

Classics in Translation in Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom - A Study

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Background of the Study

Classics in Translation

Classics in Translation is one of the elective papers in the M.A. (English) syllabus of the University of Madras. It contains the following Classics in translation: *Thirukkural* by Thiruvalluvar, *Portrait of Socrates* by Plato, *Parthiban Kanavu* by Kalki Krishnamurthy, *The Outsider* by Albert Camus, *Chemmeen* by Thakazhi Sivasankaran Pillai, *Oedipus Rex* by Sophocles, and *Doll's House* by Henry Ibsen.

Versoapp

Versoapp is a digital platform designed to improve academic engagement by empowering teachers with quality questioning strategies for personalisation. It activates student voice, supports authentic feedback, and personalises learning (Rayner 2017). Versoapp's headquarters is located in Williamstown, Victoria. It has a revenue of \$6.9M, and 70 employees. It has raised a total of \$2M in funding. (*owler.com*)

Flipped Classroom

Flipped Classroom flips or inverts the traditional teaching method by delivering the lesson content (online) outside the classroom and facilitating discussions or activities inside the classroom. In this method, the teacher quits the role of 'sage on the stage' and takes up the position of 'guide on the side'. (qtd. Dunn 2011)

Students watch videos at home during their leisure time and do activities at their own pace, communicating with the teacher or students through online forums. Concept discussion takes place in the class with the help of the teacher. Educational Technology and Activity Based Learning are the two key components of Flipped Classroom model (qtd. Dunn 2011). Different types of Flipped Classroom include

- Flipped Mastery Learning
- Flipped Adaptive Learning

- Flipped Classroom and Gamification
- Flipped Classroom and Peer Learning
- Flipped Classroom and Cooperative Learning
- Flipped Learning and Inclusive Classroom

Location of the Study

Chevalier T. Thomas Elizabeth (CTTE) College for Women located in Chennai, Tamilnadu, India, was the location of the study.

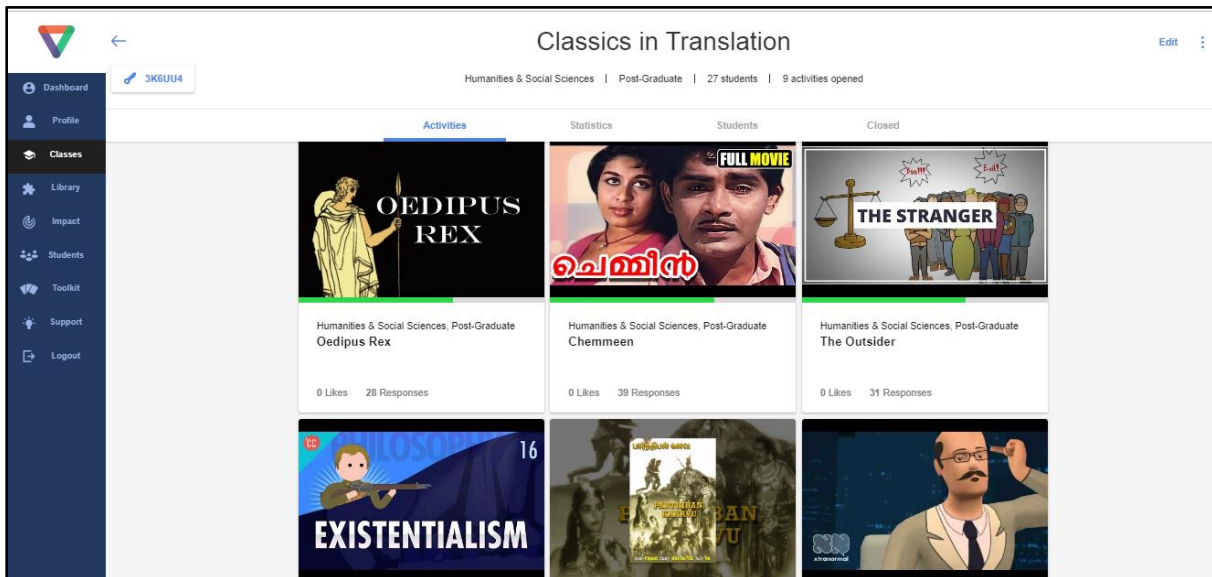
Samples of the Study

I M.A. (English) students of Chevalier T. Thomas Elizabeth (CTTE) College for Women who chose *Classics in Translation* as Elective paper were the samples of the study.

