

A study of reading comprehension ability of primary school students

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ABSTRACT

This paper studies the study of Reading Comprehension ability of primary school students with gender, achievements test and type of school stream. 100 students studying in standard 8th Gujarati medium Primary schools of Kadi. A Study of reading comprehension ability developed by the researcher to assess study of primary school students was used for data collection. Data analysis involved the use of 't' test. The results revealed that there is no significant different between male and female students.

Keywords: Reading Comprehension, Gujarati Medium, Gender, Type of School, Stream

“**R**eading comprehension means study of learning” reading means reading of extra books besides the text books for sound teaching and learning of education. Comprehension is a process of going to intended meaning or gist from literal meaning. To reach the final stage from literal reading stage of presentation is called comprehension.”

Reading comprehension and vocabulary are inextricably linked together. The ability to decode or identify and pronounce words is self-evidently important, but knowing what the words mean has a major and direct effect on knowing what any specific passage means while skimming a reading material. It has been shown that students with a smaller vocabulary than other students comprehend less of what they read. It has been suggested that to improve comprehension, improving word groups, complex vocabularies such as homonyms or words that have multiple meanings, and those with figurative meanings like idioms, similes, collocations and metaphors are a good practice. so it is must for all to improve reading comprehension ability. if a child gets proper reading ability at the initial stage , he or she can get better education in future. the academic achievement of all the students are same

It is generally believed that study of reading comprehension ability is affect the academic achievement of students.

Statement of the Problem

A study of Reading Comprehension ability of Primary School Students.

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Importance of the Study

1. The present study will be helpful to know about the study of Reading Comprehension for students of Gujarati medium schools.
2. The findings of the present study will be helpful to students and teachers to guide their students for improvement of their study of reading comprehension ability.

Objectives of the Study

1. To examine level of Reading comprehension ability of primary school students.
2. To examine level of reading comprehension ability of primary school students with reference to gender.
3. To examine level of reading comprehension ability with reference to academic achievements.
4. To assess the effect of gender on reading comprehension ability of primary school of students.
5. To assess the effect of achievement on reading comprehension ability of primary school of students.

Hypotheses

Following null hypotheses was formulated for objective of the present study.

- Ho₁ There will be no significant difference between the mean scores obtain by boys & girls on reading comprehension ability test.
- Ho₂ There will be no significant difference obtain by the students having higher academic achievements & lower academic achievements.

Delimitation of the Study

The present study was delimited to 8th standard students of Gujarati medium primary schools of Kadi city.

Limitations of the study

In the present study, self constructed Comprehension test was used to collect data. So, the limitations of the tool were the limitations of the study.

Variables of the Study

The following variables are included in the present study.

Table -1 Type and Level of Variables of the Study

Types of Variable	Variables	Levels of Variable
1. Independent Variables	Gender	Boys
		Girls
	Academic Achievement	Higher
		Lower
2. Dependent Variables	Scores on Reading Comprehension Ability	
3. Controlled Variable	Standard 8 th Gujarati Medium	

Population and Sampling

The population of the present study consisted of all the standard (8th) students of Gujarati medium primary schools located in Kadi city.

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In the present study, list of all the Gujarati medium Primary schools of Kadi city was prepared. Random sampling method was used in order to select the sample for the present study. The list of students studying in std.8th of these schools was administrated there are 100 students studying in std8th and all the students are randomly selected for the purpose of present study and students was selected as the sample in this study is as shown in Table 2

Table 2 No. of the Students selected in the sample according to variables

No.	Variable	Levels	No. of Students	Total
1	Gender	Boys	49	100
		Girls	51	
2	Academic Achievement	Higher	46	100
		Lower	54	

Academic achievement

To divide the students as per their academic achievement, researcher obtained their last semester scores of English subject than median was found out the students who have scored equal two or more than the value of median considered as higher academic achiever and the students whose score less than the value of the median were considered as lower academic achiever.

METHODOLOGY

In the present study, Descriptive survey method was used for data collection.

Tool for Data Collection

In the present study, an attempt was made to know the study reading comprehension ability of student's achievements test. So, the investigator used a student's achievement test and comprehension test to know the reading comprehension ability of students. There were included total 100 students in this study.

Data Collection

The permission was sought from the principal of the selected Gujarati medium primary schools of Kadi city for data collection. The researcher was visited primary schools and administered the test on the students by giving proper instructions. Thus, necessary data was collected from students. Data for the current study was collected with the help of reading comprehension ability test.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

In the present study, the data of the obtained scores of students on the academic achievement test and the study of comprehension test was entered into the Excel programme of M. S. Office at the first. Then all the numerical calculations were done with the Excel Programme. Then the collected data was classified according to the selected variables. Mean, Standard Deviation, Standard Error and C.R for examining null hypotheses were calculated on the basis of score of classified data.

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Table -3 Mean, S.D., t-value for Reading Comprehension ability of Girls & Boys Primary School Students

Hypothesis	Independent Variables	Gender	N	Mean	S.D.	SED	C.R. value
Ho₁	Gender	Boy	49	13.35	2.43	0.50	0.13
		Girl	51	13.41	2.57		
Ho₂	Academic Achievement	Higher	46	13.53	2.39	0.48	0.55
		Lower	54	13.26	2.38		

****Significant at 0.01 level**

***Significant at 0.05 level**

Calculated C.R. value is not significant at both the levels 0.01 and 0.05. Hence the study reveals that there is no significant effect of gender and academic achievement test is found on reading comprehension ability of the students.

Findings

Following are the major findings of the present study.

1. Girls and boys are having equal reading comprehension ability
2. Students having higher academic achievement and lower academic achievement found similar in the matter reading comprehension ability.

Educational Implications

Following implications based on the findings are presented.

1. The present study will be helpful to teachers to arrange inspiring activities to improve the reading habits of students.
2. Teachers can know about the reading comprehension ability of students with the help of the comprehension test.
3. Proper guidelines should be provided to teachers to improve reading ability of students.

CONCLUSION

The present study was carried out considering the study reading comprehension ability of the students for Gujarati medium primary schools with respect to gender and type of school stream. The researcher hopes that, findings of this study will be helpful to teachers and educational persons to understand students' reading comprehension ability.

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Conflict of Interest

The author declared no conflict of interest.

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