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# E-Book Readers: Exploration and Experiences

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# E-Book Readers: Exploration and Experiences

Pat Maxwell and Jennifer Little

The College at Brockport

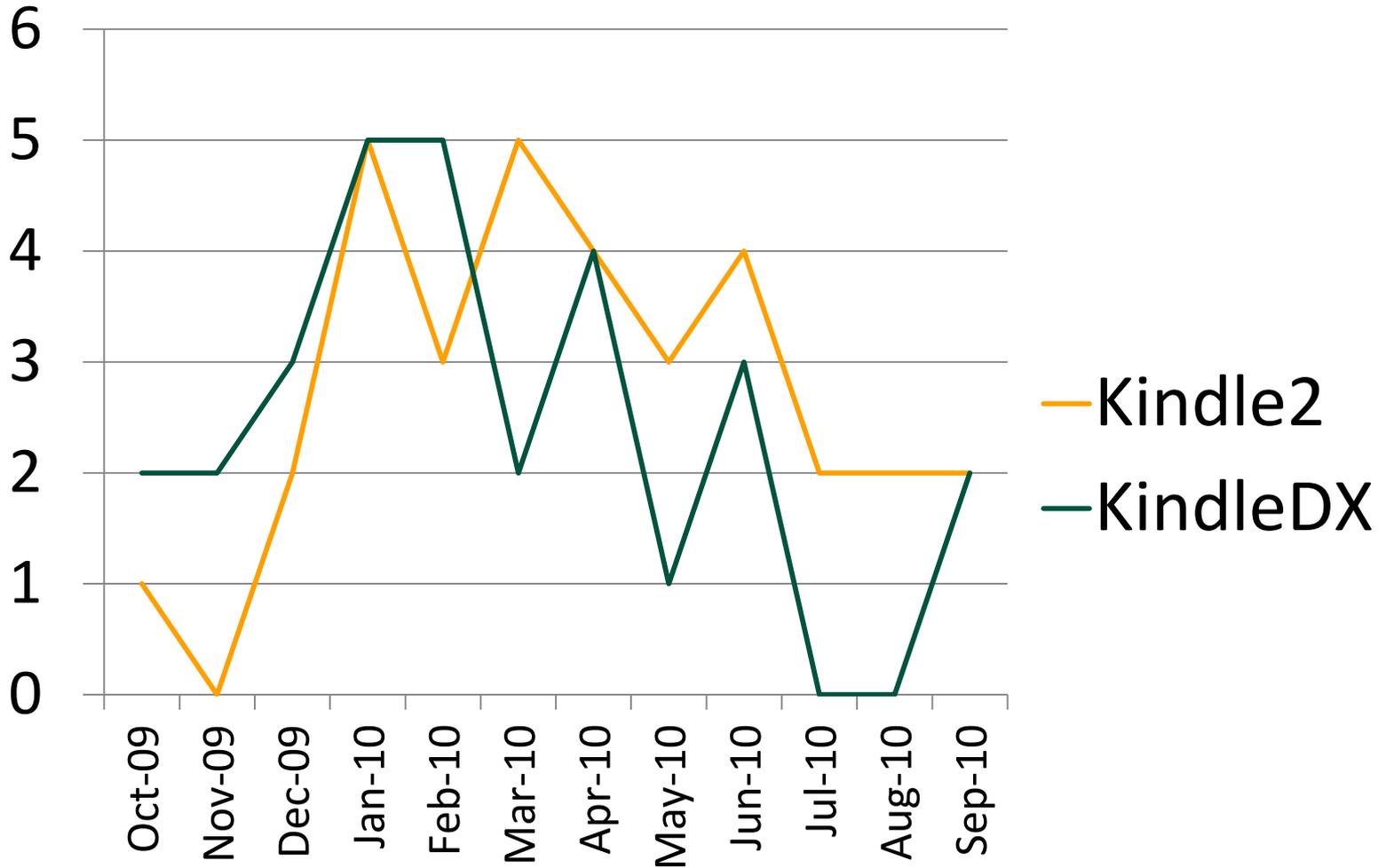
October 2010

# Overview

- E-readers at Drake Library
- Try them out!
- Circulation, Cataloging details
- Survey results

- [Kindle records in the Library Catalog](#)
- Circulates one week, can be renewed 2 times.
- Late fine, \$5/day up to a max of \$20

