Relationship between Reading Habit and Teaching Competence of Primary School Teachers Those Who are Undergoing B.Ed Course

Dr Sunil Kumar A.S
Assistant Professor of Education
NSS Training College, Ottapalam, PALAKKAD Dt, Pin-679101, KERALA, INDIA

Abstract

The present study investigates teaching competence and reading habit of primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and the significant relationship between teacher effectiveness and reading habit among primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and their preferences and perceptions with regard to reading habit. In this study, teacher trainees is defined as the experienced, educated, knowledgeable and patient teachers of primary school those who are undergoing B.Ed course at different colleges of education. The study was conducted on a sample of 100 of primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course. Appropriate statistical techniques were employed to collect the data. Survey results and analysis have indicated that the majority of the respondents have moderate and low reading habit.

INTRODUCTION

Education is a unique feature that plays the most dominant role in the life and evolution of mankind. Man who is fully educated is the real human resource and is considered as an important valuable and tangible asset to a country. The economic development of a country depends fully up on such real assets. As Dean Kamen says, “I think an education is not only important, it is the most important thing you can do with your life.” Great thinkers and philosophers have emphatically stated that teachers are the backbone of society.

Teacher education institutions undoubtedly play a vital role in improving the standard of education. Their main function to prepare competent and effective teachers. Teacher education is one of the areas in higher education which trains student teachers in pedagogy. It is here that values such as sense of duty, honest work, and responsibility to the society etc must be inculcated in them. Only qualitative development of teacher education can ensure quality of teachers.

Language is the dress of thought and the acquisition of language is the gift of Gods to mankind and mankind alone. Reading means the act or process of getting the meaning of Written or printed words the teaching of reading has not changed in a generation. It is the gateway to knowledge and wisdom. It is one of the most effective means of systematic development of language and the personality of a person. It provides access to the ideas of others cutting across the barriers of time, space and language. Reading was once looked at merely as a means of receiving messages but today reading-research has confirmed that the act of reading is itself is a multilevel mental process which contributes largely to the development of the human intellect.
Reading makes a man full. It sharpens our mind reading the most powerful, means for developing our personality as well as to achieve our goal. Reading helps us since our childhood to old age. The person’s interest in reading depends on the books as well as his intellectual and cultural development, depends on the literature which he reads. A person’s reading depends on education, profession and breeding etc. If we want to create interest in reading habit so we should begin it through interesting literature. As first our attitude towards reading of the interesting literature turns towards reading the excellent books. Thus, the reader’s personality is formed; we should not give philosophical books at first to the reader at the beginning.

Reading is an essential element at every stage of one’s life particularly in schools, colleges and at workplaces. This is because reading is a kind of way to find out information to develop the knowledge of the reader. It is also a way of understanding all kinds of subjects. “Reading is to mind what exercise is to the body.” The more you read, the stronger your mind is. As the exercise strengthens the body reading strengthens the mind. There is a general assumption that everyone knows how to read. But the fact is the other way round. Not everyone knows how to read and those who feel they know are not doing effectively as they could be. Fluency of reading is one of the important factors of good reading. A fluent reader can remember what he has read. The ideas in the text are clear to such reader. The IQ of small children is higher than the elder ones. So their creativity is greater. Therefore the parents should encourage their children to develop their reading habit. It emotionally connects them. The language skills of the children are developed if they start reading habit since their early childhood.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

People have shown decreasing interest in reading. They have shown increasing interest in the use of computers, internet, television, mobile phone etc, especially during the last ten years, and they have raised a number of fundamental questions that need analysis and discussion. The purpose of this study is to acquaint the reader with some of the fundamental causes that leads the new generation to such an attitude. Thus the present study is entitled as “Relationship Between Reading Habit and Teaching Competence of Primary School Teachers Those Who are Undergoing B.Ed Course”

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To find out the level of Reading Habit of primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.
2. To find out the level of Teaching Competence of primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.
3. To find out the significant relationship between Teaching Competence and reading habit among primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.

