



IDENTIFYING THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN B.Ed. STUDENTS' AWARENESS ON THEIR SURVIVAL SKILLS AND THEIR ACHIEVEMENT IN THE COURSE PAPER

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ABSTRACT :

The main aim of this study is to identify the relationship between B.Ed. students' awareness on their survival skills and their achievement in the course paper. In this study, there are particularly two objectives to be obtained. They are: i) to identify the survival skills which B.Ed. student-teachers possess in terms of its dimension, ii) to find out the relationship between B.Ed. student-teachers' awareness on their survival skills and their achievement in the course paper - "learning and teaching". In this context, this study was carried over among 34 B.Ed. first year student-teachers with the background of various streams at undergraduate level. The data were collected in the form of questionnaire and a written test. The collected data were analysed descriptively. Result revealed that there is relation between awareness on survival skill and achievement [significant at the 0.05 level]. Most of the student-teachers agreed sometimes they use survival-skills (48%) and 42% were recorded as always.



KEYWORDS : Survival Skills, Student-Teachers, Self-Awareness.

INTRODUCTION

Attaining the competencies and skills for sustainable life is a fundamental requirement for Twenty first century learners. Learning means acquiring necessary skills for facing the demands of the global life. The researcher being a teacher educator in Teacher Education College wanted to find out whether B.Ed., students of today have awareness over their survival skills.

SURVIVAL SKILLS

Personalization, collaboration, communication, productivity and content creation are key to the overall vision of twenty-first century learning (McLoughlin and Lee, 2008; Redecker and Punie, 2013). The ways of thinking, the ways of working, tools for working and skills for living in the world are the four broad categories of twenty-first century survival skills (Griffin, McGaw and Care, 2012). Wanger (2010) describes the seven survival skills for twenty-first century living on work and citizenship. They are Critical thinking and problem solving; Collaboration and leadership; Agility and adaptability; Initiative and entrepreneurialism; Effective oral and written communication; Accessing and analysing information; and Curiosity and imagination.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

This study was designed to explore the awareness on the professional teaching skill in terms of Survival skill and explore the fundamental knowledge in teaching profession in terms of the course paper. The research focuses on the following relation.

- To identify the Survival skills which B.Ed. student-teachers possess in terms of its dimension.
- To find out the relationship between B.Ed. student-teachers awareness on their survival skills and their achievement in the course paper - "learning and teaching".

Method

This research is descriptive study and intent to compare the student-teachers survival skill in terms of different dimension and the fundamental knowledge about the course paper (profession oriented) at entry level. The population for this study consists of 34 first year student-teachers as entrant sat a B.Ed. college in India. They came from the language, science, mathematics, history and economic streams at undergraduate level and enrolled in respective pedagogical course in Bachelor of Education program. The study focused on exploring the students-teachers skill and pre-course knowledge for their professional development.

Instrument

The researcher wanted to find out whether their awareness on survival skills has its impact over their academic achievement. Hence, the researcher developed two tools such as *Achievement Test on Content Knowledge of B.Ed. Student-Teachers in the Course Paper Learning and Teaching & Assessment for Awareness on Survival Skill of B.Ed. Student-Teachers*. The developed tools got validity established by getting experts opinion. The reliability of the tool was established through Cronbach Alpha test. The r-value was found to be 0.8 and 0.7 respectively. The first tool consists of 15 items and is divided to two subsets including written form to test the subjectivity. This tool is developed to test the student-teacher knowledge about teaching methods perceived in their school time and, they were going to develop that knowledge for their career as a future teacher. The second tool consists of 49 items and is divided into the following dimension to test the major survival skills as shown in the following table.

