

Influence of English on Everyday communication

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Abstract

This paper reports part of a study that aims to explore factors affecting the efficacy of non-major and major teaching and learning in Kolkata through an investigation of different app user's practices. The study's findings show that many factors hinder the quality of English teaching and learning: uninteresting teaching style; insufficient time for communicative activities; grammar-driven teaching; unreasonable time-management; unclear instructions; large class sizes; teachers' limited ability in classroom organization; unequal students' English levels; inadequate lesson preparation; teachers' limited use of teaching aids and technology; and students' lack of confidence in using oral English in class activities. Based on these results, recommendations are given to enhance the quality of non-major and major English teaching and learning, at Kolkata in particular and in higher education in general.

Keywords: English, practices, higher education, English teaching, English learning

Objectives

The objectives of this paper are to:

- Identify the factors affecting the efficiency of using English language in day-to-day life.
- Find the effect of age on speaking English.
- Effect of highest educational qualification on frequency of speaking English.
- Effect of mobile app language in English.
- Determine the influence of mother tongue in speaking English.
- Find the effect on usage of an application in English language.
- Effect of reading everyday newspaper/articles/ magazines in English or any other language in the English speaking capability of the person.

Introduction

Language as a phenomenon is the basic means of communication. It is considered as the heritage of humankind. Indeed, it is a language in its distinctive shape or form that separates the human race from other living species. Language is the source of comprehension, which sets one society apart from another. On the other hand, literature is the source of inspiration and expression of social, philosophical, theological, or whatsoever sort of ideas.

Moreover, the history of any language will be powerful through the careful and clever use of literature. Language has a primary role in distinguishing human beings from other living species. Its effective impact in expanding the communication among groups is unique. In the present scenario, English has become one of the most important academic and professional tools. English is recognized as undoubtedly the most important language to learn for the increasingly mobile international community, and English has become the official language of the business and scientific world (Schütz, 2005). English as the global academic language facilitates the international mobility of young researchers (Graddol, D., 2006). In most cases research papers are often rejected due to lack of good writing skills in English language and lack of using appropriate words/vocabulary or sentence structures. English is widely considered and predominantly used for writing academic or scientific research papers

/work. English has been the language of choice for many international scholarly journals. English used in everyday situations or general purpose is quite different from the English used in academic writing. Academic English is purposely used for reading and understanding the study materials, and writing about the subject. It is used to describe an object, situation, a process or how something works and explain something. Writing for academic or scientific research should

be lucid, brief, exact and accurate in meaning for the reader's understanding. Generally a simple formal tone and style is used in academic writing, avoiding colloquial, idiomatic, slang, or journalistic expressions in favor of precise vocabulary.

Our world is changing faster than ever before! From technology and trends, to fashion and music, there are so many things that are difficult to keep track of in the age of information. The English language is no exception. Keeping up with changing technology will go a long way in using English words in our daily life. With the rise of internet, the English language became a crucial part of the spread of different App. Since the internet was invented in America, the vocabulary associated with technology was created and distributed in English. There were no other language alternatives when technology started booming. This greatly increased the reach of the English language when many other countries started incorporating technology into their culture. Through watching a short English film or by using different app, the individuals can get the sense of the English language culture and how the language is used, they can learn directly the reality of the language, they can listen English pronunciation as well as intonation directly, they could learn many new vocabularies, also the peoples can learn many expressions for example, the way of the people angry, how to ask question and how to have chatting in fun condition. It is hoped that the People can be motivated to enjoy using English in order to be able to practice English in real situation and to develop their creativities, ability and capability to use English correctly into their day-to-day communication.

Literature Review

Many writers, such as Chan (1999: 15), claims that literature should be taught, because it uses a powerful language and contains the skills needed for language learning. Collins (1993: 22) relates a language to humans' pre-knowledge tendency to interpret things. Different ideas, therefore, could be linked through reading, a skill which literature serves to achieve. According to Ghosn (2002: 175) and Shrestha (2008: 11), literature provides authenticity to language learning. Moreover, literature will help to improve and develop each of the language skills separately, namely, writing, speaking, and reading (Khatib et al.,2011: 102). It is argued that literature is a complex structure that supports the acquisition of the target language and it will help, as a result, the users to be more competent in it.Lado (1964: 49) defines language as the component of expressions and literature. Through the experiences, it can be concluded that both language and literature are inter-related (Ogunnaike, 2002: 340). Labo – Popoola (2010: 52) describes literature as the foundation of language learning; through literature, different cultures could be identified. As it is indicated, language is the source of communication, and literature is identified as the cultural transmission from generation to generation. It can be said that literature is the heritage of any culture that can be explored using a language. Through this argument, it can be said that teaching literature has such a beneficial impact on language learning that they cannot be separated. Interestingly, Labo – Popoola (2010: 48) illustrates that language is the source of communication between societies. According to Vethamani et al. (2010), literature is the part of a language which improves different skills. Additionally, literature will help the process of language learning to be more interesting. In addition, Calia (2009: 33) suggests that reading could be the easiest way to learn a language if teaching literature is utilized in this regard,

because literature will enrich vocabulary and language content; as Collie and Slater (1987: 27), Oster (1989: 99), Lazar (1993: 40), and Vethamani (2004: 55) agree on the importance of literature in language improvements.

