

ROLE OF LIBRARY IN READING AND ITS HABITS

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Introduction

The aim of education is to lead one into the light of knowledge from ignorance. Education promotes intellectual and emotional development of students. It prepares the students to become responsible citizens. Students cannot remain fully occupied in lessons only during the formal education period that will not lead anyone to develop around personality. Students have plenty of leisure time to engage themselves in vacations other than formal lessons. Educational Institutions realise this and try to provide extra curricular

activities of the students. If the leisure time is not spent by purposeful and gainful extra curricular activities, there is a danger of students straying into undesirable activities like agitations, bad habits etc.

Leisure time is the time which is left after fulfilling all the duties of the day i.e. duties concerning to the study, homework and fulfilling assignment given by the teacher etc. These consume most of our time of the day. After doing all the duties one might have some time which one can devote to the habits and personal

enjoyment. to students may like gardening, watching, T.V., reading the desired literature going to theatre or he may have a long walk one has an artistic talent. One may try the hand at painting or drawing. If one has literary talent, one may read or write a story or a poem or write a letter to the friends during the leisure time. One may play chess with the friends or family members. One may read a novel or poems or any other book of his interest. In short, there are many leisurely activities 'when one has no burden of his duties and callings.

For the healthy development of personality and fuller enjoyment of life, leisure is as important like work. If leisure time is properly utilized it becomes a boon to the individual and ultimately to the society.

Definitions of Leisure Time:

Weiss (1964) has defined the term leisure time as 'Leisure time is that portion of the day which can be disposed of at one's wish. In fact all persons and those who live on subsistence level have no leisure time.'

In the words of Thomas (1964) Leisure is what we may do in our free time. It is what we do in our pursuit of happiness. "

It is possible that even if a person is free from the pressure of the daily life, he may not have a leisure time. One may not have interest in leisure and no ability to make use of the free time, he might have become bored to the life. Similarly, people especially in profession and social work are deeply involved in their activities devoted to their work, leisure time is a boon for them. So that they can become fresh for their future activities, To enjoy leisure one should develop hobbies from the childhood. So also reading habits should be cultivated from the childhood. So the person can utilize his leisure time for purposeful reading.

Reading Habits

Importance And Use :

Reading is a generic habit and that can be sufficiently extended both through the educational institutions and the general library. Through writing, the author expresses his views, feelings in a particular language, written language consists of

symbols. These symbols are the bridge which help us to reach to the mind of the author.

Definition of Reading: What is Reading

According to Awasthi K.A. the reading can be defined as "Reading means the ability to express one's ideas about the subject knowledge acquired after intensive study of book, it should not also integrate the new ideas with the stock of one's knowledge in such a way that they can be retained for a long time and brought into use whenever necessary.

Another definition is by Richards I.A (1983) "Reading is a highly complex activity including various important aspects such as recognizing symbols quickly and accurately, apprehending clearly and with the discrimination the meaning implied by the author, reading to find using the ideas acquired through reading in harmony with the reader's purpose and integrating them into definite thought patterns". According to New Standard Encyclopedia.

The reading means the process of recognizing and understanding the meaning of written (included printed symbols) in broad sense. This process is

applied to musical notes. Scientific formulas and equations, shorthand and Braille symbols for the blind.

According to Otis (1983) "Reading involves nothing more than co-relation of a sound image with its corresponding visual image. Reading is one of the language arts and is closely related to the others. Speaking listening to speech and writing. The ability to read is one of the most important of human accomplishments, through reading, it is possible to learn not only about what is nearby and the present time, but about far away events and those long past.

According to Encyclopedia Americana. The reading means "Reading involves looking at graphic symbols and formulating mentally the sounds and ideas they represent. Reading is the ability to unlock the sound symbol code or the language. To interpret meaning for various purposes at various rates and at various levels or difficulty and to do so widely and enthusiastically." It seems an average student feels that he has to read only for passing an examination or even selected chapters too, for others it may be for getting a job or to assert them

superiority ever their companions Yet a few people derive real benefit from reading. Gray and Rogers have enumerated the following purposes of reading.

