

STUDY PRACTICES AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AMONG X STANDARD PUPILS IN MADURAI DISTRICT

R. Indira

Ph.D. Research Scholar, Department of Education, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai

Abstract

Study practices and academic achievement are very inter related and interconnected. Academic achievement is the marks scored by individual students measured by an Academic achievement test – Academic achievement test measures what an individual has learnt in school over period of time by formal instruction. Academic achievement tests are common types of tests administered by teachers on the subjects of school curriculum. Socio-economic status, rural, urban differences, school climates, Environment, situations, teaching methods were concentrated one after another in the effort to arrive at a perfect equation of contribution to those factors for predicating academic performance. Academic achievement is generally liked upon from three perspectives moralistic, intellectual and personal social factors of these, the intellectual factors contributes more to education Academic achievement. Academic achievement has always been one of the most important goals for the educational process. It is also a major goal, which the youth are expected to pursue in all culture.

Keywords: Study Practices and Academic Achievement

Need for the Study

Repeated exercise in learning activity requiring the development of certain skills in education is studying practice there is a great demand to evolve certain clear guidelines for the future trends and criteria for considering the development of teaching-learning process. A teacher should not teach without knowing his / her learners doing their study. Hence an effective teacher, is one who keeps in his/her mind the study practices of learners. Low achievers can be improved by discovering their study practices and on paying much attention to those practices during learning.

In other words study habit is a very important characteristic of all human beings who are 'being educated' and are 'educated'. This is more important for secondary school pupils and especially tenth standard pupils. Study habit is rather a rigid term which means "a practice that is hard to give up". Hence the word study practice is used conveniently in this academic paper. There is no need for the study practices at the Xth standard level for effective learning and enlightened academic achievement.

Terms and Definitions

- **Study Practices** - refers to the learning involving repeated exercises/systematic repetition adopted by the learners to achieve the learning goals.
- **Academic Achievement** - refers to the aggregate of the marks secured in half-yearly examination, December 2012.
- **X Standard Pupils** - refers to those who are studying tenth standard under Tamil Nadu State Board syllabus in Madurai district.

Variables of the Study

Dependent Variable - Study Habit

Independent Variable

1. Sex : Male / Female
2. Religion : Hindu / Muslim / Christian
3. Community : ST&SC / MBC / BC&OC
4. School Locality : Rural / Urban
5. School Type : Aided / Unaided
6. School Kind : Unisex / Mixed
7. Newspaper Reading : Yes / No
8. Television Viewing : Yes / No
9. Nativity : Rural / Urban
10. Food Habit : Vegetarian / Non-vegetarian
11. Participation in Sports & Games : Yes / No
12. Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities : Yes / No

Objectives of the Study

1. To measure the study habit among X standard pupils in Madurai district.
2. To find out whether there is significant difference in study habit among X standard pupils in Madurai district in terms of select independent variables.

Hypothesis of the Study

Each of the population variable involved in this study exerts a significant influence on study habit among X standard pupils in Madurai district.

Methodology in Brief

- **Design:** Descriptive,
- **Method:** Normative,
- **Technique :** Survey
- **Population:** All the pupils' studying in X standard under Tamil Nadu State Board syllabus in Madurai District.
- **Sample:** A random sample of 282 X standard pupils from Madurai district with due representation to the variables, viz. Sex, Religion, Community, School Locality, School Type, School Kind, Newspaper Reading, Television Viewing, Nativity, Food Habit, Participation in Sports and Games and Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities.

Tools Used

1. General Information Sheet structured by the Investigator.
2. Study Practice Inventory structured by Ramakrishnan,G. (2012).

Statistical Treatments

't'-test for significance of difference between the means of large independent samples.

Results and Discussions

Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district.

The **empirical average** of Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district is found to be 30.89, while the **theoretical average** is 20 only. This shows that Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district is found well above the average level.