Theoretical Framework

Apart from our mother tongue needed to have a common language which makes us able to communicate with other part of the world. English is the common language which is known to most of the people in the world. Furthermore, English is understood by many people and is the most commonly used language, it is very important to have good English because an effective communication can reach people better due to this, Nowadays English is being taught to children at primary level itself and there are many teachers who are being trained to accomplish this work which is to teach the English Language in schools.

The importance of English

English is playing a major role in many sectors including medicine, engineering, education, advanced studies, business, technology, banking, computing, tourism etc. English is a trade language with other countries. It is a mode of communication. Furthermore, English helps people manage their communication with foreigners. And students are prime learners of English because if they want to build up a good career, they have to have good English speaking skills and confidence to face many people in interviews. Without English it is very tough to manage in this modern world.

The English skills

When we learn a language, there are four skills that we need for complete communication. When we learn our native language, we usually learn to listen first, then to speak, then to read and finally to write. These are called the four English language skills.

Listening is the ability to accurately receive and interpret messages in the communication process. It involves identifying the sounds of speech and processing them into words and sentences. When we listen, we use our ears to receive individual sounds (letters, stress, rhythm and pauses) and we use our brain to convert these into messages that mean something to us.

Speaking is an interactive process of constructing meaning that involves producing and receiving and processing information (Brown, 1994; Burns & Joyce, 1997).

Methodology:

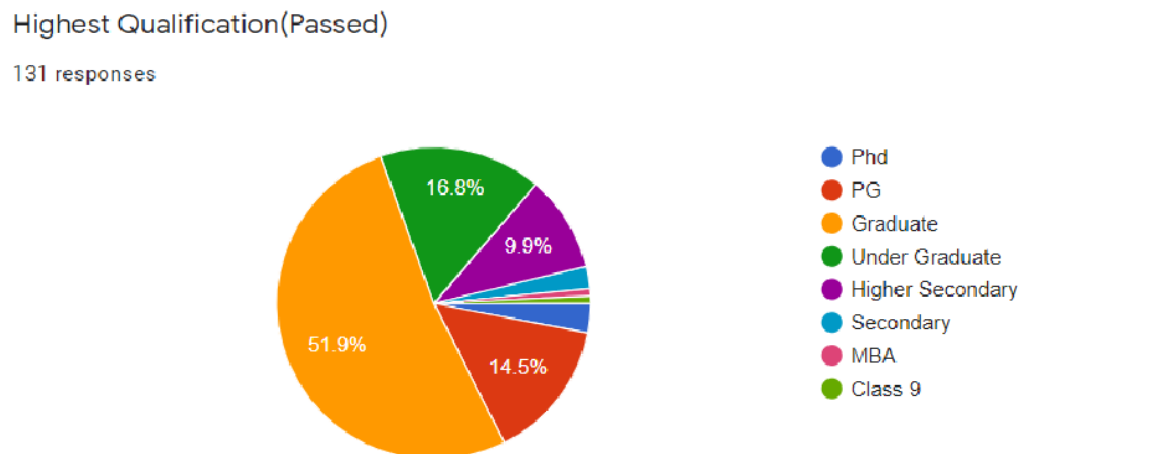
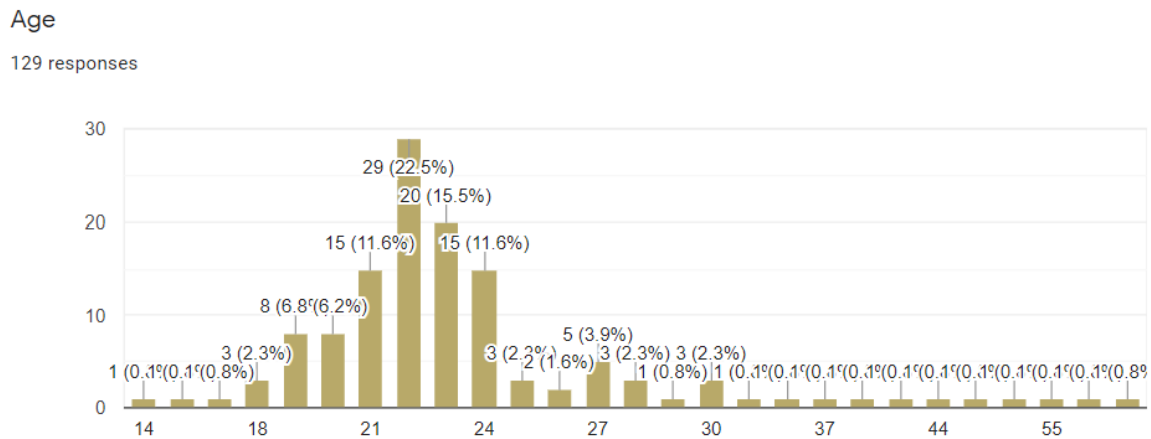
Interaction with the subjects on one to one basis. No door to door survey was possible. We created questionnaire in Google Form and circulated to about 350 persons at random from the e-mail database of 1135 persons that I have. 131 persons responded to my questions. The structured questionnaire was created to understand the factors affecting the efficiency of using English language in day-to-day life, there has been any significant change in the using patterns or choice of people. Subjects were asked to respond to the questionnaire done in Google Forms by filling up the form. Intensive study of available literature was done, which has been mentioned in

