CHAPTER- IV

IMPORTANCE OF READING HABITS

4. Introduction:

Reading is the basis of all skills to be acquired by an individual. The reading skills are to be necessarily developed among the students of primary section. The subjects in schools and colleges are to be understood through the process of reading, synthesis and analysis. Nowadays it has not remained an important activity, though a major one. It is because of the technology used in the field of education.

The reading of any book which you like is possible. The type of book which you are reading doesn’t matter but what matters is that the students as well as the general public is neglecting the activity of reading. They are very much interested either in video games, or television or computer or internet.

Reading is primarily considered as a habit of high order. It is one of the most powerful and lasting influence on the promotion of one’s personal development. Such habit helps in building the morale of the personality. Reading makes it possible to extend one’s experiences to relax from the mental stress and to promote personal growth, leading to greater enjoyment in life. Regular and systematic reading sharpens perspective of one’s living, and thereby prepares him for an effective participation in the social and political life. Reading habit is, therefore, considered as an exercise of the mind. Almost all our intellectual activities are centered on the reading habits. Because our primary concern is to acquire knowledge and reading habits being one of the important ways, it is widely and differently practiced by us.

Reading habits have different dimensions to different people with different age groups. While a child reads for his school study, an adult reads the material that is related to his work and avocation. Hence, the pattern of reading habits differs from person to person and from one professional to another. It is said that those who are engaged in the practice of writing regularly they appear to have a good reading habit. Reading results from the immediate needs of the individual whether the
reading occurs in the process of mastering an assignment in school or in connection with doing one’s job.

We read any material towards seeking pleasure, information and newer ideas and opinions. Efficient readers are able to move their eyes smoothly from one word to another your eyes stop only when you want to focus on specific words. Then you move on to the next word or phrase. These stops are called fixations. The numbers of words you read at one fixation is called the recognition span. A good reader will have less number of fixations and a large recognition span. Regression is the act of backtracking while reading chunks of materials. A poor reader indulges in this kind of act. As a beginner, you may have experienced this act.

The role of library in creating reading habits is quite significant. Because, the availability of several information resources not only gives ample opportunity for reading but also creates interest and enthusiasm in the mind of the reader. How far a library influences the reading habit is a matter that needs investigation. In view of the above situation, this study is undertaken to depict the reading interest and use of information resources by Social Science College teachers in the North Maharashtra University Jalgaon region and which reveals the state of reading interest of among teachers.

“Every one has to read a variety of materials to meet the challenges of the world of work.”

4.1. Reading Habits:

The ultimate destination of books and reading materials is into the hands of readers. To established good relation between these needs emphasis to inculcate reading habit amongst the prospective and potential readers. Though book are mute, have kinetic energy that can move individuals and society and to exploit it fully, one needs to develop reading habit, a vital valued to all knowledge. The people cannot develop themselves under they adopt the habit of reading. It depends on the individual to develop it. Therefore one must try to develop the habit of reading on his own.

The reading habit is concerned with the tendency or practice of people to voluntarily seek reading material and devote time to reading. In addition to self
motivation, motivation to read is often provided by family members, friend, teachers, librarians and society at large. Because of the diversity of the concept, it is not surprising that many approaches or methods have been used to measure reading habit to particular user group. This includes questionnaire, historical records, detailed diaries of leisure activities, library circulation date, statistics of book sales etc.

We live in the information age; we live in a knowledge society. Shopping, banking and many other social transactions are done through information exchange. It is essential for read more and more for survival. Well, the focus of this work is on reading, rather on the habit of reading.

4.1.1. Prerequisites for the Reading Habits:

The acquisition of the reading habit involves three prerequisites. They are 1) The ability to read 2) The facilities to read and 3) The sustenance to read. To acquire the reading habit and to retain it by the individuals, the three prerequisites are essential.

1) The ability to read:

In the matter of acquiring the ability to read there are certain barriers which are to be overcome by the individuals. They are: a) Poverty b) Illiteracy.

a) Poverty: - In India more than half of its population lives in poverty. They are barred from achieving better lives by hunger, overcrowding and ill health, they don’t have purchasing power. Most of their earnings are spent on food and shelter. These unfortunate sections of the population can hardly think of purchasing books for reading. Even the middle class section of the population seldom spends money for books. Their habit to purchase books is greatly restricted to religious books and text books.

b) Illiteracy: - More than 45% of our population is illiterate. They cannot read or write. Among the literate population also most of the people only
know how to write their names. There are large number of school dropouts who due to lack of reading facilities gradually lapse into illiteracy.

Reading habit was confined in India to only certain sections of professional. In terms of pages read per capita, it is estimated that it is only 32 pages per annum in India while it 2000 pages in the advanced countries like USA, UK, Germany and Japan.

However, our country is endeavoring to improve the lives of the poor people through its liberal policies. Through the constitutional directives to provide compulsory primary education and through literacy missions for adults, government both at the centre and the states, are trying their best to enlarge educational opportunities to the poorest and the down-trodden sections of the population.¹

In course of time the literacy may increase and along with it the reading habit may improve. Educational facilities should be further improved and they should be available to each and every one in the country at the least cost. Vocational and professional education courses should be given priority over the non-vocational courses.

2) The facilities to read:

It is not only the removal of poverty and illiteracy but different kinds of facilities are to be provided to the people for the development of the reading habit. Home is the best place and the parents are first teachers for seeding the reading habit in the minds of young children. Besides the conducive societal environment, there should be favorable facilities provided by the government for the promotion of the reading habit.

2.1. Home Libraries:

Parents should bestow interest to have at least some books in a library at home. The presence of books both classics and light reading will
motivate the children to read from their early childhood. Grandparents and mothers should tell the children stories. They should make the children to read aloud some stories to them. By this there can be useful mutual interaction between the elders and the children which will lead to the planning and promotion of reading. The reading habits of the elders and the children develop the habit of planning among them. The reading habit of the elders in the family influences the youngsters.

2.2. **School Libraries:**

Once the reading habit is established at the kindergarten stage, it is carried through the rest of one’s life GURU, is therefore, and considered as GOD, Teachers should respect the children and not talks down to them. Teacher and school Librarian should attract children to reading and thereafter make them to connect what they had read to their own lives and their immediate environment. There should be book-related activities which would create positive attitudes towards books and reading.

There are hardly any schools in India at present with good libraries. Our planners and administrators should give top priority to the establishment of school libraries with qualified librarians. There should more investment on primary education. If the children are not taught the habit of reading at schools, they will lose the art of reading in their later lives.

2.3. **College and University Libraries:**

College and University Libraries in our country are suffering due to lack of adequate funds. Escalation of prices of books and periodicals and inelastic budgets stagnated their growth. The library collections are no longer attracting the readers. The reading requirements of research scholars and serious faculty members are hardly met by the libraries. There are no classroom challenges for the teachers as it was in the yesteryears, to read and prepare for the classroom. The craze today in the academic libraries is for computerization instead of collection building.
For the promotion of reading habit and to attract the students and teachers, the academic libraries should be given due importance both in planning and finances.

### 2.4. Public Libraries:

Every citizen should have an easy access to information. Right to information is an important one and it should be included in the fundamental right of our constitution. Public Libraries are scanty in our country. Library legislation is still not enacted in the large states of our country such as UP, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan etc. The present growth of the public libraries and the finances allocated for their development is inadequate.

Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) is mainly concerned with a view to purchase and supply books to rural libraries. They are at present supplying books up to the district Libraries.

### 2.5. Talkie Libraries:

A new phenomenon of talkie Libraries has begun all over the world, more particularly in advanced countries. People started reading books through their ears, not their eyes-because books are recorded on tape. Taped books fill a late 20th century need. Many people in developed countries simply lack time for reading. For them, aural and oral are a perfect match. They slip a recorded book cassette into the ears tape deck, push the play button and thus read the book while they are commuting or traveling.