Tool Description

YouTube links for the prescribed Classics in translation were identified and uploaded in the *Versoapp*-based Flipped Classroom. Activities were posted for each lesson. The students were given the Classroom Key to login and view the videos. They were allowed to post their answers, get feedback, and participate in student discussions online. Concept-based discussions were conducted in the classroom.

Fig. 1. Classics in Translation Lessons in Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom



Research Methodology

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Classics in Translation in *Versoapp*-based Flipped Classroom - A Study

I M.A. students of 2016-17 batch studied *Classics in Translation* through lecture-based method. They attended 3 Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) tests as per University norms.

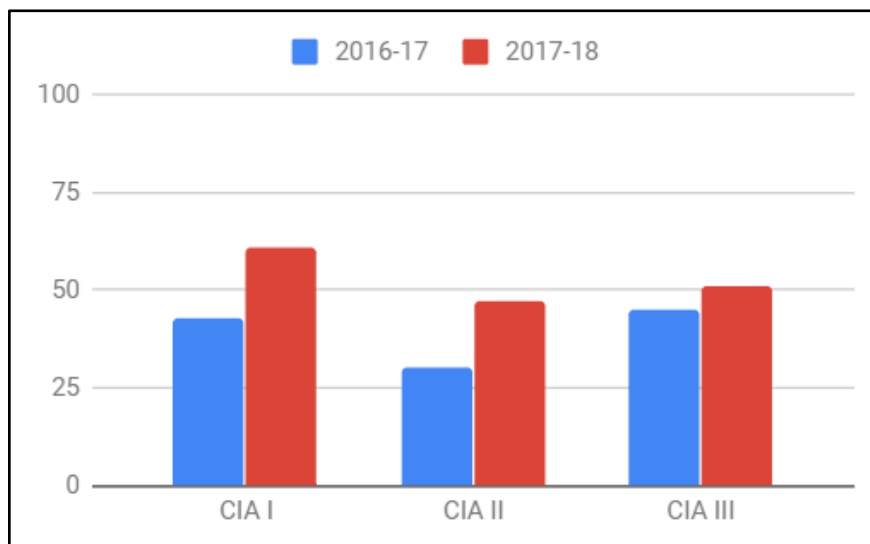
I M.A. students of 2017-18 batch were exposed to *Classics in Translation* through Flipped Classroom model. They viewed *Classics in Translation* lessons in *Versoapp*. Based on the lessons, discussions were conducted in the classroom. They completed assignments in the *Versoapp* and attended 3 Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) tests as per University norms. Student feedback was collected through *Survey Monkey* by the end of the course.

Analysis and Interpretation

Table 1 Comparison of Class Average of CIA Exams in 2016-17 and 2017-18

Batch	CIA I	CIA II	CIA III
2016-17	43	30	45
2017-18	61	47	51

Graph 1 Comparison of Class Average of CIA Exams in 2016-17 and 2017-18



Quantitative Analysis 1

- Class Average of CIA I in 2017-18 is 61% which is higher than that of 2016-17 batch whose class average is 43%.
- Class Average of CIA II in 2017-18 is 47% which is higher than that of 2016-17 batch whose class average is 30%.

- Class Average of CIA III in 2017-18 is 51% which is higher than that of 2016-17 batch whose class average is 45%.

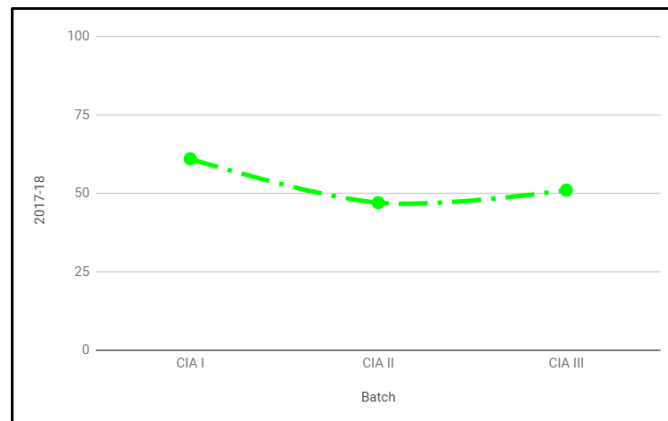
Qualitative Analysis 1

- The test results imply that *Classics in Translation* in Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom is more effective than *Classics in Translation* in lecture-based classroom.

