



ENEIDA Presenter:

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***Under threat from all
sides: Historians and
English for Research
Publication Purposes***

Collaborators:

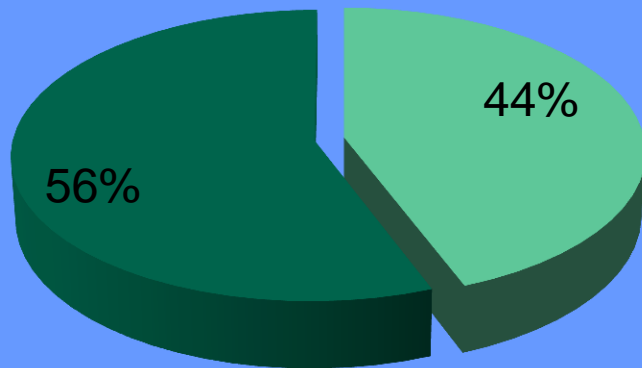
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Authors:

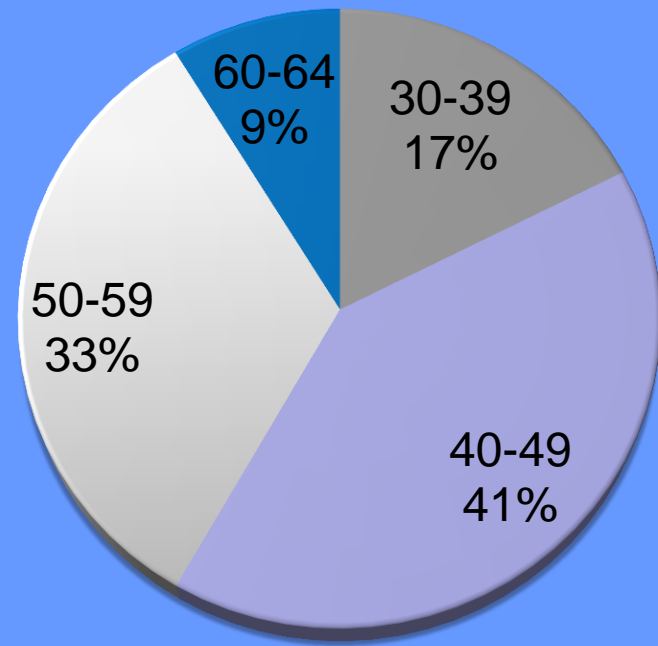
***Sally Burgess, Ana I. Moreno,
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Personal information

■ Women ■ Men



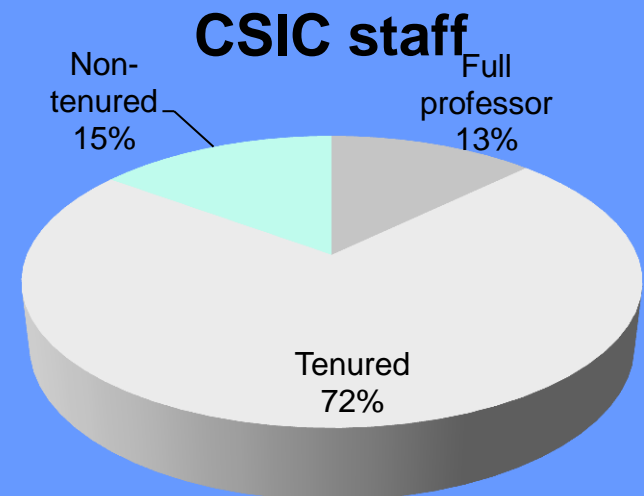
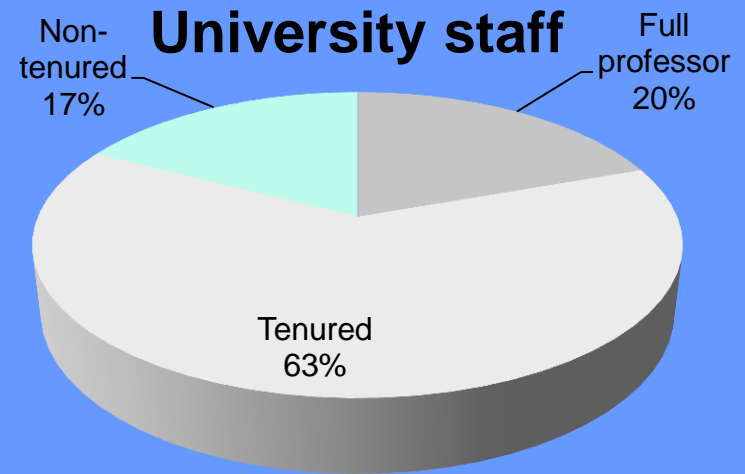
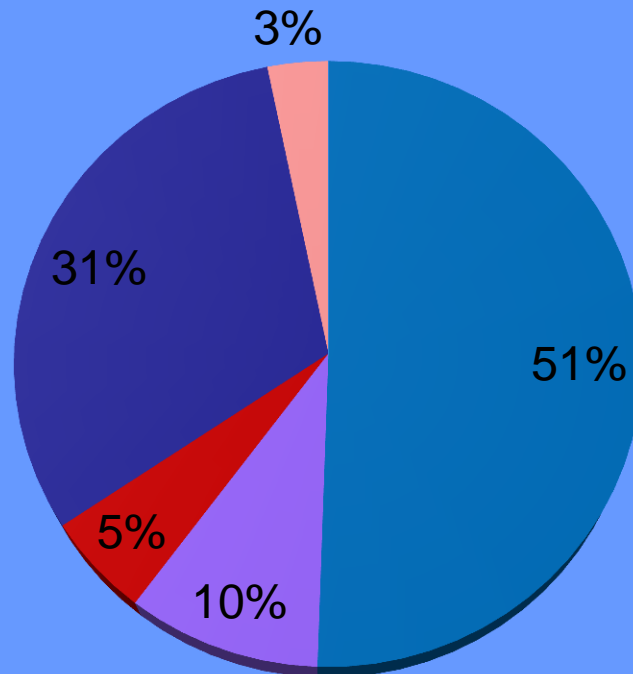
Age



