

A STUDY OF RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INTERNET USAGE AND STUDY HABITS OF HIGHER SECONDARY STUDENTS

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Abstract:

The use of Internet has become the trend of modern youth especially the school going adolescents in this present modern technological era. The main objectives of the study are to find out internet usage level and study habits of higher secondary students in respect to their locality and ascertain the relationship between Internet usage and Study Habits of Higher Secondary Students. The study has been conducted on 4 Provincialised Co-educational (Assamese medium) Higher Secondary Schools of Kamrup District of Assam by using a descriptive research method. The cluster and stratified random sampling methods have been used to select the sample. 108 students of class XII studying in Higher Secondary Schools of Kamrup District have been selected as sample for conducting the study. The study is based on both primary and secondary data. Findings of the study indicate significant difference in Internet Usage of rural and urban Higher Secondary Students whereas no significant difference has been found in study habit between rural and urban Students studying in Higher Secondary Schools. It further shows no significant relationship between internet usage and study habit of rural and urban students studying in higher secondary schools has been found in the study. But the study habit of urban students is more affected by their internet use than the rural students and rural students have better study habits.

Keywords: Internet Usage, Internet User, Study habits, Higher Secondary School Students

Introduction:

The 21st century is marked by a technology-driven era. The use of technology has drastically changed the whole world into digitalized form. Continuous development of the internet technology has opened up a wide range of accessibility and opportunities in the world. In recent times, the use of internet has increased and it has emerged as an integral part of our modern life. It has influenced every aspect of our life irrespective of age. Among different age groups, the maximum internet users are secondary school students who belonged to

adolescence stage. Therefore these students are mostly influenced by it and they are using internet and frequently engage themselves these internet activities.

Emergence of internet technology has also gained prominence in the field of education. Because of its luring nature like easy accessibility, easily participation of student, effective tool of learning and enjoyment internet has become effective means for the student. Use of internet enhances the skills and capabilities of student which help them in studies and in their professional life (Emeka & Nyeche, 2016).The use of the internet in the field of education has provided students enormous opportunities for easy access to various resources as well as information sharing. It has become a widely accepted channel for exchange of information and networking. As a result the dependence of students on internet is increasing rapidly day by day in both urban and rural areas. Students basically use internet for academic as well as non-academic purpose. Lots of e-resources are available in internet which helps students in enriching knowledge and study skills. Study habits are an important aspect of student's life and their academic success. Development effective study habits among students are important to achieve their educational goals. The use of the internet can guide students in improving their study, performances in schools, developing logical thinking and problem solving skills, forming concepts and understanding the web of relationships. On the contrary, the excessive use of the internet by students may cause harm than good. Student's dependence on the internet has increased to such an extent that it has lead them to risk of Internet. Too much and unnecessary involvement of students with the internet is sinking the time for recreational activities, physical activities and socialization activities. It has been observed that students now a day's avoid games and sports, outdoor activities. Instead of spending time with friends and family they prefer to spend time on the internet and subsequently, this attitude of students lead to adverse impact on their social, physical, academic life and mental wellbeing. Lack of attention and concentration, lack of proper study skills and time, inattentiveness, poor memory and lack of logical thinking ability have also been observed among students.

Hence in this present paper an attempt has been made to study the Internet Usage and Study habits of rural and urban students studying in the higher secondary schools of Kamrup district, Assam. Moreover the paper also aims at exploring the relationship between Internet usage and Study Habits.

Review of Related Literature

In the field of education use of internet has made innumerable changes. A number of researches conducted in the area of internet usage among students reveal both pros and cons. **Suhail and Bargees (2006)** reported that use of internet positively influences education of students by increasing communication with their classmates and professors. Again increase access to libraries and database of education improves students study time and study habits. **Ahmed and Zafar (2012)** investigated the effect of internet use on study habits of students and their study reveals that students support the use of internet for their academic activities.

Lajwanti and Sharma (2013) investigated the Effect of internet use on study habits and adjustment of higher secondary students found significant difference in the mean of study habits and adjustment scores of internet users and non-users. In another study conducted by **Momin, F.(2014)** on Relationship between Internet Usage and Study Habits of Secondary School Students revealed significant negative relationship between study habit and internet use. Regarding the influence of the use of the internet on the study habits of students study result indicates that the learning habits of the internet users and non-users differed significantly and non- users of the internet were found to be better than that of internet users(**Jazeel (2016)**). Again in the study conducted by **Joshi & Sharma(2017)** examined the effect of internet usage on study habits of senior secondary students and found internet nonusers have better study habits than the students who use internet .

Keeping in view of the analysis of the above reviews, it has been decided to conduct the present study by the investigator to ascertain the relationship between internet usage and study habits among higher secondary schools students of Kamrup District

Significance of the study

In the age of science and technology the availability of internet is almost everywhere and everyone is affected by the use of Internet, more particularly the higher secondary students. Now a day's Internet usage is common among students community. It helps students to broaden their academic knowledge, doing school assignments by accessing information and also enhances easy communication to the academic community. Moreover they spend hours on internet, engage themselves in various online activities, watching entertainment video, films etc. The use of internet can be advantageous or harmful for the students; it depends mainly on how they use it such as frequency of using, its purpose, time spent for using it.