Table 2 Comparison of the Class Average of the 3 CIA Tests in 2017-18

Batch	CIA I	CIA II	CIA III
2017-18	61	47	51

Graph 2 Comparison of the Class Average of the 3 CIA Tests in 2017-18



Quantitative Analysis 2

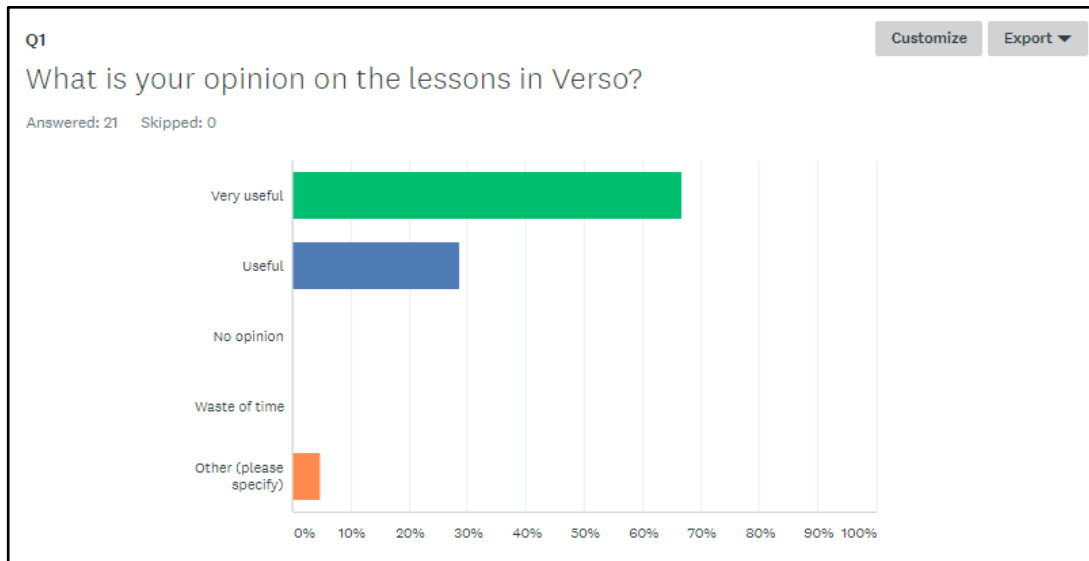
- Class Average of CIA I in 2017-18 is 61%.
- Class Average of CIA II in 2017-18 is 47%.
- Class Average of CIA III in 2017-18 is 51%.

Qualitative Analysis 2

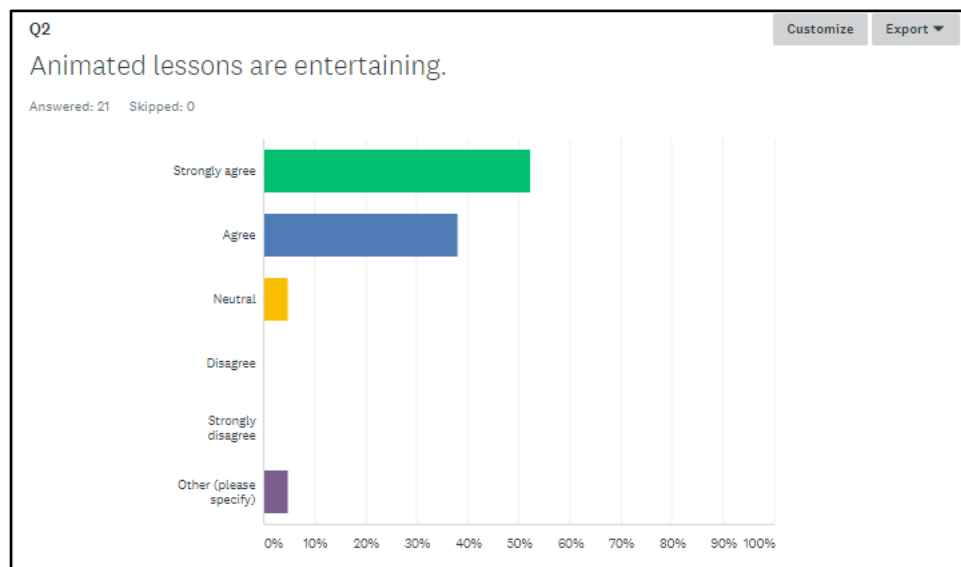
- The test results imply that *Classics in Translation* in Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom has brought no tremendous improvement in the scores of the students.