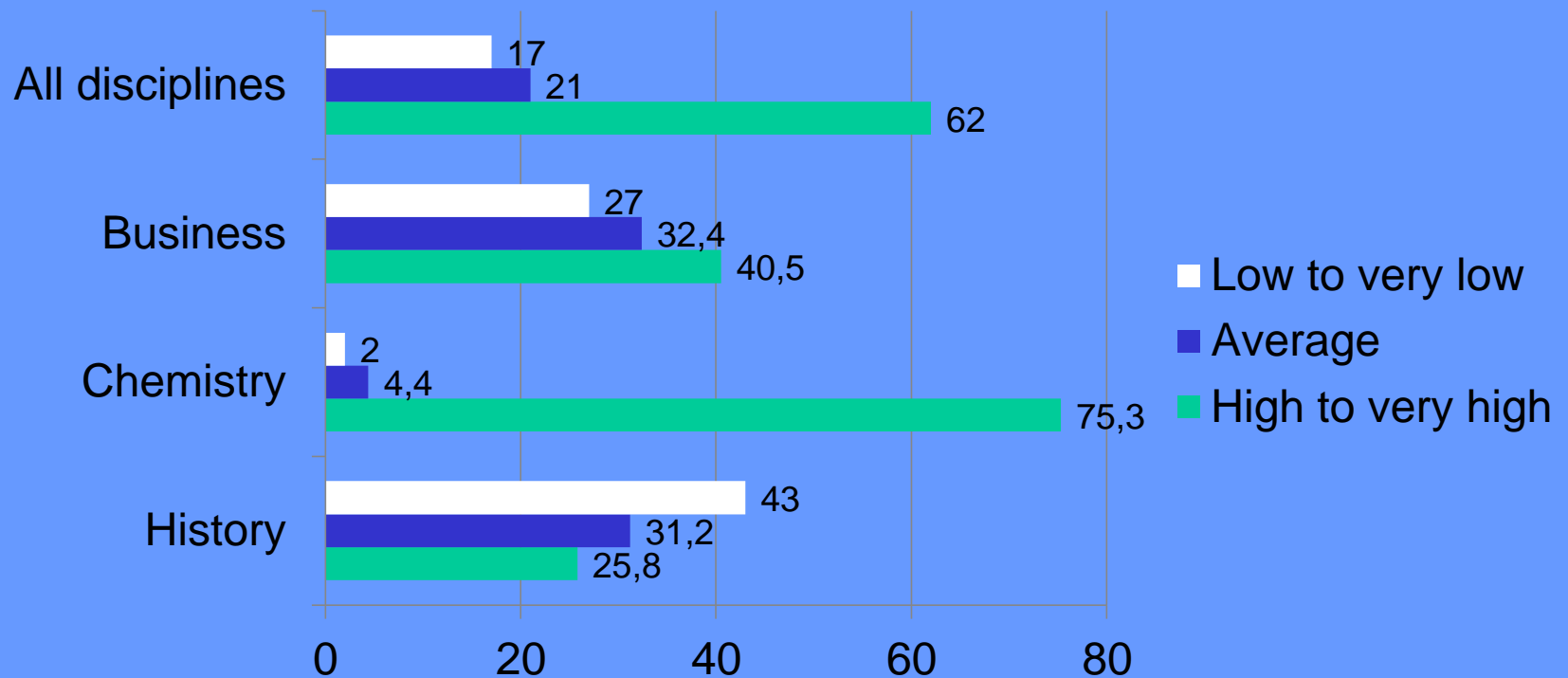
Academic and professional information: affiliation and professional status

