

“Attitude Towards Tamil Language Learning And Their Academic Achievement Among Ninth Standard Students”

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Abstract

The current research paper focuses on the attitude of the ninth standard students towards Tamil Language in order to implement some innovative technique in teaching Tamil language. It is an exploration in investigating the fresher's of ninth standard students' attitude towards Tamil Language Learning and their association with their academic achievement. To meet the objectives of the study the primary data was collected from the ninth standard students. As samples for the case study, the researcher contacted one section of ninth standard of about 40 students from government higher secondary school, ayyanpettai, Kanchipuram. The students of 30 girls and 10 boys were taken into consideration. A closed ended Attitude questionnaire, developed by Samar Rukh - 2014 is used for the present study. The inventory consists of 15 statements. The findings suggest that girls and boys from Tamil medium, private-aided school, exclusively girls school students have more Positive Attitude towards Tamil Language learning and their association with their academic achievement than the regional medium students.

Keywords : Tamil Language Learning, Academic Achievement, School Students

1 - Introduction

The title of the research paper is “Students’ Attitude towards Tamil Language Learning and their Academic Achievement among ninth standard students. A Case Study”. It is important for all the Tamil language teachers to understand and guide the students to achieve something in their Tamil language competence. It is necessary to explain the students to overcome their anxiety towards language acquisition. Among the various subjects it is better to develop the curiosity towards Tamil language in them, from which the need will trigger positive attitude in them. The researcher has focused particularly on the attitude because it plays a vital role in education which has become a primary and essential part

in an individual's life towards Tamil language acquisition. Attitude is the key element for learning a language (Karahan, 2007). Attitude may be affected both externally and internally. The current study is an attempt to explore the freshers from School (i.e.) the ninth standard student's attitude towards Tamil Language learning and its association with their academic achievement. It is important for the teachers and parents to understand the children's problems. And also it is better to rectify them by innovative teaching learning process. Any problem can be rectified through some psychological treatments, which requires the basic understanding of their Attitude and its association with their Achievement Motivation.

2 - Research Question

1. How is the ninth standard students' attitude towards Tamil language learning?
2. What is their relationship between Tamil language learning and its association with their academic achievement?

3 - Objectives

- To identify the attitude towards Tamil language
- To identify its association with their Achievement Motivation

4 - Hypothesis

- Boys and Girls will differ significantly in their Achievement Motivation level and Attitude towards Tamil Language.
- Students studied in different medium of instruction will differ significantly in their Achievement Motivation level and Attitude towards Tamil language.

5 - Review of Literature

Attitude is the most popular correlate of achievement of students. In the west, many researchers have found a significant and positive correlation between students " Attitude and Achievement (Malpass - 1953, MC Gave ran - 1955, Bower Holmes - 1959, Rothman - 1961, Boride - 1964, Wofford and Willoughby - 1968, Kahn - 1969, Williams - 1970, Marjoribanks - 1967, Couchner - 1981, Hough and Piper - 1982.

But Jacksona and Lahaderne (1967) and Gold fried and D'Zurilla (1973) found no significant relationship between pupils "Attitude Scores and their Achievement acores. Tami (1976) found a negative correlation between students. Attitude towards Botany and their Achievement. In India, too

Rea (1976) and Saxons (1972) have found significant and positive correlation between attitude and achievement.

The importance of Attitude as a correlate of academic achievement has been brought out by a number of studies (Ward – 1976, Schaeffer and Virgo – 1976, Hough and Piper – 1982, Sundararajan – 1987, Sundararajan and Rajasekar – 1987)

Mishear (1978) studied the attitude of the attitude of the secondary school students towards Tamil language. He prepared an attitude scale of the like type for the purpose. On the basis of opinions from 500 students of secondary schools, seventy Attitude statements were prepared out of with thirty were finally selected for the scale. The reliability of the scale by the split – half method was found to be 0.72.

Chopra (1979) studied some of the Non-intellectual correlates of Achievement. He used a stratified random sample of 309 girls and 598 boys of class X. According to his findings the attitude towards education has very high positive correlation with academic achievement.