Students' Feedback from Survey Monkey

Quantitative Findings

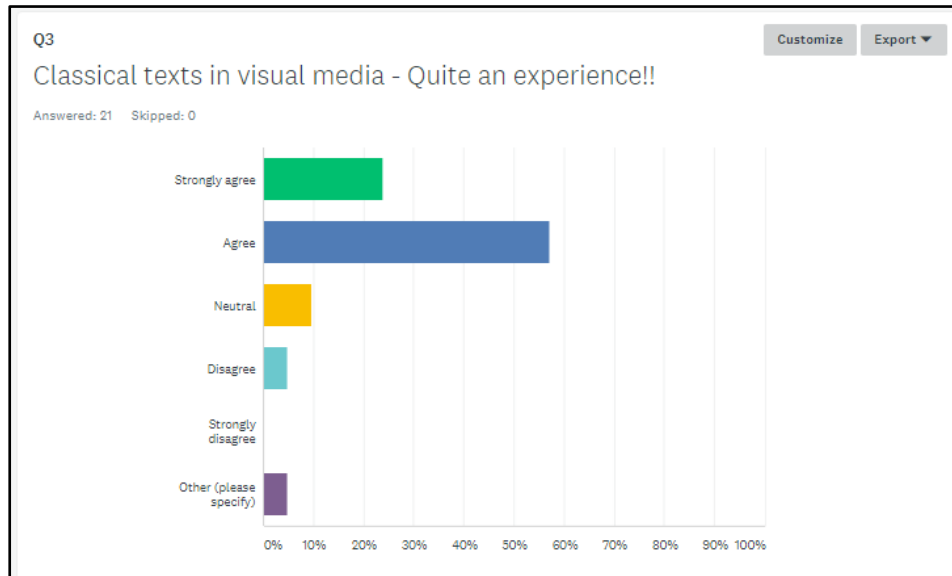


- 67% of the students find the lessons in Verso **VERY USEFUL**, and 29% find them **USEFUL**.
- 5% has requested for subtitles in the videos.
- No student has found the Verso lessons 'waste of time'.

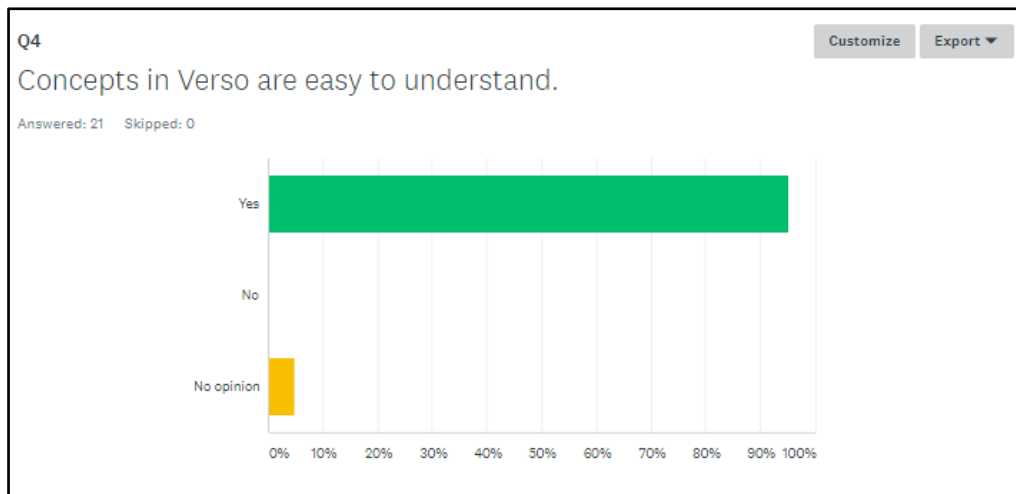


- 53% of the students **STRONGLY AGREE**, and 39% **AGREE** that the animated lessons are entertaining.
- 5% has requested for subtitles in the animated videos.