Afiliation to institutions

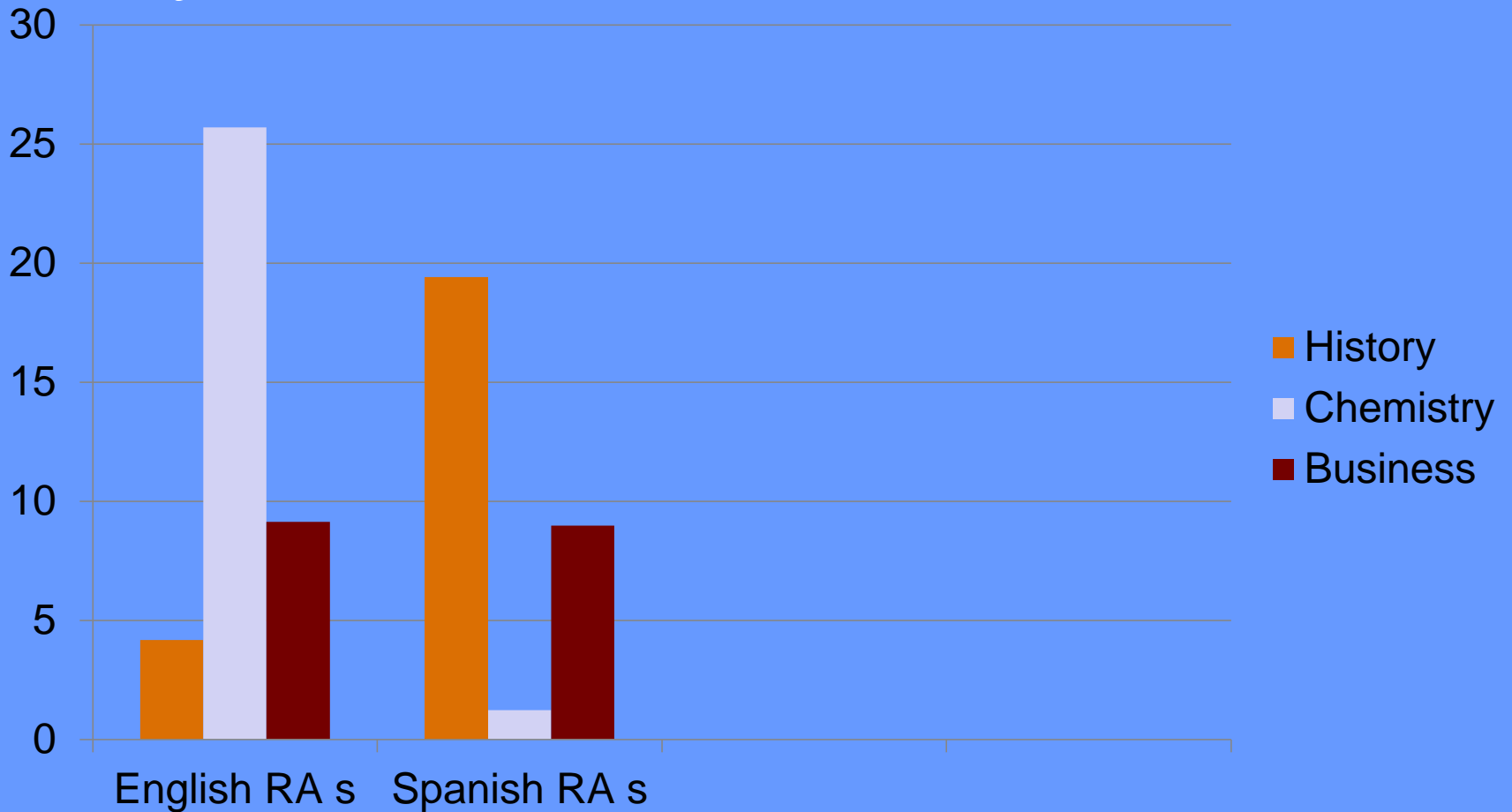
■ CSIC ■ ULL ■ ULE ■ UZA ■ UJI



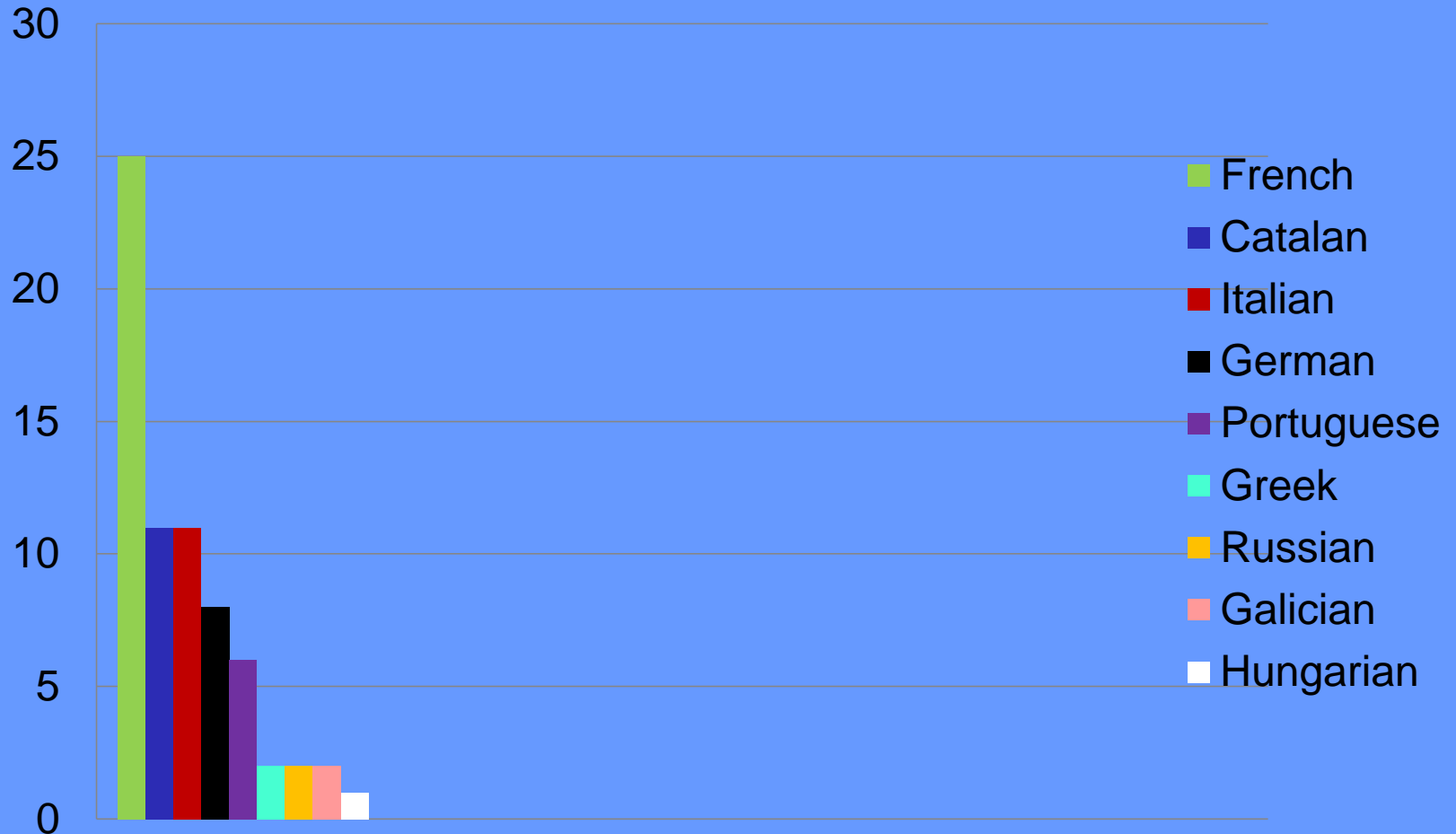
Competence in Academic Writing : Historians and the rest of the surveyed population



