

ATTITUDE OF UNDERGRADUATE AND POST GRADUATE STUDENTS HAVING BENGALIAS MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION TOWARDS ENGLISH MEDIUM SCHOOL

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Abstract

This study investigates the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school and to compare the attitude of students towards English medium school among different strata. The research design was descriptive survey and the data was collected through a survey on 200 samples. For this study, researchers had administered a questionnaire consisting 40 items, where the statement of questionnaire was narrated in five point scale. Three null hypotheses were framed by the researchers in the study. In this study, there were one main variable i.e. students' attitude towards English medium school and three attribute variables i.e. gender (Male and Female), stream (Science & Arts) and grade level (Under Graduate & Post Graduate). Mean, SD, were used as descriptive statistics and t-test as inferential statistics. Finally, it was found that all hypotheses are retained.

Keywords : English medium school, Bengali medium school, EFL

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I. Introduction:

English is high demanding global language, which is the 2nd most wide spoken language in the world. Approximately 330 to 360 million people speak in English as their native language, within 760 million of total population (UN report-2018) in the world. Near about 36 countries of the world use English as their official language and India is one of them. In West Bengal, English medium schools get more priority than the school of regional language, because of their social demand. In Kolkata, there are 317 English medium Institution (168 ICSE & 149 CBSE). As, English language has communicative values in placement and English medium school provides good educational facility, so most of the parents of West Bengal want to admit their children in English medium school and their attitude is highly positive towards English medium school. After literature review, researchers found that not only parents, but also students of higher education prefer English as their medium of teaching-learning. Eshghinejad. S. (2016) studied on “EFL students’ attitude toward learning English language: the case study of Kashan University students”, where the research objectives was to identify the EFL (English as a foreign language) students attitude towards the English language. For data collection, researchers had conveyed a survey and interpret data in quantitative analysis method by using inferential stat. And finally researcher found positive attitude of students in three different aspects like-behaviour, cognitive and emotional. In another study named “Chinese students’ attitudes towards the use of English medium instruction into the curriculum courses: A case study of a National key University in Beijing.” conducted by Muthanna, A. & Miao, P. (2015), where the main objective was to find out the attitude of local students towards English medium instruction. Here researchers had conducted a semi-structured interview and analysis the data. They found positive attitude towards English medium instruction in their programme. The same findings revealed from the same type of study like – “An analysis of Turkish students’ attitude towards English in speaking classes: Voice your thoughts”, by Durer, Z.S. & Sayar, E. (2013). ; “Tanzanian students’ attitude towards English” by Hilliard, A. (2014). “Case study of Chinese college students’ attitudes towards only English medium teaching in EFL classroom” by Yue, S.; Ying, W. & Jingxia, L. (2015). “Students’ attitudes towards English: The case of life science school of Khulna University” by Mamun, S.A.A.; Rahman. A.R.M.M.; Rahman. A.R.M.M. & Hossain, M.A. (2012). By inspiring these reviews, researchers have selected the present research topic as

– *Attitude of Undergraduate and Post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school*

II. Objectives:

Researchers have considered the following objectives for this paper-

- To find out the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards the English medium school.
- To find out the differences of attitude towards English medium school among different strata of the sample.

III. Research Question:

- What is the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium towards the English medium school?
- Are there any differences among the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium attitude towards the English medium school?

IV. Research Hypothesis:

H₀₁: There exists no significance difference between the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

H₀₂: There exists no significance difference between the under graduate male students and undergraduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

H₀₃: There exists no significance difference between the post graduate male students and post graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

V. Methodology:

Following methodology is used for this study-

Methods used:

Though the present study is a descriptive survey, but researchers have analysed data in qualitative & quantitative (both) approach.

Variable:

Researchers have completed their study with one main variable – Student attitude towards English medium school and three attribute variables: Gender (Male and Female), stream (Science & Arts) and Grade level (UG & PG).

Sample:

Researchers have selected 200 students of UG & PG from seven department of University of Kalyani and Kalyani Mahavidyalaya, as sample of this study. The sample distribution are-

Grade Level	Gender	Number of Sample
Under Graduate (Arts & Science)	Male	40
	Female	60
Post Graduate (Arts & Science)	Male	60
	Female	40
Total		200

Tools:

Researchers have constructed one questionnaire consisting of 40 items for this study. Five point scales was used for narrating each item of questionnaire. All statement was expressed in five alternative categories, viz, Strongly Agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree, Strongly Disagree.