Atef and Munir⁸ investigated the relationship between the role of motivation and attitude among petroleum students towards Tamil language learning and found that the students had positive attitude towards Tamil language learning

6 - Research Design

This study is an exploratory one. The investigation concentrates on quantitative approach to get the evidence of ninth standard student's attitude towards Tamil language learning and its association with their academic achievement.

7 - Samples

To meet the objectives of the study, it was decided to collect the primary data from one section of of ninth standard students of about 40 students from government higher secondary school, ayyanpettai, Kanchipuram. The students of 30 girls and 10 boys were taken into consideration.

Sample Size

S. No	Sex	Age	standard
1	Male	13 – 14	9 th
2	Female	13 – 14	9 th

8 - Description of the Tools

The inventories developed by Samar Rukh (2014) of 10 statements are used. Each statement has a close ended 3 point Likert scale. Questionnaire items were selected in order to meet the present study. Among 10 questions first five questions measures students' attitude towards Tamil language learning and the next five questions measures the association between Tamil language learning and their academic achievement. Scale range is agreeing, disagree and neutral. Questionnaire consists of two categories- Indian Journal of Science and Technology Vol 10 (29) | August 2017 | www.indjst.org 3 V. Anuradha and M. Rengaraj gories. First Personal and Educational information of the respondents and second is respondent's attitude towards Tamil language learning and its association with their academic achievement.

9 - For example

1. I feel proud when studying Tamil language - Agree / Disagree / Neutral.
2. Tamil is the mark of an educated person - Agree / Disagree / Neutral. The inventory consists of both negative and positive form

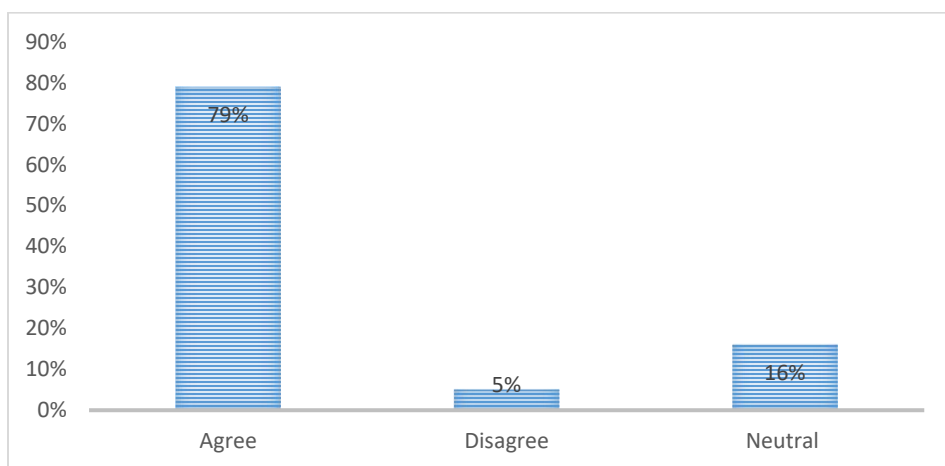
10- Data Collection

The data is collected by the researcher from all the participants to fill the questionnaire. One section of 40 students was taken into consideration. To interpret the data SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) is used and its frequencies were also measured. Graphic representation of the findings is incorporated in this study. The first five bar charts show the ninth standard students' attitude towards Tamil language learning and the next five bar charts represents their attitude towards Tamil language learning in association with their academic achievement