TABLE-1

Skills in Terms of Dimension	Description	Items
Dimension 1: Creativity	the use of imagination or original ideas to create something	1-6
Dimension 2: Critical Thinking	evaluation of an issue in order to form a judgement.	7-10
Dimension 3: Problem-Solving	the process of finding solutions to difficult or complex issues	11-16
Dimension 4: Decision-Making	the action or process of making important decisions	17-20
Dimension 5: Communication	exchanging of information by speaking, writing, or using some other medium	21-32
Dimension 6: Collaboration	the action of working with someone to produce something	33-36
Dimension 7: Information Literacy	the set of integrated abilities encompassing the reflective discovery of information	37-41
Dimension 8: Citizenship, Personal and Social Responsibility	needing companionship and therefore best suited to living in communities	42-49

The validated tools were administrated among 34 B.Ed. students belong to the college where the researcher is teaching. The collected data were analysed for finding out the relationship between B.Ed. students' awareness on their survival skills and their achievement in the course paper. The details of the analysis are given in the tables below.

Findings and Discussion

1) Analysis of Student-Teachers' Awareness on Survival Skills

Table 2: Individual Response on possessing Survival Skills

S.No	Dimension of Survival Skill	N	Always (%)	Sometime (%)	Never (%)
1	Creativity	34	39%	54%	6%
2	Critical thinking	34	41%	50%	9%
3	Problem-solving	34	36%	55%	9%
4	Decision-making	34	40%	48%	13%
5	Communication	34	43%	43%	14%
6	Collaboration	34	44%	46%	10%
7	Information literacy	34	37%	51%	11%
8	Citizenship, personal and social responsibility	34	57%	37%	6%
	Overall Survival Skill	34	42%	48%	10%

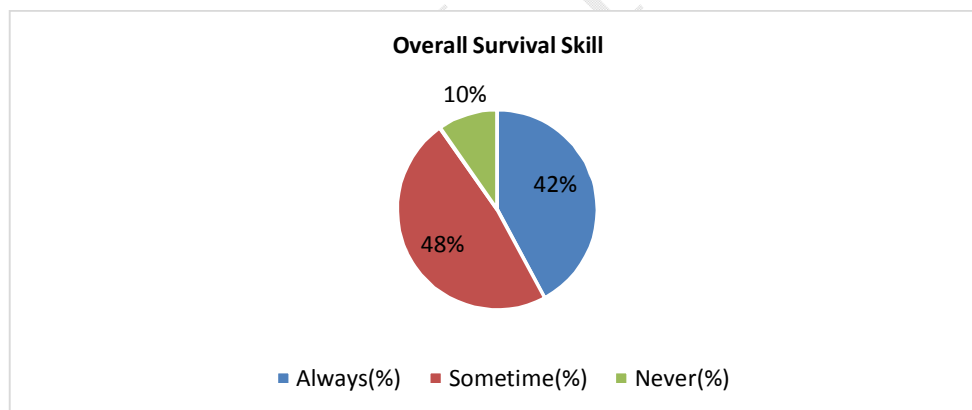


FIGURE 1

2) Analysis of Relationship between Self-Awareness on Survival Skills and Achievement in the Course Paper

Table 3: Descriptive Statistics

	Achievement	Survival Skill
Mean	32.7941	86.0000
Median	30.0000	88.0000
Mode	30.00	58.00 ^a
Std. Deviation	17.10888	17.08978
Variance	292.714	292.061

a. Multiple modes exist. The smallest value is shown

Table 4: Correlations

		Achievement	
Spearman's rho	SurvivalSkill	Correlation Coefficient	.304*
		Sig. (1-tailed)	.040
		N	34
*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (1-tailed).			

Table-4 shows that there is a relationship between self-awareness on survival skills in terms of its dimension and achievement in the course paper among B.Ed. entrants.

CONCLUSION

From the result of this research, awareness on the survival skill of student-teachers is important at B.Ed. level as well as their career. As stated in the objectives, the B.Ed. student-teachers possess the survival skills in terms of eight dimensions identified. The descriptive data and standard deviation reveal that there is relation between awareness on survival skill and achievement [significant at the 0.05 level]. Most of the student-teachers agreed sometimes they use survival-skills (48%) and 42% were recorded as always. It is ascertained that survival skills are essential for teaching profession. Secondly, the relationship between B.Ed. student-teachers' awareness on their survival skills and their achievement in the course paper - "learning and teaching" was found out and it shows that there is relation between them. In the light of these result it can be suggested that importance should be given to survival skills in teacher education so as to enhance the teacher competencies for twenty first century skill development among learners of the future.

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