Research articles published in the last 10 years



Languages other than English and Spanish in terms of articles published



Motives for publishing in a given language

Spanish (Historians)

Communicate results to local scientific community	4.3
Respond to a commission or invitation	3.9
Get recognition for my research work	3.9
My estimation of the quality of the article	3.6

Spanish (All disciplines)

Communicate results to local scientific community	3.9
Respond to a commission or invitation	3.4
Get recognition for my research work	3.2
Continued existence of scientific journals in this language	3.2

Comments on choice of Spanish and languages other than Spanish as languages of publication

- I want to continue to develop as a researcher.
- I need to do my thinking in my own language.
- I want the challenge that writing in another language represents to be recognized.

Motives for publishing in a given language (English)

English (Historians)

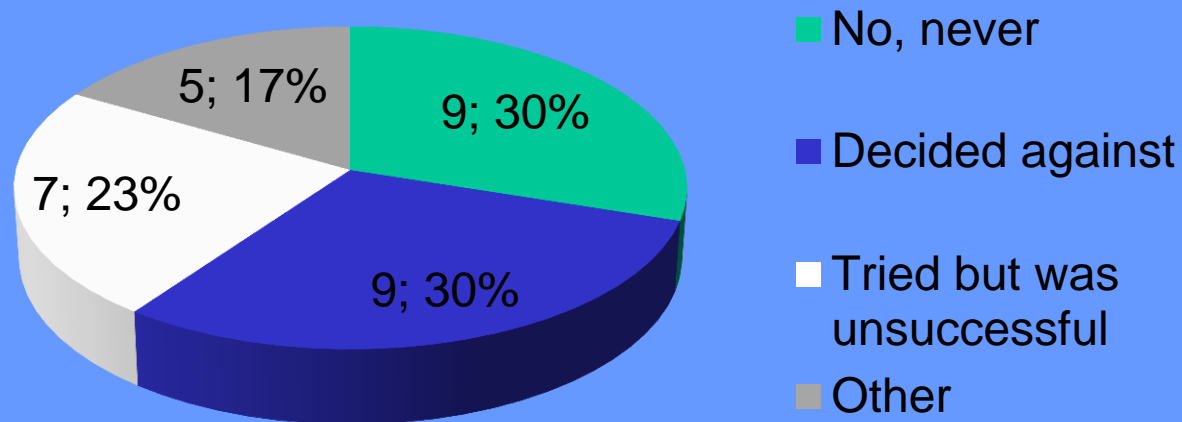
Communicate results to international scientific community	4.7
Get recognition for my research work	4.5
Meet the requirements of professional promotion	4
My estimation of the quality of the article	3.9

English (All disciplines)

Communicate results to international scientific community	4.7
Get recognition for my research work	4,5
Meet the requirements for professional promotion	4.2
Get cited more frequently	3.2

Desire to publish in English

Question 16: Have you ever considered publishing research articles in English as the corresponding author?



In their own words

I work in Spanish Studies and it makes no sense whatsoever for me to publish in English when the quality of the research is lower and its impact not as great.

I haven't felt any overwhelming urge [to publish in English] because I am a hispanicist and our language is the best tool for scientific communication. I also consider that we should take up the vital challenge of promoting it as a scientific medium, particularly in English-speaking contexts.

[This] is not something I'm about to lose any sleep over. I think scientific research in English is over-rated. We have a marvellous language in which we can do equally marvellous work. I will resist the temptation to publish in English, which I see as a response to the influence of the Natural Sciences on the Humanities. A serious error, in my opinion