other parts of this study, and answers with clarification were given to the subjects, over e-mail, when they enquired about any of the features of the different choices. Based on the responses of the subjects, table has been created and is enclosed. The data thus generated has been taken to Microsoft Excel and analysed and the result is shown in this report.

Analysis:

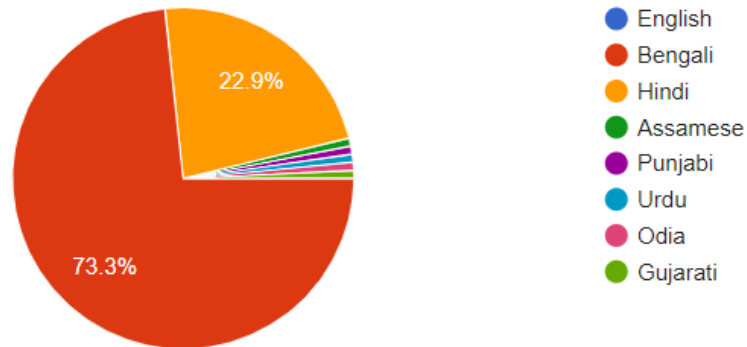
We took the data from the excel sheet and tried to analyze the parameters by generating the relationship between them. The more the strong relationship the more the dependencies of the parameters can be denoted. Here we have applied a general linear regression model using excel to detect the relationship by calculating the descriptive statistics and then using scatter plot we have represented the data which shows the positive or null or negative relationship between the variables.

In these diagrams we have shown the relationship between influences of English with other parameters from the primary data that we have collected from 130 people within circumference in Kolkata. The population of the dataset is very low and restricted to Kolkata due to pandemic.



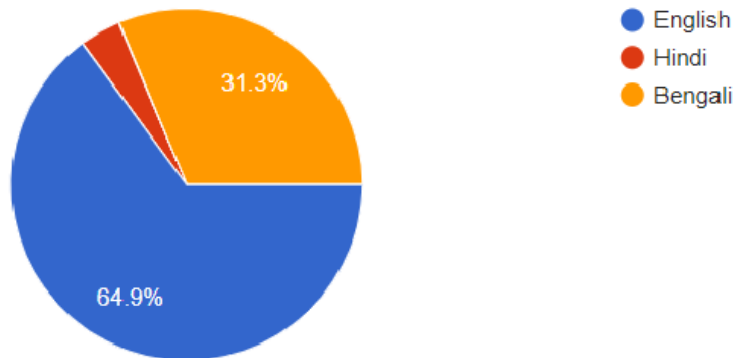
What is your mother tongue ?

131 responses



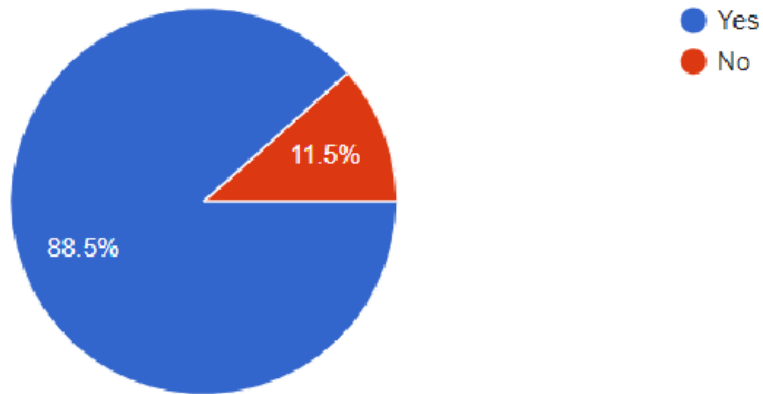
Medium of Schooling

131 responses



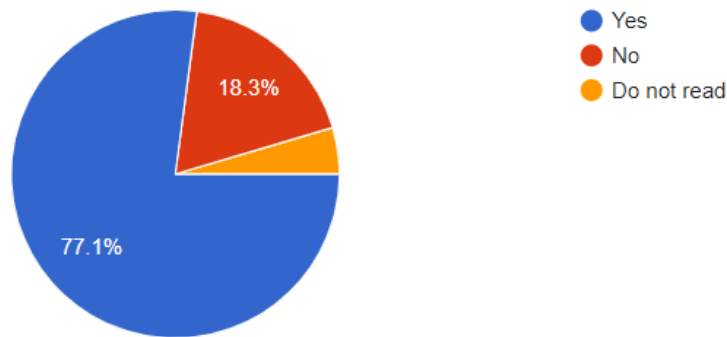
Do you read English Newspapers/ Magazines/articles ?

