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# Review Of Research



## AN EXPERIMENTAL STUDY OF ENHANCING STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENTS IN ENGLISH THROUGH METACOGNITIVE AND ATTENTION STRATEGIES



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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to develop appropriate metacognitive and attention strategies to enhance the level of students achievements in English. An experimental design has been adopted. "Metacognitive and attentuin" strategies are the independent variables and achievement in English is the dependent variable. The execution consists of six phases spread over 10 weeks. 47 standard 12 of a local school were the sample selected for the study. Three tools were developed and validated to assess Metacognitive and attention strategies and achievement in English. The data for metacognitive and attention strategies and achievements in English on pre, progeressive and Post Test were collected and computed for

analysis. Gradual increase in the dependent variable via., Students achievement in English from initial assessment to final assessment indicates the influence of independent variable namely Metacognitive and attention strategies.

**KEYWORDS :**Metacognition, Attention, Achievement in English – Strategies

### INTRODUCTION

The role of teaching – Learning English is the most important in the Process of development and transformation of society. The main challenge of teaching is to help students develop skills which

will not become obsolete – Metacognitive strategies are one set of such skills.

They facilitate “learning to learn” identified as essential for the twenty first century. (Saravanakumar, Ar.2005). They will enable students successfully cope with new situations. Teachers and school library / Media specialists and the wealth of resources facilitates the development of good thinkers who will be successful problem – Solvers and life – long learners. (Yuruk, et all 2003). Metacognitive strategies are indispensable for identifying and selecting from the vast wealth of information that is readily available today.

In general cognitive strategies have been more successful in increasing sustained voluntary attention in classroom settings than approaches that assume a passive learner

(Saravanakumar, Ar.2012) Research on active learning, motivation and cognitive strategies have produced effective tools for classroom teaching and learning process.

Students' Achievements in English is also a function of the teachers capacity to create a rich and multidimensional environment for deprived children. Effective teaching depends on the methodology and technology of teaching. Teaching is process in which the teachers and students create an interactive environment, in such a way the students become effective and productive learners. (Beeth, et.al, 2003) Information constantly reaches our brain. When and how is it stored in our long term memory? How can teachers take advantage of the processes to help students retain the information and recall it when ever needed (Saravanakumar, AR., 2013) These are possible only by a teacher who can harness metacognitive and attention strategies in the teaching – learning process. So this study aims to develop appropriate metacognitive and attention strategies on enhancing students achievements in English and validate them

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

- 1.To identify the problems experienced by students in learning English.
- 2.To assess the metacognitive level of the students in learning English.
- 3.To assess the level of attention on enhancing students achievements in English.
- 4.To facilitate metacognitive and attention strategies among the students in learning English.
- 5.To implement the metacognitive and attention strategies on enhancing students achievements in English.
- 6.To find out the efficacy of metacognitive strategies in learning English.
- 7.To find out the efficacy of attention strategies in learning English.

### **DESIGN OF THE STUDY**

#### **Modify the strategies:**

The government Higher secondary school is located in Sulur, Coimbatore District and it has 1000 students studying from standards VI to XII. Nearly 120 students are studying in XII standard in different sections. Of them, all the 47 students in a single class namely section “A” were taken as the sample for the study. Since the same group and the same teachers are involved, variation in terms of teacher competence and other environmental factors in the experimental situation are minimized.

### **The Phases of the Experiment:**

#### **Phase I**

- 1.Understanding the importance of metacognitive and attention strategies.
- 2.Understanding the need for a learning technique for XII standard students to enhance their achievement in English.

#### Phase II

3.Administering Pre – assessment tools in metacognitive and attention strategies and also achievement in English.

#### Phase III

4.Selecting appropriate on metacognitive strategies

#### Phase IV

5.Implementing Metacognitive and attention strategies for 10 weeks.

6.Conducting Progressive assessments on metacognitive and attention strategies and also achievements in English

#### Phase V

7.Administering Post – assessment tools in metacognitive and attention strategies and also students achievements using the same tools.

8.Recording the students level of achievements in English

#### Phase VI

9.Recording, categorizing and analyzing the pre-assessment, progressive assessment and Post-assessment,

10.Interpreting the results of the experiment after analyzing the data.

#### Construction and Validation of Tools

The following tools were developed and validated to assess memtacognitive and attention strategies and also achievement in English of the same subjects.

##### 1.Metacognitive Strategy Inventory(MSI).

The tool finalized after consultation with field experts for validity had 26 items. The ability of the tool was established by spilt half method. The reliability co-efficient found to be 0.60 which is significant. Hence the tools is deemed to be reliable.

##### 2. Attention Strategy Assessment Tool (ASAT)

The concentration of awareness on same phenomenon to the exclusion of other stimuli. It is applying one's mind, mental concentration awareness. It also defined as the act of fixing the mind upon any one object or class or objects or directing the energies of the mind to a definite purpose.

A tool was Constructed to measure the level of attention on the basis of the techniques of attention stimulus and validated in consultation with field experts. The investigator established its realibility by split-half method and the reliability co-efficient was to be 0.60.

##### 3. This indicates that the tool is highly reliable.

##### Achievement Test in English:

The Achievement Tests constructed by the investigator were scrutinized by experienced teachers of English especially for content relevance and coverage. The content validity of Achievement Tests were established based on expert panel judgment.

The reliability of the tool was established by Split-half method. The reliability co-efficient was found to be 0.74 which was significant and tool is highly reliable.