HYPOTHESES OF THE STUDY

The following hypotheses were set for the present study:

1. There exist different levels of reading habit among primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.
2. There exists a significant relationship between Teaching Competence and reading habit among primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.
METHODOLOGY

Method of study. Normative survey method was used for the study

Sample. The present study conducted on a sample of 100 teachers of primary school those who are undergoing B.Ed course at different colleges of education were selected using stratified random sampling technique

Tools used for the study.

The following tools were used in this study, the investigator adopted The General Teaching Competence Scale prepared and standardised by B.K.Passi and M.S. Lalitha in 1979. Apart from this the investigator constructed a Reading Interest Inventory. There was no time limit for answering the inventory. The reliability and validity of the tools were also ensured through appropriate techniques

Statistical techniques used.

1. Descriptive Statistical Techniques
2. ‘t’ test

Data collection procedure.

Both the tools were administered to 50 male primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and 50 female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course. The General Teaching Competency Scale is used by the observer for measuring teacher effectiveness of a teacher individually by means of direct observation of the classroom behavior for the entire teaching period. The observer will sit in the classroom and will mark frequencies against each item after assessing the way in which that particular skill was made use of by the teacher. The rating against all the items are summed up to get the total score on the general teaching competency of the teacher being observed. The maximum possible score is 147 and the minimum score is 21.

To collect the necessary data for the present study reading habit was collected using Reading Interest Inventory, name, sex, subject, qualification etc., will be collated through a personal data Performa. The responses were collected accordingly. The data were subjected to statistical analysis, in the descriptive analysis, mean and standard deviation were calculated, ‘t’ test is considered to be an appropriate test for judging significance of difference of mean scores.

Analysis and interpretations

Table-1

Comparison of the scores of male and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course. in their Teaching Competence

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups of teacher trainees</th>
<th>No. Teacher trainees</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>t value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>92.56</td>
<td>12.36</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>88.35</td>
<td>11.52</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>1.95</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
From the table it can be noticed that there is no significant difference between male primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course in their Teaching Competence as the t value 1.95 is less than the table value (2.01) with 95% confidence.

Table-2

Comparision of the scores of male primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course on the basis of their reading habit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups of teacher trainees</th>
<th>No. Teacher trainees</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>Standard deviation</th>
<th>Df</th>
<th>‘t’ value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>33.32</td>
<td>4.161</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>29.11</td>
<td>5.795</td>
<td>48</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table value for ‘t’ with 48 df is 2.01.

From the table it can be noticed that there is no significant difference between male primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course in their reading habit as the t value 1.63 is less than the table value (2.01) with 95% confidence.

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Correlation coefficient</th>
<th>Significance level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Teaching Competence</td>
<td>0.052</td>
<td>P&gt;0.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reading Habit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table, it is evident that the correlation coefficient 0.052 is not significant even at 0.05 level. Thus it indicates that there is no significant relationship between Teaching Competence and their reading habit.

Findings of the study

The study reveals that there is no significant difference between male and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course in their Teaching Competence. The study also reveals that there is no significant difference between male and female primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course in their reading habit. It was found that there is no significant relationship between Teaching Competence and reading habit among primary school teachers those who are undergoing B.Ed course.

Conclusion and suggestions

Teaching Competence was not only influenced by reading habit but also many other factors. This may be the reasons that in this study the relation between Teaching Competence and reading habit among
teacher trainees was not significant. The findings of the present study revealed that male teacher trainees are superior to female teacher trainees in their Teaching Competence and in reading habit. The investigator assumes that this may be due to the availability of more time to the male teachers than the female teachers. Thus the study indicates to the urgency of introducing more reading related activities in teacher education curriculum, because the female are more in number than males in the populations of future asset. The efficacy and strength of an educational system largely depends up on the quality of its teacher. The teachers should take initiative in conducting programmes like debates and situational incidents for speaking and allow language labs and book reviews. these always helps to improve reading interest. language lab and language clubs in school where the students will get opportunity to exercise on the ability will help to acquire reading interest.

References

- Vasistha.K.K(1979) Teacher Education in India: New Delhi: Printice Hall of India