



A STUDY OF STUDENT-TEACHERS' USE OF BROWSING

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1. Introduction:

Its era of technology. Students are techno savvy. Especially students of B.Ed. course who start their admission process by filling online application form. Many students having smart phones. Educationists always want to use ICT for education, so they are interested to know about the use of ICT by students. Browsing skill is first level of use of ICT. Most of users start the use of internet by browsing. Its comparatively easy skill. So researcher selected the area of use of browser by students, to know their e-skill level. Researcher collected this data as a part of Ph.D. research. The purpose was to find the status of the use of ICT by student-teachers of B.Ed. course. Further, researcher would use this for the development of the e-content which will help to acquire them different e-skills.

2. Objectives :

- i) To the Availability of browsing resources with student-teachers.
- ii) To know the names of browser student teachers us.
- iii) To identify the purpose of student-teachers of browsing.
- iv) To know the frequency of browsing of student-teachers.
- v) To find out the difficulties in browsing by student-teachers.

3. Research Questions:

- Q1. What browsing resources are available with student-teachers?
- Q2. Which browsers are used by the student-teachers?
- Q3. What is the purpose of browsing?
- Q4. How frequently student-teachers browse?
- Q5. What are the difficulties faced by student-teachers in browsing?

4. Operational Definitions:

- i) Student-teacher – Students who admitted for B.Ed. one year course of Savitribai Phule Pune University in the academic year 2014-15, with English medium.
- ii) Browsing – Searching information on the internet by using search engines.

5. Scope:

The results of the study are applicable to student-teachers of B.Ed. course of Savitribai Phule Pune University.

6. Method :

Survey method from descriptive research has been used for the research.

7. Sample : The data was collected from 498 student teachers of B. Ed. students from 10 English Medium college affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune. The student teachers were selected by random sampling.

8. Tool of Data Collection :

The survey questionnaire was developed by the researcher. There were 10 MCQs and one open ended question in the questionnaire covering various aspects of use of browsing

9. Data Analysis :

The analysis of the data collected from questionnaire was done by using two techniques. Closed ended questions were analyzed by Percentages and open ended questions were analyzed by Grounded Theory approach. The analysis has been presented in tabular and graphical form.

Q1.Do you use internet?

Table 1 : No of student-teachers using Internet

Sr. No.	Course	No. of responses	Percentage
1	Yes	308	62%
2	No	190	38%
	Total	498	100%

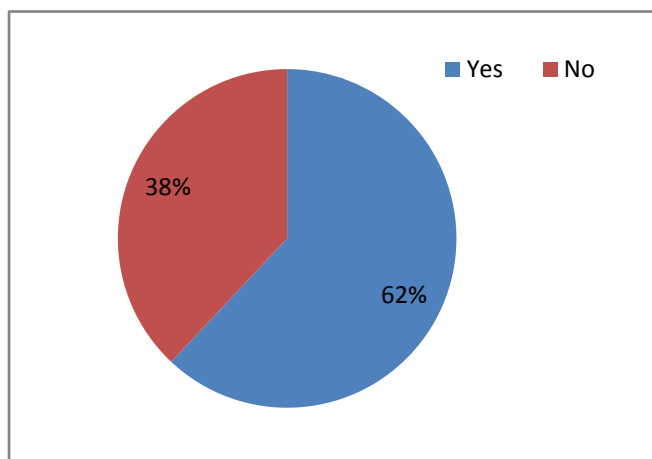


Figure1 : No of student-teachers using internet facilities

Observation:

308 of student teachers uses internet and 190 student-teachers not use internet.

Interpretation:

Most of the student-teachers of B. Ed. course use internet. Some of them not use internet.

Q.2 Do you have owned personal computer?

Table No. 2: Computer owners

Sr. No.	Course	No. of responses	Percentage
1	Yes	77	15%
2	No	231	47%
3	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

Observation:

77 students-teachers i.e. 15% of student-teachers had their own personal computer, 231 student-teachers i.e. 47% student-teachers not having personal computers.

Interpretation:

Majority of the student-teachers not owned personal computers.