Taped book business is booming. The cost of the taped books is also cheaper than the printed books. New audio only book stores are a common sign in USA. Libraries circulate taped books, and of course, many publishing houses have established their own audio divisions in USA and UK. Thus libraries have started to attend to the changed reading habits of readers. The publishing firms and libraries in India have yet to provide this facility.
2.6. **NBT, CBT and the National Centre for Children’s Libraries:**

The above bodies were established at the national level. They have to take more interest in the development of reading habits among the children. They should create a book culture at the grassroots level. The books produced by them haven’t become very popular. Still the cost factor is a prohibitive one for the poor and the down trodden sections of the people. They should produce more and more books, in the languages of India. So far these bodies haven’t made a significant impact on the people for improving the reading habit.

3) **Sustenance of the Reading Habit:**

The abilities and the facilities created for promoting reading habit should be sustained through continuous efforts and activities. Among such efforts we can include book fairs and festivals, book markets, encouragement of book industry, book clubs, book gifts, book tokens, training of the writers and publisher and publicity of the best books.

**a) Book Fairs and Festivals:** There should be one or two book fairs annually in every state. This will enable readers to notice the new books and find the latest developments in the book industry. People who purchase books should be given. It rebates to encourage the reading habit.

**b) Book Market:** Government should come forward to establish book markets in all important towns. The book shops which are housed in such markets would be easily accessible to readers at one place.

**c) Book Gifts and Book Token:** A book culture may be developed by the educated people. Parents and friends can present books or book tokens to children on their birthdays and other festive occasions.

**d) Book Mobiles:** There should be more and more book mobiles to cover the rural and urban areas where libraries are not established. Even book shops on wheels will help large sections of people who scarcely go to book shops to purchase books. These book mobiles will bring books to the doorsteps of the people and arouse their curiosity for books and convert the potential readers into actual readers.
e) **Book Industry:** There should be training facilities for publishers and book-sellers. Government should give subsidy for the publication of good books. Paper should be made available at concessional rates. Some standards may be evolved for printing the books in order to make them cheaper and to be within the reach of more people.²

### 4.2. Need For Reading Habit:

Everybody needs some type of information for some purpose or the other. When a person wants to travel; information about routes, timings of the transport services, hotel facilities and like is needed. This information may be gathered from the book – let prepared by the travel agency. This information can also be acquired from some documents, like tourist guide, railway timetables etc. No doubt that to acquire this information a person has to read the relevant material.

There are varieties of reasons why people read books, periodicals and other reading material. Large scale use of information in all countries by a wide cross section of people has resulted in the coining of terms like information age for information society which signify the pervading nature of information in modern Society. Information today is regarded as wealth, which helps transforming all natural resources of a country into finished products. All these tasks of having information cannot be possible without reading. To have required information reading is essential.

In the light of above discussion the needs for reading habits may be as follows.

A) To fulfill educational purpose.  
B) To develop personality.  
C) To have latest information in one’s field of interest.  
D) For overall development of a society or nation.

**A) To Fulfill Educational Purpose:**

With the advancement of education system present education has become library oriented education. Naturally the teachers and the students have to depend upon the library to meet reading material requirement without reading material no teacher can prepare herself for teaching as well as the students leasing either in schools in colleges have to consult with books and
other reading material as pre their information needs having acquire the relevant reading material teachers to have to have to study.

B) To Develop Personality:

Educational standard is increasing day by day. It is said that “Being determined social consciousness” in view of the above statement it is clarified that position of a person in the society depends upon his educational standard financial standard etc. without knowledge nobody can influence other. Knowledge can be acquired through reading ample literature in various fields.

No doubt that the personality of knowledge holder person becomes influence in the society than the ignorant person. Hence it will not be exaggerated to say that reading habit of a person develops his personality.

C) To have Latest Information in Ones field of interest:

There is information explosion in the universe ok knowledge. Due to which number of publication on various subjects are increasing day by day. Naturally the user has to find more and more literature to meet the information need. Reading habits helps us to acquire relevant information because due to reading habit person handles different types of reading material in the field of his interest. Whereby he can have the required information in one of the documents handled reading material.

D) For Overall Development of a Society or Nation:

There are a number of social workers in the society. Their field of activities is different (e.g. workers of Red Cross society). As per their field of activity their information needs are different without knowledge of the field in which he works, cannot work successfully. To acquire the relevant knowledge or information a social worker has to refer different types of reading material like books, periodicals, conference papers etc. through which he can get knowledge and work successfully. Naturally, due to reading habit he refers various types of reading material which help him to increase his knowledge.
4.3. Forming Habit:

How one’s habit is formed psychology does not know exactly but agrees that habits have something to do with nervous systems. The assumption is that the stimulus, let us says the sight of a printed word, being a nervous impulse that starting through the eye runs it’s some route through, the heaves cell, learns path that offers less resistance to the next impulse. When next impulses succession impasses follow the path very readily finally even automatically. Thus habit is formed. The habit is formed slowly and many psychologists agree with it. On the contrary, learning is a faster activity than the habit formation. Learning is not done by one habit but by so many habits. The habits are not formed at the same speed and rate. They take a long time.

The habits are strengthened as the practice continues. Similarly the qualitative and quantitative changes also take place along with it. Continuous practice makes the habit formation naturally and they are formed without much of our attention. It means that such habits are just like instincts, and so there is no difference between such habits and instincts. The people with such habits can perform regular activities and can devote their time for other activities.

Through habit formation it is impossible to do more than one thing at a time. As a result, we can save energy and time for more important things in life. Not only our actions but our interests, aptitudes, attitudes, beliefs, prejudices, opinions, faiths, feelings, emotions and sentiments are influenced and controlled by our habits. Therefore, in short what a man is, has been or will be, is decided by his habits of thought, actions and feelings. In the field of education too, habits exercise a strong impact, beliefs, prejudices, opinions, faiths, feelings, emotions and sentiments are influenced and controlled by our habits. Therefore, in short what a man is, has been or will be, is decided by his habits of thought, actions and feelings. In the field of education too, habits exercise a strong impact. Good habits helps acquiring, learning and knowing of so many things with great ease and facility. A student who is habitual of concentrating on his studies for hours in school as well as at home can easily overcome fatigue. Similarly habits of efficient writing, reading and conversation help them a lot. Habits of proper reasoning, thinking, making
judgments, punctuality, regularity, neatness, cooperativeness, honesty—all help them in their proper adjustments as well as in acquiring and learning all the essential knowledge and skills in a short time with great facility.

Thus, in all walks of one’s life and sphere of activities, habits tend to play a decisive role in making one’s present and future depending upon their nature—good or bad. While good habits are responsible to infuse in an individual what is good from social and moral angles, the bad habits create obstacles in the path of his proper development, bring bad name to him and prove danger to the society.

4.4. Advantages of Habits:

1. **They save our time:** - Once a habit is formed, we do not require much time to do it next time. A large number of routine works we perform only by way of habits. Morning calls, eating drinking, walking, sleeping, battling are done just as habits. Had we been required to teach them a fresh every day, it would not have been possible to push life ahead so easily. Thus habits save our time by not requiring us to re-learn and waste time over a task that has already been once or twice.

2. **They prevent fatigue:** - Were there no habits, we would have been learning and re-learning every task on every occasion we would need that. This would have caused much fatigue destroying all incentive and enthusiasm to work. But, as we develop a number of habits in course of experience right from birth to maturity, we do number of tasks with ease and without feeling any exertion.

