

In the mid-nineteenth century, approximately 10% of the global adult population were able to read and write. Statistics for 2016 suggest that this now stands at more than 86%. However, despite this progress, disparities remain in terms of regions and gender, with some groups of people significantly more likely to be literate than others.

LITERARY STATISTICS ASSIGNMENT

Carry out some research on literacy rates around the world. Choose one statistic or fact that you find interesting or surprising and think about the possible explanations for it. In groups of three or four, take it in turns to present your pieces of information, and discuss the following questions:

- 1) How does our particular culture identify affect the likelihood that we are able to read and write?
- 2) Can you identify a trend or pattern between pieces of information that you all chose?
- 3) What do your individual choices say about you? Can they be connected to your studies, interests, or chosen career paths?

<https://ourworldindata.org/literacy>

It is wonderful (and vital) that the percentage of the global population that is able to read and write continues to grow, generation after generation. However, due to our fast-paced, exciting, puzzling and inventive world, the traditional notion of literacy is being expanded to include a whole host of essential skills that are important if we are to thrive today, both personally and professionally.

In our interconnected, intricately modern world, one can add digital information and data literacies to the old standbys of reading and writing, and computer code, non-verbal expressions, design and innovative information-sharing capabilities to our traditional notion of language.

HOW AUDIO PROMOTES LITERACY

BENEFITS OF AUDIO TO LEARNING HOW TO READ

“The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.”

-Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading

INCREASES READING
ACCURACY BY
52%



IMPROVES
COMPREHENSION
BY **76%**

Provides context, helping children decode words and comprehend challenging text.

TEACHES



INCREASES
READING SPEED

PRUH • NUHN • SEE • YE • SHUN

EXPANDS
VOCABULARY



IMPROVES
FLUENCY

BENEFITS OF AUDIO TO OTHER TYPES OF LEARNING

“Children who are better listeners are also better learners.”

-North University of Texas professor emeritus Sara Lundsteen



85%
of what we learn,
we learn by listening.



TEST SCORES
INCREASED
21%
when engaged in
multi-modal learning
versus single-mode.



Combining print and audio
increases recall **40%**
over print alone.



**2 GRADE
LEVELS**

Students can listen and
comprehend 2 grade levels above
their reading level.

INCREASES
MOTIVATION
BY **67%**



27%
of the K-12 population
are auditory learners.

Sources available at soundlearningapa.org/docs/bibliography.pdf