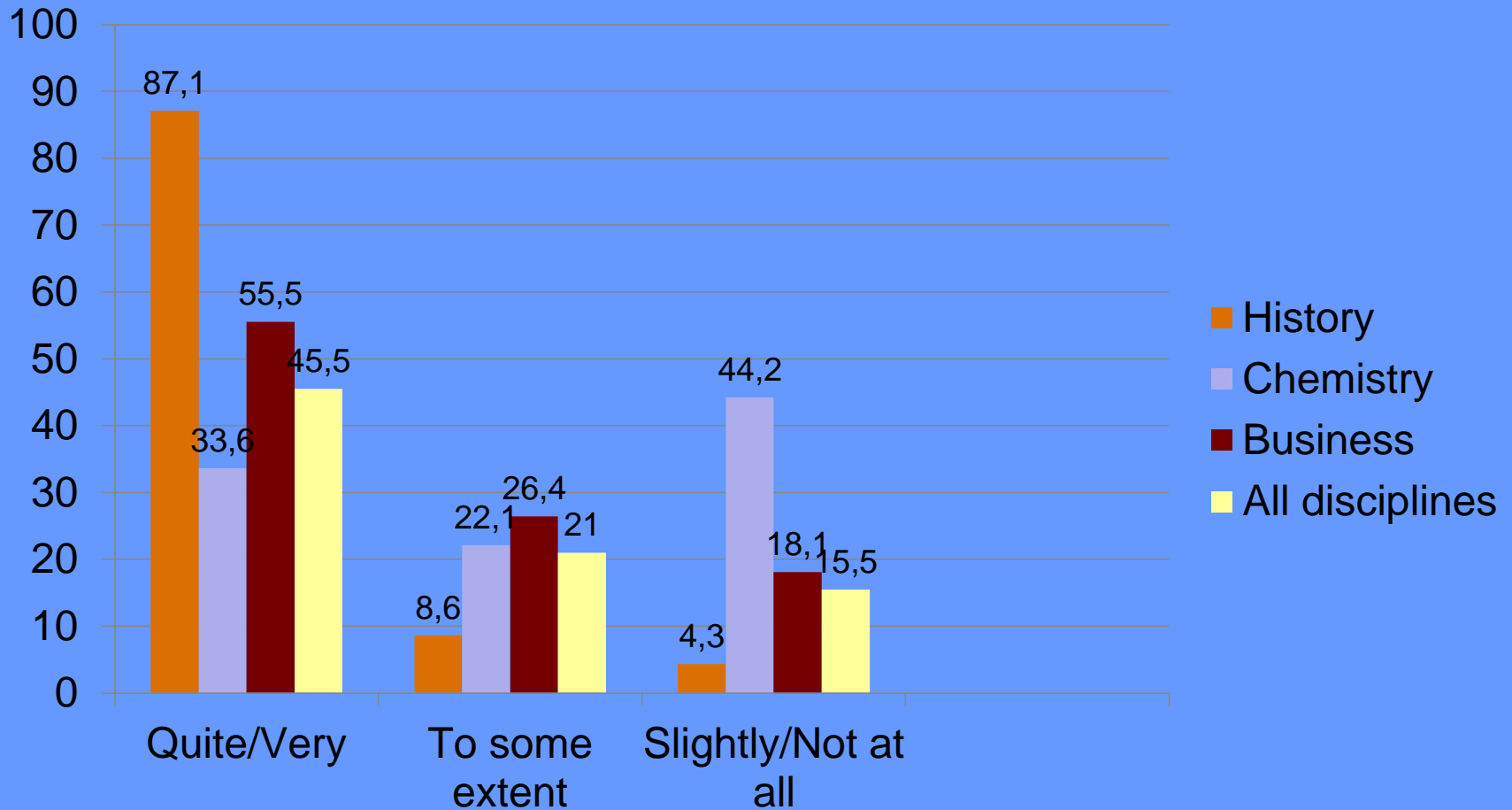
Factors influencing decision not to submit RAs in English (Q 17)

	No. respondents
My writing ability in this language is below the standard the journals require.	13
Translations involve increased costs for which I do not have funds available.	11
I have difficulty finding authors' editors familiar with my research field.	10
I do not think I know enough about the writing conventions expected by these journals.	9
It would take up too much of my time.	9

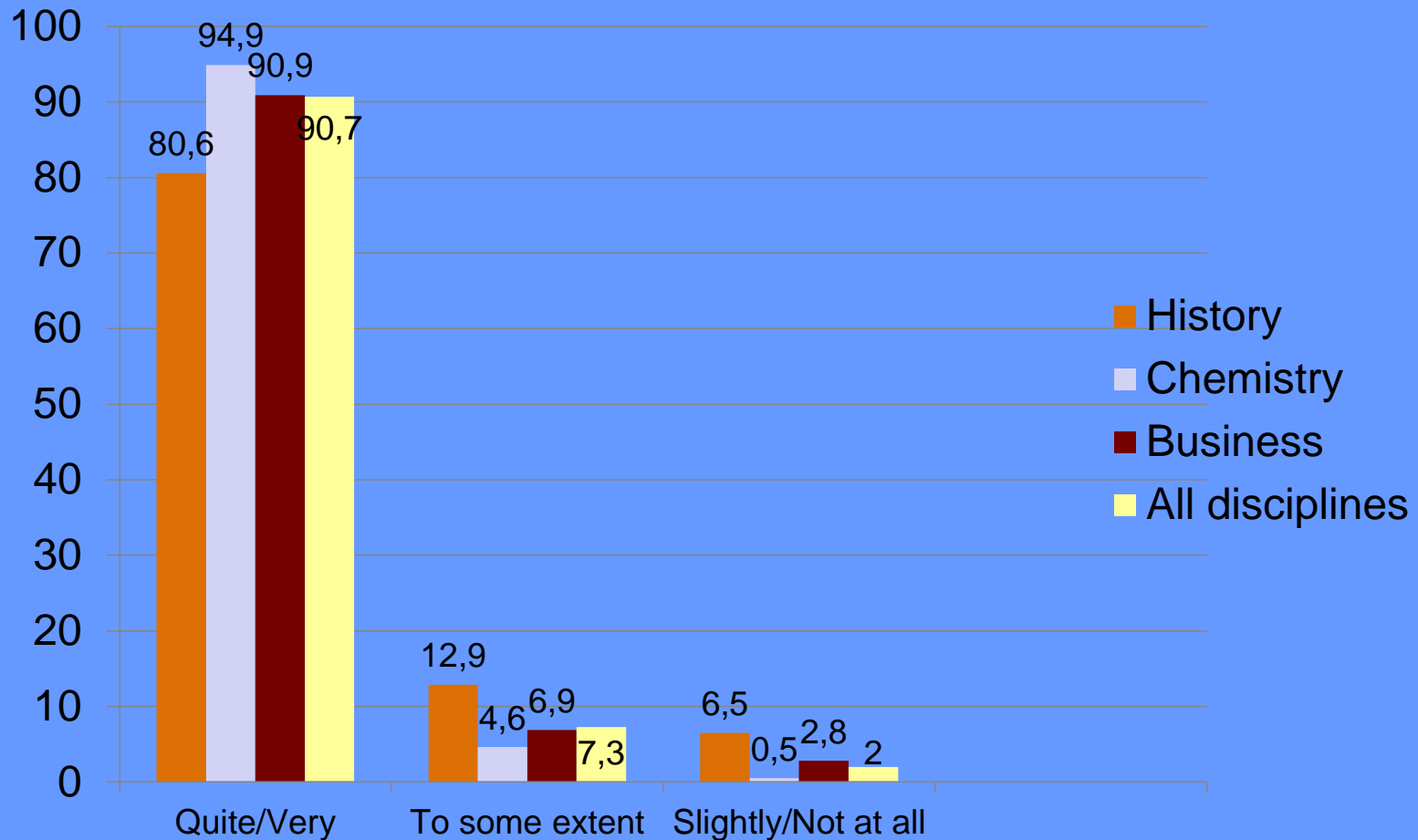
Factors obviating against publishing success in English (Q. 18)

