

CHAPTER FOUR

RESULTS

This chapter presents the results which are derived from the data analyzed by SPSS program. The findings are divided into four main parts as follows:

1. Demographic Data
2. Teen Novel Book Reading Behavior
3. Effects of Teen Novel Book Reading Behavior on Different Aspects of Life
4. Readers' Comments and Suggestions on Teen Novel Books

4.1 DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

There were five questions included in this part. The first question asked for the respondents' gender. The second question reported the age while the third showed the education level they were studying at. The fourth and fifth questions asked for the respondents' GPA and their weekly allowance, respectively.

According to Table 1, the respondents of the study were 180 Mathayom students. The number of male respondents (23.3%) was lower than that of female respondents (76.7%). When asked to indicate their ages, there were 178 respondents answering the question. The majority of students were aged 13, which accounted for 24.7 percent, closely followed by the age of 16, accounting for 24.2 percent. Moreover, all 180 respondents were from both secondary school level and high school level, both of which accounted for 50 percent. Regarding GPA of the respondents, one student did not participate in this question. Most of the students received very good grades in schools. 45.8 percent of them had a GPA of 3.50 while 32.4 percent had a GPA of 3.01 – 3.50 GPA. Lastly, when asked to indicate their weekly allowance, there were two respondents who did not answer the question. The majority of the respondents (40.4%) received an allowance between 251 – 500 baht per week, followed by respondents receiving a weekly allowance of 501 – 750 baht at 28.7 percent and those who received less than 250 baht at 15.7 percent. The remaining 15.2 percent received more than 750 baht per week.

Table 1 Demographic Data of the Respondents

Demographic Data	Frequency	Percent
Gender		
Male	42	23.3
Female	138	76.7
Age		
12	7	3.9
13	44	24.7
14	28	15.7
15	22	12.4
16	43	24.2
17	27	15.2
18	7	3.9
Educational Level		
Secondary School Level	90	50
High School Level	90	50
GPA		
Below 2.00	2	1.1
2.01 – 2.50	7	3.9
2.51 – 3.00	30	16.8
3.01 – 3.50	58	32.4
3.51 – 4.00	82	45.8
Weekly Allowance		
Less than 250 baht	28	15.7
251 – 500 baht	72	40.4
501 – 750 baht	51	28.7
More than 750 baht	27	15.2

4.2 TEEN NOVEL BOOK READING BEHAVIOR

In the second part of the questionnaire, the behavior of teenagers in Bangkok Metropolis in reading teen novel books consisted of eleven questions. However, questions of Tables 2, 3 and 9 allowed the respondents to choose more than one answer.

In Table 2, the students were asked to indicate where they received information about teen novels. Of the seven sources that were provided, most students received information from their friends, accounting for 41.81 percent. Internet ranked the second at 28.9 percent, followed by magazines at 12.4 percent. Only 1.9 percent learned information about teen novels from radio.

Table 2 Sources of Information about Teen Novels

<i>Where do you receive information about teen novels?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Family	15	4.0
Friends	155	41.8
Television	26	7.0
Newspaper	15	4.0
Radio	7	1.9
Magazines	46	12.4
Internet	107	28.9
Total	371	100.0

According to Table 3, all respondents were asked to list their favorite types of teen novel books often read. The findings show that romance, fantasy and adventure were the top three types of teen novel books most students preferred reading, accounting for 20.9 percent, 18.9 percent and 16.1 percent, respectively. Four percent of the respondents added that they also read other types of teen novel books like comedy, erotica and drama.

Table 3 Types of Teen Novel Books

<i>Which types of teen novel books do you like to read or often read?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Action	48	9.5
Adventure	81	16.1
Fantasy	95	18.9
Investigation / Suspense	67	13.3
Mystery	60	11.9
Romance	105	20.9
Science	27	5.4
Others	20	4.0

As shown in Table 4, most students stated that they normally read teen novel books at home, which accounted for 75.6 percent, followed by school at 20.6 percent. The remaining 3.9 percent mentioned that they could read everywhere, such as in shopping centers and in bathroom.