#### DATA COLLECTION :

Metacognitive and attention strategies were designed by the investigator. Then, assessments of the initial levels of metacognitive and attention strategies and also achievement in English were made using the tools constructed and validated by the investigator. The strategies to develop metacognitive and attention were implemented for a period of 10 weeks. Pre and Post-assessments of metacognitive and attention and also achievement tests were made. Data on metacognitive and attention, and also achievement in English at intervals using the experiment for 10 weeks., at the end of it, scores were collected and computed for analysis. The scores of the 47 Students on the pre, progressive and at the end of the experiment on metacognitive and attention strategies and also students achievement in English were subjected to descriptive, differential and Multi Variable Statistical Analysis.

Presentation and Analysis of Data:

**Table :1**  
**Mean and S.D of Pre-Progressive and Post Experiment Metacognition scores**

| S.no | Metacognitive Strategies | No | Mean<br>(Max Marks : 75) | S.D  |
|------|--------------------------|----|--------------------------|------|
| 1.   | Initial Assessment       | 47 | 38.46                    | 3.82 |
| 2.   | Progressive Assessment I | 47 | 41.25                    | 4.09 |
|      | II                       | 47 | 44.42                    | 2.10 |
|      | III                      | 47 | 48.87                    | 2.08 |
| 3.   | Final Assessment         | 47 | 53.02                    | 1.79 |

From the above Data it is Observed that

- 1.The mean score of Metacognitive Strategies Score in Progressive assessment I is greater than the mean of metacognitive score in initial assessment.
- 2.The mean mean of Metacognitive Strategies Score in Programive assessment is greater than the mean score of assessment in progressive assessment I.
- 3.The mean score of Metacognitive Strategies in Progressive assessment is greater than the mean score of Metacognitive Strategies assessments II
- 4.The mean score of metacognitive strategies score in post experiment assesement is greater than the mean score of metacognitive strategies in progressive assessment III
- 5.The mean score of metacognitive strategies is post-experiment amendment is greater than the mean score of metacognitive strategies in initial assessments.

**Table : 2**  
**Mean and S.D of Pre and Post Experiment on Attention Strategies scores.**

| S.No | Attention Strategies | Mean<br>(max Marks : 75) | S.D  |
|------|----------------------|--------------------------|------|
| 1.   | Initial Assessment   | 54.17                    | 4.58 |
| 2.   | Final Assessment     | 64.47                    | 1.76 |

**From the above table it is Observed that**

- 1.The mean score of find assessment in Attention Strategies is greater than the mean score of initial assessment in Attention Strategies.
- 2.The mean score of Progressive assessment – II in Attention Strategies is greater than the mean score of progressive assessment I in attention strategies.
- 3.The mean score of Progressive assessment - III in Attention Strategies is greater than the mean score of Progressive assessment II in attention strategies.
- 4.The mean score of Post assessment in Attention Strategies are greater than the mean score of progressive assessment in attention strategies.
- 5.The mean score of post experiemnt in attention strategies are greater than the mean score of initial assessment in attention strategies.

**Table : 3**

**Mean and S.D of initial progressive and Post experiment assessment scores of achievement in English.**

| S.No | Achievement in English   | Mean<br>(Max Marks : 50) | S.D  |
|------|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| 1.   | Initial Assessment       | 20.34                    | 6.48 |
| 2.   | Progressive Assessment I | 24.98                    | 4.75 |
|      | II                       | 30.00                    | 5.28 |
|      | III                      | 37.11                    | 2.60 |
| 3.   | Final Assessment         | 38.48                    | 1.98 |

**From the above tablet it is Observed that**

- 1.The mean score of Achievement in English in Progressive assessment – I is greater than the mean score achievement in English in the initial assessment.
- 2.The mean score of Achievement in English in Progressive assessment – II is greater than the mean score of achievement in English progressive – I assessment.
- 3.The mean score of Achievement in English Progressive – III assessment is greater than the mean score of achievement in English in progressive assessment II
- 4.The Mean score of Achievement in English in Post – experiment assessment is greater than the mean score of Progressive assessment – III
- 5.The mean score of Achievement in English in Post – experiment assessment is greater than the mean score of Achievement in English in the initial assessment.

**DISCUSSION :**

There is a significant difference between pre and final mean scores on metacognitive strategies on an independent variable. The initial mean score is 38.46% and the final mean score is 53.02%. The difference in the mean scores can be attributed to the applying in metacognitive strategies.

Again, There is a significant difference between the initial and final assessment scores on Attention strategies. The other independent variable chosen for experiment, the mean score of initial assessment is 54.17% and the final mean score on attention strategies is 64.47%.



From this it is inferred that the attention strategies have been effective in enhancing the level of students attention.

There is a significant mean difference between pre and post assessment of scores in the dependent variable namely, achievement in English. The mean score of Pre test is 20.34% and Post test is 38.48%.

In order to assess the contribution of each of the independent variable to the variation in the dependent variable was completed. It was 0.86 for metacognition and 0.67 for attention for the difference between the initial and the final score in achievement in English.

The gradual but statically significant increase in the mean scores from the initial to post-test assessment of achievement in English through the successive phases of experiment indicates a positive relationship between the independent variables on the one hand and the dependent variable on the other.

### CONCLUSION :

The world is becoming more and more competitive. Quality of the performance has become the key factor for personal progress. Parents desire that the their children should climb the ladder of performance to greater heights . This desire of higher level of achievements puts a lot of pressure on students, teachers, Schools and in general the education system itself. Infact, it appears as if the whole system of education revealed the academic achievement of students through various others outcomes.

Thus a lot of time and efforts are used for helping students to achieve better in their scholastic endeavors. In this way achievement in any subject can be improved through metacognitive and attention strategies. Teacher should be trained for imparting metacognitive and attention strategies in the classroom situation.

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