities. He plays an important role in the dissemination of information and encourages reading habits, highlight the responsibilities of citizenship. News papers also help students improve their thinking and observation skills and promote imagination. News papers also play a major role in formulates and shapes public opinion. The knowledge is completed to these subjects by the news papers. The students must be aware of what is passes in the world around him. The news paper is important service that can render to education by transmit current knowledge to students.

Dental college also known NPDCH (Faculty of dental science affiliated by Sankalchand Patel University) is one of the best self-directed colleges in North Gujarat region, equipped with good library. It has a valuable collection of books, periodicals, CDs and audio –visual aids etc. Dental college library divide in different sections like reading room, periodical room, store and stacking room, photocopying and binding, AV room etc. The reading room's most using area is news paper reading section. The college library subscribes five Gujarati and three English news papers.

2. Review of Related Literature

Kadeeja, Banu and Yaseen Aboobacker (2018) paper presents news paper reading habits of students of Farook College. Questionnaire based random sampling method used. Analysis revealed that college students daily read both Malayalam and English news papers. 90% students are interest in reading news

papers, 87% read less than one hour, 82% read news paper at home and majority respondents reading news paper in her/his mother tongue and print format. Bharucha Jehangir(2017) does an analysis of newspaper reading habits among the youth. The main objective was to determine the regularity of they read the newspaper, the time spent, the most read newspapers by Students and Opinions on Online E-Reading newspaper. Similarly Aggarwal and Akhter (2015) do a study to find out how newspapers read students and faculty members of Punjabi University Patiala. The main objectives of the study were to know preferred language, preferred format and to know the number of newspapers, the time spent daily by students for reading newspapers. Al Shaqsi, Obaid S (2013), Chinnasamy, K (2017), Dharani, H (2016), etc. were also conducted in the same way studies on newspaper reading habits of student and other.

3. Significance of the study

It is necessary for the students to acquire knowledge to lead the nation towards development. The newspaper is the main source to acquire knowledge about the national economy, social, political factors. So students' reading habits should be analyzed. This study can encourage students to use the newspaper as a useful tool in their studies activities. This will be an opportunity for students to express their views on the reasons for reading newspaper what they see as essential information for their education. This study could be beneficial for newspaper publishers to meet the needs of readers in release the content according to the needs of their target readers. He helps newspapers by revealing factors influencing newspaper reading habits between students

4. Scope and Limitations of the Study

The scope of the study is undergraduate and postgraduate students of Dental College (NPDCH). Only Dental college students are involved in this study other affiliated colleges students are not involve.

5. Objectives of the study

The present study have been undertaken with the objective of

1. To find how regular respondents read news paper.
2. To Know the time of news paper reading by respondents.
3. To study the purpose of reading news papers.
4. To find the ways through which they obtain news paper for reading.
5. To know the different areas of interest of respondents in news papers.
6. To identify the media mostly preferred by the respondents.

6. Methodology

A total number of 200 questionnaires distributed among these students, 160 undergraduate and 40 postgraduate. The data were collected from both UG and PG students in dental college (NPDCH), Visnagar (Gujarat). All questionnaires collected and processed. Random sampling method is used to collect the data. Data input in Excel and analyzed in tabular form with interpretation.

7. Analysis and Interpretation of Data

7.1 Interest in reading news papers (regularly)

Table 1: Interest in reading news papers (regularly)

Sr. No.	Regular Interest In read newspaper	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Yes	149 (93.13%)	38 (95%)	187	93.50
2	No	11 (6.87%)	02 (5%)	13	6.50
Total		160	40	200	100%

The above table 1 showed that large majority students (93.50 percent) are interested in reading regularly news papers. The table further observed that large majority students (95 percent) of PG and (93.13 percent) of UG students like read news paper regular.

7.2 Frequency of reading news paper

Table 2: Frequency of reading news paper

Sr. No.	Frequency	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Often	98 (61.25%)	19 (47.50%)	117	58.50
2	Sometimes	56 (35%)	21 (52.50%)	77	38.50
3	Never	06 (3.75%)	0 (0%)	06	3.00
Total		160	40	200	100%

The table 2 displays frequency of reading news paper; the highest number often (58.50 percent). The second position is sometimes (38.50 percent) and a few (3 percent) never read news paper. The overall analysis shows that more than half of respondents read news paper often.

7.3 Time for News paper reading

Table 3: Time for News paper reading

Sr. No.	Time Spend	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Less than 30 minute	125 (78.12%)	29 (72.50%)	154	77.00
2	30 – 60 minute	33 (20.63%)	10 (25%)	43	21.50
3	More than 1 hour	02 (1.25%)	01 (2.50%)	03	1.50
Total		160	40	200	100%

Students use different length of time for reading news papers. Table 3 shows that majority of students (77 percent) spend less than 30 minutes for reading the news papers in a day. (21.50 percent) students spend 30 to 60 minutes and (1.50 percent) students spend more than one hour for reading news paper in a day. The table further shows the majority of the UG students (78.12 percent) and PG students (72.50 percent) spend 30 to 60 minutes for reading news papers in a day.