3. **They make us more accurate:** - Accuracy in task comes only after mastering the procedure or at least certain aspects of procedure thoroughly. In other words we can say that when we become habitual in performing task, only then the accuracy emerges. Thus, accuracy is just the habit formation and its resulting behavior.
4. Higher learning is also based on habit up to certain extent. As higher learning involves many activities, that need be done immediately and habitually.

5. Efficiency demands that anything which is to be done should be performed with ease and facility. This can be possible only when performance has become a habit.

4.5. Limitations and Objections:

1. They are related to the flow of mental energy into new channels. So, adjustment in new situations is not helped by habits.

2. They are mechanical and stereotyped, not adaptable to new things.

3. They make the personality highly standardized which we do not want. We do not want a personality which behaves in the same way at all occasions.

4. Habits are very effective in the early childhood. But, their effect may be in the wrong directions which is highly objectionable.

5. Habits once formed are difficult to be broken. If some wrong habit is performed once, it becomes difficult it.

6. They deprive us of interest, feelings and emotions which are necessary for success as they increase general activity. When we do a work habitually we experience no feeling of any kind and the work goes on in a mechanical way.  

4.6. Intellectuality of Human Beings:

Intellectuality is the highest gift that human beings have inherited from nature itself and this gift and characteristics have not been bestowed by nature on any other living species. This gift is also called intellectual attainment and quality of thinking, intelligence, wisdom and dharma etc. There is no difference between an animal and man, who is a highly evolved social being, if intellectual capacity or ‘dharma’ as it is also termed, is removed from his personality and nature of his inheritance. The
means of acquisition of knowledge in all the human beings is the notice capability or intellectual and thinking characteristics of species. The present scientific and technological attainments and achievements are the product of notice characteristic of humans. Whatever attainments and competence are found in other types of animals and living beings, are instinctive only. As such there is limitation to them and beyond that they cannot go, nor can they acquire them like humans, in whom there is infinite energy and capabilities emerging out of notice characteristics.

Despite this inborn and natural gift of human beings, they cannot attain perfection and intellectual position without nurturing and training of good habits and in the absence of proper guidance and inculcating right ways of leading, good life of human being remains incomplete.

It is a psychological fact, that none is born perfect, and fully grown, as far as mental attainment is concerned. Knowledge does not come from the womb of the mother of a child. Everything is acquired in the world in acquisition of knowledge, teaching, learning and transfer of learning and information, the psychological and social factors play very effective roles. Psychologically learning takes place in humans by different ways and by different methods. This is why psychologists have propounded different ways and methods of learning for different age groups of learners, based on socio-psychological factors and availability of means and guidance as well. Reading is primarily a matter of comprehension and interpretation of meaning. It also involves most of the ‘major brain functions; sensation, attention, cognition, emotion, motor processes etc.

The nature of reading can be described as a means to an end as a form of experience, which itself depends on previous experience, and avenue of silent self-communication; as a process of interpretation of meaning. Hence, it embraces a wide variety of tasks, activities, skills and mental process.

According to Williams S. Grey, reading is single operation; we can distinguish four different steps in the reading process word perception, reaction and integration.

David H. Russel and Henry Fea defined reading as the act of identifying the symbol and obtaining meaning from the identified symbol.
4.7. Process of Reading:

When a reader reads something, he decodes the symbols in order to draw meaning from it. Reading is the activity in which ideas and information are shared and so communication takes place. The readers can make use of so many reading strategies such as use of syntax, morphemes, decode the meaning. All the readings are not related with text. The reading of musical motives and pictograms are different from it. In case of computer, reading is related with data from the computer. The reading of printed text is considered to be a very important activity for getting information which the reader wants.

A simple model of reading process has aspects:-

1. **Word perception**: - These four aspects are not entirely discrete and sequential; rather they are to be seen more or less simultaneous with indistinct and over lapping boundary. The first aspect which is relatively a simple act of perception. i.e. of seeing letters, words and phrases.

2. **Comprehension**: - The second aspect of comprehension is somewhat a less simple process of deriving a literal meaning, from what is being perceived. In fact, what is taught in school as reading is the acquisition of this basic skill.

3. **Reaction**: - The third and fourth aspects are the after effects of the reading. Sometimes it may result in producing more documents.  

4. **Assimilation**: - The intermediate and advance skills in reading a summarized by Arthur Gates, including the following objective considerations:-

* Reading to get the main idea.
* Reading to note and remember precise direction.
* Reading for evaluating the material.
* Reading to produce a summary of content.
* Reading to produce an outline of content.
* Reading to compare what is read with other things.
* Reading to draw conclusion or make predictions from the ideas given in the material.

The readers can understand the several methods of reading and continue to read the texts though they do not understand the texts. Some readers are in confused
state of mind. The poor readers concentrate on the content of the text while the good readers make an attempt to link all the details of the text.

4.8. Strategies of Good Readers:

The habit of reading can bring certain changes in the life of a reader. Besides the purpose of reading as entertainment, it definitely increases one’s knowledge and experience. Some people read for the sake of fun and leisure but there are certain skills of reading and if they are mastered by us, it is definitely beneficial to increase the level of understanding.

**Following Strategies of Good Readers are:**

There are a number of thinking strategies of good readers. First of all the good readers should start guessing the content which they read and predict about ideas, thoughts, incidences and events. It definitely makes them to involve in to the author’s thoughts and ideas. Secondly they should start forming images which are mental images. There images are directly concerned with the material they read. Thirdly they should start making comparisons. One should compare his own knowledge with new information and knowledge. Fourthly one should monitor his knowledge and check how much he has understood the content of the book. Lastly there should be no gap in your reading. If it is, it results into lack of understanding. The reader fails to understand a work or a sentence.

**Types of Reader:**

Coleridge said, “A reader is one who reads the reading materials, by sharing the thought of it.” Coleridge divides readers into four categories viz.

1. Sponges: they simply read for practical purpose, like examinations;
2. Sand-Glasses: the read just to pass their time and they retain nothing that they have read;
3. Strain Bags: these readers retain worthless stuff from a book and forget good in it; and
4. The Mughal: Diamonds-absorbs all the good and reflects the same.

Similarly, Ranganathan divides readers into five types. They are,

1. Weak readers who feel shy to ask any questions;
2. Readers with inferiority complex, who do not ask any questions, so that their own weakness may not be known;
3. Readers with superiority complex who do not think it proper to ask for any help;
4. Difficult readers, who confuse their questions or requirements; and
5. Normal reader—all other readers who do not fall under any of the above.

Therefore, a good reader focuses his talent on the kind of material he is reading, by means of creative and analytical mind, with thoroughly understanding the theme he reads.  

The activity of reading keep us busy and one can utilize his own leisure time with some purpose which helps him to become free from the day to day worries and anxieties. Reading is the best solution for getting relaxed from our day to day problems and difficulties. The reading of novels, short stories, poetry, and plays takes us to a different world which we enjoy mentally as well as spiritually. As a result of it, the readers start thinking creatively and they are able to solve their problems and can become successful in their life.

4.9. Better Reading Ability:

The act of reading has received great attention from a great many scholars during last fifty years. Experts have enumerated what the act of reading is! The characteristics of reading, as defined by E. V. Dechant are as following.

1. Reading is a sensory process: - Reading requires the use of the senses, especially vision. The reader must reach visually to the graphic symbols. The symbols themselves must be legible, the eyes must see clearly and singly, and the light must be adequate.

2. Reading is a perceptual process: - Reading occurs when meaning is brought to graphic stimuli. It is a progressive apprehension of the meaning and ideas represented by a sequence of words. It includes seeing the word, recognition of the word; awareness of the word’s meaning and relating the word to its context. This is perception in its fullest sense.