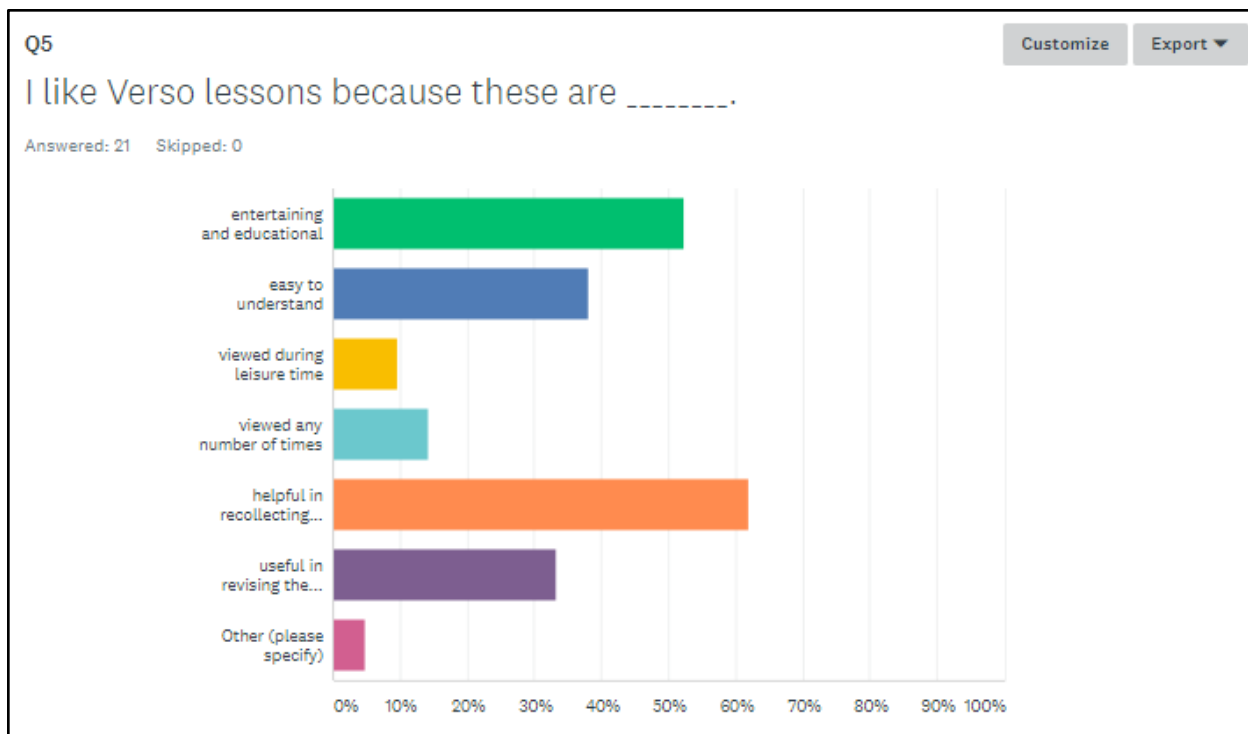
- 3% has chosen ‘neutral’. No student has disagreed or strongly disagreed that animated lessons are entertaining.