7.4 Place of news paper reading

Table 4: Time for News paper reading

Sr. No.	Place	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Home	59 (36.88%)	24 (60%)	83	41.50
2	College Library	87 (54.37%)	10 (25%)	97	48.50
3	Department	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	0	0.00
4	Public Library	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	0	0.00
5	Other	14 (8.75%)	06 (15 %)	20	10.00
Total		160	40	200	100

Table 4 shows the place of news paper reading, majority of the respondents (48.50 percent) obtain news paper from college library. (10 percent) using other place for reading news paper. Also indicate the department and public library not used for reading news paper by respondent.

7.5 Daily read news papers

Table 5: Daily read news papers

Sr. No.	Number of News papers	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	One	87 (54.37%)	26 (65%)	113	56.50
2	Two	56 (35%)	09 (22.50%)	65	32.50
3	More than two	17 (10.63%)	05 (12.50%)	22	11.00
Total		160	40	200	100%

Table 5 shows the daily how many read news paper, majority of the respondents (56.50 percent) read one news paper daily, followed by (32.50 percent) read two news paper daily. Also indicate the more than two news paper read (11 percent) by respondent. The table further shows that majority of UG students (54.37 percent) and (65 percent) PG students read one news paper daily.

7.6 Language of reading newspaper

Table 6: Language of reading newspaper

Sr. No.	Language	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Gujarati	143 (89.38%)	36 (90 %)	179	89.50
2	English	85 (53.13%)	33(82.50%)	118	59.00
3	Other	03 (1.88 %)	0 (0 %)	03	1.50

Table 6 displays the language of reading news paper, it is clearly indicated (89.50 percent) respondents read news paper in Gujarati language, followed by (59 percent) respondents read news paper in English language. A few respondents (1.50 percent) read news paper by other language. The table further shows that majority of UG and PG students (90 percent) read news paper in Gujarati language.

7.7 News paper preference in Gujarati language

Table 7: News paper preference in Gujarati language

Sr. No.	Name of News paper	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Gujarat samachar	87 (54.50%)	09 (22.50%)	96	48.00
2	Sandesh	79 (49.38%)	17 (42.50%)	96	48.00
3	Divya bhaskar	63 (39.38%)	07 (17.50%)	70	35.00
4	Nav-Gujarat	23 (14.38%)	0 (0 %)	23	11.50
5	Economic times (Gujarati)	04 (2.50%)	05 (12.50%)	09	4.50
6	Jansatta	02 (1.25%)	0 (0 %)	02	2.00
7	Commodity world	02 (1.25%)	0 (0 %)	02	2.00
8	Prachar (Weekly)	53 (33.13%)	08 (20 %)	61	30.50
9	Others	01 (0.63%)	0 (0 %)	01	0.50

Table 7 shows the news preferred in Gujarati language, reveals that the majority preference of Gujarati news paper Gujarat samachar and Sandesh are commonly (48 percent), followed by Divya bhaskar (35 percent), Prachar (weekly) (30.50 percent). Also indicate NavGujarat, Jansatta and commodity world news papers are not read by PG students. The overall analysis reveals that the half of the UG students read Gujarat samachar.

7.8 News paper preference in English language

Table 8: News paper preference in English language

Sr. No.	Name of News paper	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Times of India	47 (29.38%)	22 (55 %)	69	34.50
2	Indian Express	39 (24.35%)	14 (35 %)	53	26.50
3	The Hindu	04 (2.50 %)	02 (5 %)	06	3.00
4	Economic times (English)	03 (1.88 %)	01 (2.50%)	04	2.00
5	Business standard	0 (0 %)	01 (2.50%)	01	0.50
6	Others	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	0	0.00

Table 8 shows the news preferred in English language, reveals that the majority preference of English news paper Times of India (34.50 percent), followed by Indian Express (26.50 percent), remaining English news paper preferred less than (4 percent) by respondents. The overall analysis reveals that the half of the UG and PG students read Times of India news paper.

7.9 Purpose of news paper reading

Table 9: Purpose of news paper reading

Sr. No.	Purpose	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	For getting information	33 (20.63%)	12 (30 %)	45	22.50
2	For updating general knowledge	93 (58.13%)	31 (77.50%)	124	62.00
3	For searching Jobs	15 (9.38%)	17 (42.50%)	32	16.00
4	For academic purpose	37 (23.13%)	19 (47.50%)	56	28.00
5	For entertainment	52 (32.50%)	12 (30 %)	64	32.00
6	Just for habit	42 (26.25%)	07 (17.50%)	49	24.50
7	Others	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	0	0.00

Table 9 indicate the purpose of news paper reading, researcher infer that the overall the respondent to response the purpose of news paper reading in (62 percent) For updating general knowledge, (32 percent) for entertainment, (28 percent) for academic purpose, (24.50 percent) just for habit, few respondent read news paper (16 percent) for searching job. The overall analysis shows that more than half of students read news paper for updating general knowledge.

