

**READING IN DISTANCE EDUCATION: A LOOK AT WHAT STUDENTS READ ONLINE
AND OFFLINE**

Ma. Junithesmer D. Rosales

Polytechnic University of the Philippines

ABSTRACT

The study is a description of students' preferences and feelings about reading in a distance education set-up. Since reading is viewed as the most important skill for second language students, teachers and language researchers should give it due importance. In particular, a number of studies point to certain findings that reveal how preferences of students in reading impact their learning.

In forming the study's corpus, the research included the literature and studies about reading in general, use of technology in the classroom, and preference studies that juxtapose the use of traditional/print and electronic books; authors and books preferred by students, use of the iPad as a technological device, students' feelings about reading at home and in the classroom (or online and offline); and their views about their strengths and weaknesses as readers.

Keywords: Reading; e-book, printed book, preference