Research studies conducted in this area show that use of internet interferes the social or academic functioning of students. Use of Internet has major impact on the personal, social, academic life of students. Though students use internet for academic excellence, learning, searching academic information, doing projects/ assignments; but the most common and popular online activities of students is engaging in social networking sites such as face book, whatsapp and twitters or more for playing games, chatting, viewing movies and listening to music etc. It has also been found that some students access to the internet for non-educational purposes such as playing gaming and engaging in social networking that results in loss of their study schedules (Singh et al., 2013). Students may be interested in various activities related to violence, sexual content, adventures etc. Their over concern may lead to cybercrimes including the intrusion to others' data, plagiarism, using and spreading pornographic material and sending anonymous messages. Easy availability of various kinds of information from the internet reduces thinking capacity, creativity and moral values of the students and it may affect their study habits and their academic achievement. Again the use of internet among adolescents in has led to a vast change in their life styles and study habits. Students prefer to stay alone. They do not make notes any longer and believe in cut-paste technology. Even they make no reference to library materials. This shows that use of internet leads to serious consequences because it adversely affects the study habits of students. In general frequent use of the internet influence the study habits, their school achievement as well social behaviour of students. So it can be said that internet is boon as well as bane for students.

Keeping in mind the above aspects it is felt that that no study has been conducted at kamrup District (M) in respect to this issue. So the researcher has decided to study whether there is relationship between internet usage and study habits of higher secondary students

The result of this study will help us to know whether the excessive usage of internet has relation with study habits of higher secondary school students and will be helpful for specialists and counsellors, parents and teachers in dealing with students who are suffering from internet addiction and affecting their study and school performance.

Objectives of the Study

The present study has been designed keeping the following objectives in view:

1. To find out the frequency of access of Internet by Higher Secondary Students.

2. To find out the levels of Internet Usage of Higher Secondary Students in respect to their locality(rural/ urban)
3. To find out the Study Habit of Higher Secondary Students in respect to their locality (rural/ urban)
4. To ascertain the relationship between Internet Usage and Study Habit of Higher Secondary Students in respect to their locality (rural/ urban).

Hypotheses of the Study

Ho- 1 There exists no significant difference between the Internet Usage of Higher Secondary School Students in respect to their locality(rural/ urban).

Ho- 2 There exists no significant difference in study habit of Higher Secondary Schools students in respect to their locality(rural/ urban).

Ho- 3: There exists no significant relationship between internet usage and Study habit of higher secondary students in respect to their locality(rural/ urban)

Limitations of the Study

The present study is delimited to the following grounds-

- The present study is delimited to Kamrup District (Both Rural and Metro) of Assam.
- The study includes only Provincialized Co-educational Assamese medium Higher Secondary Schools.
- The study is delimited to only internet users of class XII only.

Methodology of the Study

Method: In the present study, descriptive survey method has been used.

Population: The population of the present study consists of all the students of Class-XII of Provincialized Co-educational Higher Secondary Schools (Assamese Medium) of Kamrup District (M) of Assam.

Sampling Technique and Sample of the Study: The sample of the present study consisted of 108 higher secondary school students studying in Provincialized Co-educational Higher Secondary Schools (Assamese Medium) of Kamrup District. Sample students have been selected from 4 Schools (2 kamrup Rural & 2 kamrup Metro). Cluster sampling and stratified

random sampling have been used in the present study for selecting sample school and sample students respectively.

Tools of Data Collection: Following tools have been used to collect data.

- The personal data sheet and information blank was used to locate internet user as well as to collect information regarding respondent.
- Internet Usage Scale (2017) by Saini.S and Kour.P to find out the level of internet usage of students. The split half reliability of the scale is 0.91. The validity of the scale has been established through Content Validity and Construct Validity.
- Study Habit Inventory Lajwanti/N.P.S Chandel /Ashish paliwal (2013). This inventory includes 40 items covering 8 dimensions of study habits such as Comprehension, Concentration, Task- Orientation, Interaction, Drilling, Writing & Recording and Supports. Split- half method was used to test the reliability of the inventory and correlation coefficient value was found 0.89. By applying the Spearman – Brown prophecy Formula reliability of the full test was determined and it was found to be 0.94. The inventory was validated by calculating coefficient of correlation and the coefficient of correlation was found 0.79

Statistical techniques used:-

For analysis the data Mean, standard deviation, t-test and Coefficient of correlation have been used in this study

Result and Discussion

Table 1 Frequency of Access of Internet

Frequency	No of Respondents	Percentage (%)
Everyday	85	78.70
Weekly	15	13.89
Monthly	5	4.63
Occasionally	3	2.78
Never	0	0
Total	108	100

Table 1 depicts the frequency of accessing internet by higher secondary students. It has been found that 78.70% students' access to internet daily followed by 13.89 % weekly, 4.63% monthly and 2.78 % occasionally.