# Circulation (62 loans since Oct 09)



# Kindle Users Say ...

**Libraries should offer Kindles for circulation.**



**I would buy an e-book reader.**



**As I was reading, the Kindle faded into the background.**



**Kindles are portable.**



**It is comfortable reading with the Kindle.**



**Kindles are easy to use.**

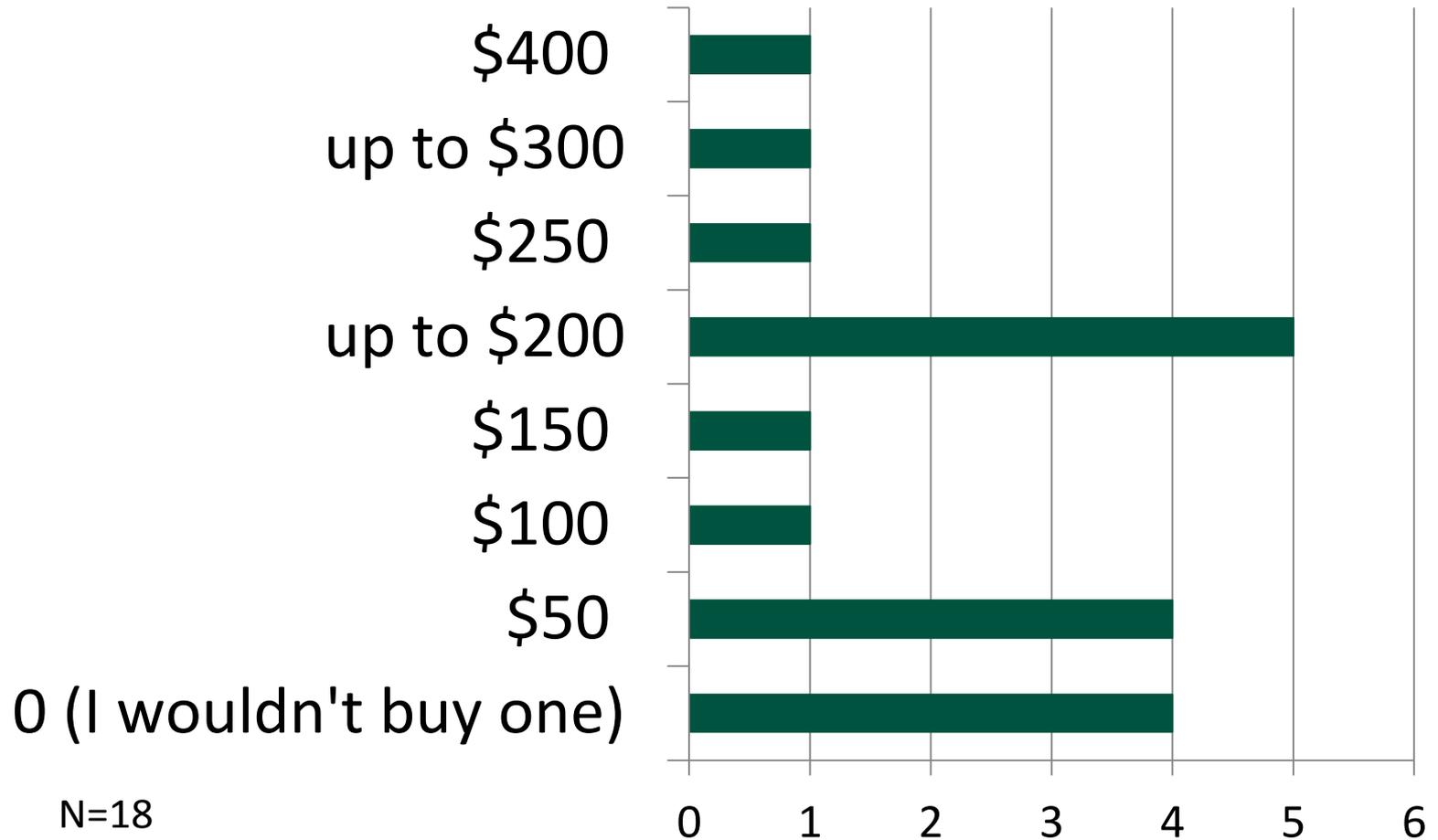


0 1 2 3 4 5

Strongly Disagree

Strongly agree

# How much would you pay for an e-book reader?



N=18

# What did you like about using the Kindle?

Long lasting battery life.

Portability!

- Handy for reading a very lengthy PDF without wasting paper.
- The bookmark and search functions.
- The free internet access was cool. Loading notes for my classes worked well too.
- It was so easy to take several books with me on vacation. It was nice to have a screen that wasn't like a computer screen.
- Not having to lug books around!
- The ability to download magazines/newspapers effortlessly every day.
- Don't have to hold the book open.
- Faster to start up than a laptop and much lighter.

Didn't hurt my eyes.

# What did you NOT like about using the Kindle?

Lack of color

- I desperately wanted a touch screen.
- PDFs
- Can't browse or skim with the ease of a book.
- I wished that I could put my own books onto it, instead of what was already pre-loaded.
- The mechanics (toggle and page turners) seemed likely to malfunction after a certain amount of use.

