

First Year Students' feedback on their journey at the Junior College

The Quality Assurance Committee 2022 -2023

An Introduction

Introduction

The Quality Assurance Committee embarked on a project to collect data from First Year students on their journey at the Junior College.

The aims were threefold :

1. To give a voice to students by providing them with a space where to share some thoughts about their experience at the college.
2. To collect feedback on the students' well-being at the college.
3. To act upon the feedback with the possibility of enhancing students' experience at the JC.



The process involved *(in brief)*



Process involved:

1. The questions for the questionnaire were drafted.
2. The decision was taken to use online Google Forms to distribute the questionnaires between the months of January and February 2023.
3. The link to the form was shared by lecturers in the English department since this department has the largest cohort of students.
4. Data was collected and analysed.
5. The committee drew up the report, and made some recommendations.
6. Results would be shared with students.



The Questionnaire

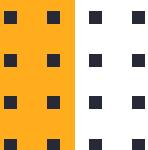
The Questionnaire

The following is the link to the questionnaire:

<https://forms.gle/sozv19kuH1EBkMbK8>

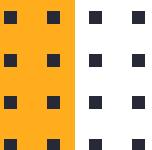
The questionnaire has 3 main sections:

1. Section A: Student's well-being at the Junior College
2. Section B: Feedback on subjects chosen at the Junior College
3. Section C: Student's feedback on the Junior College Facilities



Sample Size

- 482 First year students studying English responded to the questionnaire
- This means that 41% of first year students studying English participated in the survey.



Results



Section A: Student's well-being at the Junior College

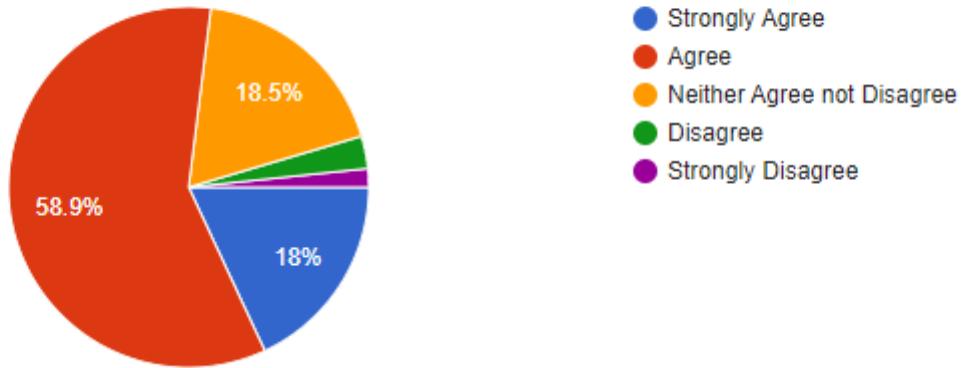
Q1:I am happy with my experience at the Junior College so far.

- The first question asked students to mark on a five point Likert scale from Strongly Agree to Strongly Disagree, if they were happy with their experience at the Junior College. The following were the results:
- The **majority, 77%**, of student respondents are happy at the Junior College: refer to the following slide:



1. I am happy with my experience at the Junior College so far.

482 responses



Q1: I am happy with my experience at the Junior College so far.

- On the other hand, **19 %** of the students claimed that they **neither agreed nor disagreed** with the statement while **4%** claimed that they **were not happy** with their experience at the JC.
- The committee was interested in following this issue and so asked the above students to answer the next question:



Q2. If you are not so happy with your experience at the JC, give a reason why.

- The second question was an open ended question which required students who claimed that they were not so happy with their experience so far, to give a reason why.
- A summary of the most frequent answers is provided in the next slide.
- The main reasons were directly related to the workload.



2. If you 'are not so happy' with your experience at the JC, give a reason why.

1. Long Hours:

- The most common reason given was that the day at the college does not leave much time for studying and other activities.

2. Timetable:

Some consider the gaps in between lectures as too long.

Others claim that they wish they had more breaks in between lectures.