130 responses



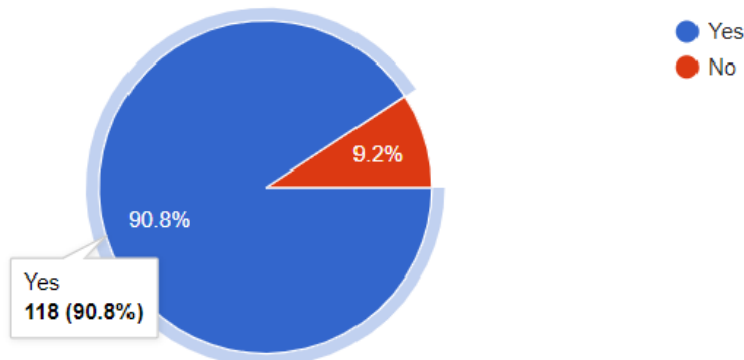
Do you read newspaper/ magazines/ articles in any other language other than English ?

131 responses



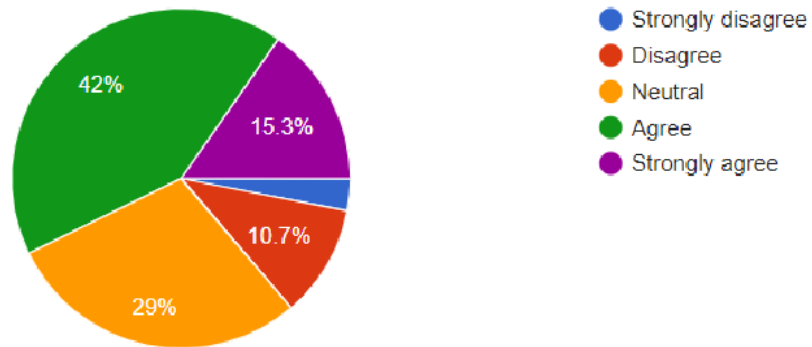
If an app has the language in any other language, then do you change it to English ?

130 responses

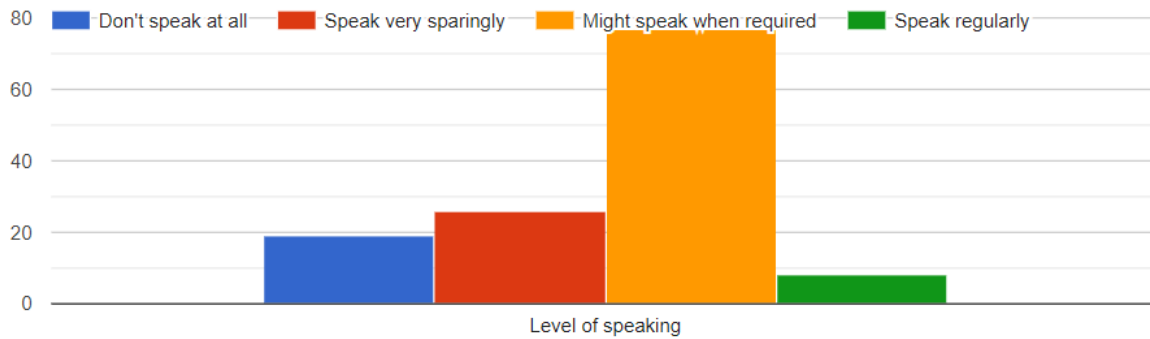


While speaking in my mother tongue, I get influenced by English words

131 responses

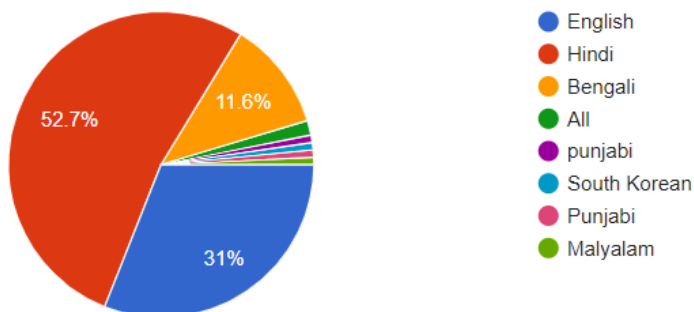


How much do you use English to speak in your home?