Next questions were answered only by student-teachers who owned personal computer to classify the type of personal computer.

If yes, specify the personal computer.

Table 2.1: Type of computer

Sr. No.	Course	No. of responses	Percentage
1	Desktop	35	7%
2	Tablet	10	2%
3	Laptop	22	4%
4	Notebook	10	2%
	Not using Computer	190	38%
	Total	498	100%

Observation:

35 student-teachers (7%) had desktop computers, 22 student-teachers (4%) had laptop, 10 student-teachers (2%) had tablet pc and 10 student-teachers 92%) had notebook computers.

Interpretation:

Majority of student-teachers from student-teachers having own computers had desktop computer.

Q.3 Where do you access internet? (tick more than one option, if applicable)

Table 3 : Place of access the internet

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Home	48	10%
2	Cyber Cafe	148	30%
3	Mobile	92	18%
4	Tablet	20	4%
5	Other	00	00%
	Not using internet	190	38%
	Total	498	100%

Observation:

148 students-teachers i.e. 30% of student-teachers used internet from cyber cafe, 92 students-teachers i.e. 18% of student-teachers used internet from mobile phone, 48 students-teachers i.e. 10% of student-teachers used internet from home, 20 students-teachers i.e. 4% of student-teachers used internet from tablet pc.

Interpretation:

Most of the student-teachers used internet in the cyber cafe. Some students used internet on their mobile phone.

Q.4 Do you have smart phone?

Table 4 : Having Smart Phone

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	138	28%
2	No	170	34%
3	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

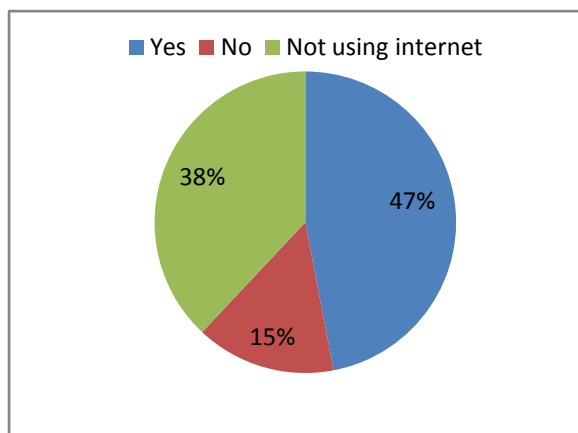


Figure 4 : student-teachers with smart phone

Observation:

138 students-teachers i.e. 28% of student-teachers had a smart phone, 170 students-teachers i.e. 34% of student-teachers did not have smart phone.

Interpretation: Most of the student-teachers did not have smart phone.

Q5. Do you have internet on mobile?

Table 5 : Internet on mobile

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	121	24%
2	No	187	38%
3	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

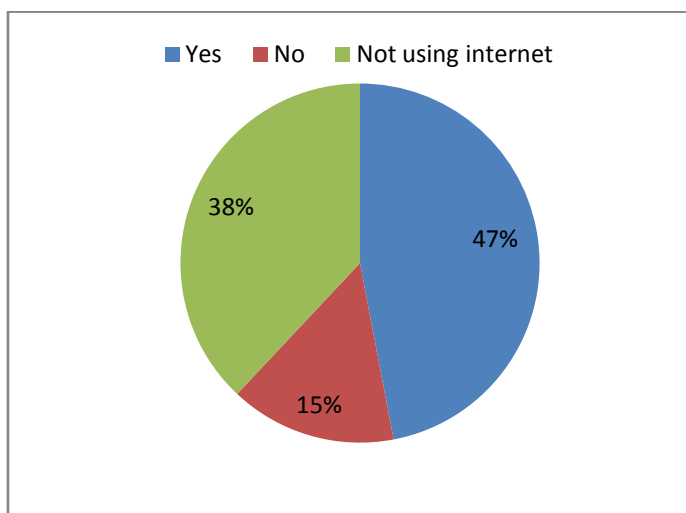


Figure 5 : Student-teachers mobile with internet

Observation:

121 students-teachers i.e. 24% of student-teachers had internet on their mobile phone, 187 students-teachers i.e. 38% of student-teachers did not have internet in their mobile.

