



RESEARCH ARTICLE

A STUDY ON THE LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY DEVELOPMENT ON ENGLISH SUBJECT IN THE SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN PAPUMPARE DISTRICT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

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ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 26th June, 2017
Received in revised form
10th July, 2017
Accepted 23rd August, 2017
Published online 29th September, 2017

Key words:

Language proficiency, English subjects,
Secondary School Students.

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Citation: Dr. Boa Reena Tok, 2017. "A study on the language proficiency development on english subject in the secondary schools in papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh", *International Journal of Current Research*, 9, (09), 57445-57447.

ABSTRACT

This study focused to find out the language proficiency development among the secondary school students. The study is not a fault finding assessment, rather it is an attempt to find out the problems of students in understanding the subject and to identify teacher's problems in teaching of English subject. For this purpose, normative survey method of research was employed. The sample consists of 150 students from government school and private secondary schools of Papum-pare district of Arunachal Pradesh. The study indicates that government school students face more difficulty in proficiency in English than the private secondary schools. This study thus assumes significance as it will help the teacher to have bird's eye view on the whole learning situation of the subjects.

INTRODUCTION

There is always a linkage between secondary education and higher education, if the foundation is not strong enough on the development of different social skills which are called now a day a soft skills. It is in general observed that the students who enrolled in higher education system are lacking the language proficiency in English which is necessary for any individual in the society to cope up oneself, their career success depends on good writing and speaking skills along with proper etiquettes and listening and understanding skills. It is only possible when someone is having adequate communicative/social skills/soft skills but when we visualize the ground reality on the college students in relation to language proficiency they are very poor in presentation that is in directly linked with the poor foundation at elementary and secondary level education. So, from this point it is quite imperative to say the development of language skills and mastery in English language proficiency is must for a teacher and student in order to meet with the challenges of 21st century otherwise there is less scope for survival of the fittest. Therefore the present paper is based on an empirical study among the secondary school students and teachers in Arunachal Pradesh.

Objectives of the study

1. To find out the difference of proficiency in English language among the male and female school students in Papumpare districts of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. To find out the difference of proficiency in English language among the Government and Private school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.
3. To identify the language teaching problems among the English teachers of secondary school in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.

Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference in the proficiency of English language among the male and female secondary school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.
2. There is no significant difference in the proficiency of English language among the Govt. and Private school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.

MATERIALS AND METHDOS

The present study was carried out by adopting descriptive cum survey method of educational research.

Sample: For the present study the investigator used random sampling procedure. The sample of the study comprised of 150

secondary school students in Papumpare District and out of them (93) students were selected randomly from the government schools and (57) numbers of students from the private schools. There were 5 Government schools and 5 private schools included as units of school management in the sample of the study.

Tools: For the present piece of research work in order to forge the research findings the investigator used the following tools.

1. Questionnaire on ‘English diagnostic test’ on language proficiency for student’s development by L. Bishwa Sharma (2003).
2. A self developed checklist prepared by the investigator to indentify the problems related to language teaching among the secondary school teacher.

Statistical techniques used

After collection of the requisite data from the respective respondents the investigator adopted the statistical techniques like ‘t’ test, mean, standard deviation and the simple percentage for analysis and interpretation of data

Analysis and Interpretation

For the Objective no 1 to find out the difference of proficiency in English language among the male and female school students in Papumpare districts of Arunachal Pradesh.

Table 1. t- value of language proficiency scores of male and female secondary school students

Gender	N	Mean	SD	t - value	Df	Remarks
Male	77	41.95	15.82	0.173	148	Not significant at 0.1 and 0.05 level of significance
Female	73	42.40	16.09			

Interpretation

An examination in the table no. 1 in relation to hypothesis no. 1 the investigator found that the computed t- value estimated to be (0.173) which is smaller than the critical t- value (2.61) at 0.01 level and 1.98 at 0.05 level and not significant. Therefore, the formulated null hypothesis there is no significant difference in the proficiency of English language among the male and female secondary school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh get retained. It indicates that there is truly no significance difference is found in the language proficiency among the male and female secondary school learners in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh. But as per as the mean scores are concerned, the mean score of female secondary school students (42.40) is little bit higher than the mean scores of male secondary school students (41.95). Therefore, from this analysis it can be assumed that the female secondary school learners show better language proficiency in comparison to their counterparts. Although there exist no any significant difference among the two groups of students in terms of gender but female students are having slightly higher language proficiency on the basis of mean scores. When we find out the internal causes that why the female students show better language proficiency, it might be because of their interest in their literary reading, communication and media, exposure to language input and better cosmopolitan outlook in the society. For the Objective no. 2 to find out the difference of

proficiency in English language among the Government and Private school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.

