

# Attitude of Secondary School Students towards English as a Second Language

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## ABSTRACT

English language played very crucial role for communication and played role to get a job. This paper focused on the attitude of the students towards the English language. The objectives of the study were to find out the nature of attitude of studies towards English as a foreign language and to find out the difference of attitude towards school among class VII, class IX and class XI levels students. After analyzing and interpreting the survey data, what are found that are –significant difference has been found in the attitudes of students between class VII & class XI and class IX & class XI, but there is no such difference has found in the attitudes of students between class VII & class IX.

**Keywords:** *attitude, English as a second language, secondary school students*

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## 1. Introduction

In the age of globalization, English Language is well recognized as way of communication. Not only that, now a days we see in many cases the skill on English language is playing crucial role to get a job. Understanding the importance of this international language, India had given importance on this language and chooses the English language as one of two official languages of the country. As a result, this language got place in syllabus in school of each and every region in the country and West Bengal is not an exception. In this state English language is being taught as a 2<sup>nd</sup> language in Bengali medium schools. However, it is not sufficient to just keep this language in curriculum, the attitude of the students towards the language is equally important. In psychology, it is said that a positive attitude towards a subject, make the subject always easier, in case of any subject. To learn English Language or any other language, those things that played important role are –attitude towards the language, motivation, attitude towards the teacher of the subject, attitude of parents, academic achievement etc.

## 2. Objectives

- To find out the nature of attitude of students towards English as second language
- To find out the difference of attitude towards English as a second language among class VII, class IX and class XI levels school students

## 3. Review

Mehmet Nuri Gomleksiz (2010), he had found in his studies titled “An Evolution of Students’ attitudes towards English Language Learning in terms of Several variables” that significantly different attitude was present towards English in terms of gender

of the students. He had also found that a significantly difference was there between the freshman and sophomores' student attitude towards English in terms of their interest, self-confidence, teacher & usefulness.

Nataporn Manachon and Suwattana Eamorphan (2017), 'A Comparative Study of Attitudes English as a Foreign Language Learning between Upper Secondary Students in Science Mathematics and Arts Language Programmes at the Demonstration School in Ramkhanhaeng University, Thailand' was studied. They had tried to find out the level of attitudes towards English as a Foreign Language through the study and from that study, a positive attitude has been found and there were no such significant differences towards English as a Foreign language.

Sumro, Bango and Mahesan (2018), worked on a study titled 'An Attitudinal Study of English as a foreign Language in Sukkur Sindh Pakistan'. Through the study, they had tried to investigate their Language Learning attitude from three aspects: Behavioral, Cognitive & Emotional and they found a positive attitude towards learning English as foreign language.

Dr. M.J.Z Abedin, M. P. Mohammadi and Hanan Alzwari (2012), worked on a study titled EFL Students' Attitude towards Learning English Language: The Case of Libyan Secondary School Students. Through the study, they had tried to investigate Libyan Secondary School Students' attitudes towards learning English from three different aspects i.e. Behavioral, Cognitive & Emotional and they found a negative attitude towards learning English. They found the presence of statistically significant attitudinal difference in terms of gender and field of the study.

Shahrzad Eshghinejad (2016), worked on his study titled 'RETRACTED ARTICLE: EFL Students' attitudes towards learning English Language: The Case Study of Kaslan University Students' in 2016 to investigate the attitude of Male and Female towards English as a Foreign Language from three different aspects i.e. behavioral, cognitive & emotional. From that study he found that a positive attitude towards English Language was there in three different aspects of behavioral, cognitive & emotional; and significantly attitudinal difference was there between the two groups.

B. Al Sobhi and et.al (2018) worked on a study titled "Arab ESL Secondary School Students' Attitude towards English spelling & writing" to explore Arab Secondary School Students' attitudes toward English spelling & writing. From the study, it has been found that Arab Secondary School Students have a high and significantly positive attitude towards English spelling and writing. It has been also found that students' attitude towards social use of English the highest and creativity in writing is the lowest mean among four purposes.

In addition to the above, Al Samadani and Ibnian (2015), Ahmad (2015), Al Noursi, O (2013) and Abu Snouban (2017) has worked with EFL and everyone found positive attitude towards EFL.

#### 4. Statement of the hypothesis

$^0H_1$ : There is no attitudinal difference between class VII and class IX

$^0H_2$ : There is no attitudinal difference between class IX and class XI

$^0H_3$ : There is no attitudinal difference between class VII and class XI

#### 5. Method

In this study, data has been collected using Descriptive Survey through close ended questionnaire and analyzed by inferential statistic.

#### 6. Variable

Researcher has used variable that is 'Attitude of Secondary School Students towards English as a Second Language'.

#### 7. Sample

200 students from Bengali medium Kaligram Girls School under Malda district in West Bengal were considered as sample selection for sample and purposive sampling.

#### 8. Analysis and Interpretation

Determination of the significance of difference in the mean score of the students in class VII and class IX by t-test –

Table No.- 1

Class	Number	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Significant Level
VII	69	105.69	9.07	210	.81	Insignificant
IX	143	106.90	12.37			

Determination of the significance of difference in the mean score of the students in class IX & class XI by t-test –

Table No.- 2

Class	Number	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Significant Level
IX	143	106.90	12.37	194	4.41**	Significant
XI	53	113.74	8.37			

\*\*significant at the 0.01 level

Determination of the significance of difference in the mean score of the students in class VII & class XI by t-test –

Table No.- 3

Class	Number	Mean	SD	df	t-value	Significant Level
VII	69	105.69	9.07	120	5.10**	Significant
XI	53	113.74	8.37			

\*\*significant at the 0.01 level

## 9. Interpretation of the significance of difference in the mean score (t-values) –

$H_1$ : The corresponding t-value of  $H_1$  is .81 and the value is not significant. Therefore, the corresponding hypothesis is accepted. So, there is no significant difference between class VII & class IX students' attitude towards English as Second Language.

$H_2$ : The corresponding t-value of  $H_2$  is 4.41 and the value is significant. Therefore, the corresponding hypothesis is rejected. So, there is a significant difference between class IX & class XI students' attitude towards English as Second Language.

$H_3$ : The corresponding t-value of  $H_3$  is 5.10 and the value is significant. Therefore, the corresponding hypothesis is rejected. So, there is a significant difference between class VII & class XI students' attitude towards English as Second Language.

## 10. Findings

- There is no significant difference between class VII & class IX students' attitude towards English as Second Language.
- There is a significant difference between class IX & class XI students' attitude towards English as Second Language.
- There is a significant difference between class VII & class XI students' attitude towards English as Second Language.
- Attitude of the students of class IX is more positive than other students towards English as Second Language.

## 11. Conclusion

Attitude of Secondary School Students towards English as Second Language has found a significant difference among the students of class IX & class XI and class VII & IX. Beside that the attitude of the students of class IX is comparatively more positive in respect to others. Here, a positive attitude has found towards English as a Second Language just like the study of Al Samadani, Ibnian, Ahmad and Al Noursi, O.

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