REVITALIZING LIBRARIES IN THE GOOGLE GENERATION

Editors

Dr.K.Karunai Raghavan
Dr.A.M.Venkatachalam
Dr.L.Radha
Dr.J.Arumugam

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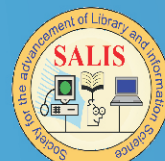ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
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REVITALIZING LIBRARIES IN THE GOOGLE GENERATION

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Revitalizing Libraries in the Google Generation

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[1]Raja, Thangiah (Dr.) [2]Leo AMJ. (Dr.), [3]Sherlin, S.(Dr.) and [4]Ravi Kumar Kennedy, I. (Dr.)

[1]Librarian (S.G), & [2 & 3]Assistant Professor, St. Xavier's College of Education, Palayamkottai
[4]NTS, St. John's College, Palayamkottai

Abstract

This study aimed to analyze the awareness and usage of Google platforms among prospective teachers. The investigators constructed and validated a tool and data were collected using a survey method through Google forms from 87 prospective teachers of St. Xavier's College of Education (Autonomous), Palayamkottai and used the percentage analysis, t-test as the statistical measures for the data analysis. The major findings were; 66.7% (18) male prospective teachers and 63.3% (38) female prospective teachers have moderate level awareness and usage of Google platforms, 75.8% (25) arts prospective teachers and 57.4% (31) science prospective teachers, 66.7% (30) under graduate prospective teachers and 61.9% (26) post graduate prospective teachers, 67.4% (29) rural prospective teachers and 61.4% (27) urban prospective teachers have moderate level in awareness and usage of Google platforms. There is no significant difference between male and female, arts and science subject, UG and PG, rural and urban prospective teachers in awareness and usage of Google platforms.

Keywords: *Awareness, Usage, Prospective Teachers, Google Platforms*

Introduction

During Covid19 onwards, Google platforms are very useful for the academicians including faculty members, students, scholars and prospective teachers for their teaching-learning, and research process. Numbers of applications including Google Scholar, Google Sheets, Google Forms, Google Slides, Google Drive, Google Podcasts, Google Meet, Google Classroom, Google Sites, Google Alerts, Google Docs, Google Cloud, Google E-Mail, Google Chrome, Blogger etc. are very useful for the regular teaching-learning activities of the classroom such as preparation of learning materials, teaching, assignment preparation and all other related works. The prospective teachers are pursuing under graduate course in teacher education institutions in order to handle students of high school, i.e., from sixth standard to tenth standard. During this study period prospective teachers also using all the Google platforms for their preparation of assignments, teaching aids, microteaching, macro teaching and 16 weeks intensive teaching practice. In the present context the knowledge, awareness and usage of Google platforms are mandatory for the prospective teachers as they are going to face the digital native students. So, this research in carried out with the aim to identify the level of awareness and usage on Google platforms among prospective teachers.

About the College: St. Xavier's College of Education (Autonomous),Palayamkottai was started in 1950 as St. Xavier's Teachers' Training College at St. Xavier's College(Autonomous), Campus and later moved to a separate campus. Presently the college is affiliated to Tamil Nadu Teachers Education University, Chennai. The college offers programmes in under graduation level (B. Ed.), post-graduation (M. Ed.), doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) in teacher education and produced more than 10,000 teachers who are working in various institutions from different parts of the country. The college was elevated to

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Sample and Sampling Technique: Using convenient sampling technique, the data were collected from 87prospective teachers of St. Xavier's College of Education (Autonomous), Palayamkottai.

Data Analysis: The investigators sent the tool in e-form (Google Forms) to respective e-mails and Whats App of97prospective teachers studying in St. Xavier's College of Education. Among the filled in responses the researchers havereceived87fully completed data and it was used for analysis and interpretation. Percentage analysis and t-test were the statistical measures used for the analysis of collected data and the details are presented as follows.