Table 2. Summary of t-value among the government and private secondary students

School Management	N	Mean	SD	t - value	Df	Remarks
Private	57	55.8	9.05	11.60	148	Significant at 0.1 and 0.05 level of significance
Government	93	34.1	13.65			

Interpretation

For analysis of objective 2 and hypothesis 2 the investigator found that the computed t- value came out as (11.60) which is greater than the critical t- value (1.98) at 0.01 level and (2.61) at 0.05 level of significance. Therefore the null hypothesis formulated by the investigator “There is no significant difference in the proficiency of English language among the Govt. and Private school students in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh” got rejected. And it indicates that there is a significant difference in the language proficiency among the government and private secondary school students in Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh. Looking at the mean scores of both the schools the mean score (55.80) of the secondary school students in private schools is remarkably higher than the mean score (34.10) of the students in secondary government schools. Therefore, it can be generalize that the secondary school students of private schools in Papumpare Pare District of Arunachal Pradesh have better language proficiency in comparison to the students of secondary government schools. The difference found in the language proficiency might be due to the special guidance, parental environment, and private tuitions and effective teaching procedures and interaction adopted in the private schools.

Objective no 3 To identify the language teaching problems among the English teachers of secondary school in Papumpare District of Arunachal Pradesh.

Table 3. Summary on language teaching Problems among the secondary school teachers

Sl. No.	Items	Option	Percentage response
1	Aware of knowledge proficiency development	Yes	25%
		No	75%
2	Use of lesson plan while teaching	Yes	11%
		No	89%
3	Using of teaching aids while teaching	Always	23%
		Sometimes	77%
4	Use of communicative approach	Yes	22%
		No	78%
5	Medium of language	Hindi	55%
		English	46%
6	Qualification of teachers	Trained	34%
		untrained	66%
7	Method of teaching in grammar	Inductive	52%
		deductive	48%
8	Aware of the different methods of teaching	Yes	41%
		No	59%
9	Steps taken to develop English language four language skills	Yes	39%
		No	61%
10	Evaluate the lesson after teaching	Yes	34%
		No	66%

Interpretation

One checklist was administered among 37 teachers in all the government and private secondary schools of Papumpare

district. There were ten statements acts in relation to the difficulties faced by the English teachers in teaching of English language. The study found that there is almost unstable percentage (<50%) taken place pertaining to the problems faced by the English teachers especially less than 40 percent of responses were positive with items no. 1, item no. 3 item no. 4 item no. 9 and item no. 10 (which have shown in table no. 3. As per the responses among the English teachers the table no. 3 also reveals that there are more than 70 percent of teachers facing difficulties in language teaching. The problems are more concentric to the use of lesson plan, awareness of language proficiency, use of teaching aids, use of communicative approach, aware of different methods of teaching English, steps taken for development of four language skills (LSRW) and evaluation procedures in the subject area. So in this context it can generalized that almost all the teachers except few secondary schools of Papumpare district of Arunachal Pradesh do not have adequate knowledge, training, awareness pertaining to the area of English language teaching which needs a serious discussion from the angle of administration and training on English pedagogy.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

No doubt it is universally understood that English is an international language which considered as also a window to see the world. Unless the proficiency and the minimum level of the learning in English are developed in the students it is not possible to communicate and face the upcoming challenges in the globalization era. Therefore in nutshell, it can be emphasized here that the state machinery, national level, apex bodies for language teaching like ELTI, EFLU should take right endeavor to orient the English language teachers and

Organize different kinds of training programmes on development of language skills in teaching from time to time not only for the secondary schools English teachers in Papumpare district but also in all the secondary schools in Arunachal Pradesh.

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