Table 1 Results of Test of Significance of Difference between the Mean Scores of Study Practices among X Standard Pupils in Madurai District: Population Variables – Wise

Sl. No.	Variable	Sub-Variables	N	M	S.D.	't'-value	Significance at 0.05 level
1.	Sex	Male	166	31.70	6.53	2.296	Significant
		Female	116	29.72	7.52		
2.	Religion	Hindu	177	31.15	6.86	0.820	Not Significant
		Muslim	47	30.11	8.00		
		Hindu	177	31.15	6.86	0.421	Not Significant
		Christian	58	30.72	6.67		
		Muslim	47	30.11	8.00	-0.423	Not Significant
		Christian	58	30.72	6.67		
3.	Community	ST&SC	80	29.40	7.61	-0.915	Not Significant
		MBC	64	30.55	7.36		
		ST&SC	80	29.40	7.61	-2.496	Significant
		BC&OC	138	31.91	6.33		
		MBC	64	30.55	7.36	-1.281	Not Significant
		BC&OC	138	31.91	6.33		
4.	School Locality	Rural	149	30.50	7.29	-0.986	Not Significant
		Urban	133	31.32	6.68		
5.	School Type	Aided	123	31.37	6.47	1.037	Not Significant
		Unaided	159	30.52	7.39		
6.	School Kind	Unisex	83	32.07	5.38	2.103	Significant
		Mixed	199	30.40	7.54		
7.	Newspaper Reading	Yes	172	30.85	7.23	-0.108	Not Significant
		No	110	30.95	6.68		
8.	Television Viewing	Yes	96	31.73	6.82	1.465	Not Significant
		No	186	30.46	7.08		
9.	Nativity	Rural	189	30.39	7.63	-1.932	Not Significant
		Urban	93	31.91	5.43		
10.	Food Habit	Vegetarian	37	31.28	7.50	0.387	Not Significant
		Non-vegetarian	245	30.89	6.87		

11.	Participation in Sports and Games	Yes	124	31.21	7.17	0.674	Not Significant
		No	158	30.64	6.89		
12.	Participation in Extra- Curricular Activities	Yes	98	32.07	6.66	2.122	Significant
		No	184	30.26	7.13		

Study Practices and Sex

The calculated 't' value (2.296) is **greater than** the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is a **significant difference** in Study Practices of tenth standard male and female pupils.

Study Practices and Religion

Hindu Vs. Muslim

The calculated 't' value (0.820) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of Hindu and Muslim tenth standard pupils.

Hindu Vs. Christien

The calculated 't' value (0.421) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of Hindu and Christian tenth standard pupils.

Muslim Vs. Christien

The calculated 't' value (-0.423) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of Muslim and Christian tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Community

ST & SC Vs. MBC

The calculated 't' value (-0.915) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of ST & SC and MBC tenth standard pupils.

ST & SC Vs. BC & OC

The calculated 't' value (-2.496) is **greater than** the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is a **significant difference** in Study Practices of ST & SC and BC tenth standard pupils.

MBC Vs. BC & OC

The calculated 't' value (-1.281) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of MBC and BC tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and School Locality

The calculated 't' value (-0.986) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of rural and urban pupils in tenth standard.

Study Practices and School Type

The calculated 't' value (1.037) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of Aided and Unaided school tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and School Kind

The calculated 't' value (2.103) is **greater** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is a **significant difference** in Study Practices of Unisex and Mixed school tenth standard Pupils.

Study Practices and Newspaper Reading

The calculated 't' value (-0.108) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of Newspaper Reading and Non-newspaper Reading tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Television Viewing

The calculated 't' value (1.465) is **greater** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is a **significant difference** in Study Practices of Television Viewing and Non-viewing tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Nativity

The calculated 't' value (-1.932) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of rural and urban tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Food Habit

The calculated 't' value (0.387) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of vegetarian and Non-vegetarian of tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Participation in Sports and Games

The calculated 't' value (0.674) is **lesser** than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is **no significant difference** in Study Practices of those participating and Non-participating sports and games of tenth standard pupils.

Study Practices and Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities

The calculated 't' value (2.122) is greater than the table value (1.96) at 0.05 level of significance. This shows that there is a **significant difference** in Study Practices of those participating and non-participating in extra-curricular activities of tenth standard pupils.

Conclusions

The major conclusions emerged out of the study are presented below:

1. Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district is well above the average level.
2. Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district is dependent upon-Sex; Community (ST&SC vs BC& OC); School Kind; and Participation in Extra-Curricular Activities.
3. Study Practices among X standard pupils in Madurai district is independent upon-Religion; Community (ST&SC vs MBC, MBC & BC&OC); School Locality; School Type; Newspaper Reading; Television Viewing; Nativity; Food Habit; and participation in Sports and Games.

Educational Implications

Almost all the educationists and parents felt the need for suitable study practices among X Standard pupils in order to make them effective learners. Hence the study attempted to devise effective study practices though it is individualist for all the X standard pupils in Madurai District. Special Coursed should be designed for practice of suitable methods and techniques at the X Standard level. If not the government the individual schools should organize courses on study practices at X Standard level.

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