VI. Data Analysis & Interpretation:

❖ After analysing the data for each item of the questionnaire, researchers found some interesting results. Here data of only 11 items are shown which are interesting and significant. Item wise percentage data and bar graph are shown in the following table and graph:

Sl No	Selected Items	Percentage (%)
1	English medium students' achieve higher scores in all India basis competitive examination.	89

2	Teaching method is more Psychological in English medium school	32
3	School Environment is better in Bengali medium school than English medium school	12.5
4	Students of English medium school gets higher social status	69.5
5	Teaching method is more scientific in English medium school	69.5
6	Parent-teacher relationship in English medium school is better than Bengali medium school	42
7	English medium school is more suitable than Bengali medium school for higher education	85
8	Learning pressure is more in English medium school	72.5
9	English medium school gives more emphasize on Co-curricular activities than Bengali medium school	62.5
10	Students of English media school are smarter than Bengali medium school	91.5
11	Quality of Education is better in English medium school	66.5

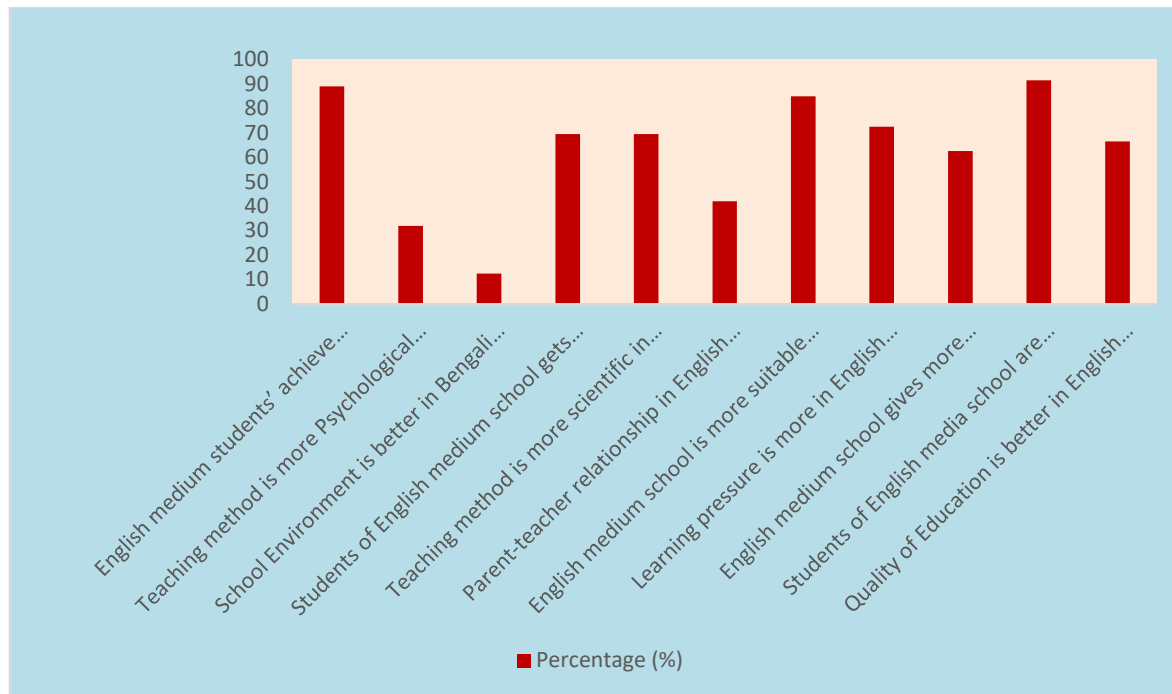


Figure 2: Graphical representation of statistical data.

In items no 1, 7, 10 the percentage are higher than other items. We can conclude that students consider that:

- English medium students' achieve higher scores in all India basis competitive examination.
- English medium school is more suitable than Bengali medium school for higher education
- Students of English media school are smarter than Bengali medium school

In items no 4, 5,8, 9,11 the percentage are moderately higher. We can conclude that students consider that:

- Students of English medium school get higher social status.
- Teaching method is more scientific in English medium school.
- Learning pressure is more in English medium school
- Quality of Education is better in English medium school

❖ After analysing the raw data by using descriptive stat, the calculated mean and SD of the scores of the students are shown in the Table-A.

Group	Number	Mean	S.D
Total students (U.G)	100	140.6	16.45
Total students (P.G)	100	139.45	13.73
Male students (U.G)	40	142.38	13
Female students (U.G)	60	138.75	18.45
Male students (P.G)	60	138.83	14.23
Female students (P.G)	40	140.38	12.15

The calculated Mean and SD of each category are shown in the following figure:

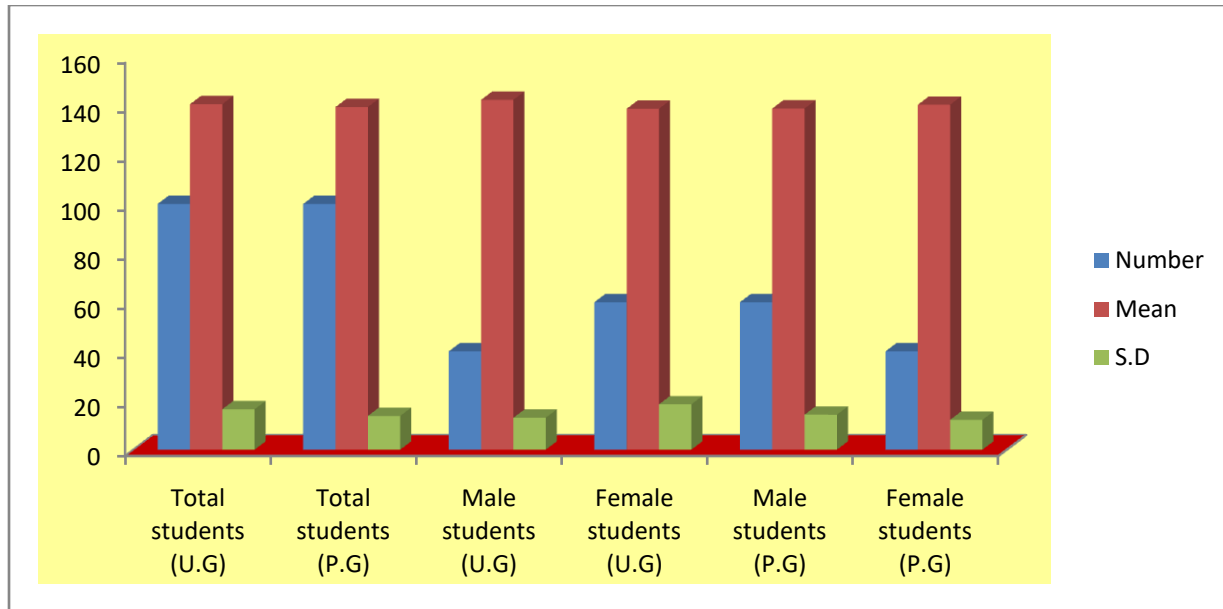


Figure 1: Graphical representation of statistical data.

Researchers have used parametric test (t-test) and the following results are revealed according to hypothesis-

H₀₁: There exists no significance difference between the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

Table-1:

Group	Number	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	Critical Values
Total (U.G)	100	140.6	16.45	197	0.53	1.98
Total (P.G)	100	139.45	13.73			

Not significant

't' value is not significant. Hence the corresponding null hypothesis (**H_{0,1}**) is retained. It can be inferred that there exists no significance difference between the attitude of under graduate and post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

H₀₂: There exists no significance difference between the under graduate male students and under graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

Table-2:

Group	Number	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	Critical Values
Male (U.G)	40	142.38	13	97	1.16	1.99
Female (U.G)	60	138.75	18.45			

Not significant

Here, 't' value is not significant, therefore the corresponding null hypothesis ($H_{0.2}$) is retained. It can be inferred that there exists no significance difference between the under graduate male students and under graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

$H_{0.3}$: There exists no significance difference between the post graduate male students and post graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

Table-3:

Group	Number	Mean	S.D	df	t-value	Critical Values
Male (P.G)	60	138.83	14.23	97	0.59	1.99
Female (P.G)	40	140.38	12.5			

Not significant

't' value is not significant, therefore the corresponding null hypothesis ($H_{0.3}$) is accepted. It can be inferred that there exists no significance difference between the post graduate male students and post graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school.

VII. Conclusion:

On the basis of the data analysis and interpretation, following findings are exhibited:

❖ According to the first research objectives, researchers revealed that the attitude of Bengali medium students are positive in the respect of different dimension or characteristics to the English medium school. Same attitude are found from the under graduate and Post graduate students. Though, there are also some negative view point towards some criteria of English

medium school, but maximum students are expose their attitude in favor of English medium school.

❖ According to the second research objectives, Researchers have reached in the following interpretation-

- According to the 1st hypothesis, Total Under graduate students have more positive attitude towards English medium school than Total post graduate students.
- According to the 2nd hypothesis, under graduate male students have expressed their most favourable attitude towards English medium school than the under graduate female students having Bengali as medium of instruction.
- According to the 3rd hypothesis, the attitude of post graduate female students are comparatively higher than , the post graduate male students having Bengali as medium of instruction.

VII. Discussion:

Researchers found positive attitude of Undergraduate and Post graduate students having Bengali as medium of instruction towards English medium school

The students of Bengali medium as instruction are generally suffering from communication skill. Hence they prefer English as their medium of instruction and also English medium institution. This research finding is as similar as some previous study like - “Case study of Chinese college students’ attitudes towards only English medium teaching in EFL classroom” by Yue, S.; Ying, W. &Jingxia, L. (2015).; “A study of mental health of Hindi and English medium school students” by Shrivastava, S.K. (1999). Researchers also found some opinion of Bengali Medium UG & PG Students in favour of the facilities of English medium school. So, it can be concluded that the present study is reliable in respect of other review and also relevant in the present aspect.

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