3. Reading is a response: - Reading is system of responses made to some graphic stimuli. These include the vocal and / or sub vocal response made at
the sight of the word, the eye movements during reading, physical adaptations to the reading act such as postural changes, the critical and evaluative responses to what is being read, the emotional involvement of the reader and meaningful reactions to the words.

4. Reading is a learned response: - Reading is a response that must be learned by the child and is under control of the mechanism of motivation and reinforcement.

5. Reading is a developmental task: - Developmental tasks have one basic characteristic: the child’s readiness for them depends on the child’s general development. Reading is a difficult task, and there is a most teachable movement for beginning reading and for each of the specific skills in reading. The child’s level of achievement on reading depends on his overall growth and development.

6. Reading can be an interest: - Reading may become an interest or a role in its own right. It then may motivate other activity.

7. Reading is a learning process: - Reading may become one of the chief media for learning. The child can use reading to acquire knowledge and to change his own attitudes, ideas and aspirations. Genuine reading involves integration and promotes the development of the reader. It opens up to him a world of ideas, takes him to distant lands him walk side by side with great sages of all time.

8. Reading is communication: - Reading is an active process. Communication from writer to reader occurs only if the reader can take meaning to the printed page. Without the reader, communication via the printed page is impossible.

4.10. Growth in Reading:

There is a difference between “Learning to read” and “Reading to learn” William S. Gray has suggested the following stages of activity of reading:

1. Initial guidance in learning to read.
2. Reading Readiness.
3. Increase in reading efficiency.
4. Rapid progress in fundamental reading attitudes and habits.
5. Reading to learn guidance.

Intellectual growth is a function based on biological potentialities and environment (including education). Biology gives the base and environment converse it into abilities.

Good reading ability is based on the following process:-
1. Speaking and listening skill.
3. Word meaning skill.
4. Thinking skill.
5. Auditory discrimination.
6. Moving left to right.
7. Sight vocabulary.
8. Identification skill.

We need not feel frightened by these eight factors. They are already in each person. Your task is only to sharpen them so that they can develop simultaneously. 

4.11. Importance of Reading:

Reading is a very significant activity in which a reader makes an interpretation of the words either in spoken form or written form. According to William S. Grey, Reading influences the extent and accuracy of information as well as the attitudes, moral beliefs judgments and action of readers. The reading has an importance in overall development either of an individual or a nation. With the explosion of publications in the field of universe of knowledge reading has acquired important status in the society. It will not be exaggerated to say that there may be total ignorance where reading is not present.

In the light of above discussion it may be said that a person or a group of persons or a nation cannot make any progress without recent knowledge which is to be acquired by reading for the overall development knowledge plays vital role in human life. Whatever the field of activity may be, the individuals involved in it have to acquire more and more knowledge i.e. recent knowledge for rapid development in his field if interest. No doubt that knowledge cannot be had without reading, for example a teacher or a Lecturer has to read and understand the chapter which he
goes to teach to the students next day. If he does not read he cannot teach. These examples are enough to cite the importance of reading.

Reading is a help for education and it provides information, status, spiritual satisfaction, emotional release and pleasure. It is also significant for creation of intellectual, moral and aesthetic values. Availability of books is essential for improving reading habit which provides educational development. Education has been universally recognized as an important factor for the development of human personality. This may be due to the fact that the new knowledge alters the behavioral patterns leading to improvement and further development. It also contributes to citizenship training. It aims at preparing the individual for the membership of the society by unfolding all the facets of his personality. The formal education is not sufficient for an overall development of one’s personality. Informal education or self education occupies a very significant place in one’s life. The process of self education is a lifelong process....And Bodia says, “Without education there can be no worthwhile social and economic development.” Holgar R. Stub says that the amount and type of education possessed by a person is closely related to the socio-economic status of his family or origin, his peer groups, as well as his location in a geographical space. Whether he lives in a farm, in a village or in a city makes no difference. Moreover, the status or prestige assigned to the village or the city also important in looking at the totality of influences that emanate from the relationship between socio-economic status and education like status and prestige, income is also influenced by income, family status, prestige, peer group, type of village and city etc. of an individual. 10

Beasties and benefits of books can only be enjoyed on reading. ‘Books are for use’ is the first law of library science. Great essayist Sir Richard Steela said “Reading is to mind what exercise is to the body.” Reading makes an informed citizenry fit for democracy. Effective reading is a pre-requisite for full participation in modern society is a view of UNESCO body. Conversely and Government runs on the printed word. The nation that reads is the nation that leads, is an old saying. Books open the mind to deeper mysteries of the wide universe. Books make us understand life and also shut us away from its hard realities. Books have wings to
transport readers to other fascinating exotic worlds and times gone by. Historically and culturally a book is a mirror of its time and place. It is a social product. What the society thought, endeavored did, felt and believed is lying recorded in its books. A book is synonymous with knowledge and scholarship, rather humanism. If knowledge is power book empower and emancipate us. Rather us. Only books can help on to rise above the shackles of caste and class. It has sidelined media, despite its physical limitation over the electronic media.11

Other communication technologies have always tried to compete with the book defied in the narrow sense. Newer forms have always ended as supplement to the book, never as its substitute. Cinema did not replace fiction, or even history and biography. Much is said about the onslaught of television (and now the internet) on the books. It is debatable whether TV culture is inimical to books and reading. It is without any foundation to say ‘Books died while you were watching television.’ Ever swelling publications statistics do not bear a slight testimony of these books as media have their own aura and psychological benefits. In effectiveness these are most powerful, second only at the tote-e-tote talk-the latter has its severe limitations of time and space. Every comprehended reading loads the mind with new software. Admitting that books face a tough competition from electronic information, Michael German asks, “Is there anyone who thinks that the world will be better off when reading is infrequent and devoted only to short bites of information.”12

Taking into consideration above discussion we may conclude that reading has an importance in all fields of activity of human life. Reading is responding. It is a stimulus to images, memories, identification of reach and creative thought. Reading contributes to the development of values in life, it gives reassurance and makes people achieve. It generates curiosity and est. For living and develops compassion and courage in a person’s personality reading like thinking or problem solving always occurs in some context. Especially children, the pleasure are divided from identifying with leading fictional characters.

As television has become a major part of modern life, some experts predicted that people would not need or want to read as much as before However, books, Magazines, and New papers still fill shelves in book stores, drugstores, and super
markets, as well as in libraries some experts believe that the information and entertainment provide by TV and related technologies have exposed people to new ideas and interests and so have created additional reasons to read.

4.12. Advantages of Reading:

The impact of reading in people’s lives is extraordinarily widespread. A reader can learn new skills, can be introduced to new facts, can become a more knowledgeable person of the whole world and he can be stimulated to both thought and emotion. Reading has the unique power of transforming the readers. It sometimes is said, “We are what we read.”

Abraham Linkon said, “The things I want to know are in books. My friend is the man who’ll get a book I haven’t read.” Fancies Bacon, therefore, rightly said, “Reading makes a full man.”

D. H. Russel in his book, “Children learn to read” (1949), lists eight important benefits of reading. These are,

01. Extension and enrichment of human experience of complex ways of human living.

02. Giving opportunities to re-live and experience the adventure and ideas of others.

03. Gaining insight into one’s own personality and problems.

04. Providing materials which help to create an appreciation and understanding of the Problems of others.

05. Development of love for country and domestic ideas.

06. Discovery of ethical values which are common to different creeds and which from foundation of good character.

07. Providing opportunities for fun and escape.
08. Development of worthwhile tastes and a permanent interest in literature. Amrut Sherikar in his paper ‘Reading Habits by The Turn of the 21st Century’ said that:

01. Reading is one of the important means of communication in the upper class society. It affects and broadens the thinking capacity of the reader, increases his interest and widens his understanding of the human life. It is also helpful for sowing the problems at national and international level. It also makes us to know the achievements of the people of different nations and to share their joys and suffering.