3. Overwhelming workload:

Assignments, assessments, deadlines.

Some students think that they are given too much homework and that their workload is too stressful.

4. Lecturers unaware of students' needs

There is a perception among a few students that lecturers are not aware of students' workload and needs.

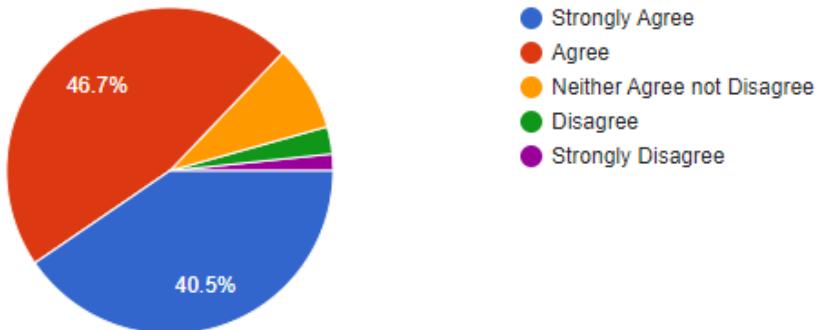


Q3. I have made new friends already.

3. I have made new friends already.

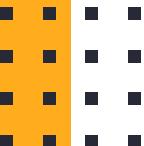
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482 responses



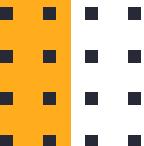
4. If you haven't made friends, can you suggest what can be done to help you make friends?

- Once again, the next question was an open ended question which required students who claimed that they had not made new friends yet, to suggest ways in which this can be done:
- A summary of the answers is provided in the next slide.



4. If you haven't made friends, can you suggest what can be done to help you make friends?

1. Most students think that this depends on the **students themselves** - they should make an effort to socialise and interact with class mates.