Table 1: Percentage Analysis with Respect to Demographic Variables

Variable		Low		Moderate		High	
		Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %	Count	Row N %
Gender	Male	4	14.8%	18	66.7%	5	18.5%
	Female	9	15.0%	38	63.3%	13	21.7%
Subject	Arts	4	12.1%	25	75.8%	4	12.1%
	Science	9	16.7%	31	57.4%	14	25.9%
Qualification	UG	8	17.8%	30	66.7%	7	15.6%
	PG	5	11.9%	26	61.9%	11	26.2%
Locality	Rural	8	18.6%	29	67.4%	6	14.0%
	Urban	5	11.4%	27	61.4%	12	27.3%

Table 1 showed that, 66.7% (18) male prospective teachers and 63.3% (38) female prospective teachers have moderate level awareness and usage of Google platforms, 75.8% (25) arts prospective teachers and 57.4% (31) science prospective teachers, 66.7% (30) under graduate prospective teachers and 61.9% (26) post graduate prospective teachers, 67.4% (29) rural prospective teachers and 61.4% (27) urban prospective teachers have moderate level in awareness and usage of Google platforms.

Hypothesis 1: There is no significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in the awareness and usage of Google platforms.

Table 2: Difference between Male and Female Prospective Teachers in the Usage of Google Platforms

Variable	Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P value	Remark
Awareness and Usage of Google Platforms	Male	27	35.22	5.308	0.371	0.712	NS
	Female	60	34.72	6.118			

The t-test analysis revealed that, there is no significant difference between male and female prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms, since the p-value is greater than 0.05.

Hypothesis 2: There is no significant difference between arts and science subject prospective teachers in the usage of Google platforms.

Table 3: Difference between Arts and Science Subject

Variable	Subject	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P value	Remark
Awareness and Usage of Google Platforms	Arts	33	34.33	5.295	0.671	0.504	NS
	Science	54	35.20	6.193			

Prospective Teachers in the Usage of Google Platforms: The t-test analysis revealed that, there is no significant difference between arts and science subject prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms, since the p-value is greater than 0.05.

Hypothesis 3: There is no significant difference between UG and PG qualified prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms.

Table 4: Difference between UG and PG Qualified Prospective Teachers in the Usage of Google Platforms

Variable	Qualification	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P value	Remark
Awareness and Usage of Google Platforms	UG	45	34.16	5.270	1.187	0.238	NS
	PG	42	35.64	6.393			

The t-test analysis revealed that, there is no significant difference betweenUG and PG qualified prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms, since the p-value is greater than 0.05.

Hypothesis 4: There is no significant difference between rural and urban residing prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms.

Table 5: Difference between Rural and Urban Residing Prospective Teachers in the Usage of Google Platforms

Variable	Locality	N	Mean	S.D.	Calculated 't' value	P value	Remark
Awareness and Usage of Google Platforms	Rural	43	33.70	5.734	1.880	0.064	NS
	Urban	44	36.02	5.801			

The t-test analysis revealed that, there is no significant difference betweenrural and urban residing prospective teachers in theawareness and usage of Google platforms, since the p-value is greater than 0.05.

Major Findings and Discussion: Majority of the prospective teachers fall under moderate category in the level of awareness and usage of Google platforms under selected background variables. i.e., 66.7% (18) male prospective teachers and 63.3% (38) female prospective, 75.8% (25) arts prospective teachers and 57.4% (31) science prospective teachers, 66.7% (30) under graduate prospective teachers and 61.9% (26) post graduate prospective teachers, 67.4% (29) rural prospective teachers and 61.4% (27) urban prospective teachers have moderate level in awareness and usage of Google platforms. 66.7% (18) male prospective teachers have awareness and usage of Google platforms at moderate level. It may be due to the reason that most of the prospective teachers welcome the technological evolutions and ready to adopt and use for the sake of their profession as well as for the welfare of their students.

There is no significant difference between male and female, arts and science subject, UG and PG, rural and urban prospective teachers in awareness and usage of Google platforms. These results clearly indicated that the background variables have no impact on awareness and usage of Google platforms. Since the selected prospective teachers belong to gen Z learners they possess a positive attitude and

approach towards the technological advancement and they can easily adapt to the changes and challenges encountered by the technology.

Conclusion

To conclude, the role of technology and specifically the services provided by the Google are playing a vital role in effective teaching-learning process. The words of George Couros clearly stated the importance of technology as, "Technology will never replace great teachers, but in the hands of great teachers, it's transformational". In the present era, technology is becoming the integral part in the field of education and we can't think a pattern of education without it. Being the 21st century teachers, it is the need of the hour to know and use the provisions to a great extend.

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