	No. respondents
Features of my writing in English.	5
Not writing in accordance with the instructions in the journal's style guide.	2
Not following the discourse conventions expected by the journal when reporting my research.	2

Desirability of publishing in Spanish (Q. 19)



Desirability of publishing in English (Q. 19)



Publishing in a given language: help or hindrance? (Q. 22)

(From +3 = helps the most to -3 hinders the most)

Publishing in English ...

....helps promote

- The participation of Spanish researchers in international networks (1.9)
- Research on topics of international interest (1.9)
- The visibility of Spanish research (1.9)

...hinders

The development of academic language in Spanish (-0.04)

Publishing in Spanish...

...helps promote

- Research on topics of local interest (1.9)
- Survival of Spanish journals (1.6)
- Development of academic Spanish (1.6)

....hinders

The participation of Spanish researchers in international networks (-0.4)

How do you feel when you write up the results of your research for publication in journals in Spanish? And in English?

(From +3 = motivated, sure... to -3 = unmotivated, unsure...)

Writing in Spanish

Respondents feel...

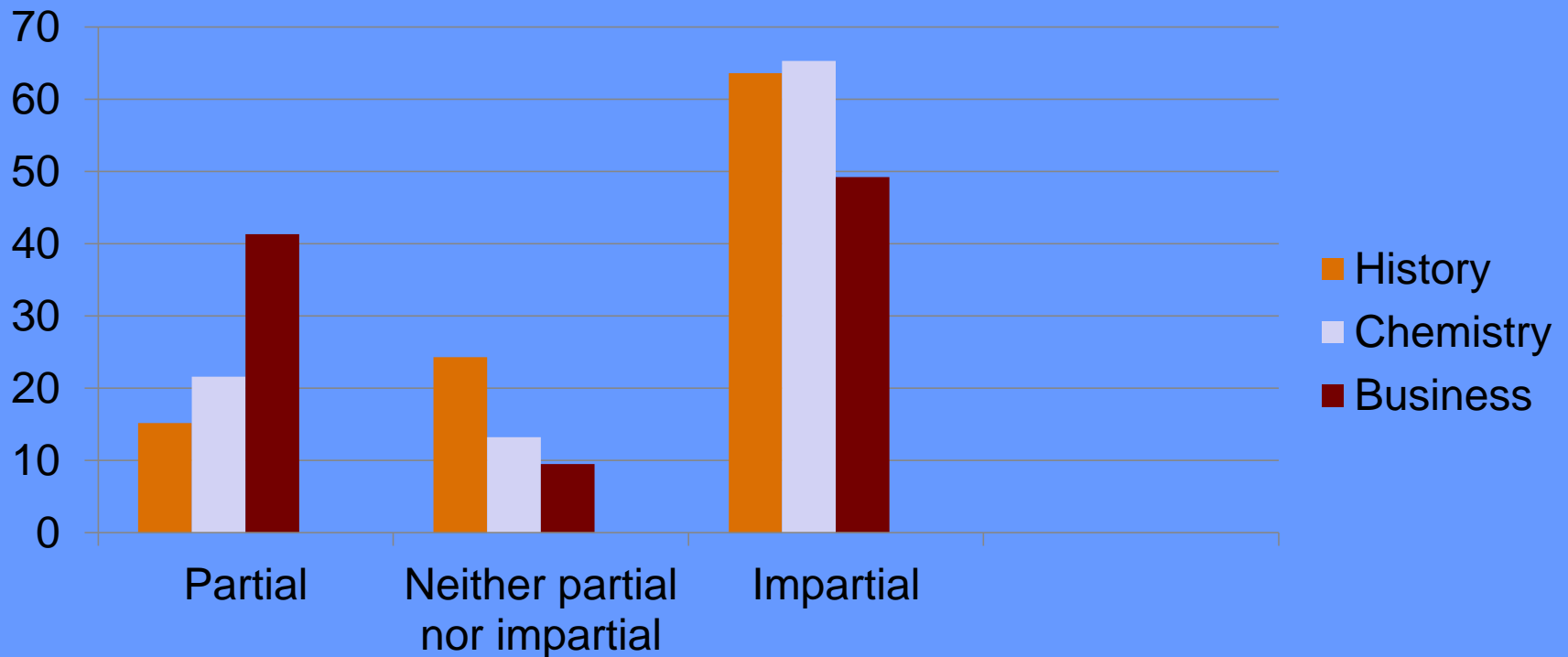
- Fairly motivated (2.2), capable (2.7), sure of themselves and free to act (2.6)
- They feel somewhat loyal to their language (1.6)