02. Reading makes man to learn how to make an adjustment or compromise in his personal as well as social life. It also makes him to learn social values. It helps in wholesome development of a person, by means of achieving emotional and intellectual needs and also counteracts boredom.

03. Looking at the importance Walter Mane Says, “Reading may be one of life’s inexhaustible pleasures and blessings.” Recreational reading gives more entertainment, because a reader reflects his ideas and plays on the imagination and hence, it is an indispensable factor in modern life. But, for most people reading is a “lab our-saving device, it frees communication from the restriction of space and time, and brings the distant and the past to the ever present here and now.” The reading of books creates a rich heritage in the life of a reader. “A good book is a precious life blood of mast spirit passed on from generation to generation.”

4.13. Benefits of Reading:

John Florio, an Italian writer, who taught at the Oxford University, had this to say about the healthy effect reading has on patients. “Reading is the best medicine for a sick man, the best music for a sad man, the best counsel for a desperate man, and the best comfort for one afflicted.”

We read books—humorous, light ones to entertain ourselves, to banish our boredom and also when in tours and travels. The system of reading out books, extracts from classics, to both literate and illiterate groups is still in vogue in rural and religious
circles. Temples and Math’s organize such programmes at the time of festivals. Such sessions are indeed educative, besides being enlightening.

01. Reading develops a person’s creativity. Reading a book allows a student to exercise and cultivate her/his creative thinking skills.

02. Reading develops critical thinking, thus, ensuring that students will be able to think and make good decisions for them.

03. One’s fluency in a language and, consequently, communication skills are improved by reading.

04. Developing students’ reading and comprehension skills early on in their education also means that they are preparing them for the “real world.”

05. Reading regularly increases the vocabulary.

06. Reading introduces students to new things and has the ability to broaden their interests.

07. Reading can develop positive values in students.

08. According to studies, reading increases a student’s ability to concentrate.

09. Spelling improves when words are seen in print.

10. Developing good reading skills can improve student’s ability to comprehend concepts and ideas.

As a matter of fact, there is no question about the benefits of reading that the students get from it. Therefore, it is necessary that the students should increase their interest in reading.

4.14. Kinds of Reading:

People differ in reading ability. For example, those who have been reading a long time tend to understand what they read more quickly and more automatically than do new readers in addition; older readers bring more background experience to their reading. They can use their experiences to fill in important information that is not clearly stated in the text. Regardless of age, training and other experiences, reading abilities and habits vary from person to person. Some people read remarkable fast, while understanding the main points and remembering key examples, others read at a snail’s pace as they try to absurd every word sometimes
without evaluating the worth of the information. A good reader uses various reading techniques. The technique depends on the type and difficulty of the material, the purpose for reading it and the reader’s own language development and familiarity with subject.

**Reading can be classified into three main kinds:**

1) Recreational reading.  
2) Study-type reading.  
3) Survey reading.

1) **Recreational reading:** Recreational reading can provide hours of enjoyment. When reading a story purely for pleasure, most people read at a relaxed speed. They may skim through a tale they come to a scene, a description, or even a phrase that is especially pleasing or satisfying. That portion may be read slowly and then-read to be enjoyed, appreciated, or considered.

2) **Study-type Reading:** Usually it requires the reader to pay close attention to the text. A good reader looks for significant ideas and details. The reader then tries to understand how those ideas and details relate to one another and how they sit into the general topic. Reading speed tends to be slower the first time study-types material is read and the reader may need to re-read portions of the text to understand it fully. Reading speed may be must faster when the material is reviewed.

3) **Survey Reading:** Survey reading involves covering a large amount to text to get a general idea of its content. In such cases the person may first skim the material to understand the main point. The reader may then look for details that reinforce or illustrate that point. If the purpose is to find a particular fact or example, the reader may begin by skimming the text. The person may then read some section carefully to make sure that the desired information has been found.

**Shifting among kinds of reading:**

There are different kinds of techniques of reading used by the read in different situations. e. g. The readers who read for entertainment only can read the books
rapidly, but the thought provoking books can be read seriously and slow. A good reader can change his method of reading according to the purpose and nature of book. e. g. If you want to write an article, you have to find out related information for your topic from different sources.

**Loud Reading:**

The beginner or the reader who wants to learn reading reads loudly. Such reader read word by word and line by line identifying the words with the help of his finger. The loud reading is for private and personal benefit. The skill of loud reading is considered to be lower but significant for the development of reading. This initial stage of reading leads to further stage of reading that is called silent reading.

**Silent Reading:**

The loud reading or Private reading is a basic skill which needs to be acquired well. It is not taken so seriously and not much discussed. One’s surrounding is more important in the process of learning the skill of silent reading. The concept of reading is always connected with other kinds of activities which are reflective such as face-reading of a person, reading something for collecting information. The activity of reading is improved by one’s experience. Later on the reader is able to read silently with speed and understanding of the text. The reader learns in course of time that different kinds of materials need kinds of abilities to be developed by the reader.

**4.15. Skill and Technique of Reading:**

Real reading competence is much more than some techniques and processes. It is creative action of adapting situations adjustment to emergent clues. It is a continuing guest where in successive steps are deduced from what went before and are projected to new situation as alternative In brief critical reading is the another. This happens when a student evaluates the plot of story of the author and riots philosophical and other aspects of the author messages in his work for developing skill in reading the college students should be trained to the following.
a) Accurate interpretation of facts.
b) Grasping of the general idea, Identification of sequence in ideas read.
c) Recognition of the central theme co-ordinate and subordinate points of the main idea.
d) Reaching a tentative conclusion.
e) Reaching.

Our approach to reading is dependent upon two skills namely-

1) Skimming
2) Scanning

1) **Skimming:** - Before we read, understand and master any given material, we always want to gain an understanding of what the material is about we want to gain a broad understanding of the material that is useful and ignore the rest. We have to develop an ability to skim large chunks of material and grasp the main ideas/thought processes and the structure of the material. We may have to know how paragraphs are made with topic sentences which give the main idea.

2) **Scanning:** - Scanning is the process of looking at something and reading something carefully in order to find specific piece of information. This process involves scanning through everything and locating the topics of specificity required to fulfill purpose of reading. We try to find out specific details. Such a close reading allows rapid reading through a text and also involves identification of key word/ phrases related to our study. For example, when want to locate a telephone number in the telephone directory, we scan through the names in the alphabetical order and look for the particular person and his initials and then the address.

**Technique of reading:**

We may read any material and comprehend fairly well any content/subject matter. However, we may not be able to remember details in an organize fashion. SQ3R Technique assists readers in leading him on to a fairly mastery level. It is a step-by step process namely, survey, Question, Read, Recall, and Review.
A) **Survey:** - If you want to read a book, you must survey first the whole book using the method of skimming to find out the way the material is organized and structured and to get an overall idea of the document.

B) **Question:** - To make your reading more meaningful and purposeful, you concentrate and consolidate the information you have mastered before proceeding to read the next section. The best way to retain the learn information can be achieved through asking questions. You will have to ask questions and check whether you know the answers for the questions you have raised after reading material.

C) **Read:** - After surveying and questioning (You may be confident if you knew the answers for the questions) you read through the same material. If you find that you have found all the answers correct you will be happy and motivated to master further chunks of material. If you realize that you do not know the answers, your second reading will assist you in the mastery of the details. Look up for main ideas and the supporting details.