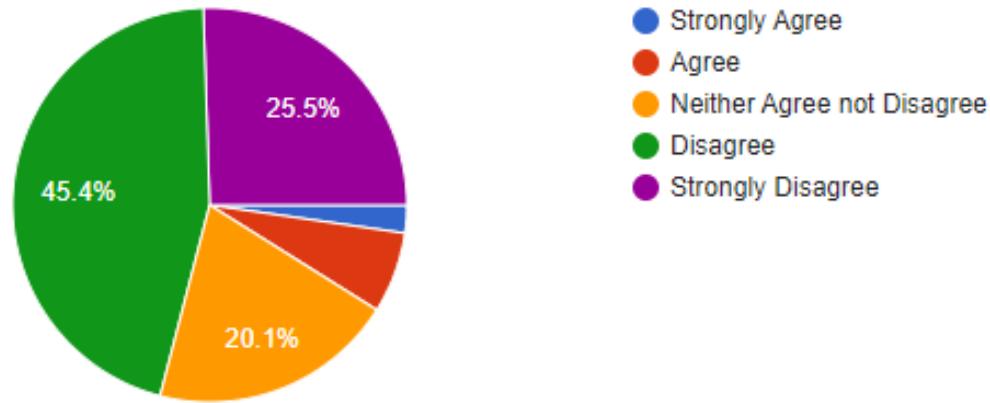


Q5. I feel lonely/lost in my free time at the college

5. I feel lonely/lost in my free time at the college.

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482 responses

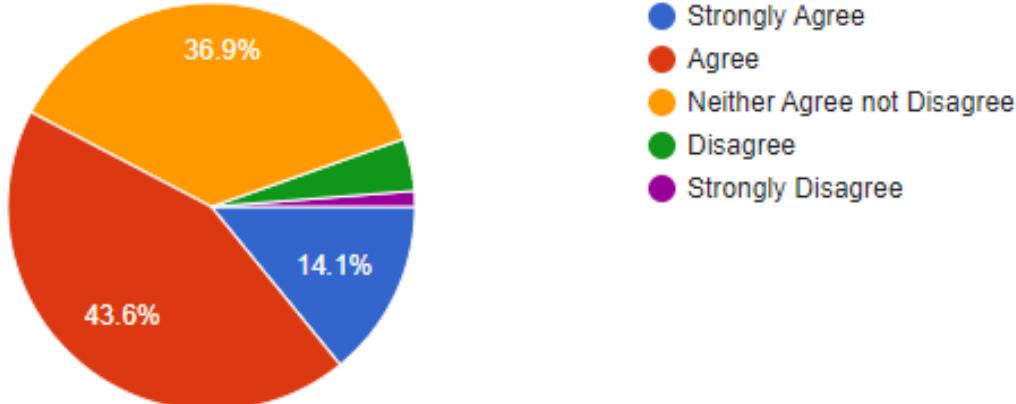


Q6. I have found help when I needed it

6. I have found help when I needed it.

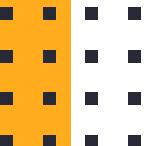
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482 responses



Q7. You may wish to comment on the type of help and support you found/did not find

- This question required respondents to comment on the type of help the students found or did not find.
- Their responses have been presented in the three columns in the next slide:
 1. Help Found
 2. Help not found
 3. Help needed



Q7. You may wish to comment on the type of help and support you found/did not find

1. Help Found:

- Most teachers are helpful, available, give further explanation when needed
- Contact Hours are very effective and students appreciate them
- Counsellors' and advisors' help is also appreciated and seen as prompt and effective
- Many students found help through second year students

Help Not Found:

- Lecturers' explanation is sometimes too fast.

Help Needed:

- More support in writing essays and in schoolwork
- More help in procedure of changing subjects
- Better system for helping students who miss lectures when sick.

8. Other general comments and suggestions

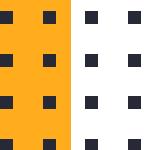
- The last question in this section asked students for any other comments and suggestions they had.

Most students used this section to comment on their positive experience at the college

- - Many students see the College environment as **VERY WELCOMING**, and describe their experience so far as 'great' and they claimed that they are 'happy'.

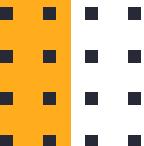
The following are some of the positive comments:

- *Great experience so far at JC, overall I feel welcomed.*
- *happy i came here*
- *Everything has been great so far*
- *Lecturers very helpful*
- *College overall is a great experience and the lecturers are very helpful*
- *I've found help from everyone when I needed*



Others had suggestions for a better experience:

- Less assignments/ workload
- Evenly distributed timetables
- Less rowdiness from students
- More seating areas, study rooms
- Better cleanliness in some areas
- More engaging lectures



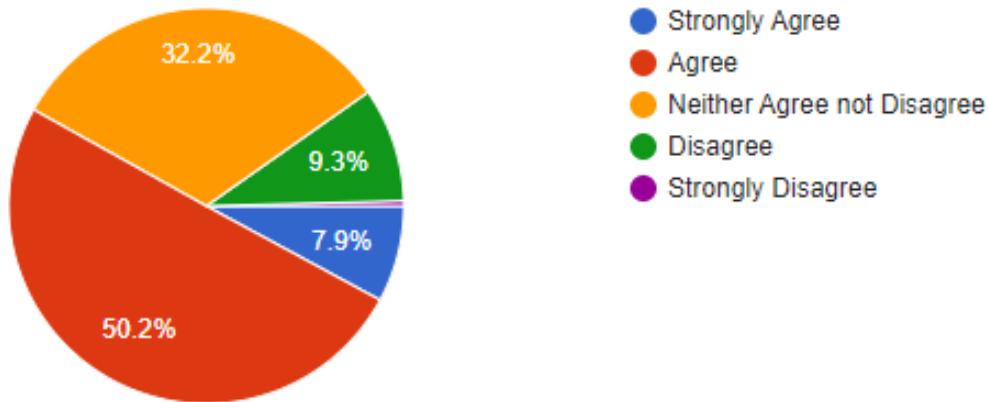
Section B: Student's feedback on subjects chosen at the Junior College

Q9. I am doing well in my subjects and my marks are good.