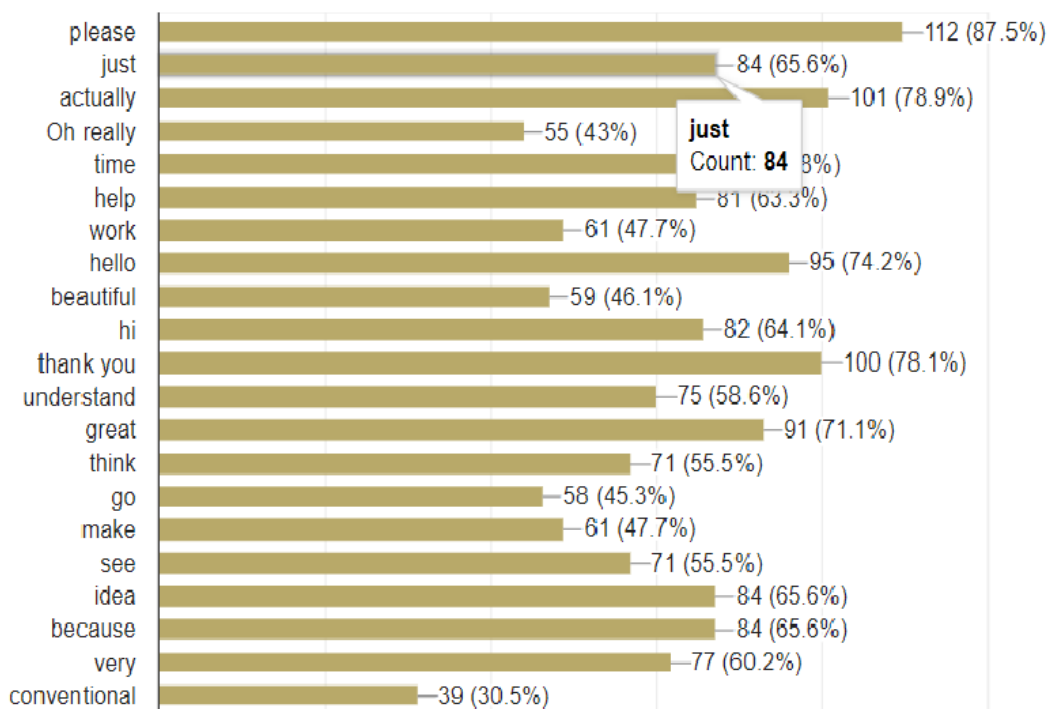


Which language Movies/Shows/Songs do you enjoy most ?

129 responses



128 responses



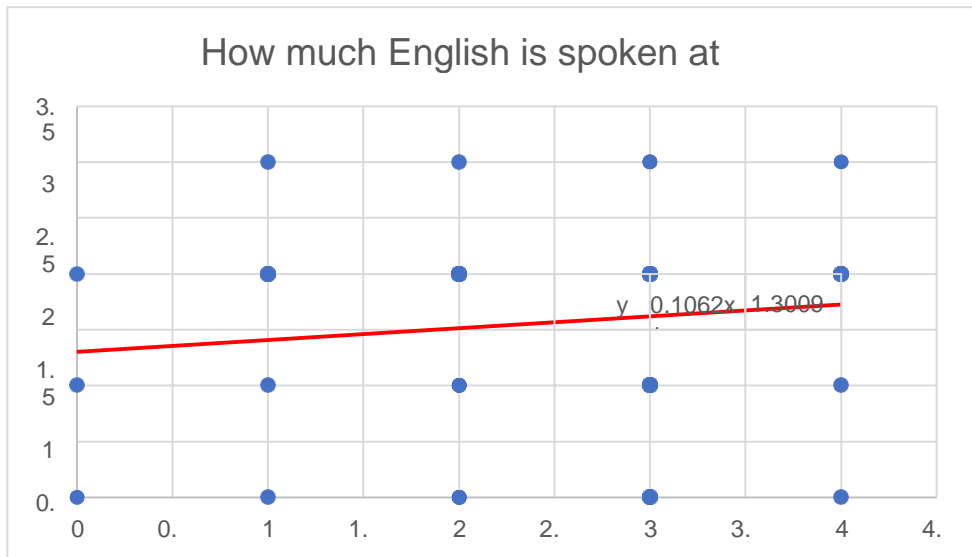


Fig. Influence of English vs English spoken at home

Here we see there is a slight positive relationship between these two variables. There is a positive slope in this scatter plot which determines the positively sloped straight line gives us positive relationship.