Interpretation:

Most of the student-teachers did not have internet on mobile.

Q6.Which search engine do you use for search?

Table 6 : Use of Search engine

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Google	246	50%
2	Yahoo	46	9%
3	MSN	12	12%
4	Other	4	1%
5	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

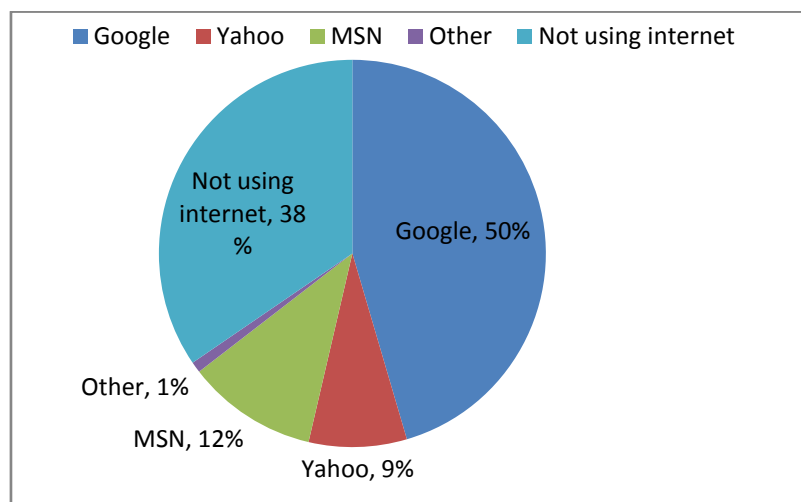


Figure 6 : Use of search engine by student-teachers

Observation:

- 246 student-teachers (50%) did search by using Google search engine tool.
- 46 student-teachers (38%) did search by using yahoo search engine.
- 12 student-teachers (2%) did search by using MSN search engine.
- 4 student-teachers (1%) did search by using other search engine.
- 190 student-teachers (38%) did not respond the question because they didn't use internet.

Interpretation:

- Most of the student-teachers used Google search engine.
- Other search engines i.e. yahoo, MSN etc were used by some teacher educators.
- Student-teachers who not used internets ever were not responded to answer these questions.

Q.7 What is your purpose of browsing? (Please tick one or more options if required)

Table 7 : Purpose of browsing

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Educational	303	61%
2	Job opportunity	93	19%
3	Entertainment	297	54%
4	Other	73	15%
5	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

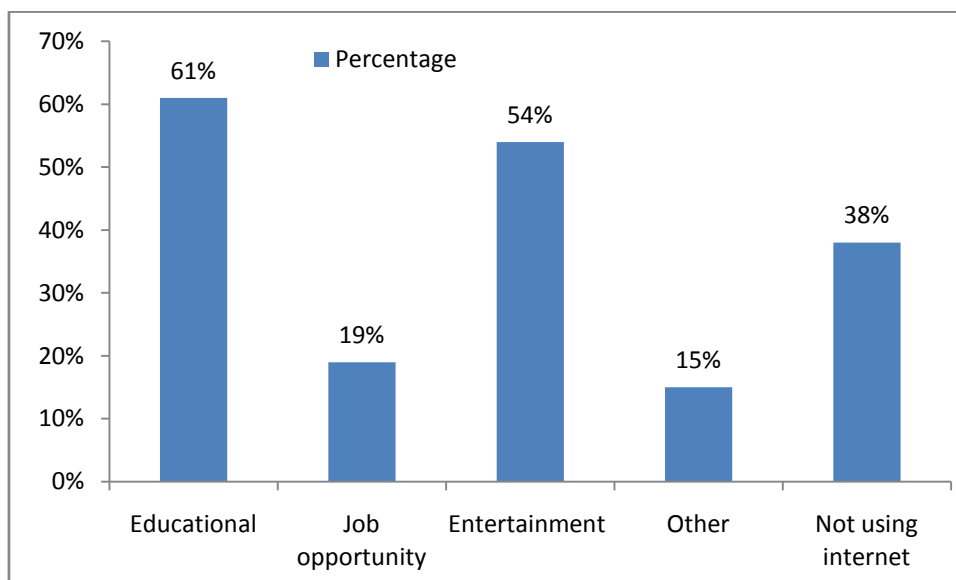


Figure 7 : Purpose of browsing of student-teachers

Observation:

- 303 student-teachers (61%) did browsing for educational purpose.
- 93 student-teachers (19%) did browsing for job opportunity.
- 297 student-teachers (54%) did browsing for entertainment purpose
- 73 student-teachers (15%) did browsing for other purpose

Interpretation:

- Most of the student-teachers did browsing for educational and entertainment purpose.
- Some of the student-teachers did browsing for job search and other purposes.

Q.8 Which of the following facilities of smart search you can use? (Please tick one or more options if required)

Table 8 : use of facilities of smart search

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Advance search	23	5%
2	Search filter	8	2%
3	I m feeling lucky	00	00%
4	Specific file search by type	7	1%
5	Search in different languages	3	1%
6	Video search	48	10%
7	News search	36	1%
8	Book search	32	6%
9	Voice search	20	4%
10	None of above	40	8%
	Not using internet	190	38%
Total		498	100%

Observation:

- 23 student-teachers (5%) used advanced search feature in browsing.
- 8 student-teachers (2%) used search filter feature in browsing.
- No student teachers used “I am feeling lucky” feature in the browsing.
- 7 student-teachers (1%) used ‘specific file search by type’ feature in the browsing.
- 3 student-teachers (1%) used ‘search in different languages’ in the browsing.
- 36 student-teachers (7%) used ‘news search feature’ in the browsing.
- 32 student-teachers (6%) used ‘book search’ feature in the browsing.
- 20 student-teachers (4%) used ‘voice search’ feature in the browsing.
- 40 student-teachers (8%) used none of the feature of the smart browsing mention above.

Interpretation:

- Many student teachers used advance search, video search, news search, book search and voice search these features of smart browsing.
- Search by file type, search in different language, search filter etc feature used by few student teachers.
- I am feeling lucky’ feature not used any student teachers.
- Many student-teachers not used any feature mentioned in the options.

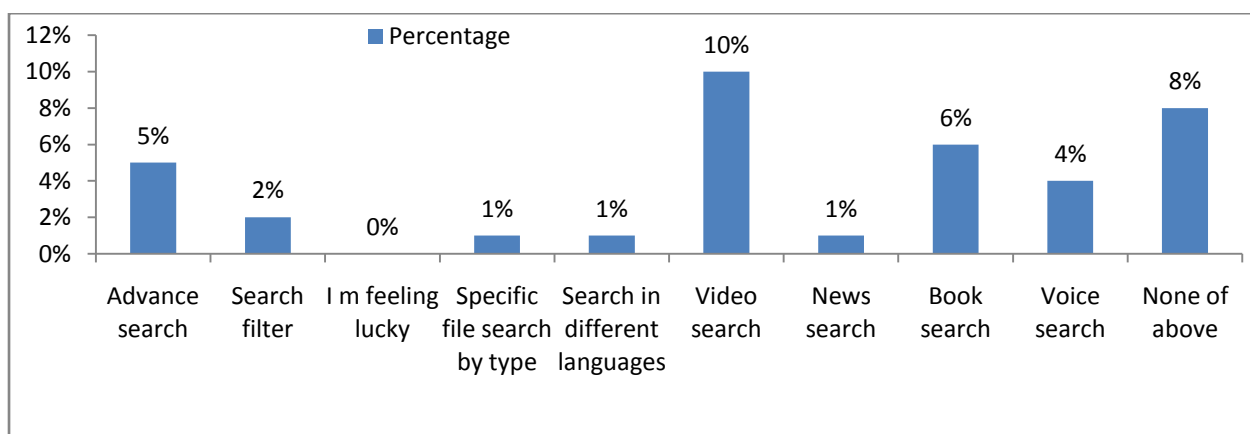


Figure 8 : Use of facilities of smart search

Q.9 How frequently you do internet browsing?