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482 responses

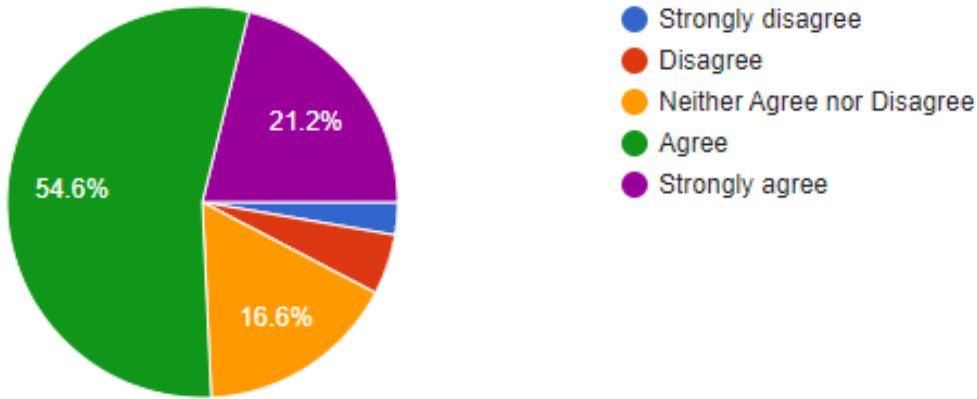


Q10. I feel happy with my choice of subjects

10.I feel happy with my choice of subjects.

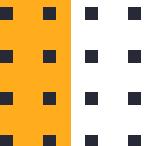
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482 responses



Q11 & 12. I find my subjects interesting

- Almost 80 % find their Advanced level subjects interesting.
- Whereas less students, 62% find their Intermediate subjects interesting.
- 3% and 11 % do not find their subjects, at A-level and I-level interesting at all.



Q13 & 14: Enrichment Course

It turns out that only 58% of the respondents follow an enrichment course.

When asked why they do not, the answers were the following:

- Most students said that they don't have time owing to:
 - (i) studying for tests/ preparing assignments
 - (ii) They had lectures during the courses they were interested in.
- Other students said that they follow extra-curricular activities after school hours such as football and martial arts, commitments they have had for years.

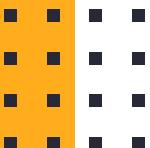
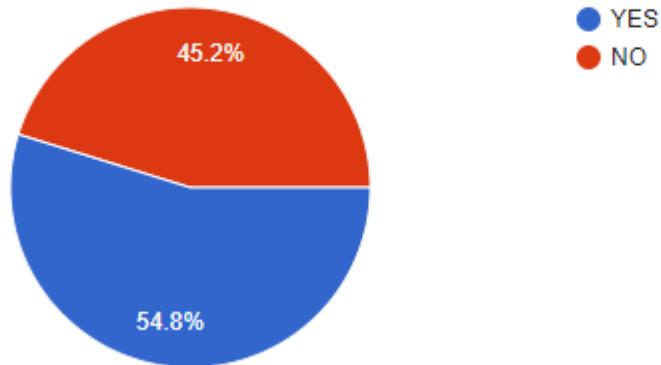


Q15: My Time table is balanced

15. My school timetable is well balanced.

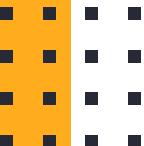
482 responses

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Q16. Other comments on subjects chosen at the college.

- *Too many free hours between lectures*
- *Better balanced/more practical time-tables*
- *Living far away means that one has to leave very early and return home very late*
- *I love jc/ Everything is quite good and I'm happy*
- *Subjects can be overwhelming at times, but overall are still very fun and engaging*



Section C: Feedback on facilities at the Junior College

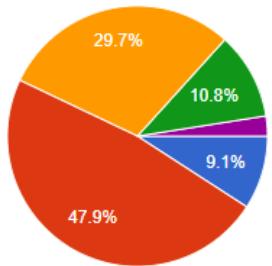


Q17 & 18.