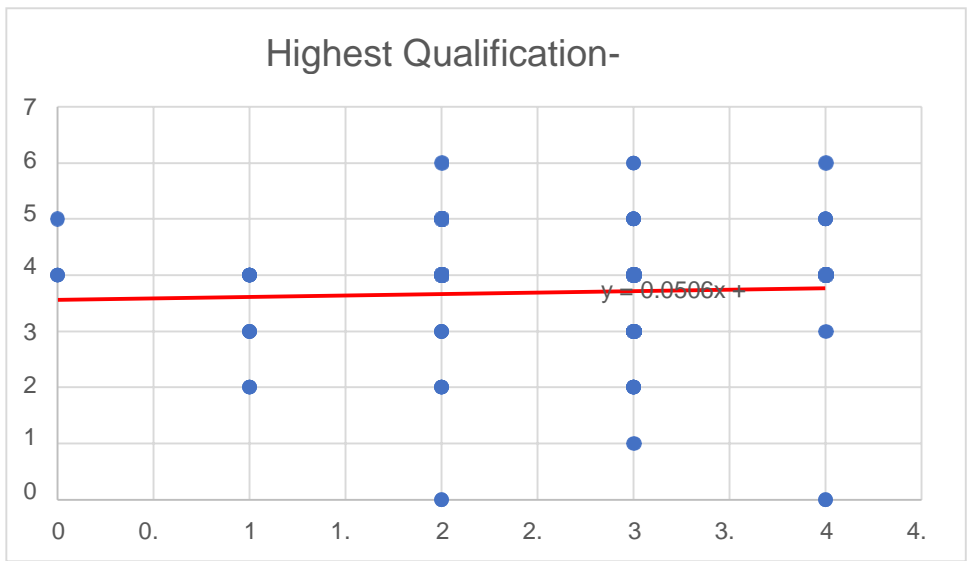


Fig: Influence of English vs Highest qualification

Here We see there is a neutral relationship between the variables . The slope of the straight line is almost parallel to the x axis .

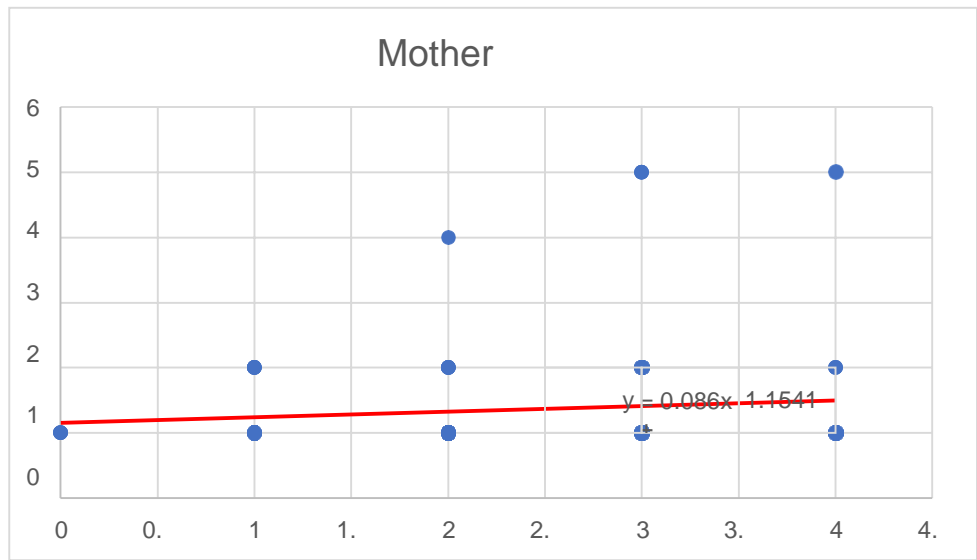


Fig: Influence of English vs Mother tongue

Here there is also a positive relationship between the two variables .The slope of the curve is stiff. So we still proposed these relationship to be proposed.

