

The Effect of Using Cell Phones in the Classroom to Benefit Student Performance



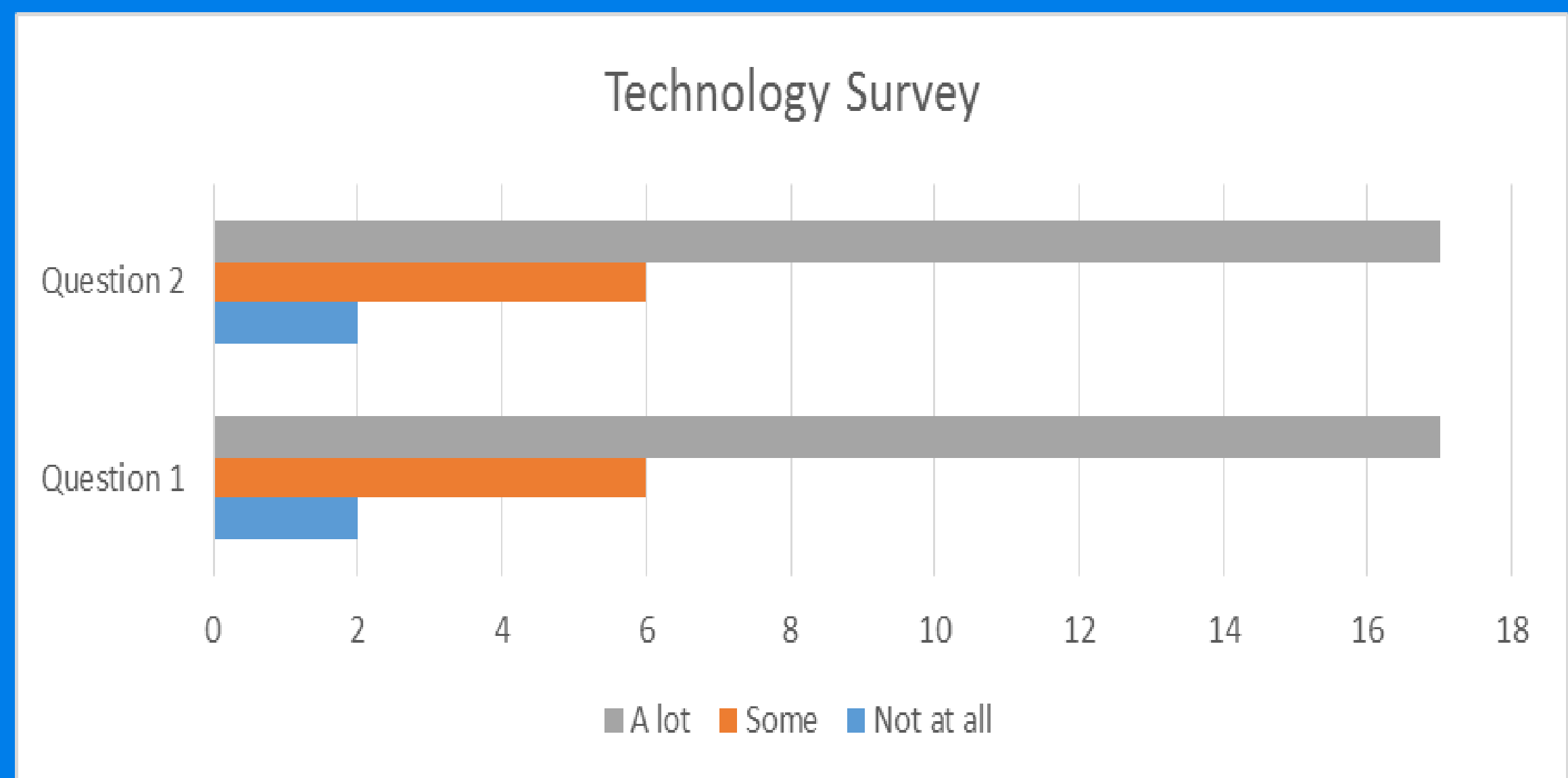
to Benefit Student Performance

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"I like this class because it is the only class where we actually get to do something fun." A quote from one of my Physical Science students.



Background

All of the students in my classes have a smart phone or tablets, and I find it difficult to keep them off the electronic devices during class. I decided to do my research on technology in the classroom to help me incorporate more technology into my lessons. My thought is that instead of fighting the technology I could use it to benefit the success of my students.

Figure 1 shows the averages of student answers to a survey taken from my SA# 4.