Writing in English

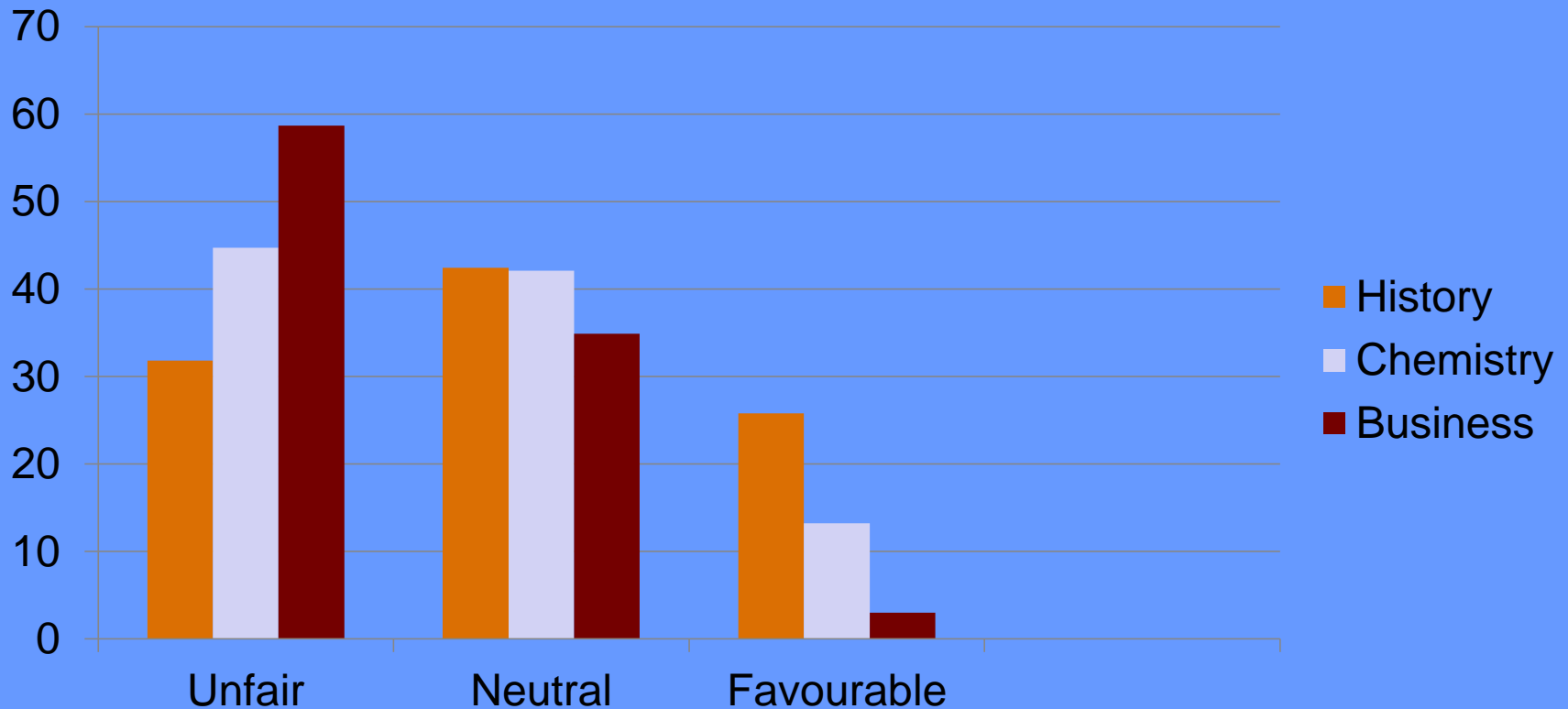
Respondents feel...

- Fairly motivated (2.5) but...
- Not very capable (1.2), sure of themselves (1.3) or free to act (1.1)
- They feel neither loyal nor disloyal to their language (0.4)