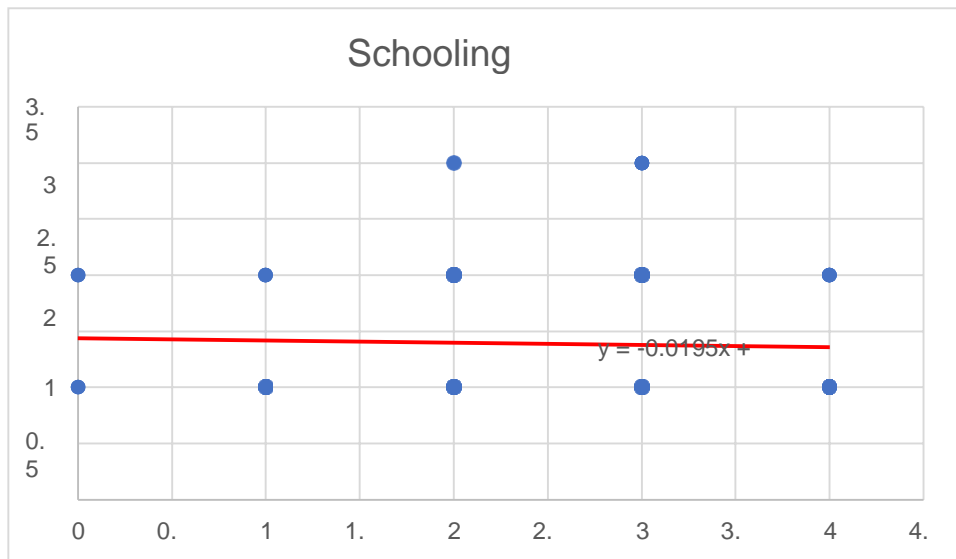
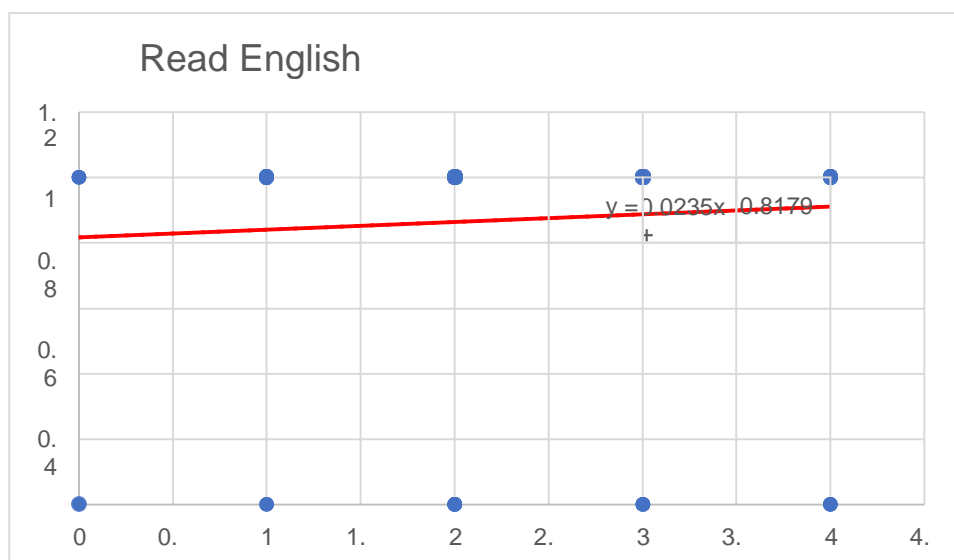


Fig: Influence of English vs Schooling Medium

Here there is also a neutral relationship between the two variables. We proposed these relationship to be neutral and slop baring parallel to the x axis.



Here there is also a positive relationship between the two variables. Here the slope stiff, so we still proposed these relationship to be positive.

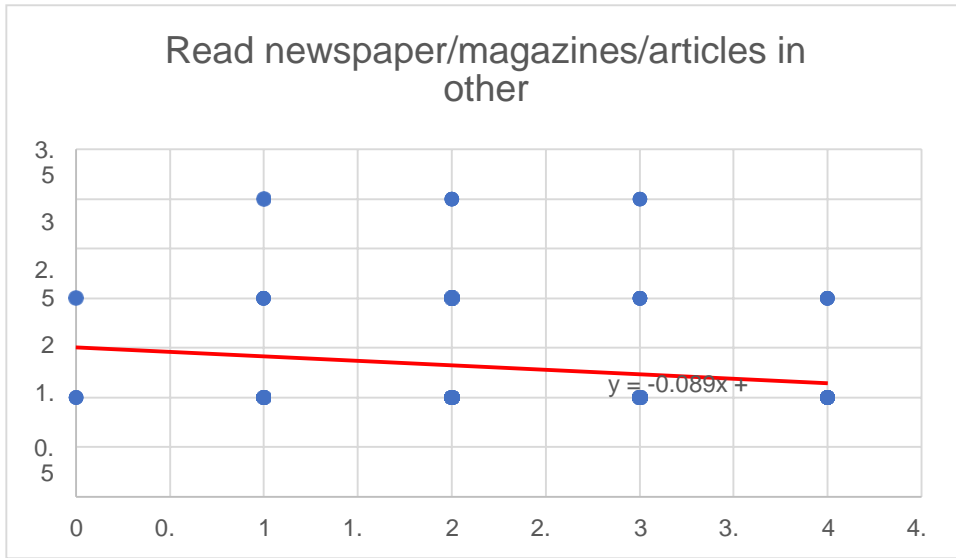


Fig: Influence of English vs Read newspaper/magazines/articles in other languages.

Here there is also a negative relationship between the two variables. Here the slope is a stiff but negatively sloped. So the relationship between these two parameters is negative.