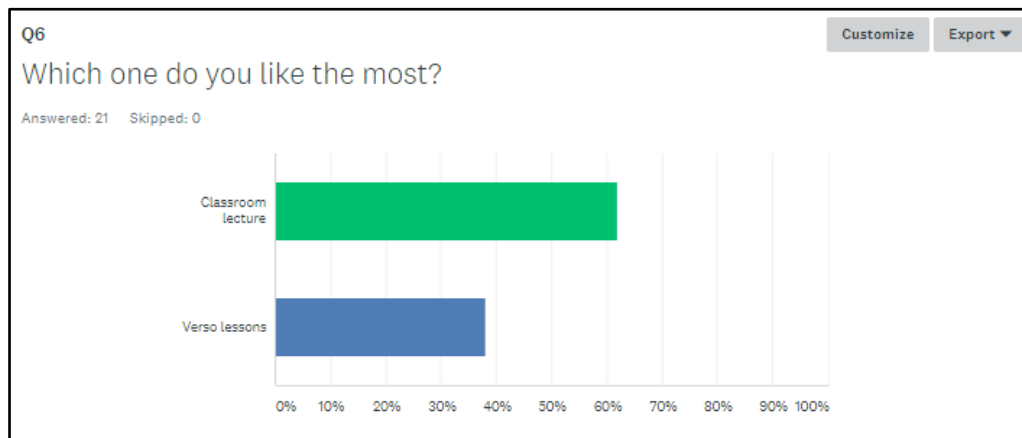
- 24% of the students **STRONGLY AGREE** and 57% **AGREE** that the classical texts in visual media are quite an experience.
- 10% have chosen ‘neutral’. 5% **DISAGREE** and 5% complains that the language is not understandable.



- 95% of the students agree that concepts in Verso are easy to understand.
- 5% has ‘no opinion’ about it.



- 53% of the students find the lessons in Verso ‘entertaining and educational’.
- 38% of them find the lessons in Verso ‘easy to understand’.
- 10% like Verso lessons because these can be viewed during leisure time.
- 14% like Verso lesson as these can be viewed any number of times.
- 62% agree that lessons in Verso are helpful in recollecting the classroom lecture.
- 33% state that the lessons in Verso are useful in revising the lessons often.
- 5% finds these lessons ‘quite easy’.



- 62% of the students like classroom lectures and discussions while 38% of them like Verso lessons.
- Some students like both Verso and classroom lectures / discussions.

Comments (4)

RESPONSES (4) TEXT ANALYSIS MY CATEGORIES

Showing 4 responses

I like both class lecture and verso
10/12/2017 5:42 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I like your lecture alot mam.. you give various examples and really the classes are very interactive..
9/26/2017 9:25 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I like them both
9/25/2017 10:53 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

both classroom and verso because verso made us to recollect classroom lecture
9/21/2017 7:22 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Qualitative Findings

Q7 Export ▾

What is your favourite aspect about Verso?

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

RESPONSES (21) TEXT ANALYSIS MY CATEGORIES

Showing 21 responses

Subtitle
10/12/2017 8:49 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Animated one
10/12/2017 6:38 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

V r comfortable learning with advance technology
10/12/2017 6:16 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Easy understanding animated video's
10/12/2017 6:09 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Animated scenes
10/12/2017 6:05 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Q8 Export ▼

What aspect do you hate the most in Verso?

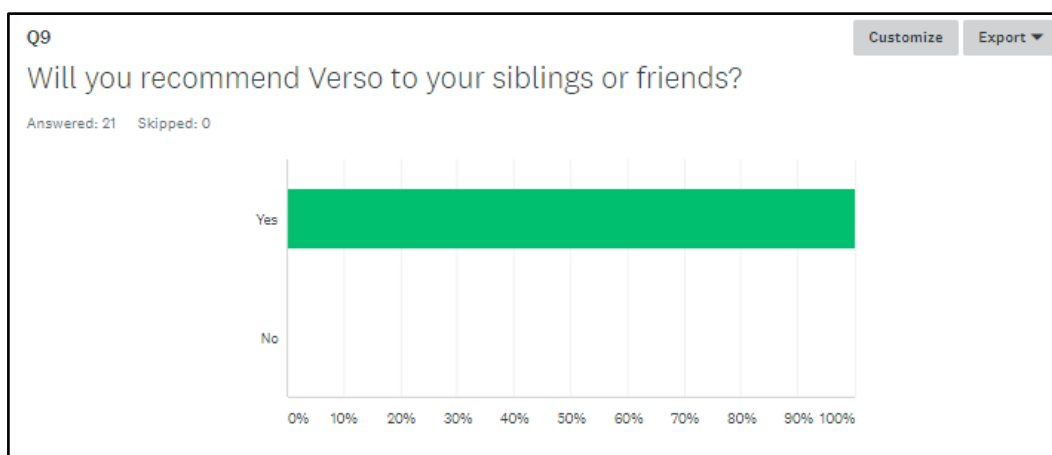
Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

RESPONSES (21) TEXT ANALYSIS MY CATEGORIES

Categorize as... ▼ Filter by Category ▼ 🔍 ?