10.1Representation of study findings in Bar Charts

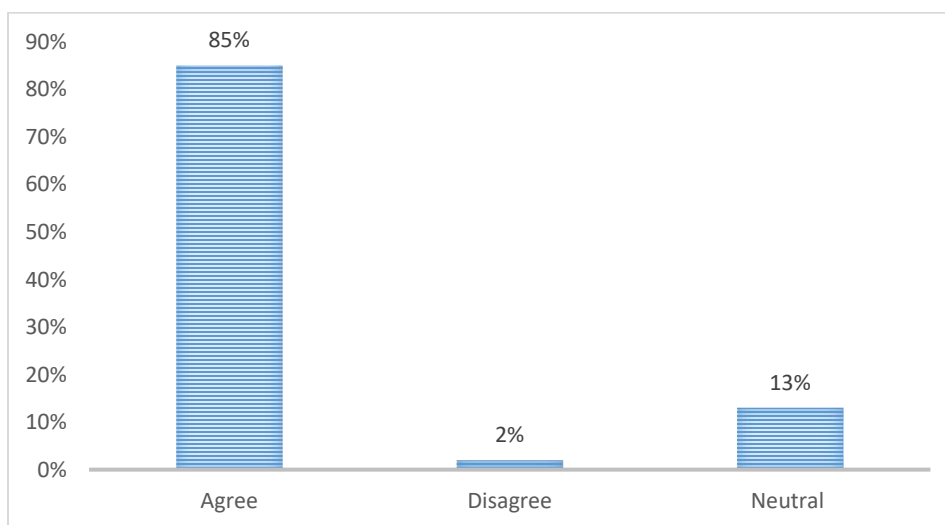
10.1.1 Statement 1: I feel proud when studying Tamil language

Bar Chart 1 depicts that 79% of the participants agreed to the notion that they feel proud while studying Tamil, 5% disagreed and 16% remained neutral.



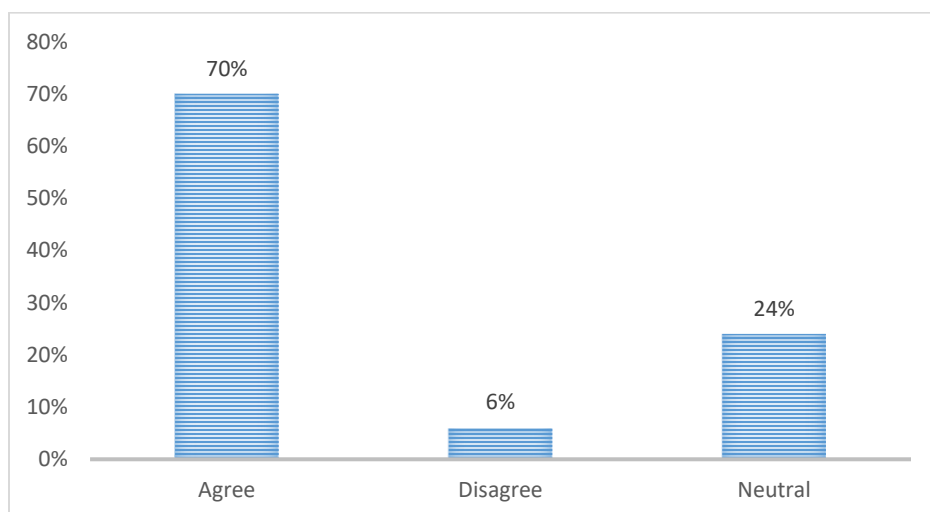
10.1.2 Statement 2: I feel excited when I communicate in Tamil with others

Bar Chart 2 shows that 85% were of the view that they feel excited while using Tamil in communication, 02% disagreed and 13% stayed neutral.



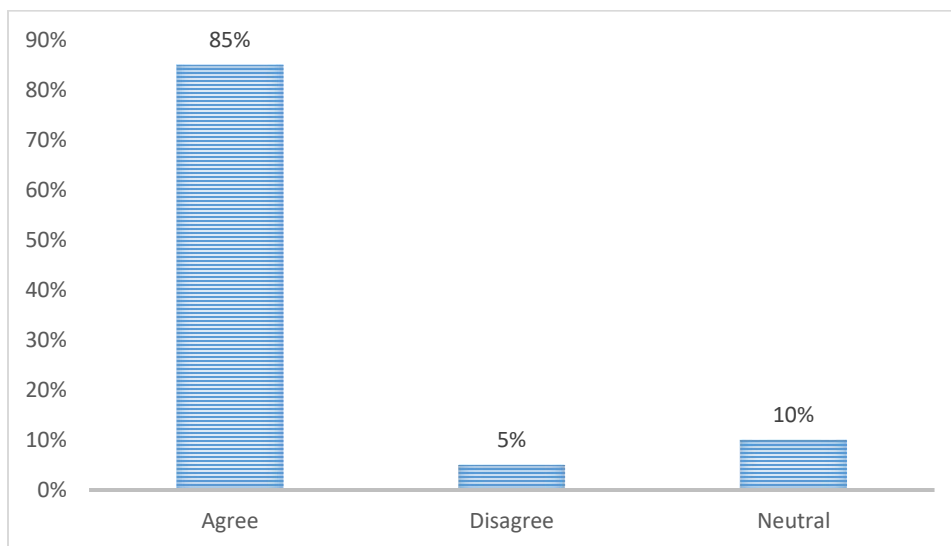
10.1.3 Statement 3: I have more knowledge and more understanding when studying Tamil

