

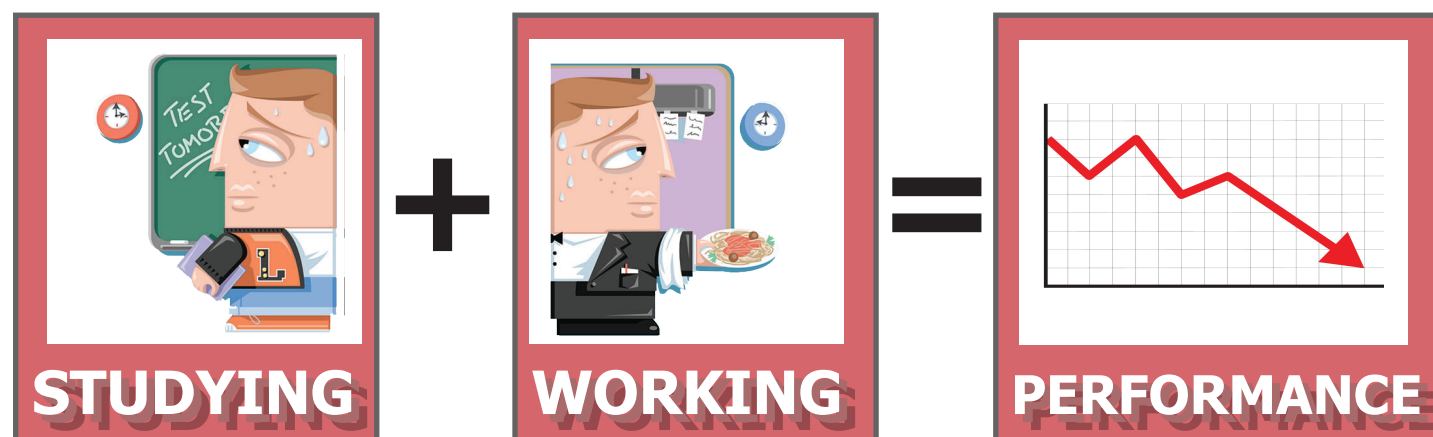
WORKING WHILE STUDYING:

Impact of Working on Academic Performance & Persistence

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ABSTRACT



Working while studying is common in students' life. The main issues are the consequences of working while studying which results in declining academic performance and persistence. The aims of this study to identify the possible reasons leading the students to work and study at the same time, to evaluate the impacts that students gained from working and to find out the main obstacles when they are work and study at the same time in terms academic performance and persistence. Data was collected from 218 students who are from public and private university/ college. This study showed the positive results working while studying impact academic performance and persistence.

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the cost of financing an education has increased to such an extent that combining work and study is a necessity for many students (Lipke, 2000; Curtis & Lucas, 2001; Curtis & Williams, 2002). Further, when paid work is related to students' vocational coursework, it may be particularly beneficial as an aid to academic knowledge and career prospects. However, semester-time paid work also have a detrimental impact upon students and their study. Working long hours can be particularly damaging to students' academic activities and persistence.

What are the type of working situations that students are involved in affect their academics?

What are the positive impacts and negative impacts that distract them along the way?

What are the real reasons that push students to work and study at the same time?


METHODOLOGY

Planning

Target:

- ✓ 150 respondents from  public and private university/ college
- ✓ Between 18 - 32 years old

Construct:

- ✓ Divide into 2 groups
 - Group A - work + study
 - Group B - fully student
- ✓ Online survey 

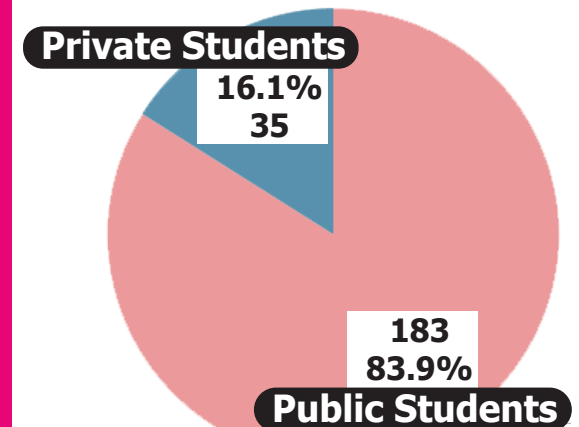
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218 respondents

Quantitative Data

2



28.4%	62
71.6%	156
A 31.65%	69
B 68.35%	149

RESULTS & DISCUSSION

Table 1: The comparison of current CGPA from Group A and Group B

CGPA	Fail [< 2.00]	Pass [2.00 - 3.49]	Excellent [> 3.49]
Group A [n=69]	2 0.0133%	29 0.1928%	38 0.2526%
Group B [n=149]	1 0.0031%	73 0.2247%	75 0.2309%

Key:

A	Working while studying student
B	Non-working student/ Fully student

Table 1 shows that Group A has higher 0.01% of fail students and has lower 0.03% of pass students rather than Group B. Somehow, for the excellect students, Group A has 0.02% higher than Group B. These ironic findings may have been affected due to the less number of respodents who actually have experience in working while studying. Overall, it is safe to say that full-time students who do not work while studying have a slightly better academic performance, which is similar to the previous research.