17. The Junior College environment is safe and hygienic.

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482 responses

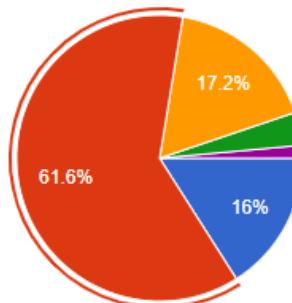


- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

18. My lecture rooms are well equipped and conducive to learning.

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482 responses



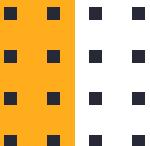
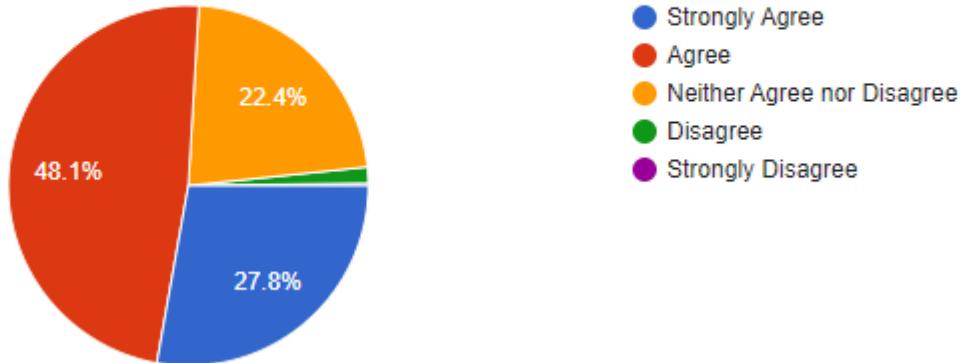
- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neither Agree nor Disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly Disagree

Q19.

19. My labs and/or specialized rooms are well equipped for practical sessions.

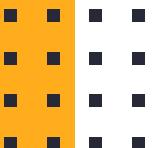
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482 responses



Q20. When asked to comment on the facilities of labs and specialised rooms at the Junior College:

- Students asked for more **electrical wall socket** outlets,
- better internet connectivity on particular floors.
- **Theatre students** ask for mirrors to be installed in the studio, to render the space more versatile and adaptable to the various tasks and uses.
- Students also request **better lab locker facilities** where to store their lab bags.
- The Biology lab :**perhaps replace the wooden worktops** which are difficult to clean.



Section D: Students' feedback on their free time at the Junior College

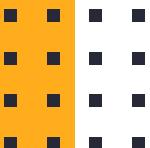
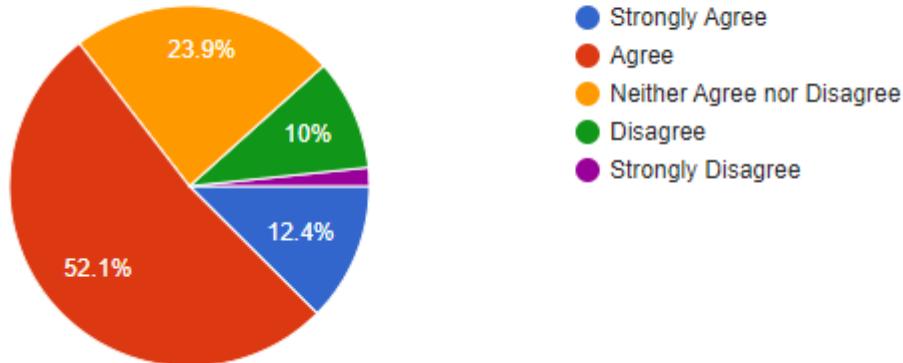


Q21.