D) **Recall:** - This is the time to take notes through recall process. (Warning! Don’t copy verbatim from the book) Recall the main ideas and supporting details. If you recall every detail through your memory it is fine. If not do concentrate and makes notes of the material.

E) **Review:** - This is the final and crucial stage when you have an opportunity to check that you haven’t missed any detail which is important. You must be able to answer all questions you raised. You are able to recall and make notes of the entire material you have read.

   Review stage involves only going through the text but also reviewing the previous four stages namely Survey Question, Read, and Recall stage.

   It may be difficult to go through these processes. But you will find that you have mastered every detail positively.

   “We have to develop an ability to skim large chunks of material and grasp the main idea/thought processes and the structure of the material.”  

   16
4.16. Reading is Communication and Development Task:

   Reading is an active process of communication from writer to reader occurs only if the reader can take meaning to the printed page. Without the reader, Communication via the printed page is impossible.

**Reading is a development task:**

   Development task has one basic characteristic that the child’s readiness for them depends on the child’s general development. Reading is a difficult task and there is most teach able moment for beginning reading and for each of the specific skills in reading. The child’s level of achievement in reading depends on in overall growth and development.

**Reading is a learning process:**

   Reading may become one the chief media for learning. The student can use reading to acquire knowledge and to change his own attitudes ideas and aspirations genuine reading involves integration and promotes the development of the reader. It opens up to him a word of ideas, takes him to distance lands and lets him walk side by side with great sages of all time.

**Library as a source of Reading:**

   Reading always adds to our knowledge. This is a universal fact which all have experienced in life. Purposeful reading helps one in achieving one’s goal or fulfilling the purpose of his reading. Examination is an ideal example for a purposeful reading students read for passing the examination and teachers read for the preparation of the lectures or to gain more knowledge in various fields sufficient reading requires flexibility. There are four stapes that basis to form good reading habits. Exploring checking the vocabulary, analyzing for understanding more reading teachers us to expand our understanding of what we have read.
UNESCO brought out planning and organization reading campaigns in 1973, which has been welcomed by all reading persons.¹⁷

4.17. Library: An Integral part of Education:

Library should always be an integral part of education to make it a movement in society. The very objective of making education a lifelong process can be achieved only if library is given due importance in the educational arena. Library apart from a tool for research is a source of new information and new knowledge which will give continuity to education and knowledge terminated at varying levels. Library is a treasure house of knowledge integrated to education to make it a mission spreading and spearheading knowledge. Libraries help a lot to equip the teacher and students well enough to guide the younger generation. It is said that library is a holy place where collection of good books and other publication are kept which reflect the wisdom and knowledge of the great author of world respect to library means respect to knowledge and wisdom. In this world of continuous and growing activities knowledge is growing without limits and to put it in growing much faster than mans ability to assimilate it.

It is a matter of concern that the library habit is a descending quality in younger generation. Many of them who seem to satisfy with what they gay from text book and guides, often abhor the reading habit in the absence of the quality of quest and enthusiasm which they get from education. It is ‘therefore’ essential that education should be instrumental in creation a quest of knowledge so that student will get adapted to reading habit through the library which is a part and parcel of education. Library movement should be spread widely and move quickly to dispel ignorance and to make new information knowledge within the reach of all human beings helping them to improve their qualities, performance and living environment, which are turn, will reflect in the socio economic change development of nation.

4.18. Reading and Formal Education:

Today reading is still understood to be the master key to learning other subjects. Our educators realize the supreme importance of reading in the whole scheme of education, and teaching of reading skills and reading guidance is the most
basic subject in the school curriculum today Nila Smith writes. Now teachers of all subjects and at all levels want to know more about reading. Parents are asking questions, pursuing books and articles on reading students at high school and college levels and adults beyond college are flocking to reading centers. A great configuration of interest has been ignited amongst teachers.

4.19. Purpose of Reading:

“The dear people do not know how long it takes to learn to read”. Reading has a twofold purpose, namely it is a means of a squiring knowledge and it influences character. Many books stimulate deep thought, perusal has unique autistic value for implant book is a “Thing of beauty is joy forever” According to Gray and Rogers the following are the purposes of reading.

01. To keep one informed concerning event.
02. To secure specific information of value in making a plan.
03. To learn more about events or problems of special interest.
04. To secure the opinion of other concerning civil social or economic problems and the best means of solving them.
05. To keeps in touch with business in social development.
06. To broaden one’s ranges of information.
07. To keep one’s stimulated with important things to think about.
08. To develop a broad outlook of life.
09. To satisfy interest and curiosity.
10. To secure pleasure.
11. To become acquainted with literary development.
12. To have spiritual guidance.

A major purpose for reading is considered to be learning. The reader must know the purpose of his reading. For this, he should know the different kinds of learning strategies of adults. The adult learners are engaged with the structure of learning experience. This concept is called andragogy, a theory of adult education.

Reading also should be self-directed, result-oriented and purpose-driven. Broadly speaking, there are four purposes for reading.
A) To understand or know or comprehend new concepts. The purpose in this
sense is to internalize the information and understand the essence of what is
read. To find out what a book is mostly about is the broad purpose.
B) To Assess or evaluate a subject. In this sense, it knows the pros and cons of a
subject or concept to interpret or infer cause and effect of a phenomenon.
C) To apply the gathered information or to find a specific topic in a book or
article. A student reads a textbook to pass an examination, a lawyer reads to
argue his case, and a teacher reads to prepare his lecture. It is to learn some
subject matter that is required for a scholastic purpose.
D) For recreation or for pleasure. This includes light reading such as fictions,
magazine articles etc. To be aimless is the aim in these types of reading. Most
of recreational readings are for personal amusement or knowledge. There are
no professional or educational reasons.

4.20. Reading Habit and Information and Communication
Technology:

From stone inscriptions to writing on papyrus, vellum and parchment, palm
leaves, birch bark and metals like copper plates, to the printed form, information has
gone through several avatars, the latest being the electronic form through
Information and Communication Technology (ICT). ICT encompasses, computers,
digital communication, internet, all sorts of information-text, image, moving
images, audio-available on the net and its electronic exploitation. Every profession,
every walk of life is influenced by ICT. Banking, Insurance, Travel, Tourism,
Medicine, Science and Technology-well, every business is in one way or the other
benefited by ICT. Every business is information business. Here the focus is on
reading related issues.

ICT, to a very great extent, has solved the difficulties faced by librarians in
storage and processing of information. It helps them in speedily providing
pinpointed reference and information services. If all those in the library profession
have not only to survive, but also prosper in this market-friendly, competitive,
commercial era, they have to familiarize with ICT applications. Computer world is
virtual and conventional librarianship is the real one. There is loneliness in digital
world, but conventional librarianship is a community thing. There is a specific physical entity called library.

Library as a place has a great social value. On a university and college campuses library is a meeting place, place to exchange ideas. Similarly, public libraries are meeting points. But, the virtual libraries have speed, wide access etc. Physical library is like idol worshiping. In computer based information, the God is a concept and not an idol with shape. What we need is a blend of two.

Historically, there are two sets views about the use of ICT with respect to reading and reading habit. There are conservative views, and there are overenthusiastic views.

**Reading Material on the WEB:**

There is too much to read on the web, but not everything on the web is worth reading. These are not reliable sources. Any Tom, Dick, Harry, Mary, Jane, Susan can write anything and put it on the web. Therefore, it is better to evaluate each website, before using. You can get the method of evaluation of website also on the web. Generally, authority, scope, content, utility, special features and navigability are the criteria. In addition, there is substantial information on practically any subject. Although people access internet, but not many people know how to search pinpointed information. Although training programmes can be organized for this, it is better one learns on his own by reading the help option of different search engines and directories.