Table 4 Reading Places

<i>Where do you normally read teen novel books?</i>	Frequency	Percent
School	37	20.6
Home	136	75.6
Others	7	3.9
Total	180	100.0

From Table 5, 28.9 percent of the teenage readers read teen novel books three days a week, which was the highest frequency, followed by two days a week, one day a week and four days a week at 20 percent, 18.3 percent and 13.9 percent,

respectively. Additionally, there were 18.8 percent of the teenage readers who read teen novel books more than four days a week.

Table 5 Frequency of Teen Novel Book Reading

<i>How often do you read teen novel books within a week?</i>	Frequency	Percent
1 day	33	18.3
2 days	36	20.0
3 days	52	28.9
4 days	25	13.9
5 days	15	8.3
6 days	6	3.3
7 days	13	7.2
Total	180	100.0

As shown in Table 6, more than three-fourths of the readers spent between 1 and 3 hours on average reading one or more teen novel books at a time, whereas 15.7 percent of them spent between 4 and 5 hours on reading. The others, at 1.2 percent, spent longer hours (between six and seven hours).

Table 6 Average Time Spent on Teen Novel Books

<i>How long do you spend on average reading (a) teen novel book (s) at a time?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Less than one hour	5	2.8
1 hour	47	26.2
2 hours	57	31.8
3 hours	40	22.3
4 hours	15	8.4

Table 6 Continued

<i>How long do you spend on average reading (a) teen novel book (s) at a time?</i>	Frequency	Percent
5 hours	13	7.3
6 hours	1	0.6
7 hours	1	0.6
Total	179	100.0

According to Table 7, most of the readers (60%) usually read teen novel books everyday while there were 32.2 percent of them who read on weekends. The remaining 7.8 percent normally read the books on weekdays.

Table 7 Period of Days for Reading Teen Novel Books

<i>On what days do you normally read teen novel books?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Weekdays	14	7.8
Weekends	58	32.2
Both weekdays and weekends	108	60.0
Total	180	100.0

As shown in Table 8, 179 readers participated in this question. The majority of them (35.2%) preferred reading teen novel books between 17.00 – 20.00, followed by between 20.00 – 22.00 and between 14.00 – 17.00 at 27.4 percent and 16.2 percent, respectively. The respondents who preferred reading the books before 11.00, between 11.00 – 14.00, and after 22.00 accounted for less than 10 percent for each period of time.

Table 8 Period of Time for Reading Teen Novel Books

<i>At what time do you normally read teen novel books?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Before 11.00	10	5.6
Between 11.00 - 14.00	16	8.9
Between 14.00 - 17.00	29	16.2
Between 17.00 - 20.00	63	35.2
Between 20.00 - 22.00	49	27.4
After 22.00	12	6.7
Total	179	100.0

When asked in what ways they acquired teen novel books, most of the students (33.3%) stated that they bought the books from bookstores (see Table 9). If not purchased, they chose to borrow from friends (31.7%) and from their school libraries (11%) and rent from rental book shops (10.8%). Moreover, their parents also bought the books for them, accounting for 12.1 percent.

Table 9 Ways to Acquire Teen Novel Books

<i>How do you acquire teen novel books?</i>	Frequency	Percent
By purchasing from bookstores	124	33.3
By borrowing from library	41	11.0
By borrowing from friends	118	31.7
By renting from rental book shops	40	10.8
By receiving from parents who buy the books for me	45	12.1
Others	4	1.1

The question from Table 10 asked the respondents who purchased teen novel books only. 25.8 percent of them spent 151 – 200 baht on purchasing teen novel books per month while 18.5 percent and 17.8 percent of them spent 201 – 250 baht and less than 150 baht per month, respectively. Moreover, students who spent 251 – 300 baht and more than 400 baht accounted for the same amount at 11.3 percent.