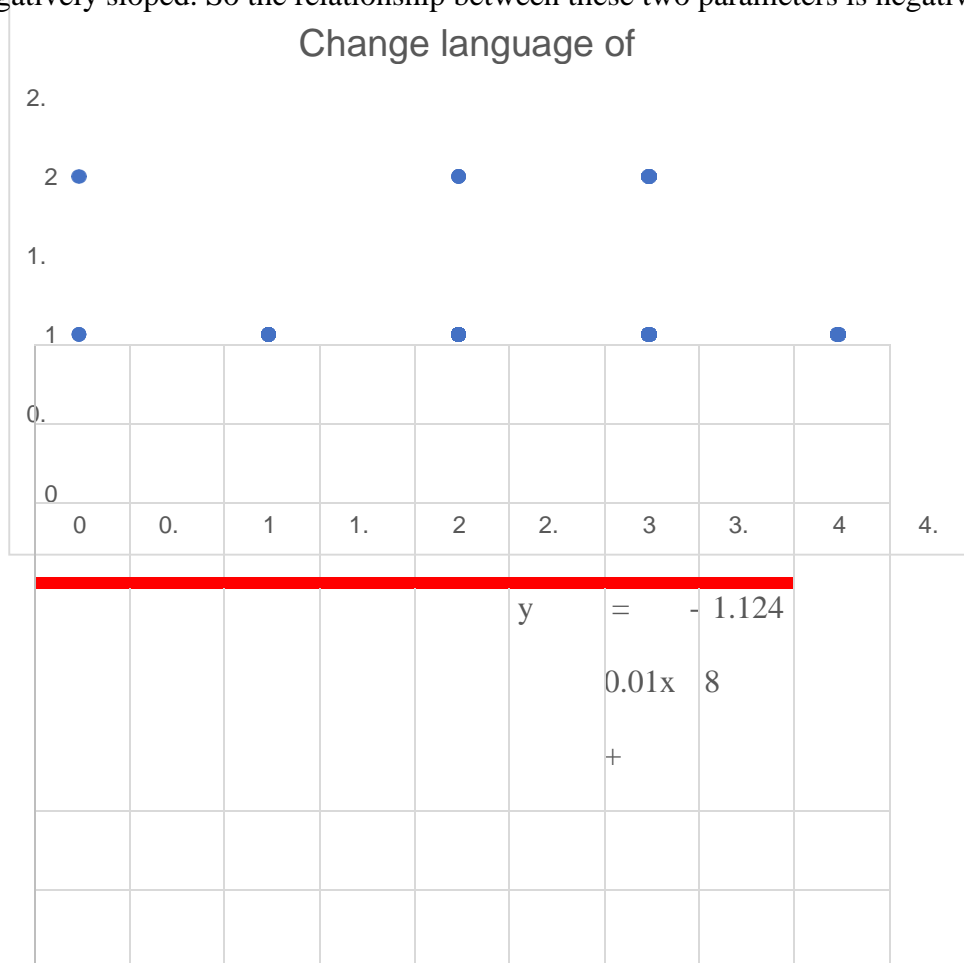


Fig: Influence of English vs change language of App.

Here there is also a neural relationship between the two variables.

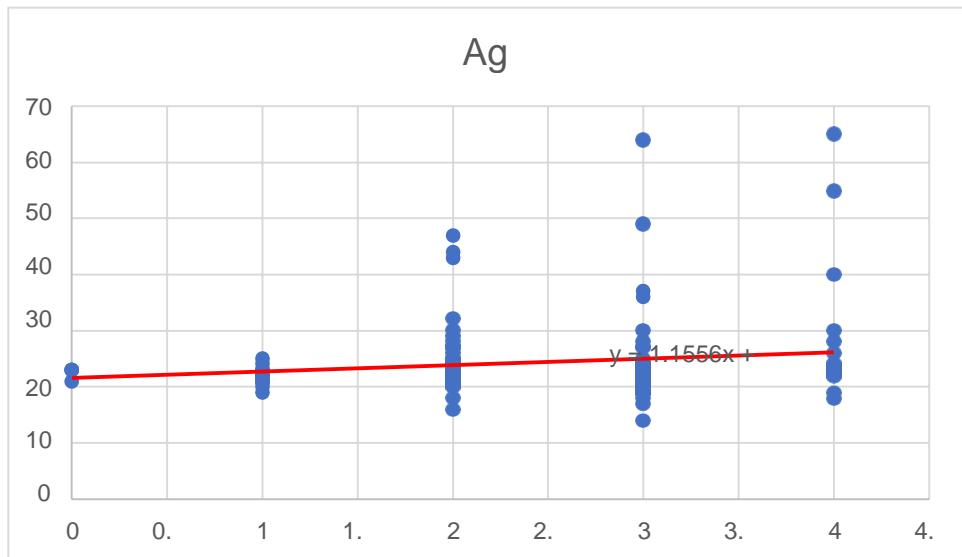


Fig: Influence of English vs Age

Here there is also a positive relationship between the two variables. Here the slope is stiff as compared to the previous figure, but we still proposed these relationship to be positive

Conclusion

These are the following conclusions that we came to after the analysis of the data:

- Nowadays the influence of English is increasing in the spoken tongue. People are using more and more English words while speaking even when they are at home with their family members.
- The younger generation prefers speaking in English more and more every day.
- People are reading more and more articles or newspapers in English. However, the influence of speaking in English words learnt from these types of media still remains low.
- Though most people prefer to use any application in English, those who have a strong grasp of their mother tongue don't face much problems in using an application in the vernacular language.
- The people who had English as their medium of education tend to use English whenever they are speaking normally.