



A Study of Disinterest of Students of Grade 8 in Social Science Subject

DR. JINAL SMIT JOSHI
HOD

Communication and skill Development and
Director of Schools For:
Sarva Vidhyalaya Kelvani Mandal

1. Introduction

Social science subject is also much important. This subject is important and useful but always considered difficult. It includes the subjects like history, geography, politics, economics and sociology. The education of social science subject is related to our life. Social science becomes helpful in understanding the factors of the situations of life and the changes coming in them. The education of social science subject is necessary in order to build a well arranged and aware society.

The subject of social science is added in the curriculum of primary education of Gujarat state. Social science is taught in standard-5 to 10. The students believe that this subject is hard as it includes events, history, dates, etc. The teachers also have the negative belief that the students cannot learn this subject effectively. It is possible to bring changes in these beliefs and avoid the disinterest in it. The present study can make the learning of this subject easy and increase the interest of students in this subject. It can make the teaching-learning process meaningful. So, the researcher held this study to know the disinterest of the students of grade-8 in social science subject.

2. Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the present study are as follow:

1. To prepare a questionnaire to know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject.
2. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the subject of students.
3. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the curriculum of students.
4. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the teacher of students.
5. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the homework of students.
6. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the period of students.
7. To know the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in Social science subject related to the school of students.

3. Questions of the Study

The questions of the study are as follow:

- 1 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to area?
- 2 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to gender?

- 3 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to school type?
- 4 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to subject?
- 5 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to curriculum?
- 6 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to student?
- 7 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to teacher?
- 8 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to homework?
- 9 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to period?
- 10 What are the reasons of disinterest of students of grade-8 in social science subject in relation to school?

4. Importance of the Study

In the present study, the research can know the disinterest of students in the social science subject. The researcher can give guidance to avoid their disinterest in this subject. Proper advice can be taken by knowing the reasons of disinterest of students in this subject.

- The reasons of disinterest of students in social science subject can be known.
- The present study will help in knowing the remedies of the reasons of the disinterest of students in this subject.
- It can help in arousing interest of students in social science subject.
- The present study will be useful in giving guidance of arranging improvement programs in future.
- It will be helpful for the teacher in making the teaching work more effective.
- The students can achieve higher grades in this subject by arousing their interest in it.
- The work of giving guidance to the students can be easier with the help of the present study.

5. Limitations of the Study

The limitations of the present study are as under:

1. The present study will be limited to the students of Gujarati medium primary schools of Ahmedabad city.
2. The present study will be limited to Social science subject of grade-8.
3. A self-prepared questionnaire will be used in the present study. It will be also a limitation of the study.

6. Variables of the Study

The independent variable is Gender, area and types of school management

The dependent variable of the present study will be - the reasons of disinterest of students in Social science subject.

7. Population and sample

The population of the present study is all the students of Ahmedabad city studying in std.8 of primary schools.

In present study the researcher selected sample by random sampling method.

8. Research Method

The research method the present study was the Survey method.

9. Tools for data Collection

The tool of the present study prepared by the researcher is a questionnaire for the students of grade-8 of the primary schools. The primary questionnaire will be given to the selected students of the sample schools. Then the researcher will make some improvements in it. After this, the final questionnaire will be made according to the improvements suggested by the experts. Thus, the final questionnaire will be prepared.

10. Technique of Data Collection

In the present study, the researcher contacted to the principals of all the schools and took time for data collection. The researcher asked for the permission for giving test in the schools selected from the Ahmedabad city. At the decided day and decided time, the questionnaire is given to the students arranging them in proper order and distance in different classrooms in different schools. The necessary instructions are given to them by the researcher. In this way, the data is collected from total 100 students of different schools of Ahmedabad city.

11. Methods of Data analysis

In the present study, the responses about the reasons of disinterest in Social science subject achieved on the basis of the questionnaire. All the responses are turned into percentages of the reasons of disinterest of the students. Then the major reasons of disinterest are found according to the area, gender and school type and its graphical presentation is done. Then the base sequence is given finding the percentage of the reasons of disinterest for every section. The percentage of the reasons of disinterest is found according to the responses of option-‘no’ for the positive statements and option-‘yes’ for the negative statements.

