

Attitudes of Upper Primary School Students towards English Subject

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the investigator has decided to study the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject and for that he has chosen the objectives like: 1. To know the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject and determine its level. 2. To examine the attitudes of the rural and urban area students of upper primary schools towards English subject. 3. To examine the attitudes of the boys of upper primary schools of rural and urban area towards English subject. 4. To examine the attitudes of the girls of upper primary schools of rural and urban area towards English subject. A survey method was used to find out the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject. Total 4 schools of Modasa taluka belonging to 2 from rural area and 2 from urban area were selected by random sampling method and 104 students were selected by using random sampling method. Major findings of the study were: 1. No significant difference is seen between mean scores of boys and girls of upper primary schools on the attitudes towards English subject. 2. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of rural and urban area students of upper primary schools on the attitudes towards English subject. Here the attitudes of urban students towards English subject are more positive as compared to the students in rural area. 3. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban boys of upper primary schools. Here the attitudes of urban boys towards English subject are more positive as compared to the boys in rural area. 4. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban girls of upper primary schools. Here the attitudes of urban girls towards English subject are more positive as compared to the girls in rural area.

Key Words: Attitudes, Upper Primary School Students, English Subject

INTRODUCTION

The English language has spread its hold on the world in the age of modern science and technology. As the continuous flow of knowledge has been accelerated by English, we feel that now in the world it is not only necessary for us to have knowledge of our mother tongue but also of English. But in our Gujarati medium schools we see that students are neglecting the subject of English and it is being studied only for examination purposes. Our students are proving to be raw in English language skills. This apathetic attitude towards English may deprive them of the global ocean of knowledge. Hence, there is a need for students to develop interest in the subject of English. Actually learning any language is very easy. English is not also difficult for us if we change our attitudes. The researcher has felt that if research is done in this area, it will result in inspiration for the students of English subject, so this study has been carried out.

Statement of the Problem

In the Present paper, the researcher has formulated following problem statement to find out the attitudes towards English subject of upper primary school students of Modasa taluka:

Attitudes of Upper Primary School Students towards English Subject

Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the present study were as follow:

1. To know the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject and determine its level.
2. To examine the attitudes of the rural and urban area students of upper primary schools towards English subject
3. To examine the attitudes of the boys of upper primary schools of rural and urban area towards English subject.
4. To examine the attitudes of the girls of upper primary schools of rural and urban area towards English subject.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The hypotheses of the present study were as follow:

1. There will be no significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of boys and girls of upper primary schools.
2. There will be no significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban students of upper primary schools.
3. There will be no significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban boys of upper primary schools.
4. There will be no significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban girls of upper primary schools.

VARIABLES OF THE STUDY

In the present study following variables are included:

Independent Variables: Gender (boy, girl), Area (rural, urban)

Dependent Variable: Attitudes towards English subject

Controlled Variable: Upper primary schools

Area of Research

Since the present study is based on the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject, the area of present study can be called 'Psychology of Education'

Limitations of the Study

Limitations of the present paper are as following:

- The present study was limited to the upper primary schools of Modasa Taluka
- The present study was limited to the upper primary Gujarati medium school students studying during the academic year 2021-2022

Research Method

In the present study, a survey method was used to find out the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject

Population and Sampling

All the students studying in class 6, 7 and 8 in Gujarati medium upper primary schools of Modasa taluka during the academic year 2021-22 were the population of the present study. Total 4 schools of Modasa taluka belonging to 2 from rural area and 2 from urban area were selected by random sampling method and students were selected by using random sampling method. Selected sample details are as follows in table-1

Table 1 The detail of selected sample

Area	School	No. of Sample		Total
		Boys	Girls	
Urban	School No. 2, Modasa	33	20	53
	School No. 5, Modasa	25	24	49
Total Urban		58	44	102
Rural	Sakariya Primary School	18	23	41
	Bherunda Primary School	36	23	59
Total Rural		54	46	100

Tool of the Study

A five-point attitude scale consisting of 50 statements was designed according to Likert method by researcher to know the attitudes of upper primary school students towards English subject. In which there were taken five points namely 'Fully Agree', 'Agree', 'Neutral', 'Disagree' and 'Fully Disagree'

In positive statement 5 points are given for strongly agree, 4 for agree, 3 for neutral, 2 for disagree and 1 for strongly agree and in negative statement 1 point is given for strongly agree, 2 for agree, 3 for neutral, 4 for disagree and 5 for strongly agree.

Data Collection

For data collection, prior approval of the principals of the four sampling schools was obtained and the tool was given to the students personally with providing necessary instructions. Students were given 50 minutes to respond to the test and at the end of time the test was taken back.

Data Analysis

Data was analyzed by using statistical techniques like frequency distribution, mean, standard deviation and t-test.

Hypotheses Testing

Following hypotheses were tested at 0.05 and 0.01 level is shown in below tables under each hypothesis:

HO₁ *There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of boys and girls of upper primary schools.*

Table 2 Mean, S.D. and t-value of attitude scores of boys and girls towards English subject

Gender	N	Mean	SD	सरासरी त्कवत	SE _D	t-value	Sig.
Boys	112	151.47	18.83	3.03	1.67	1.82	NS
Girls	90	154.50	18.73				

The result obtained revealed that there was no significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of boys and girls of upper primary schools. So, null hypothesis is accepted.

HO₂ *There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban students of upper primary schools.*

Table 3 Mean, S.D. and t-value of attitude scores of rural and urban students towards English subject

Area	N	Mean	SD	सरासरी त्कवत	SE _D	t-value	Sig.
Rural	100	149.08	19.22	7.74	1.63	4.75	Sig. 0.01 Level
Urban	102	156.82	17.60				

The result obtained revealed that there was significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban students of upper primary schools. So, null hypothesis is rejected. Here the attitudes of urban students towards English subject are more positive as compared to the students in rural area.

HO₃ *There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban boys of upper primary schools.*

Table 4 Mean, S.D. and t-value of attitude scores of rural and urban boys towards English subject

Area	N	Mean	SD	सरासरी त्कवत	SE _D	t-value	Sig.
Rural	54	146.38	18.47	10.25	2.19	4.68	Sig. 0.01 Level
Urban	58	156.63	17.34				

The result obtained revealed that there was significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban boys of upper primary schools. So, null hypothesis is rejected. Here the attitudes of urban boys towards English subject are more positive as compared to the boys in rural area.

HO₄ *There will be no significant difference between the mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban girls of upper primary schools.*

Table 5 Mean, S.D. and t-value of attitude scores of rural and urban girls towards English subject

Area	N	Mean	SD	સરિસરી તફાવત	SE _D	t-value	Sig.
Rural	46	152.12	19.17	4.92	2.41	2.04	Sig. 0.05 Level
Urban	44	157.04	17.91				

The result obtained revealed that there was significant difference between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban girls of upper primary schools. So, null hypothesis is rejected. Here the attitudes of urban girls towards English subject are more positive as compared to the girls in rural area.

Major Findings of the Study

Major findings of the study were as under:

1. No significant difference is seen between mean scores of boys and girls of upper primary schools on the attitudes towards English subject.
2. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of rural and urban area students of upper primary schools on the attitudes towards English subject. Here the attitudes of urban students towards English subject are more positive as compared to the students in rural area.
3. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban boys of upper primary schools. Here the attitudes of urban boys towards English subject are more positive as compared to the boys in rural area.
4. Significant difference is seen between mean scores of the attitudes towards the English subject of rural and urban girls of upper primary schools. Here the attitudes of urban girls towards English subject are more positive as compared to the girls in rural area.

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