21. There are enough recreational areas on the school premises.

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482 responses



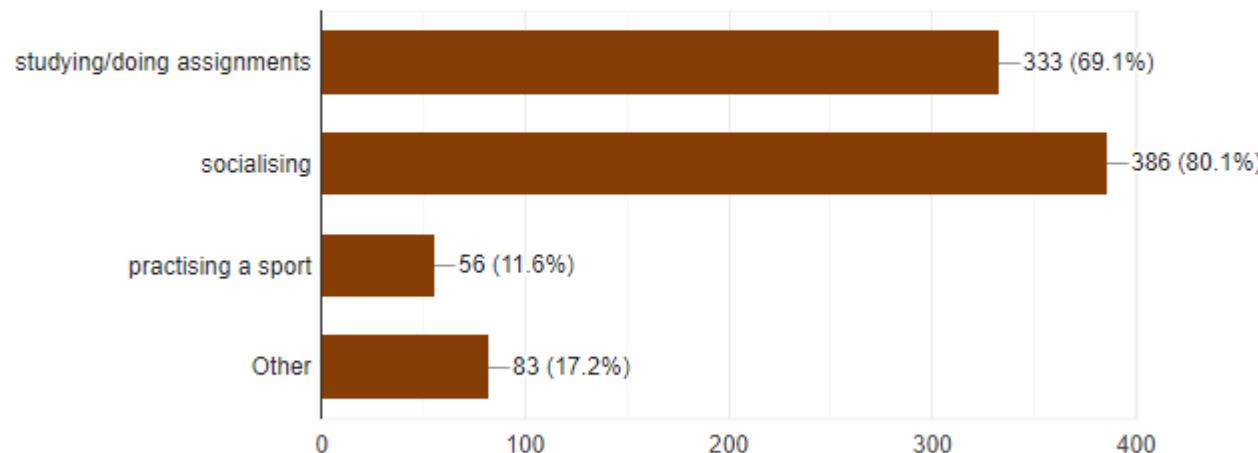
Q22. How do you spend your free time at the college? You can tick more than one option

How do you spend your free time at the college?

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You can tick more than one option.

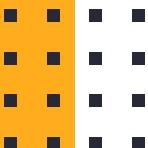
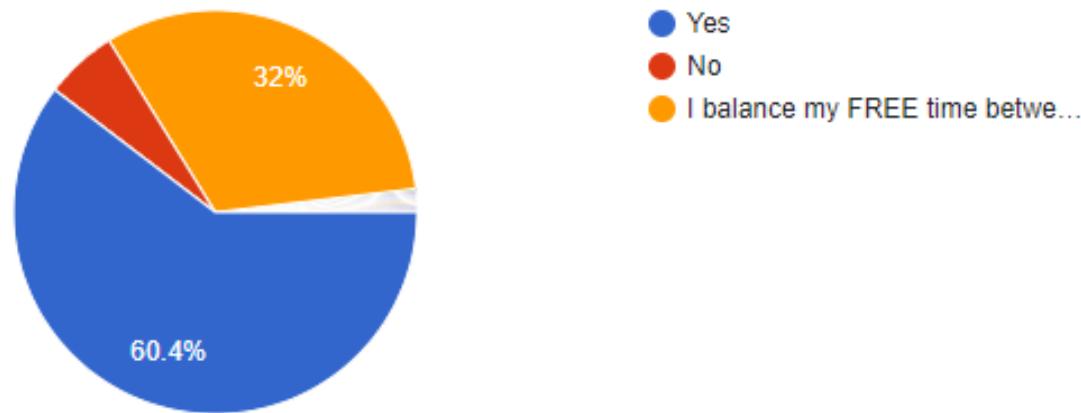
482 responses



23. I spend MOST of my FREE time on the college premises.

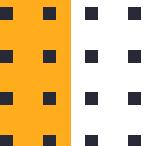
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482 responses



Q 24: Other comments and suggestions:

- Glad that I chose this school
- I do not have any other suggestions whatsoever
- it has been a good experience so far
- Please consider that traffic is a big problem.
- Thanks for making us feel welcomed as new students!
- I wish that the teachers give us more notes.
- During Double lessons, a break between them would be a good refresher for the mind
- The College is great....Something out of JC's control is transport. All in all, the college is alright.





Thank you!

The data collected will be shared with the main stakeholders and recommendations will be made to enhance your journey at the JC.

The Quality Assurance Committee, 2023