12. Research Findings

The major reasons of disinterest in social science subject were –

- Teacher punishes on not bringing homework.
- The students fear of punishment from teacher on not having homework.
- They have disliking towards the textbook of social science.
- There are not various teaching aids of social science in the school.

13. Other Findings

13.1 Reasons of Disinterest of students according to the sections

1. Subject related

- Social science subject is difficult.
- Social science subject needs more hard work.
- It feels much boring in reading Social science subject.

2. Textbook related

- The syllabus of Social science subject is boring.
- The assignments given in the textbook of Social science subject are difficult.
- They dislike the syllabus of Social science subject.
- The syllabus of Social science subject is longer.
- They have to study continuously in order to pass in Social Science subject.

3. Student related

- They feel sleepy in the period of Social science subject.
- Social science subject is boring.
- It is difficult to pass in Social science subject.
- Because of other subjects, they cannot work hard in Social science subject.

4. Teacher related

-Teacher shows hard attitude in the classroom.

5.Homework related

- Teacher punishes on not bringing homework.
- They fear of punishment from teacher on not having homework.

6.Period related

- It feels boring on taking an extra class of Social science subject by the teacher.
- There is difficulty in watching and understanding the map during the period.

7.School related

- There is no arrangement of library in school.
- There are not enough reference books and materials in the school about Social science subject.
- There are not various teaching aids of Social science subject in the school.

13.2 Suggestions from the study

It is as much important to develop interest towards any subject after knowing the reasons of disinterest of students. The researcher experienced many things during the study. So, she has described the following remedies for avoiding disinterest in Social science subject.

- Most of the time, the teachers speaks a lot in teaching the Social science subject and its content. In order to make the teaching and learning work more interesting, it is necessary to use various teaching methods and techniques along with the use of audio-visual aids.
- The students can remember the content point for a long time, if a teacher teaches it with use of teaching aids.
- A good understanding can be developed in students' mind by using different models during teaching-learning process. Students can get knowledge with understanding by watching real things and models in classroom.
- Teacher should plan that the period of Social science subject come before recess time.
- If a student doesn't have homework, teacher should inspire him to do it in free time in the school. He should not punish him.
- Teacher should give the students different projects so that they can learn by themselves.
- Some of the units of the syllabus of Social science subject should be made small to avoid boredom.
- There should be more books and reference materials of Social science subject in the schools. The students should be inspired to read them.

13.3 Suggestions for the Government

- The curriculum should be constructed in a way that the students can get both theoretical and practical knowledge.
- The language in the textbook should be understandable.
- The students are provided the information of reference materials of Social science subject.
- The trainings for teachers of Social science subject should be arranged.

13.4 Suggestions for Principal and Management

- A library should be developed in the schools.
- Different books and reference materials of Social science subject should be developed in the library.
- The teachers should be made known of various innovative techniques of teaching Social science subject.
- Well trained and experienced teachers should be appointed.
- Various teaching and learning aids of Social science subject should be arranged in the schools.
- The facilities of Audio, Video, LCD or Computer should be developed in the schools.

13.5 Suggestions for teachers

- Various teaching methods and teaching aids should be used in class.
- The teaching process should be made more effective and interesting by using teaching aids.

- He should use audio, video or computer in his teaching work.
- He should become aware of innovative trends by getting information of his subject from magazines, news papers, literature and internet.
- He should not give more homework to students as punishment.
- He should give projects to students according to their understanding.
- He should be a guide and facilitator for the students during their project works.
- He should behave like a friend and with sympathy towards the students, and should be always hard in attitude.

13.6 Suggestions for Future Researches

The following research studies can be done on the basis of the present study.

- 1 The present study is done into English medium. It can also be done in other mediums.
- 2 A study about other subject than the Social science subject can also be done.
- 3 A comparative study of reasons of disinterest in Social science subject in primary school can also be done.
- 4 A comparative study of the difficulties faced by the teachers of granted schools and non-granted schools in Social science subject can also be done.
- 5 A study of the Diagnostic and Remedial activities for some units of Social science subject of std.8.
- 6 An examining study of the reasons of absence and irregularity of students of primary school can also be done.

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