Figure 1 shows the impacts of working while studying on students' persistence. The research found that Group A student has a declining persistence performance.

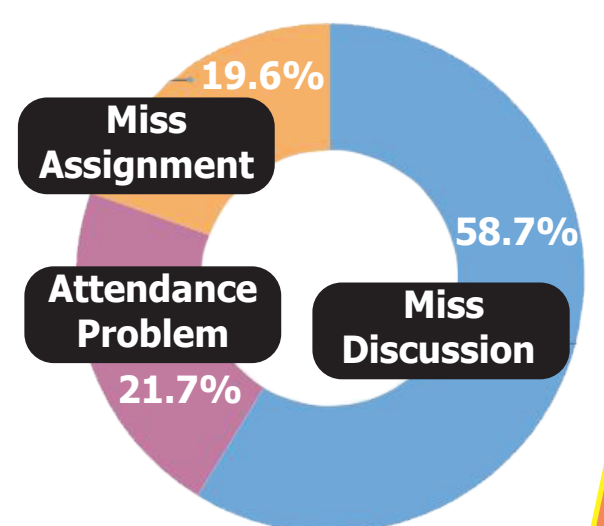
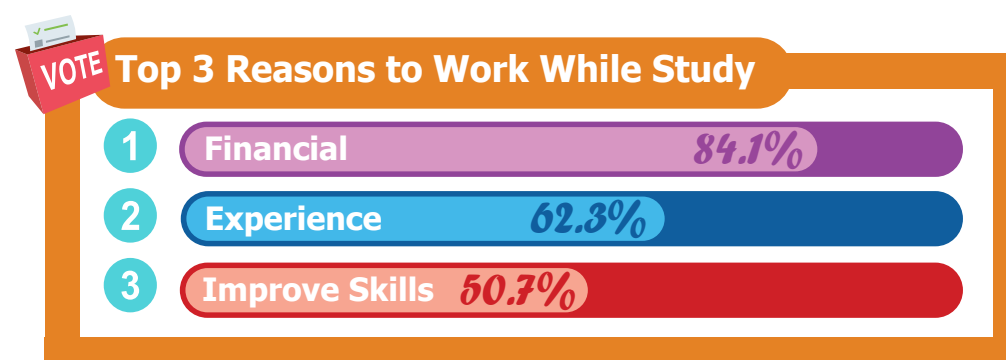
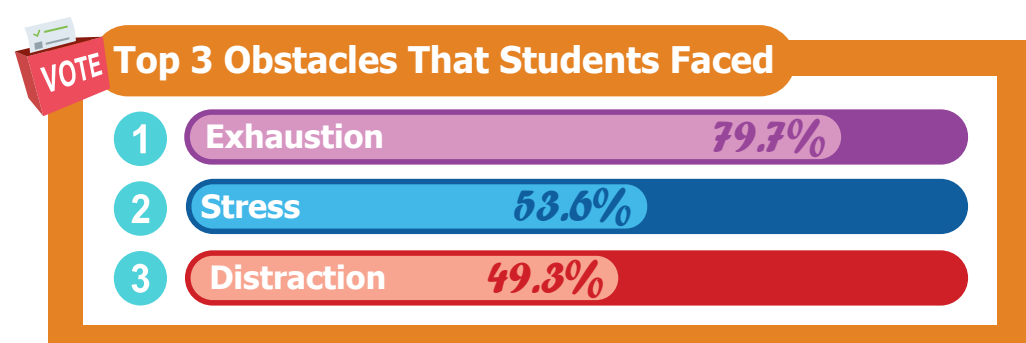


Figure 1: Impacts of working on students persistence



CONCLUSION

The findings of this study represent the voices of the Malaysian students who have experiences of studying and working at the same time as well as those who do not. Most of the respondents strongly agreed that working part-time will give an impact on student persistence. Overall, this study suggests that the students be able to design appropriate techniques for living a better life while working and studying at the same time.

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