Bar Chart 3 reveals that 70% of the participants think that studying Tamil enhances their overall knowledge towards learning, 6% disagreed and 24% had neutral attitude towards this idea.



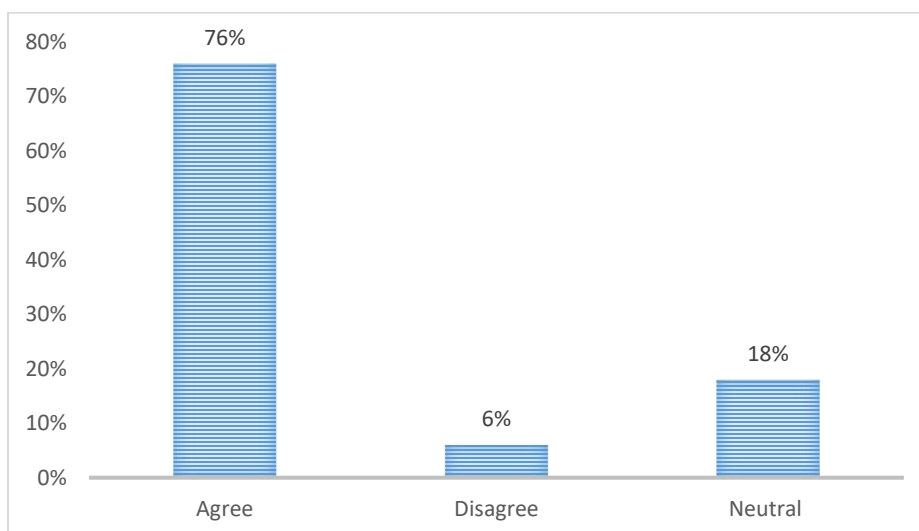
10.1.4 Statement 4: I look forward to studying more Tamil in the future

Bar Chart 4 illustrates that 85% of the students want to study Tamil more in future, 5% disagreed to this and 10% stayed neutral to this opinion.



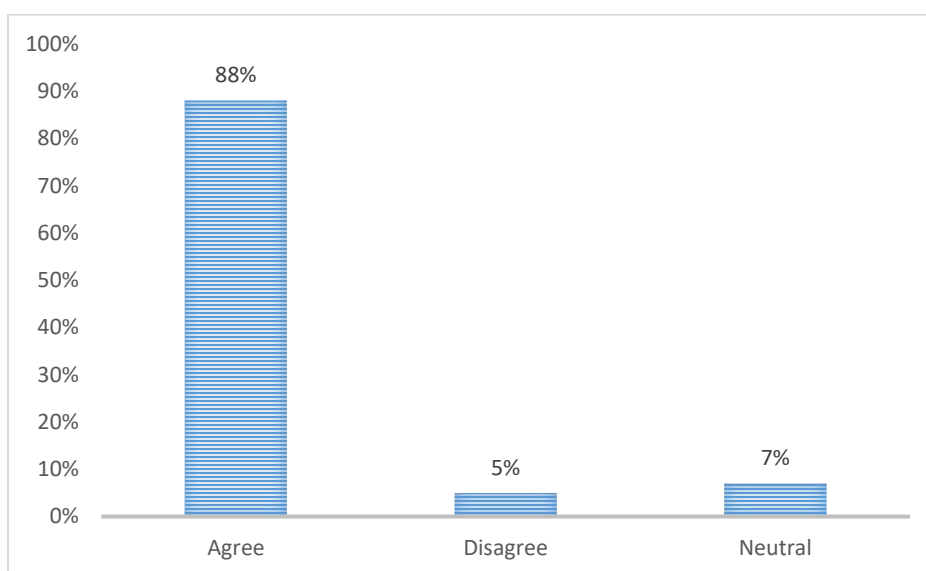
10.1.5 Statement 5: I would to take Tamil even if it were not a compulsory subject at School

