



A Study of Critical Thinking of Students of Secondary Schools

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Abstract:

The objectives of the present research study were: (1) to compare Critical Thinking with reference to level of education (standard), gender and habitat of Students of Secondary school. (2) to compare Critical Thinking with reference to level of education (standard), gender and habitat of Students of Secondary school (3) to find the correlation between the different group of Students of Secondary schools with reference to Critical gender and total sample. Independent Variable: (A) Gender (male/Female), (B) Habitat (Rural/Urban) and Dependent Variable: Critical Thinking, Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement.; Research Area: The present research study was conducted taking sample of students from secondary ; from Grant-in-aid school of Mehsana City. Research Design: The present research was Descriptive Survey by its nature. Population and Sample of the Study: The population of the study was the students from secondary; from Secondary schools of Mehsana city. The sample for the study was selected by using random sampling method. Research Method: In the present investigation survey method was employed. Tools of the Study: To collect the data for the present investigation Critical Thinking Test (Prepared by Investigator) was used. Data Collection: Data for the present research was collected by the investigator. Statistical Treatment: For the calculation of the data, the researcher had employed the formulas of Mean, Standard Deviation, and t-value. Findings: From the above research paper it is found that there is not any significant effect of gender and habitat on Critical Thinking of Secondary students. Group of Higher secondary school students are found significantly higher than the group Secondary school students. It means growing age of the person is related with the perception towards the Critical Thinking It has been also found that there is positive correlation found between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement of total students of secondary students. It is evident that Academic Achievement of school student is related with Critical Thinking of students.

Keywords: Academic Achievement Critical Thinking, Habit

1. Introduction

A society with domestic idea attempts consciously to improve its programme and agencies for serving the common welfare of all of the citizens of nation. It attempts to ensure those improvements chiefly by establishing educational institutions which socially acceptable interest and needs that youth feels may be citizen's responsibility. The educational system plays a very important role developing various kinds of personality traits, values and national feelings. Critical Thinking is one of the important factors of personality. **Anand (1959)** conducted research on Critical Thinking of School Students. From the research it is found that mental Health, academic achievement and socio economic status of their parents has positive correlation. **Chaube (1982)** conduct a research on "A study of some personality traits and pressing problems of junior high school students". From the research it is found that the girls were more critical and had lower mental capacity. They were unable to handle abstract problems,

more emotionally mature, stable, constant in interests and calm. The most pressing problems of the total sample were: anxiety regarding securing good marks in examinations, parents taking too many pains for them, feeling much too ashamed for doing something wrong, anxiety about attaining success in life, losing one temper quite often wanting to plan for the future, finding it hard to forget certain mistakes, anxiety about what happens after death, parents worries due to paucity to money. **Sanehy, S.P. (1984)** conducted a study on "A comparative study of Personality Adjustment and values of delinquents and non-delinquents. " From the research it is found that the delinquents showed significant difference from non-delinquents in respect of extraversion/introversion, social maladjustment and atomism and denial. The delinquents showed significantly poor adjustment on home, health, emotion, social and total adjustment.

2. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the present research were:

1. To compare Critical Thinking with reference to gender of Students of Secondary schools.
2. To compare Critical Thinking with reference to habitat of Students of Secondary schools.
3. To find the correlation between the different group of Students of Secondary schools with reference to Gender and total sample

3. Hypotheses of the Study

Hypotheses of the present investigation were:

Ho₁: There will be no significant difference between mean score of male and mean score of female students of secondary schools on Critical Thinking Test.

Ho₂: There will be no significant difference between mean score of urban and mean score of rural students of secondary schools on Critical Thinking Test.

4. Variables of the Study

Variables of the present research study were:

4.1 Independent Variable

Critical Thinking of student;

4.2 Independent Variable

Perception of students and

4.3 Moderate Variable

Gender, Habitat

5. Operational Definitions of the Terms

5.1 Critical Thinking

'Critical Thinking' refers to creativity perception of students.

5.2 Gender

Gender refers to male and female category of the Students of Secondary s.

5.3 Habitat

Habitat refers to the urban and rural location of the Students of Secondary s' residence.

6. Delimitations of the Study

The study has been delimited to the Students of Secondary s from Mehsana City. The study has been delimited to find out the effect of following variables: (a) Gender (b) Habitat

7. Research Area

The present research study was conducted taking sample from Grant-in-aid Secondary School From Mehsana City.

8. Research Design

The present research was Descriptive Survey by its nature.

9. Population and Sample of the Study

The population of the study was the students of Grant-in-aid secondary schools from Mehsana City from Gujarat state. The sample for the study was selected by using random sampling method. Five secondary Schools were selected random technique sampling by lottery system. Total 200 Students were selected.

10. Research Method

In the present investigation survey method was employed.

11. Tools of the Study

Data were collected for the present investigation of Critical Thinking Test prepared by the Investigator, and achievement test for the score were selected as the tools. Reliability of test of Test-Retest Reliability was found very high and the validity with other tool correlation was found high in nature.

12. Data Collection

Data for the present research was collected by the investigator.

13. Statistical Treatment

For the calculation of the data, the researcher had employed the formulas of Mean, Standard Deviation, and t-value.

14. Data Analysis

The sample of Total 200 Students were selected, 200 students were selected from the Secondary School from Mehsana city from Gujarat State were studied on Critical Thinking Test . The tabulation and statistical calculations were made for analysis and interpretations of data. The t-test was employed for the comparison of two groups. The analysis and interpretation of the data have been presented under the heads: (1) Effect of Gender on 'Critical Thinking' Perceptions. (2) Effect of Habitat Gender on 'Critical Thinking' Perceptions. (3) Correlation between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement.

15. Major findings of the study

15.1 Effect of Gender on 'Critical Thinking' Perceptions

From the research, it is evident that the mean score of female students are not significantly higher than the mean score of male students of secondary on Critical Thinking Test. So, H_{01} is accepted; which is stated as "There will be no significant difference between mean score of male and mean score of female students of secondary on Critical Thinking Test."

15.2 Effect of Habitat Gender on 'Critical Thinking' Perceptions

From the research, it is evident that the, mean which is not significant at 0.05/0.01 level of significance. Thus, mean score of rural students are not significantly higher than the mean score of urban students of secondary on Critical Thinking Test. So, H_{02} is accepted; which is stated as

“There will be no significant difference between mean score of rural and mean score of urban students of secondary on Critical Thinking Test.”

15.3 Correlation between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement

From the correlation study; it is found that there is 0.529 correlation found between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement of male students of secondary students. 0.418 correlations found between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement of female students of secondary students. 0.492 correlations found between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement of total students of secondary students.

16. Conclusion

From the above research paper it is found that there is not any significant effect of gender and habitat on Critical Thinking of Secondary students. Group of secondary school students are found significantly higher than the group Secondary school students. It means growing age of the person is related with the perception towards the Critical Thinking It has been also found that there is positive correlation found between Critical Thinking and Academic Achievement of total students of secondary students. It is evident that Academic Achievement of school student is related with Critical Thinking of students.

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