Table2: Level of Internet usage of higher secondary students in respect to Locality

Locality	Levels of Internet Usage							Total
	Extremely High	High	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Low	Extremely Low	
Rural	0 (0%)	4 (7.8%)	9 (17.6%)	15 (29.4%)	13 (25.5%)	10 (19.6%)	0 (0%)	51 (100%)
Urban	0 (0%)	6 (10.5%)	21 (36.8%)	14 (24.6%)	13 (22.8%)	3 (5.3%)	0 (0%)	57 (100%)
Total	0 (0%)	10 (9.3%)	30 (27.8%)	29 (26.9%)	26 (24.1%)	13 (12.0%)	0 (0%)	108 (100%)

Table2 shows that students of urban area possess more High level of Internet Usage (10.5%) than the students of rural area (7.8%). Again low level of Internet Usage is more in case of rural students (19.6%) than that of urban area (5.3%). Students having Extremely High and extremely low level of internet usage have not been found in both groups. (17.6%) rural students have Above Average level, 29.4% Average level and 25.5% Below Average level of usage where as 36.8% urban students fall under Above Average level, 24.6% Average level and 22.8% below Average level usage group.

Table 3: ‘t’ test showing significance of Mean in Internet Usage scores of the higher secondary students in respect to locality

Locality	N	Mean	SD	SEM	df	t value	Level of significance
Rural	51	44.65	16.030	2.245	106	2.772	Significant at 0.01 level
Urban	57	53.04	15.399	2.040			

Table 3 indicates that here; the calculated t-value (2.707) is higher than critical value and significant at 0.01 levels. So, we can reject the null hypothesis that there exists no significant difference between the Internet Usages of Higher Secondary School Students in respect to their locality. The internet usage of urban students is significantly more than the internet usage of rural students.

Table 4: Level wise study habit of higher secondary students in respect to Locality

Locality	Levels of Study Habit							Total
	Extremely High	High	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Low	Extremely Low	
Rural	0 (0%)	7 (13.7%)	17 (33.3%)	14 (27.5%)	7 (13.7%)	3 (5.9%)	3 (5.9%)	51 (100%)
Urban	0 (0%)	4 (7.0%)	8 (14.0%)	25 (43.9%)	15 (26.3%)	5 (8.8%)	0 (0%)	57 (100%)
Total	0 (0%)	11 (10.2%)	25 (23.1%)	39 (36.1%)	22 (20.4%)	8 (7.4%)	3 (2.8%)	108 (100%)

Table 4 reveals that the number of students having high study habit is more in rural area (13.7%) than that of urban area (7.0%) where as the number of students having low study habit is more in urban area (8.8%) than that of rural area (5.9%). Students having Extremely High level study habit have not been found in both groups. Again (33.3%) rural students have Above Average level, 27.5% Average level, 13.7% Below Average and 5.9% extremely low level study habit. On the other hand 14.0% urban students fall under Above Average level, 43.9% Average level and 26.3% below Average study habit level respectively.

Table 5: ‘t’ test showing significance of Mean in study habit scores of the higher secondary students in respect to locality

Locality	N	Mean	SD	SEM	df	t value	Level of significance
Rural	51	137.24	19.398	2.716	106	1.503	Not Significant at 0.05 & 0.01 level
Urban	57	132.40	13.816	1.830			

Table 5 reveals that thatcalculated t-value is 1.503 which is lower than critical value at 0.05 and 0.01 levels. So, we can accept the null hypothesis that there exists no significant difference in study habit of the students of Higher Secondary in relation to locality. It means there exists no significant difference in study habit between rural and urban Students studying in Higher Secondary Schools.

Table 6: Correlation between Internet Usages and Study Habit of Higher Secondary Students in respect to locality

Study Habit	Internet Usage			
	Locality	N	Pearson’s Correlation (r value)	Level of significance
Rural		51	.045	Not Significant at 0.05 & 0.01 level
Urban		57	-.162	Not Significant at 0.05 & 0.01 level

Table 6 indicates that the calculated r-value for rural students is .045 which is positive and not significant at 0.05 & 0.01 level of significance. Again the calculated r-value for urban students is -.162, which is negative and also found to be not significant at 0.05 & 0.01 levels of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis that there exists no significant relationship between internet usage and Study habit of higher secondary students on the basis of locality has been accepted. It indicates that there is no significant relationship between internet usage and study habit of rural and urban students studying in higher secondary schools.

Conclusion

The analysis of this study leads to conclusion that the frequency of access to Internet among the students is increasing day by day. The present study reveals that majority of the students’ access to internet every day and Internet Usage of rural and urban Higher Secondary Students differ significantly and the internet usage of urban students is significantly more than the internet usage of rural students. Regarding study habits, it has been found that though there exists difference in study habit between rural and urban Students studying in Higher Secondary Schools but the difference is not significant. No significant relationship between internet usage and study habit of rural and urban students studying in higher secondary schools has been found in the study. But the study habit of urban students is more affected by their internet use than the rural students and rural students have better study habits.

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