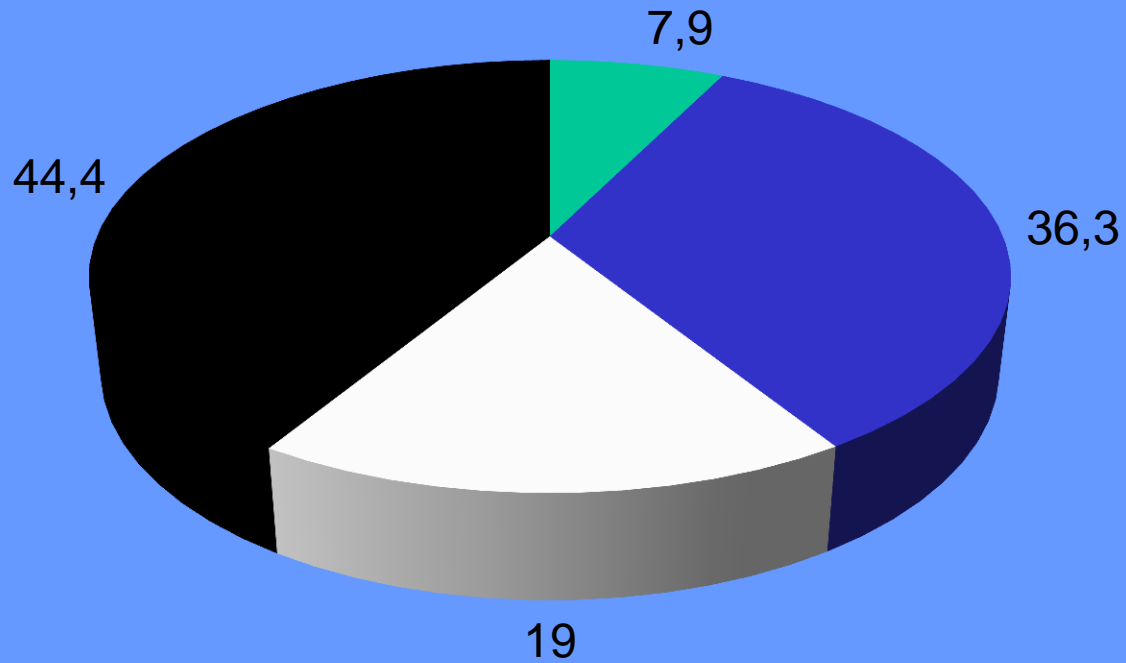
Effect of mother tongue on evaluation of manuscripts in English (Q. 23 partial v. impartial evaluations)



Effect of mother tongue on evaluation of manuscripts in English (Q. 23 Unfair or favourable treatment)

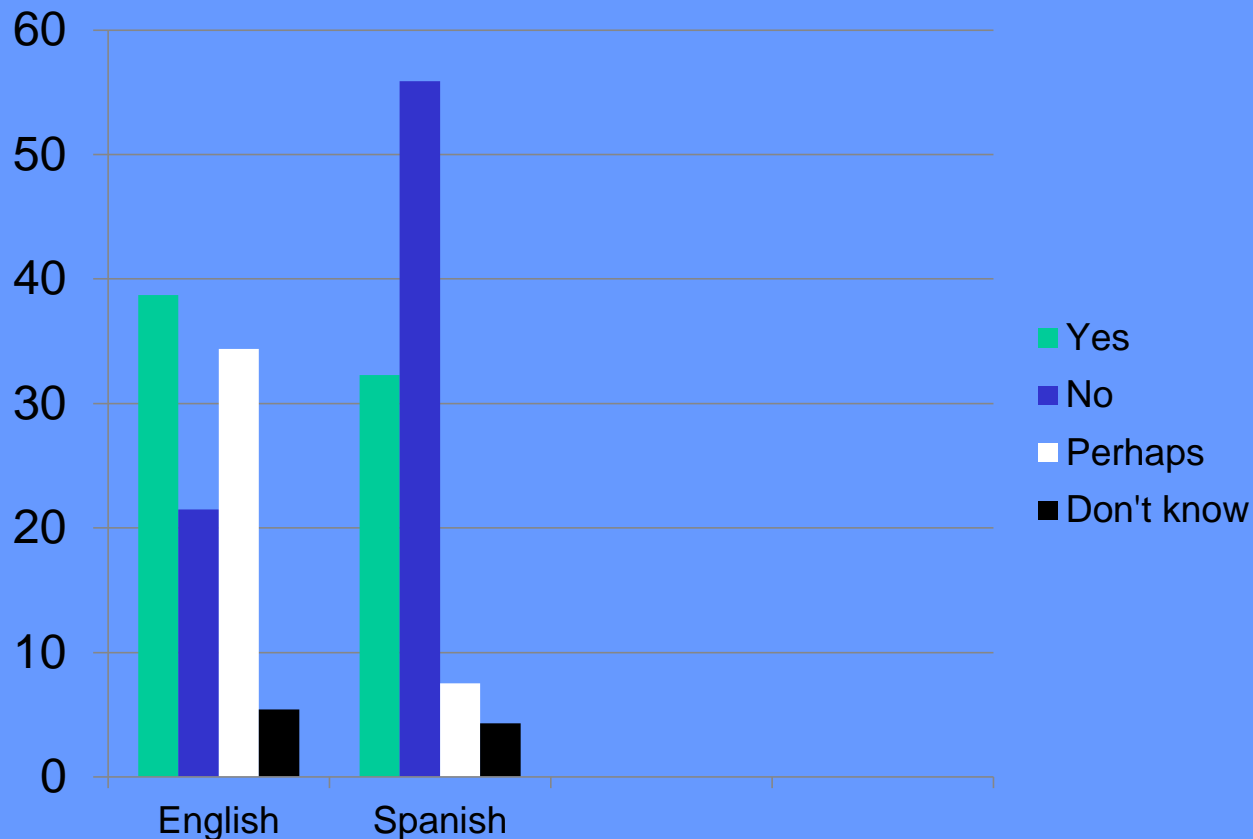


Writing strategies



- No revision
- English with editing
- English and Spanish with editing and translation
- Spanish with translation

Do you plan to continue your training in the writing of research articles so as to send them to scientific journals?



A final word from a worried historian

It seems to me, in my field, that something very basic is being forgotten: no one studies Latin or Greek anymore in our History faculties. There will soon be no researchers capable working in periods earlier than the 18th century. This is very important and very worrying.