Showing 21 responses

If there is no subtitle I hate the most in verso	10/12/2017 8:49 PM	View respondent's answers
Nothing	10/12/2017 6:38 PM	View respondent's answers
I not hating anything	10/12/2017 6:16 PM	View respondent's answers
Nothing	10/12/2017 6:09 PM	View respondent's answers
Dailouge is not clear	10/12/2017 6:05 PM	View respondent's answers
it need of data connection sometimes it interrupt in network problem	10/12/2017 5:58 PM	View respondent's answers



- 100% of the students will recommend Verso to their siblings and friends.

Q10 Export ▾

Write a few lines about your learning experience with Verso.

Answered: 21 Skipped: 0

RESPONSES (21) TEXT ANALYSIS MY CATEGORIES

Categorize as... ▾ Filter by Category ▾ 🔍 ⓘ

Showing 21 responses

No idea but very nice ... Because of subtitle it is very useful to learn and animation is good	10/12/2017 8:49 PM	View respondent's answers
Awesone	10/12/2017 6:38 PM	View respondent's answers
The videos r very useful it helps to recollect the characters name	10/12/2017 6:16 PM	View respondent's answers
Very interesting and very clear easy to understand and very useful..	10/12/2017 6:09 PM	View respondent's answers
Awesome nice one .. which is useful to learn more easily	10/12/2017 6:05 PM	View respondent's answers

Favourite Aspects about *Verso*

- Visually taught lessons are not easily forgettable.
- *Verso* helps us recollect the lessons easily.
- Videos are interesting and very useful in exam point of view.
- Animations are interesting.
- These lessons can be viewed anytime, anywhere.
- The activities are better than class tests.

Certain aspects the students hate the most are:

- There are no subtitles in a few videos.
- The dialogues are not clear in a few videos.
- Due to network problem, there is interruption in data connection.
- Some videos are different from the prescribed texts.
- Duration of videos is long.
- It needs patience to watch the animation movies.
- Typing answers in the mobile phone is difficult for a few students.

Student Response Samples:

- My favourite was that I would be waiting eagerly to read the questions. Questions were surprising for me. I would always try to give the best answer.
- I like the precision in answering the questions. I feel like my opinion is considered.
- I'm glued to the phone for learning purpose. I try to give better responses to the questions, and it motivates me to learn more about the subject.
- This is totally a new experience. It looks professional, and I feel this is the right way of brushing our memory. This also helps in building our answering skills. It makes us think on our own. This learning experience is amazing.

Students' Learning Experience in Verso

- *Verso* is useful for me, especially to understand the major points in a work.
- It serves as a great reference source.
- It is not boring. It is also not like writing pages and pages. It is so easy and comfortable.
- Apart from classroom discussion, *Verso* helps me recall what is done in the class.
- This kind of learning is very new. Videos help recollecting the character names.
- It's a new way to evaluate our own listening skills as well as to improve our interpretation.
- I like the teacher's lecture a lot because she gives various examples; her classes are very interactive.

Key Findings

- *Classics in Translation* in Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom is more effective than *Classics in Translation* in lecture-based classroom.
- The students enjoy learning *Classics in Translation* through Versoapp-based Flipped Classroom.
- There is gradual change but no tremendous improvement in the scores of the students.

Limitations of the Study

- The samples are from only one college.
- The study is conducted only with the students of I M.A. (English) class.

- Learning ability of 2016-17 batch students may vary from that of the 2017-18 batch students.
- Evaluation method may vary from teacher to teacher.

Scope for Further Research

- Evaluative studies can be conducted to find whether Versoapp lessons help the students develop their listening comprehension skills.
- Longitudinal studies can be conducted to find whether the students' interest in technology learning can be retained through *Versoapp*.

Works Cited

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