Table 10 Expense for Teen Novel Books

<i>How much do you spend on purchasing teen novel books each month?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Less than 150 baht	22	17.8
151 - 200 baht	32	25.8
201 - 250 baht	23	18.5
251 - 300 baht	14	11.3
301 - 350 baht	10	8.1
351 - 400 baht	9	7.2
More than 400 baht	14	11.3
Total	124	100.0

* Only for those who purchased teen novel books

As shown in Table 11, the students were asked to indicate the reasons for reading teen novel books. The findings show that most readers (55%) read teen novel books for the purpose of relaxation and stress relief while another at 31.7 percent read the books due to an interesting and entertaining plot. None of them read the books because of their parents' encouragement.

Table 11 Reasons for Reading

<i>What is the most important reason for reading teen novel books?</i>	Frequency	Percent
The plot is interesting and entertaining	57	31.7
I read teen novel books because of relaxation and stress relief	99	55.0
My friends read them, so I read them too	8	4.4
My parents encourage me to read teen novel books	-	-
I want to spend my free time usefully	14	7.8
Others	2	1.1
Total	180	100.0

According to Table 12, slightly over 80 percent of the students reported that they would continue reading teen novel books in the future because of personal preference, relaxation and entertainment. Furthermore, they mentioned that reading teen novel books was not a harmful activity. In contrast, the remaining 12.3 percent of them will not continue reading because of their determination to focus more on textbooks and also on the coming entrance examination.

Table 12 Tendency to Read Teen Novel Books in The Future

<i>Will you continue reading teen novel books in the future?</i>	Frequency	Percent
Yes, I will because...	157	87.7
No, I will not because...	22	12.3
Total	179	100.0

4.3 EFFECTS OF TEEN NOVEL BOOK READING BEHAVIOR ON DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF LIFE

The third part was concerned with the effects of teen novel book reading behavior on different aspects of the lives of teenage readers. The questions could be grouped according to different aspects of life in terms of health, economy, education, relationship with family, and relationship with friends.

According to Table 13, the respondents were asked to rate their agreement and disagreement with 16 statements about the effects of teen novel book reading behavior on different aspects of their lives. Details of results are as follows:

Effects on health:

One respondent did not participate in the first and second question. 36.3 percent of the respondents felt neutral with the statement “You enjoy reading teen novel books so much that you have less time to sleep”. Furthermore, although almost half of them disagreed with the statement “You enjoy reading teen novel books so much that you forget to eat or eat at irregular times”, 34.1 percent responded neutrally and 20.1 percent agreed. In the third question, the result shows that the majority of respondents (86.7%) agreed that they were relaxed when reading teen novel books, whereas 3 percent of them disagreed with the statement.

Effects on Economy:

The results show that the majority of respondents disagreed to all three statements suggesting negative effects on their economy, namely “You spend a lot of money on purchasing teen novel books when compared to your weekly income” at 40.6 percent, “Your parents limit your budget on teen novel book purchasing” at 48.9 percent, and “You borrow money from other people to buy teen novel books” at 85 percent.

Effects on Education:

When asked to gauge the effects on their education, there were 179 students participating in questions 7, 9, and 10. The findings reveal that, as the majority, 43.6 percent agreed that they liked reading teen novel books more than text books while 48 percent disagreed that they enjoyed reading teen novel books so much that they had less time doing homework or reviewing lessons. In addition, 49.8 percent

responded neutrally to the statement “From the teen novel books you read, you receive useful information and knowledge”.

In question 8, about three-fourths of the respondents disagreed that their academic performance had dropped because of reading teen novel books, whereas 6.7 percent agreed with the effect stated.

Effects on Relationship with Family:

There were 178 students who responded to the eleventh question. 59.6 percent of them felt neutral with the statement “Your parents encourage you to continue reading teen novel books, followed by 24.6 percent who disagreed. In question 12, with the statement “Reading teen novel books too much causes problems and quarrels between you and other members of the family about the limitation of time spent on reading”, 78.3 percent of the respondents disagreed, whereas 7.3 percent agreed. In question 13, the majority of them (69.4%) disagreed that they talked less or did fewer activities with their family.