Mechanics

It didn't feel like a book

# How might any e-reader be used as a teaching tool?

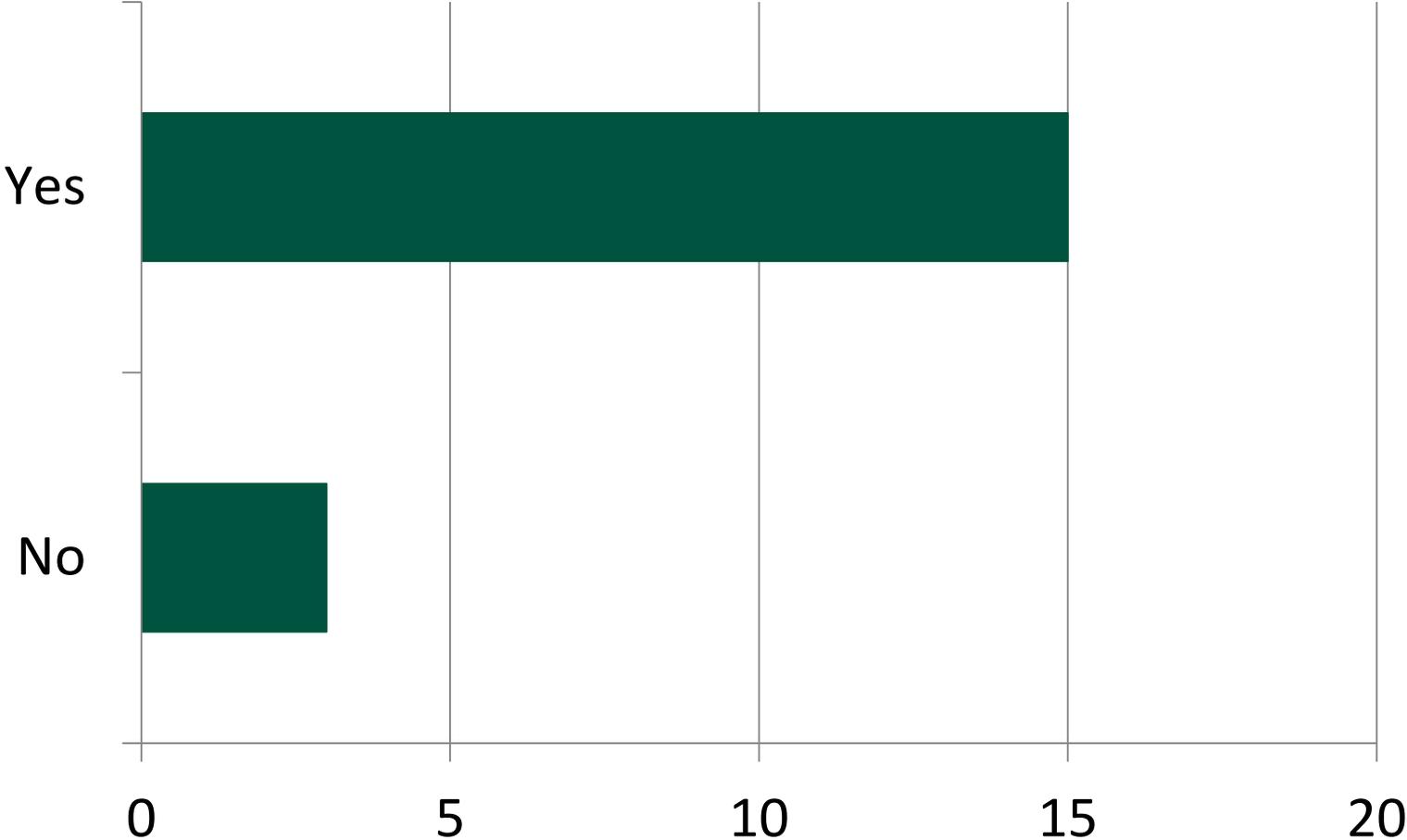
Course Reserves

Could save students a bundle on books.

- Textbook replacement: with a better note-taking interface could be handy for grading papers.
- You can fit a lot of texts on it, and it's a lot easier to carry than lugging a backpack full of anthologies or science texts.
- Free access to public-domain texts.
- It would be perfect for study if in color ... this is the best use of these devices; for recreational reading I still prefer the feel of a bound book.
- Provide download, avoid printing pages.
- You could put the articles and out-of-copyright books on it for your class.