Question 1. How much has technology changed how you learn?

Question 2. How often do you use your cell phone in class?

N=25

Research Questions

What are the effects of incorporating cell phones in the classroom to help student achievement?

Sub Questions:

- What are some applications that can be used?
- Will this be enough to help student comprehension?
- What effect will this use of technology have on test scores?
- Will this help students be less distracted in class?

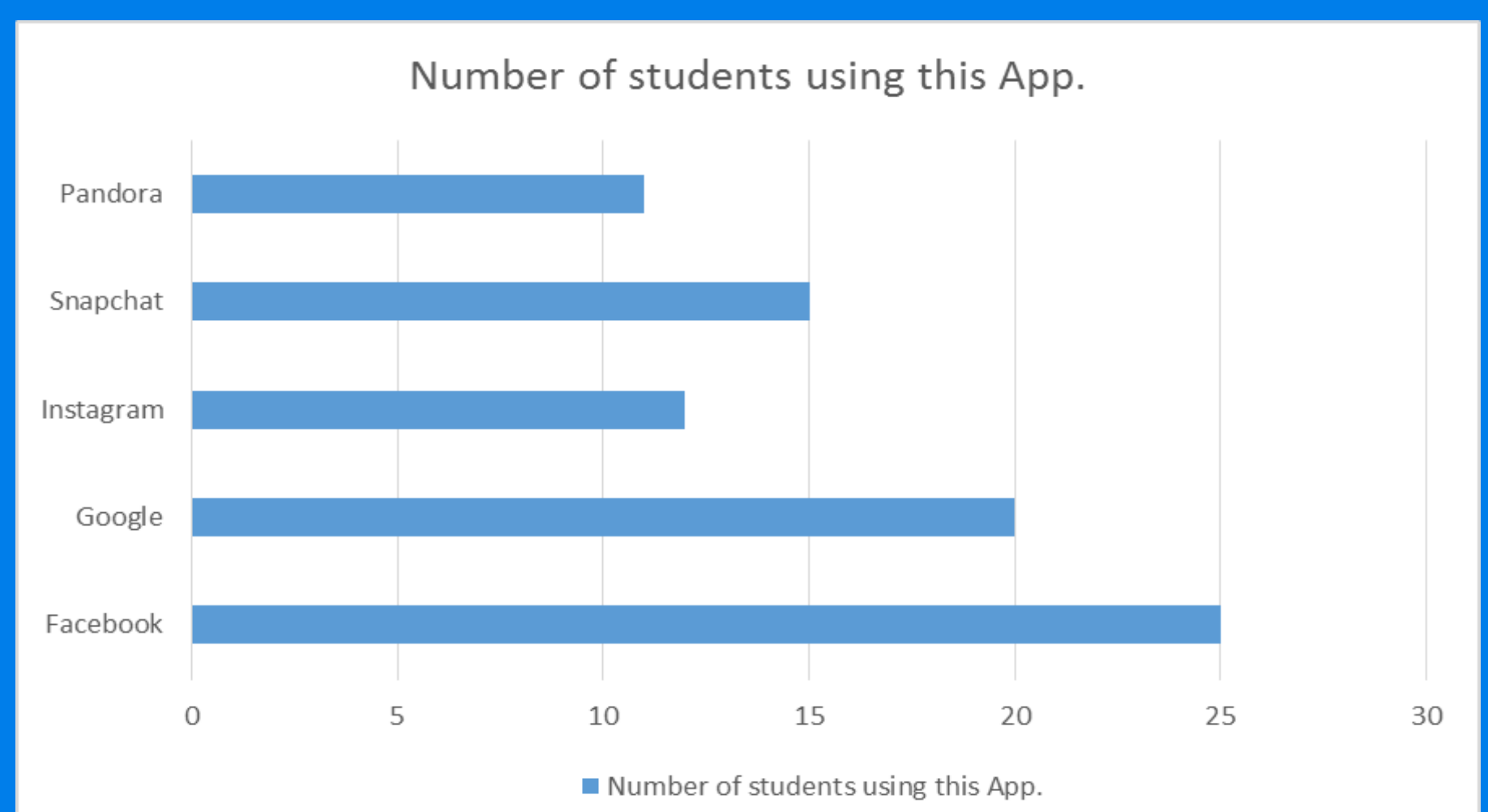


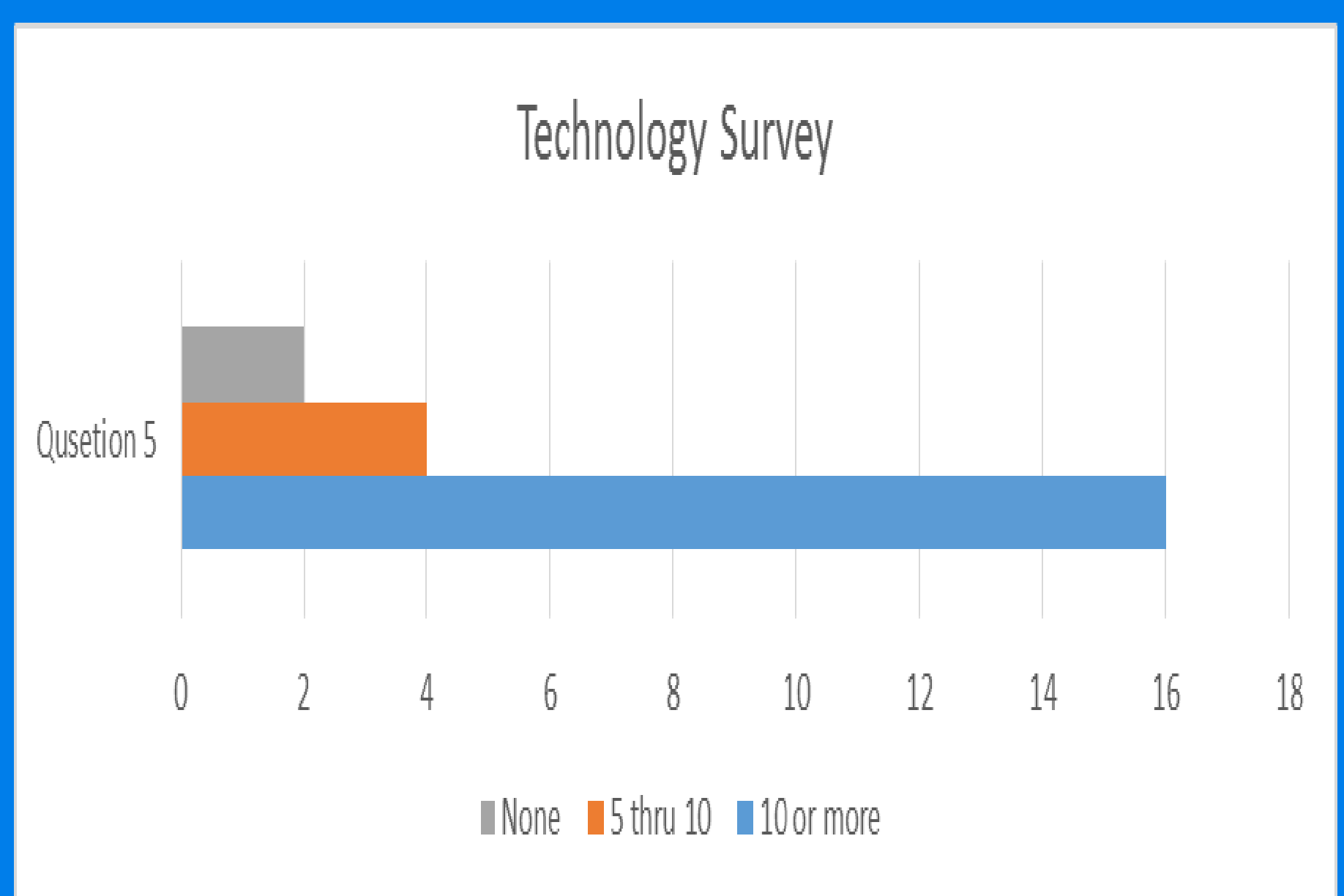
Figure 2 shows individual response to survey question number 8. What apps do you use the most on your phone? Which ones?

This showed me how many students are on Face Book and use Google for research in my classes.

N=25

Research Method

I plan to give my students surveys to be filled out individually both before treatment and after. When the surveys are completed I will look over each one to highlight important points made by students. A handful of students will be interviewed by me based on the detail of their survey.



Research Sample

My class' have students from all walks of life. A few are on probation. A few have been sent there because of their lack of academic skills, and a few because they have severe learning disabilities. A lot of my students come to school because it is state mandated, or because school is better than their home life. Definitely lower class demographic.

Figure 2 shows individual response to survey question number 5. How many teacher do you have that let you use your cell phone in class?

This showed me that there a lot of teachers who let their students use cell phones in class.

N=25