You can get information about books, movies etc. You can access free e-Journals and e-books etc. In addition, you must visit the following libraries available online.

* The Internet Public Library ([www.ipl.org/](http://www.ipl.org/))
* The Online Book Page ([http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/](http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/))
* Public Library of Science ([http://www.plos.org/](http://www.plos.org/))
Each one of these e-libraries is a digital gateway to many other sources, such as encyclopedias, dictionaries, abbreviation dictionaries etc. Similarly, there are sites for home remedies, Medical information resources like Pub Med is freely found on the net.

4.21. New Media for Reading:

In the future, the reading materials will include electronic data bases, optical high density disc storage of full text articles, digital image master etc. now multimedia technologies made possible to manipulate and integrate the data from large types of sources like audio/video, animation, graphics and text on a single hardware platform. By the year 2010, the interactive multimedia industry will reach, from its childhood to adulthood. As the technology moves forward, multimedia is gaining strength and getting rid of the weaknesses and becoming more flexible and stronger medium for education.

4.22. Reading in Electronic Computerized Library:

Therefore, libraries in future are bound to change to an Electronic library and becoming platform for generation exchange and utilization of knowledge by interfacing with computer technology. Computers have also occupied the dominant position in publishing and they are replacing paper to machine readable, equivalents, Electronic publications are now available in both the secondary and primary sources of information. New Electronic journals, composed of text, just like paper journals, are transmitted over computer networks to individual subscriber, who read issues on line or download desired parts for a print copy.

At present information sources in print and on paper, are costlier than that of electronic media. To facilitate electronic library, hand held electronic text readers are now marketed by Sony. Future libraries will be able to provide, “One-stop-shopping for its users. Libraries will become switching centers that will supply information and material from a variety of sources... they also will provide gateways to assess services, located around the world.”18
4.23. Changing Role of Librarian:

Earlier, Librarian was the sole agent to retrieve the information, but today he should assist users to use aptly on-line searching. Traditional designation will go away with the newer names like, Electronic Librarian, Information Consultant, Information Analyst, Information Broker etc. The further librarian must prepare for the challenges posed by the digital image technology to assume new and inviting role than be a mute spectator. He will be recognized and gain high status and importance in an information-rich-society. 19

Twenty-first Centuries is expected to change the entire scenario of information science. It will then be possible to communicate information in voluminous amount with the help of information technology, (IT) over long distances in seconds. The present information age is going to face much more challenges due to rapid technological advancements which will create new wave of opportunities for using information virtually in all human pursuits. In these days, the meaning of the word ‘Library’ has changed. The Library is generally considered as a collection of books for the purpose of reading. Today it is thought that the Library is a collection of different kinds of books and documents.

4.24. Promoting Reading Habit:

Selecting, acquiring, organizing and disseminating of reading material in them are formidable job for librarians so as to cater to the information needs of library uses. Promoting ‘Library use’ and ‘reading habit’ are much tougher and challenging jobs. Activities for promoting library use can be taken up by academic, public, and research Libraries. Working for inculcation of reading habit among users is more relevant for academic and public libraries. For academic libraries, programmes and activities for promoting reading habit and library use have to be different according to the level of their users.

4.25. Library not a place but a process:

Rightly, Taylor who is working in Hampshire College has said, “Traditionally the library is looked on as a place surrounded by four walls where printed materials-sometimes non print materials are stored and lent. We wish to explore the nation
that library is not a place, but a process, and that more warehousing as servicing is only the first step in the process. The library should be process that permeates the campus.”

In view of communication technology being exploited for information transfer in libraries, ‘seeing’ and ‘listening’ be added to ‘reading.’ Subscribing to this view one has to agree that promoting library use and reading, seeing, listening habits are part of this process and there are, besides librarians, several partners who play a vital role in this process. Major among them are parents, peer group, teachers and mass media who lay the foundation of this process. School library and the school Librarian play a pivotal role in building the foundation. Not only these associates lay the foundation of reading habit, which in turn promotes library use, but also continue to help in this process at school, college, university level and even beyond that. The librarians can do a very little to motivate the said other partners to help in the process. That is why it becomes a very difficult task to inculcate reading habit by librarian alone. 20

4.26. Teaching: A Co-operative Enterprise:

John Dewey, the famous educational scientist, in his book ‘School and Society published in 1894, considered teaching as a co-operative enterprise in which the instructor and the librarian play equal roles. According to him library is the central hub of any teaching-learning process. It is the place for the students to bring their individual and varied experience, problems and questions, and to discuss and pursue they will be considered in a new way.

4.27. Student in the Library:

This relation is essential for,

a) The student not simply doing things but living the idea.

b) The student getting from the start some intellectual conception entering into his practice and enriching it.

c) The stimulation of nuclear element in each student.

d) The idea to find directly or indirectly some applications in experience and some effect on life.
4.28. Librarian and Teacher vis-à-vis Students:

John Dewey considers librarian student relation equal to teacher-student relation and this fixes the position of Librarians among faculty members. In the beginning of this century, in all countries which took education seriously there occurred revolutionary changes in education. Instead of listening passively to classroom lecture, the student is lured into becoming an active participant in his own education, with the teacher simply serving as guide and counsel. The student has to come to the library to select, organize and evaluate information he needs for class discussion and to sharpen his power of discrimination and the critical faculty. Then libraries become central to whole business of education. 21

4.29. Academic Role of Librarian:

In the right type of teaching-learning process expected in higher education, teachers and librarian have to play roles of equal importance. Both should actively engage students in using library as a kind of laboratory for learning how to manage their own education. Teachers should know that library is an extension of the classroom and should make the students use it intelligently in preparations for discussions in class, seminar reports and papers. For this there must be a two-way flow of information between teachers and librarians and both have to contribute.

4.30. Role of Teacher:

Teacher should know the library resources and adapts his teaching so that the student has a chance to use the information resources in pursuing the subject matter of the course.

A) Teacher should himself get informed regarding library resources and the means of using them and should improve library effectiveness in instruction.

B) Teacher should invite the librarian to an early meeting of the class to discuss the general reference sources and bibliographies if the students have no instruction previously.

C) Teacher should consult the librarian on the availability of special materials and special collections that might be useful and available to students in their investigation.
D) Teacher should urge students to seek the assistance of the library staff in learning more about special bibliographical aids pertinent to their studies as they proceed with their research.

E) Librarian should make him familiar with the curriculum and keep informed about current changes, so that he would have a clear conception of what needs to be done in the library in response to the curricular developments.

F) Librarian should remind faculty members on every occasion of the varied opportunities for the use of library resources in teaching.

G) Librarian should know what tools and materials the teacher is using so that he should know that students are only given assistance in using them properly but encouraged to learn of other tools also.

H) Librarian should bring current development in various subjects to the attention of the faculty through programmes devised for that.

I) Librarian should make recommendations for improving the collections of primary and secondary sources needed for class discussion, reports and papers, books which cut across lines of academic disciplines, duplicate of key-words used in discussion groups, new editions, gaps in journals etc.

J) Librarian should provide patient studied assistance to individual students in using reference and bibliographic tools pertinent to their research.

K) Librarian should acquaint faculty with unique and unusual materials available in the library’s special collections that might profitably be investigated by students in their research.

L) Librarian should bring together materials for an instructor, at least temporarily, when it will encourage him to involve students in library projects.

4.31. Steps of Promoting Reading Habits:

UNESCO lays much emphasis on user’s instruction so that they could make use of resources to the maximum extent. In order to promote reading habits in
academic institution for creating more and more potential readers, the following steps should be taken:-

4.31.1. Library oriented Teaching:

1. **Library hours**: Syllabi of different courses on all levels should make provision for library hours and the students should be directed to be in libraries for definite hours for observation and use of library materials pertaining to their courses and general information as well.