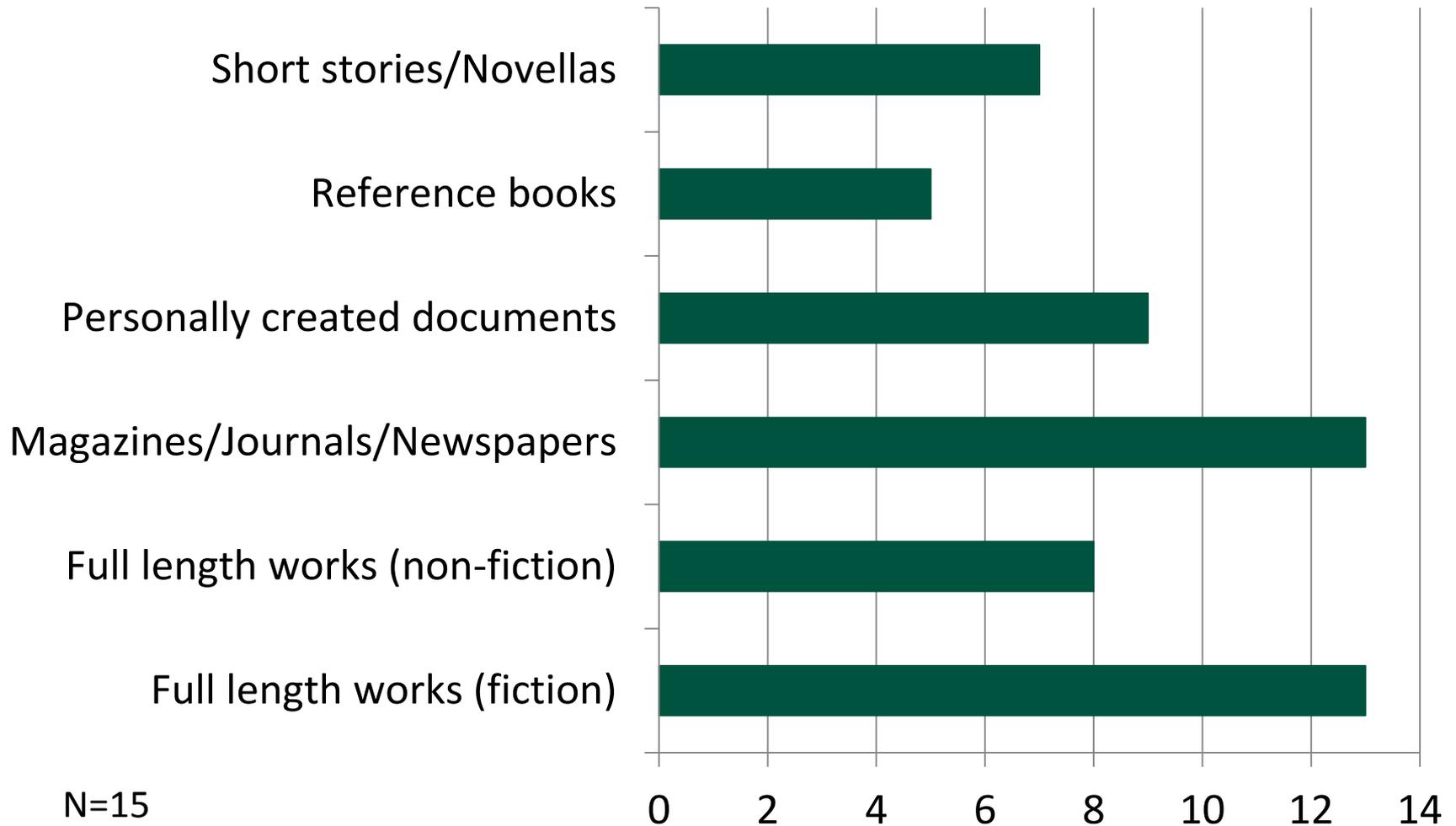
E-Textbooks

# Do you plan to read more e-books in the future?



N=18

# What type of content might you read?



# When you are looking for e-books, where do you usually start your search?

- Amazon
- Library Digital Collections/Catalog
- Project Gutenberg
- Walmart
- Internet archive, librivox, project gutenber, google the name of the book

# Additional Comments

I think e-book only devices may not last long. Having recently gotten my hands on an iPad, I think a multi-functional device will go farther and be more useful in the long run.

It could be a really good learning tool. Thank you for having it available for me to try.

After testing out the little kindle, I just ordered one from Amazon.

Thanks for giving us the opportunity to test it out.

I would not necessarily purchase a stand-alone e-reader, but would consider iPad or Netbook.

Looking at the Kindle as only an e-reader is really short-sighted.

Thanks for this experiment. It was a good idea. Will we be trying out iPads?

The cost of the device is not the only important question. Also significant is the cost of buying the content (books and magazine subscriptions)