Bar Chart 5 shows students' attitude towards Tamil language learning even if it is not a compulsory subject in their subject and for which 76% agreed to it, 6% disagreed and 18% remained neutral to this idea.



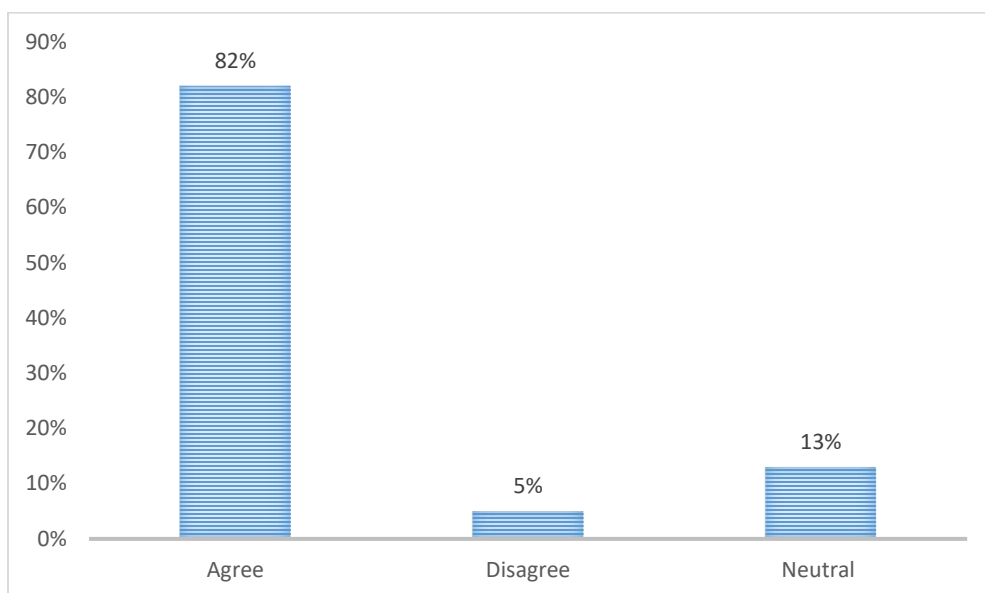
10.1.6 Statement 6: I want to learn Tamil because it will enable me to get a job easily

Bar Chart 6 reveals that 88% of the participants agreed to the notion that Tamil language learning will fetch them a job easily, whereas 5% disagreed to this notion and 7% stayed neutral to this.