2. **Self Chosen Assignments**: Besides written examination system, there should be session work, in which the students are required to present essays on various topics independently, by consulting relevant sources. This should be from the part of evaluation of their attainments.

3. **Bibliographies and Reading Lists**: The students should be directed to prepare reading habit and Bibliographies of relevant books and articles of their subjects offered, so that they should know the sources of information of their needs.

4. **Libraries-Teacher Guidance**: Teachers should be available in the library to watch the students on certain days and guide them.

5. **Joint Programmes**: There should be provision of co-operation between teachers and library staff to develop joint programmes.

4.31.2. Library Services:

A) **Libraries with Basic Collection**: Academic Institutions must maintain well equipped libraries and arrange satisfactory services. It has been found that libraries are there but there is paucity of qualified and efficient staff. If such things are lacking, the library cannot serve the purpose of an information centre meant for the benefit of readers. There should be appropriate acquisition policy, in which basic collection should be built up, in which students should also participate. In order to promote reading habit and fair for
search of knowledge independently, the following activities and services should be organized and made available at the library level.

**B) Reference Collection:** - Maintenance of essential Reference Books is equally essential, so that users of all levels could identify and locate their relevant reading materials. So, all types of tools of reference and information services should be prepared and made available in anticipation and on demand.

**C) Reference Services:** - Well established reference and information services are an essential activity, which promote reading habits and encourage the use of libraries. As such all types of such services should be made available to the maximum extent.

**D) Readers Advisory Board:** - Maintenance of Readers Advisory Board on libraries, consisting of the library staff and the faculty members and teachers, so that proper and relevant advices could be given to the users. This should be a permanent feature of the library management.

**E) Exhibitions on Occasions:** - Display of reading materials and guidance are very essential feature of promoting reading habits and augmentation of the resources. Such arrangements encourage the use of the library and attract readership.

**Book-Based Programming:**

**a) Availability of Books:** - The List of books should provide proper information for the reader to find out them in the library. The list which merely indicates names of authors and titles should give brief descriptive note. The selected information should be included in the list.

**b) Book Fair:** - The aim of this fair is give information to the students about the speed of reading and the skill of handling information. The film shows and the local writers shall increase the internet of students in the activity of reading.
c) **Programmes of Reading:** - The reading programmes give students proper direction to read books. Otherwise the students do not make an attempt to read them.

d) **Talk on Book:** - A book-talk is an effective programme to develop interest of reading among the students. The colleges should organize such programmes of book-talk with the help of librarian of the college.

e) **Contest of Reading:** - The aim of reading contest is to develop reading habits among youth through the medium of library. Such activity is significant for creating co-relation between youth and library. The material used for contest should be different kinds of books selected by the academic committee. The participants of the contest should deliver some book abstracts.

f) **Creative Poetry:** - This programme is quite significant for the students to give them training about the skills of listening and reading. The creative poetry shall be read by the students word by word because it has peculiar rhythm, rhyme and metro.

4.31.3. **Performance:**

01. **Activities like Drama:** - The group which performs dramatic activity needs to be careful about the organisative of drama and the adequate space shall be provided to them. The theme of a drama should be based on a story or a part of a book which is to be directed or demonstrated by the students or in-charge in a dramatic manner.

02. **Quiz Competition:** - The aim of this quiz is to encourage students to read beyond their texts in schools and colleges. So it is essential to fix purpose of the quiz in each and every competition. The quiz on books is only for fun. The language game does not require any equipment or prop but only imagination and vocabulary. Such games develop memory skill and listening skill.
4.32. Recent Methods for Promoting Reading:

Computer:

Since there is growth and increase in the quantity of information and knowledge, and the availability of it easily, it is necessary to teach every reader the strategies for both dealing with information and accessing it. Now all academic institutions are putting their budget ton computers.

Necessity of Orientation Lecture:

Students need to be initiated by the librarian in the use of the library for making effective use of the same. Since various techniques are adopted in the library to mechanism the arrangements of books and retrieval of information there, users need some guidance and knowledge of how to use the library. This can be done by making the librarian conduct the orientation lecture to familiarize them with the library techniques. The teacher should permit their students to attend the orientation lecture.

Open Access System:

The libraries are known as the intellectual deposits of the past. The clientele will not be in a position to make use of the library unless they are given free access to the books. Browsing of books itself will make a person to cultivate the habit of reading. Books widen one’s insight and thought and help one to think of other things that are of one’s own interests. “Real Education Consists in drawing the best of yourself; what better work can there be than the book of humanity.” Similarly Colton has stated as follows about the value of books: “Next to acquiring good friends, the best acquisition that of good books.” Thus, the introduction of free access to books is one way of affecting the use of the library.

Study Circles:
The formation of study circles will help the students to discuss among themselves and to exchange their views over the chosen topics which will enrich their knowledge.

**Seminars and Home Libraries:**

Conducting of education competitions, essay competitions and seminars will also encourage the students to make use of the library. Further, necessary facilities have to be created for encouraging reading habit in children. Assignment of good number of exercise on different topics and examinations with open books will also compel the students to be in constant touch with the books, thus making them library conscious.

The advancement of education and the effective use of the library to put it briefly, depend upon the adherence of the following suggestions made by Dr. S. R. Ranganathan, National professor of Library Science.

1. Replacement of mass-lecture by individual instruction.
2. Replacement of memory-filling by development of thinking power.
3. Replacement of textbooks-centered, teacher-centered education by library-centered, child-centered education, and
4. Replacement of service and competitive outlook by the spirit of team work and relay work among students. This should be so extended to the University level that teachers and librarians become partners in order to maximize the productivity of education.

The librarian on his part must master his techniques and act like a doctor of books, a mixture of scholar and public relations officer who makes active use of his specialized knowledge to bring people closer together, an expert consultant for people on books and an interpreter of books to people. 23

**4.33. Reading as Inquiry:**

If a college student wants that his reading should result into learning. It is necessary that reading be conducted as an inquiry in conducting raise questions and develop by prostheses while going through the pages before him Also should test and evaluate the validity of findings obtained though reading college educations,
draw inferences and reach conclusions. College teachers and college librarian need
to see that for cultivating standard reading abilities in students the conceptual
growth us engineered by students themselves, and not by teachers for making equity
type of reading and learning the dominant mode of college librarian become the
heart of college education activity the students then will find ways to assimilate and
accommodate discrepant the reading and learning process to his own cognitive
needs.

The basic requirement for the success of the above method of reading and
learning shall be the availability of able, educated and dynamic Librarian in college
libraries occupying necessary starch and role in college education. In developed
countries libraries and Librarians are already sharing teaching role even in
secondary and primary education. For developing countries is essential to bring
college education will be a failure, inability to conceive the proper rules of libraries
and various levels of education appears to be the single largest reason for failure of
education in our country.
Reference:


02) ibid (01) p. 4-7.


04) Bhatnagar, R. P; A Study of Educational Psychology, Gorakhpur: Vishwavidyalaya Prakashan, 1959, p.129-130


08) ibid (12) p. 586


11) ibid (01) p. 4

12) ibid (11) p. 31-39

13) ibid (10) p. 29


17) Oja, D. C. and Others,: Impact of IT on Libraries: A Futuristic Approach In ILA Bulletin 30 (3) 2000, p.87-91

18) ibid (06) p. 589-590.


20) Nair, R. R; Role and Status of College Librarians, Comparative Analysis of Ranganathan, Mahrota, and Joy Committee Reports Seminar Paper: 40th All India Library Conference, Goa, Goa University Library, 1995, p.550-551.