1. To keep informed concerning current events.
2. To secure specific information of value in making plans.
3. To learn more about events or problems of special interest.
4. To secure the opinion of others concerning civics, social and economic problems and the best means of solving them
5. To keep in touch with the business or social developments.
6. To advance in one's field of work
7. To keep one's mind stimulated with important things to think about.
8. To broaden one's range of Information.
9. To develop abroad out look on life.
10. To satisfy interest and curiosity.
11. To secure pleasure
12. To become acquainted with our literary heritage and
13. To have spiritual guidance

Types of Reading: Role of Reading

The important role of reading in the individual education does not end with the completing formal education. Individual leaves the one enters into profession and begins to earn livelihood. Hence for these as the individual is not getting education through any formal. The intellectual growth mainly depends upon the Informal education receives the most important means to receive Information in the printed material available to them. Hence reading skills is a must for this.

Emotional Development & Role of Reading:

Emotions are the prime moves of thoughts and conduct individuals behavior is influenced by his appreciation of value, desires, ideals interests in and reaction to person's institutions and responsibilities and so on for proper development must develop proper. Values of life etc. These are developed through direct experiences through the preaching's of other and through reading of the works of all great thinkers.

Professional and Role of Reading:

After receiving formal education on individual enters a profession but the knowledge accumulated in formal education is not enough for becoming successful in the profession. Due to explosion of knowledge Which is growing at tremendous speed, in order to keep pace with latest lot of reading would help him to develop new skill and acquired new knowledge. Number of pamphlets. Magazines. or articles explaining the new approaches Inventions, studies. undertaken received by doctor, a technician a teacher etc, has to go through all these in order to carryout experimentation and verify the conclusion. if an individual does not Work in this way, he can become outdated with a few days.

Social Development and Role of Reading:

Reading is of immense importance in a civilized and progressive society without printed pages. The progress of civilization would hold because “the best in men have in them, they put in book, and progress of one generation is recorded for the benefit of the next” Reading is considered as the most effective means for familiarizing adults with

current events, with significant social issue and pith national problems.

Reading as Source of Time pass:

The various kinds of development referred above, are also influenced by the proper utilization of leisure time. Hence it is essential to consider the role of reading in utilization or leisure time. Leisure time means the 'time available after the work towards family and society in these days or technological development every Person gets some amount of leisure. It is said that “An empty mind is a devils workshop.” to avoid this situation one must learn to pass leisure time usually. Hence education. Has also to aim to develop and the proper awareness in the individual reading the utilization of the leisure.

The foundation of Reading habits can be established only in the childhoods when a person is studying in school Dr. Ranganathan (1964) observe that the habit of purposeful reading will not core of its own accord. It has to be cultivated and it is better and easily acquired I. the earlier days of school life then the later year. It needs conscience restating in the pupil before they leave

their schools indeed the best thing the school can do for the pupils is to induce him. . zest for the habit of reading and thinking.

One of the wise use of leisure consist of reading with a purpose. Public Library provides opportunities for citizens to read book on a variety of subjects. onemay read a novel or a poem or book on general science on current events. But what its important is to know how to read and for this one should receive its training from the childhood. educational Institutions and Libraries should concentrate upon developing reading habits in children and youths. "Creative Education is the only hope for getting required worthy personnel. When one look to the modern trend of Education and our evaluate the new educands of any stage, ourhopes fall. Our gifted infants who are found to be quite intelligent are left miles behind in comparison to the educands at secondary stage of the west. The reason is obvious in the race or formal education which .give only transmissive but not at all creative end pragmatic education. There are various reason for it since there are less number GA, remedies too. to correct the situation. One or such remedy is the

introduction of the habit of personal investigation. The art of personal Investigation. The art of personal .investigation requires self study to be .followed by salt thinking and analysis. This lama of self study i.e. to read at one's own accord required a bit, this is technically known as reading habits."(1958)

The habit at purposeful reading Will fit come of Its own accord. It has to be cultivated and It Is better and easier to acquire in the teenage than in the later years.