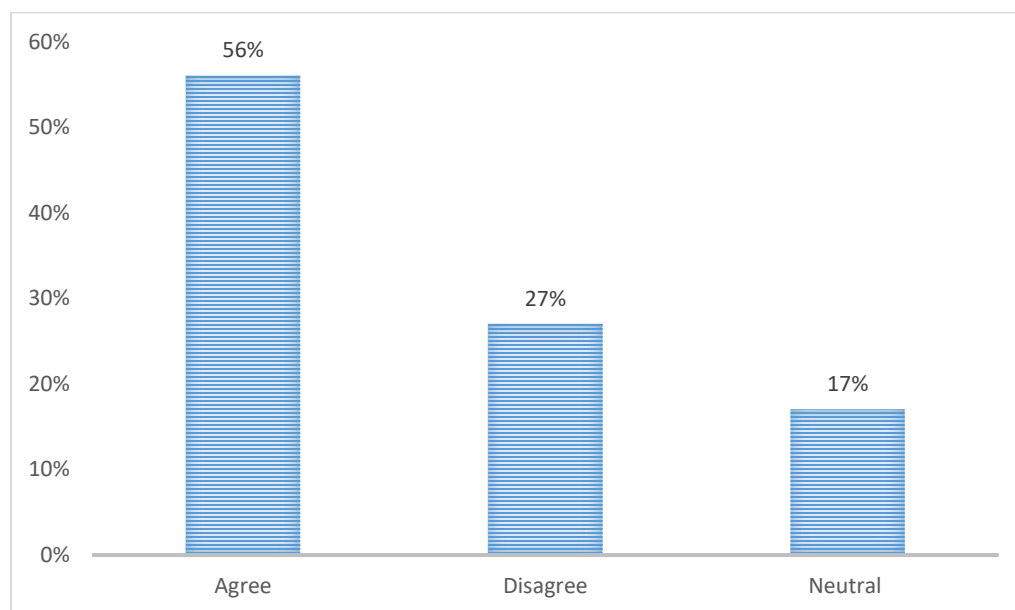
10.1.7 Statement 7: Studying Tamil helps me getting new information in which I can link to my previous knowledge g

Bar Chart 7 shows the participants' attitude about Tamil language learning and its association with other disciplines for which 82% agreed, 5% disagreed and 13% remained neutral.



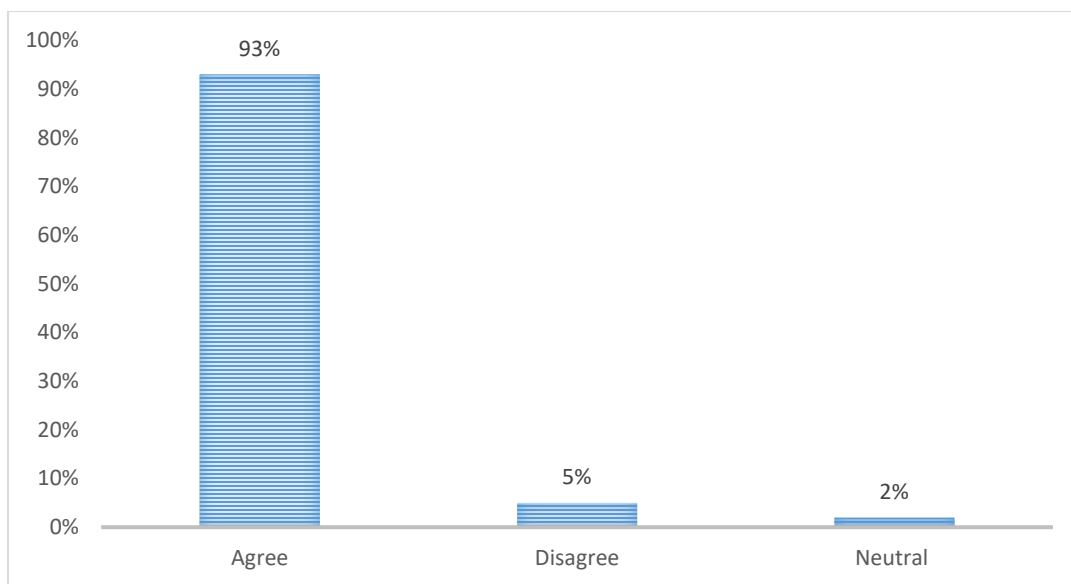
10.1.8 Statement 8: Tamil is the mark of an educated person

Bar Chart 8 depicts about Tamil language learning and its association with the education. 56% of the participants thought that Tamil language learning is the very mark of an educated person in the society, 27% of them disagreed and 17% of them stayed neutral.