Table 9 : Frequency of internet browsing

Sr. No.	Responses	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Daily	68	14%
2	Weekly	10	2%
3	Monthly	3	1%
4	Occasionally	227	46%
5	Not using internet	190	32%
Total		498	100%

Figure 9 : Use of facilities of smart browsing by student-teachers

Observation:

- 68 student-teachers (14%) did internet browsing daily.
- 10 student-teachers (2%) did internet browsing weekly.
- 03 student-teachers (1%) did internet browsing monthly.
- 227 student-teachers (46%) did internet browsing occasionally.

Interpretation:

- Most of the student teachers did not internet browsing occasionally.
- Many student-teachers did internet browsing daily.

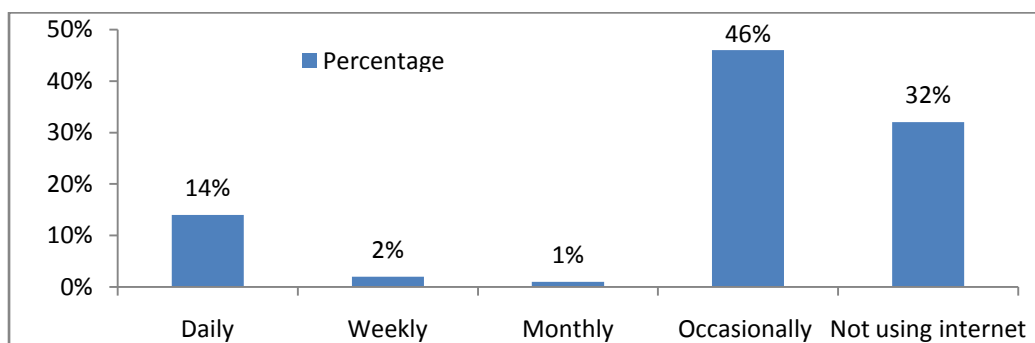


Figure 10 : Frequency of browsing

Q.10 Which difficulties you face in the use of browsing facilities, please give details.

Table 10: Difficulties in the use of browsing

Sr. No.	Major categories	Associate concepts	Interpretation
1	Difficulties related to hardware	- Outdated machines. Processors speed	-Most of student teachers said due to the inadequate hardware some of the facilities cannot be use. E.g. video search.
2	Difficulties related to software	Lack of updates operating system. Older version of browser Compatibility of browser.	-Student teachers faced difficulty to open some program due to lack of plug in, in proper version, some program opens in a specific browser, which also causes not to open a particular program. Student-teachers not aware about the facilities. So they learnt to operate features when they had a need of it. Most of the student teachers were not undergone training.
3	Difficulty related to skill	Unaware of all features of smart search. Learning by trial and error	Most of the student teachers expressed that they were consumed more time which was expected due to the less connectivity.
4	Difficulties related to data	- Connectivity - Time	Most of the student teachers faced the difficulty to get the adequate and proper content from the huge amount of data.
5	Content	- Authenticity - Amount of content	It was a difficult job to confirm the authenticity of the content browsed.

10. Findings :

On the basis of data analysis, following findings of the research questions are drawn as follows :

Q1.-What browsing resources are available with student-teachers?

Ans.- Most of the student-teachers did do browsing online.

Q2.Which browsers are used by the student-teachers?

Ans.- Most of the student-teachers used Google search engine.

Q3. What is the purpose of browsing?

Ans.- Most of the student-teachers were not able to make use of various features of smart search.

Q4. How frequently student-teachers browse?

Ans.- Most of the student-teachers did browsing occasionally.

Q5. What are the difficulties faced by student-teachers in browsing?

Ans.- Most of the student-teachers were faced difficulties in the browsing due to lack of adequate hardware, software and lack of formal training of browsing.

11. Discussion of the findings:

Student-teachers does browsing. So teacher-educators can give assignments where they can be expected to browse. New trends, new methodology, pedagogy etc. can be given student teachers to search. Some modules can be designed where student-teachers can browse. The findings of the present study would also be used to design curriculum of teacher education course and MOOCs. The study may provide ground report of the level of the use of browsing by the student-teachers.

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