K.A Awasthi gives factors useful for cultivating the habit reading among students which are as follows.

1. To read regularly and methodically
2. To devote a certain portion of your time in reading.
3. To develop a habit of keeping a consulting dictionary.
4. To try to make a further plan for reading
5. to join Intellectual clubs and associations
6. To increase expenditure tor reading materials and

7. To read, write and speak without any hesitation and to allow others to examine your statements.

When the children develop a habit at home and in the elementary schools. They go to higher secondary school where this habit is nurtured and developed. Further in advance way when students go to their respective colleges the reading habits acquired by them in high school get confirmed in the same manner even after graduation they continue to study further for this continuous end endless process of self education. Therefore it is essential that each family must. build up a library of Its own and subscribe to a few magazines of choice of members.

Dr. S.R. Ranganathan (1958) has found lack of reading habits among students S. ladle due to examination oriented education as reported in his observation in library committee of the University Grant Commission. He reports that the predominance of the examinations and the narrow purpose of University Education of the past have bequeathed the habit of rest of restricted reading of just a few prescribed books and cramming. This does not at all help true education it kills

curiosity which is the very spring hold of mental growth, and the urge of read widely end to continue reading."

Importance of Libraries:

For the development and growth of modern Society Communication of knowledge become increasingly has important. The knowledge is becoming increasing complex and the same is true about the means of communication of knowledge. A library is concerned with means of communication such printed book, periodicals, tape records, microfilms, gramophone, records, etc.

Library is a social institution and therefore, it has following functions according o Indian education commission. (1971)

1. Educational
2. Information
3. Political
4. Economical
5. Industrial
6. Cultural

Objectives of Library:

1. Preservation and organization of Documents
2. Dissemination of Knowledge.

The library performs, a variety of functions by way of helping students with text-books, reference books, non-text-books and periodicals by providing a large number of Bibliographical tools and up-to-date literature on every subject for students, teachers and research workers, as well as by maintaining an efficient reference and information service.

The Kothari Education Commission in its report clearly defines the function, 'of University and College Library In order to realize the objective of University College Education as under.

1. Provide Resources necessary for study in fields of special interest to college.
2. Aid the University and college teacher in keeping abreast of development in his field.
3. Provide Library facilities and services secondary for success of all formal programme of instruction.

4. Opens the door to the wide fields of book that the beyond the borders of one's own field of specialization.

5. To bring books, students and scholars together under conditions which encourage reading for pleasure, self-discovery personal growth and sharpening of intellectual curiosity.

One of the functions which many college library have Generally assumed if the encouragement of reading among students. Acquiring the reading habit is perhaps one of the most worthwhile effects of the college education. Since the library possesses many of the materials and facilities for developing reading he nits the librarian is in a strategic position to co—operate with the faculty in stimulating reading and fostering reading interest that will serve both practical and recreational purposes. The Principal device which libraries have used for encouragement of reading are .

1. Special reading course.
2. Open shelves
3. Browsing rooms
4. Rental Collections

5. Dormitory Libraries
6. Lower level libraries and
7. Book stores.

In addition, to these devices reading prizes, book exhibits, public reading and promotion of personal libraries have also been used.

Libraries play an important role in shaping the character of the people of the country and libraries are regarded as means universal and perpetual self-education by an Individual keeping this in view reading habit has to be developed encouraged among the people in their early life. It should commence with the school library by continued by college and university libraries and sustained by the public libraries. study regarding the depth of information and arrangement of information of reference sources is a must for good readers.

Which some by continuous usage.

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