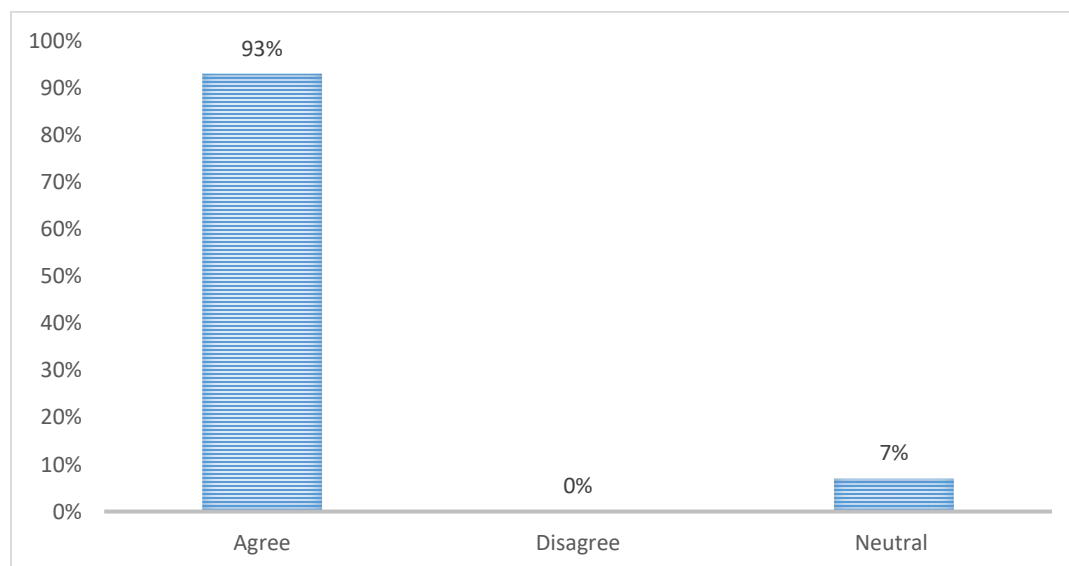
10.1.9 Statement 9: Being good at Tamil will help me study other subjects well

Bar Chart 9 shows the impact of Tamil language learning on the other subjects. 93% of the students were of the opinion that studying Tamil help them gain confidence while expressing themselves on the other subjects, 5% disagreed and 2% remained neutral to this notion.



10.1.10 Statement 10: Studying Tamil makes me have more confidence in expressing myself

Bar Chart 10 reveals the participants' attitude towards Tamil language learning and its association with their personality development for which 93% of the students were of the idea that they gain confidence by learning Tamil language, 0% disagreed and 7% stayed neutral to this idea.



11 - Findings

The first five bar chart reveals the students' attitudes towards Tamil language learning and the bar chart six to ten shows the students' attitude towards Tamil language learning in association with their academic achievement. The chart clearly demonstrates that the students have positive attitudes towards Tamil language learning.

Chart 1 shows that 79% participants feel proud while studying Tamil, chart 2 shows that 85% participants feel excited while communicating in Tamil, chart 3 shows 70% participants consider Tamil language learning has positive effect on the other subjects, chart 4 shows that 85% participants wants to study Tamil further in future and chart 5 depicts that 76% of the participants were of the view that they would take Tamil even if it is not a compulsory subject. Finally the interpretation of the data shows that there is a positive attitude towards Tamil language learning among the ninth standard students.

Chart 6-10 reveals the students attitudes towards Tamil language association with their academic achievement. Chart 6 illustrates 88% participants consider Tamil learning as beneficial for them to get new work, chart 7 shows that 82% participants consider as beneficial for getting new information and knowledge, chart 8 shows that 56% participants consider Tamil language learning as a mark of education, chart 9 depicts that 93% participants consider Tamil as a good tool in learning other subjects as well, chart 10 reveals that 93% were of the view that studying Tamil give them more confidence while expressing themselves.

12 - Conclusion

Attitude is one of the key elements for learning a language (Karahana, 2007). Attitude can be changed governing to external and internal personality factors of a person, so this is an attempt to study the students' attitude and based on which some innovative method can be implemented for those students. It is an explorative study of ninth standard students' academic achievement with respect to Tamil language learning. The overall findings prove the hypothesis of the study and the data findings concludes that ninth standard students have a positive attitude towards Tamil language learning and its association with their overall academic achievement.

13 - References

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