Effects on Relationship with Friends:

With the statement “Teen novel books become the main topic of conversation among you and your friends”, 44.5 percent and 37.2 percent of the respondents agreed and responded neutrally, respectively. Moreover, 48.9 percent of them were neutral with the idea that they had more new friends because of reading teen novel books while 67.2 percent were disagreed with the statement “You talked less or do fewer activities with your friends”.

Table 13 Effects of Teen Novel Book Reading Behavior on Different Aspects of life

Statement	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
Effects on Health				
1. Having less time to sleep because of enjoying reading teen novel books so much	61 (34.1)	65 (36.3)	53 (29.6)	179 (100.0)
2. Forgetting to eat or eating at irregular times because of enjoying reading teen novel books so much	36 (20.1)	61 (34.1)	82 (45.8)	179 (100.0)
3. Being relaxed when reading teen novel books	156 (86.7)	21 (11.7)	3 (1.6)	180 (100.0)
Effects on economy				
4. Spending a lot of money on purchasing teen novel books when compared to weekly income	42 (23.3)	65 (36.1)	73 (40.6)	180 (100.0)
5. Budget on teen novel book purchasing being limited by parents	36 (20.0)	56 (31.1)	88 (48.9)	180 (100.0)
6. Borrowing money from other people to buy teen novel books	8 (4.4)	19 (10.6)	153 (85.0)	180 (100.0)
Effects on Education				
7. Liking reading teen novel books more than text books	78 (43.6)	69 (38.5)	32 (17.9)	179 (100.0)
8. Academic performance being dropped because of reading teen novel books	12 (6.7)	28 (15.5)	140 (77.8)	180 (100.0)
9. Having less time doing homework or reviewing lessons because of enjoying reading teen novel books so much	32 (17.9)	61 (34.1)	86 (48.0)	179 (100.0)
10. Receiving useful information and knowledge from teen novel books	74 (41.3)	89 (49.8)	16 (8.9)	179 (100.0)

Table 13 Continued

Statement	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Total
Effects on Relationship with family				
11. Being encouraged to continue reading teen novel books by parents	28 (15.8)	106 (59.6)	44 (24.6)	178 (100.0)
12. Having problems and quarrels with family about the limitation of time spent on reading teen novel books	13 (7.3)	26 (14.4)	141 (78.3)	180 (100.0)
13. Talking less or doing fewer activities with family	20 (11.2)	35 (19.4)	125 (69.4)	180 (100.0)
Effects on Relationship with friends				
14. Teen novel books becoming the main topic of conversation with friends	80 (44.5)	67 (37.2)	33 (18.3)	180 (100.0)
15. Having more new friends because of reading teen novel books	63 (35)	88 (48.9)	29 (16.1)	180 (100.0)
16. Talking less or doing fewer activities with friends	13 (7.2)	46 (25.6)	121 (67.2)	180 (100.0)

4.4 READERS' COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON TEEN NOVEL BOOKS

The respondents gave a number of comments and suggestions on teen novel books and teen novel book reading behavior as follows:

4.4.1 Frequency of time: the readers should read teen novel books when they have free time and also spare time for studying and reading teen novel books in an appropriate proportion. Moreover, the readers should read teen novel books for just a few hours at a time.

4.4.2 Content of teen novel books: the readers gained useful knowledge and ideas that they could apply to their everyday lives. They also acknowledged the fact that the contents of teen novel books showed both positive and negative aspects of

life, so the readers should use their judgment to pick up the positive side to increase their knowledge and make use of it. However, some respondents suggested that teen novel books be inspected because some books had critical and aggressive contents that the readers might imitate.

4.4.3 Others: some readers commented that nowadays teen novel books, both Thai and foreign, are rather expensive, so they cannot afford them sometimes. Furthermore, they wished that their parents would support them more on teen novel book reading habit and that school libraries would provide more teen novel books.

The findings of this study will be summarized and discussed in the next chapter.