7.10 Area of interested in news paper

Table 10: Area of interested in news paper

Sr. No.	Interested area	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Education	127 (79.38%)	37 (92.50%)	164	82.00
2	Politics	25 (15.63%)	27 (67.50%)	52	26.00
3	Health	52 (32.50%)	31 (77.50%)	83	41.50
4	Sensational news	14 (8.75%)	14 (35 %)	28	14.00
5	Advertisement	27 (16.88%)	07 (17.50%)	34	17.00
6	Editorial page	03 (1.88%)	01 (2.50%)	4	2.00
7	International news	41 (25.63%)	17 (42.50%)	58	29.00
8	Sports	115 (71.88%)	27 (67.50%)	142	71.00
9	Entertainment	52 (32.50%)	12 (30 %)	64	32.00
10	Business	33 (20.63%)	14 (35 %)	47	23.50
11	Agriculture	07 (4.38%)	0 (0 %)	07	3.50

Table 10 has interest to the topic of news paper reading, overall the respondent of response (82 percent) of education, (71 percent) of sports, (41.50 percent) of health, (32 percent) of entertainment, (29 percent) of International news, (26 percent) of politics and similarly (23.50 percent) of business, (17 percent) of advertisement, (14 percent) of sensational news. Majority of the UG (79.38 percent) and PG (92.50 percent) students interested in educational news.

7.11 Inspiration for reading news paper

Table 11: Inspiration for reading news paper

Sr. No.	Purpose	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	From Teachers	59 (36.88%)	39 (97.50%)	98	49.00
2	From parents	63 (39.38%)	40 (100%)	103	51.50
3	From friends	37 (23.13%)	12 (30 %)	49	24.50
4	From library	43 (26.88%)	07 (17.50%)	50	25.00
5	Others	07 (4.38%)	03 (7.50%)	10	5.00

Table 11 clearly shown that more than half of students (51.50 percent) are inspired by parents for read the newspaper; followed (49 percent) are inspired by teachers. Friends, library and others are also inspiring students to read the newspapers. The table also shows that PG students (100 percent) receive parents' inspiration.

7.12 Barriers of news paper reading

Table 12: Barriers of news paper reading

Sr. No.	Barriers	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Not enough time	123 (76.88%)	32 (80 %)	155	77.50
2	Newspapers are not available in timely	05 (3.13%)	0 (0%)	05	2.50
3	Too much heat and cold inside the library	37 (23.12%)	08 (20 %)	45	22.50
4	Not availability	0 (0 %)	0 (0 %)	0	0.00

Table 12 indicated that the barrier of news paper reading, (77.50 percent) have no enough time for reading news paper. (22.50 percent) said that too much heat and cold inside the library. Least number of students opined that news paper is not available in timely. The further results show that more than half of the students of UG (76.88 per cent) and majority students of PG (80 per cent) opined that lack of time are the barrier that prevents them from reading newspaper.

7.13 Format used to read news paper

Table 13: Format used to read news paper

Sr. No.	Format	UG	PG	Grand Total	Percentage
1	Print	117 (73.13%)	35 (87.50%)	152	76.00
2	Electronic (E-paper)	43 (26.87%)	05 (12.50%)	48	24.00

The table 13 shows that the majority students (76 percent) prefer newspapers in print format. The smallest number of students (24 percent) use newspapers in electronic format. The table also shows that the majority of students (73.13 percent) and the vast majority of students (87.50 percent) prefer printed newspapers format for reading.

8. Findings

The following are the major findings of the study

1. The vast majority of students are interested in regular reading news paper.
2. Students often read the news paper.
3. The majority of students spend less than 30 minute read the news paper in a day.
4. The majority of students get the news paper of their college library.
5. More than half percent students read one news paper a day.
6. The vast majority of respondents read the news paper in Gujarati language and most read Gujarat samachar and Sandesh news paper.
7. The majority of students prefer the times of India in English language.
8. More than half of students read a news paper during get for updating of general knowledge.
9. The majority of students is interested in reading educational and sports related news in news paper.
10. More than half of students are motivated by their parents to read the news papers.
11. The main obstacle to not reading the news paper is the lack of time.
12. The majority of students prefer printed form of news paper.

9. Suggestion and Conclusion

All academic/educational institutes provide the print and electronic news paper with Wi-Fi internet connection. In addition, the Indian government provides the digital and internet access are increasing daily online news papers every time access to all. The college library should organize regular events like study circles, discussion clubs, seminars, quiz contest etc to encourage students to gather current knowledge on various topics and questions.

The news paper remains an excellent medium to providing all type news and updating daily knowledge. Around the world news paper reading is an intellectual activity and good habit for every citizen. Parents and teachers should to be a model for their children/student by reading the news papers. It improves communication skills and updates their knowledge. This study helps librarians recognize the importance of news papers and increase services related to news paper.

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