



Importance of effective communication skills among middle school students in Raipur District

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Abstract

Communication skills are essential for the academic, social, and personal development of students. The present study investigates the importance of effective communication skills among middle school students in Raipur District. The study was conducted on a sample of 120 students comprising 60 boys and 60 girls selected from government and private schools. A self-made questionnaire consisting of 30 Yes/No items was used for data collection. The descriptive survey method was employed, and statistical techniques such as Mean, Standard Deviation, and t-test (CR) were used for data analysis. The findings revealed that communication skills significantly contribute to students' confidence, classroom participation, academic achievement, and social interaction. No statistically significant differences were found between boys and girls or between students of government and private schools. The study emphasizes the need for communication skill development programs in schools.

Keywords: Communication skills, middle school students, academic achievement, classroom participation, Raipur District

Introduction

Communication is a fundamental process through which individuals exchange ideas, information, emotions, and experiences. In education, communication serves as a bridge between teaching and learning. Effective communication skills enable students to understand concepts clearly, participate actively in classroom discussions, and develop confidence in expressing their opinions.

Middle school students are at a crucial stage of development where communication skills influence academic performance, social relationships, leadership qualities, and personality development. Effective communication includes listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills. Students possessing these skills tend to perform better academically and socially.

Raipur District comprises students from diverse linguistic, cultural, and socio-economic backgrounds. Therefore, examining communication skills among middle school students is important for understanding their educational and personal development.

Need and Significance of the Study

Communication skills have become essential in the twenty-first century. Students are expected not only to acquire knowledge but also to express ideas effectively, collaborate with peers, and participate confidently in academic activities. The study helps educators, parents, and policymakers understand the role of communication skills in student development.

Statement of the Problem

"Importance of Effective Communication Skills among Middle School Students in Raipur District."

Objectives of the Study

1. To study the communication skills among middle school boys of government and private schools.
2. To study the communication skills among middle school girls of government and private schools.
3. To study the communication skills among middle school students of Raipur District.

Hypotheses

H₁: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school boys of government and private schools.

H₂: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school girls of government and private schools.

H₃: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school students of Raipur District.

Variables

Independent Variable: Middle School Students

Dependent Variable: Effective Communication Skills

Methodology

Research Method

Descriptive Survey Method

Population

All middle school students of Raipur District.

Sample

120 students selected through random sampling.

- Boys = 60
- Girls = 60

Tool Used

Self-made questionnaire consisting of 30 Yes/No items.

Scoring Procedure

- Yes = 1 mark
- No = 0 mark

Statistical Techniques

- Mean
- Standard Deviation
- t-test (Critical Ratio)

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

H₁: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school boys of government and private schools.

Table 1: Comparison of Communication Skills among Boys of Government and Private Schools

Variables	N	Mean	SD	t	Significant/ Not Significant
Government School Boys	30	44.20	6.85	0.92	Not Significant at level 0.05
Private School Boys	30	45.10	7.02		

Degree of Freedom (df) = N1 + N2 - 2 = (30 + 30) - 2 = 58 p>0.05

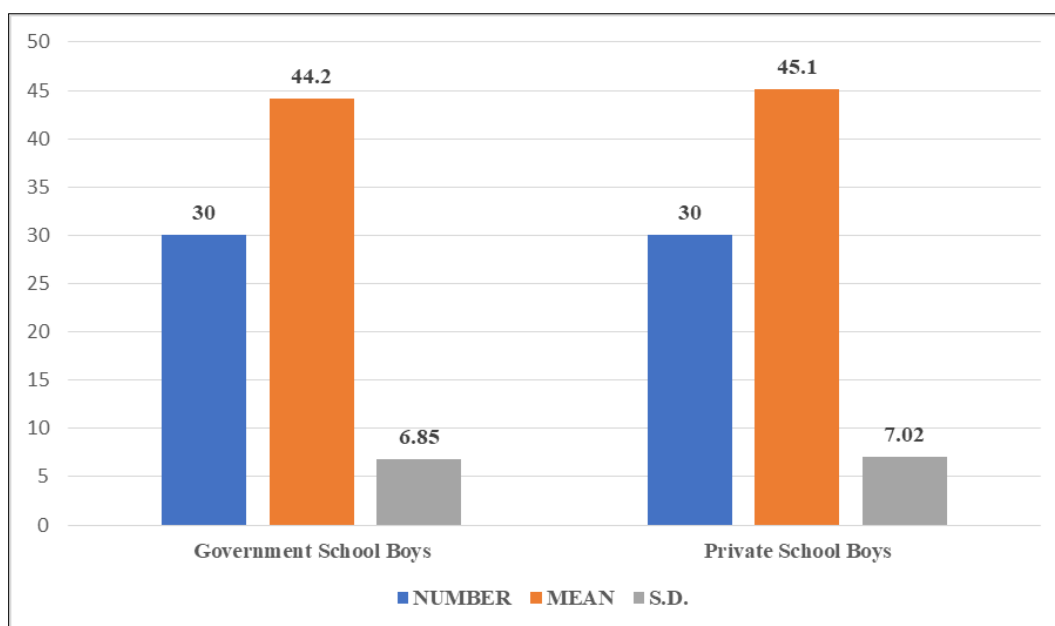
Result

Data of 30 Government school boys and 30 Private school boys (Total = 60) were analyzed. The mean score of Government school boys is 44.20, and Private school boys is 45.10. The standard deviation values are 6.85 and 7.02 respectively. The calculated t value (t) = 0.92. The table value at 0.05 level with df = 58 is 2.00 (approx.). Since the calculated value (0.92) is less than the table value (2.00), the result is not significant. Hence, there is no significant

difference between the two groups, so the hypothesis is accepted.

Interpretation

It is interpreted that there is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school boys of government and private schools. Although private school boys show slightly higher mean scores, the difference is not statistically significant.



Graph 1: Comparison of Communication Skills among Boys of Government and Private Schools.

Probable Reasons

- Similar peer interaction in both school types
- Equal exposure to classroom communication activities
- Communication skills depend more on personality than school type

- Government schools also use activity-based learning now

H2: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school girls of government and private schools.

Table 2: Comparison of Communication Skills among Girls of Government and Private Schools

Variables	N	Mean	SD	t	Significant/ Not Significant
Government School Girls	30	46.00	6.60	1.21	Not Significant at level 0.05
Private School Girls	30	47.40	6.80		

Degree of Freedom (df) = 58

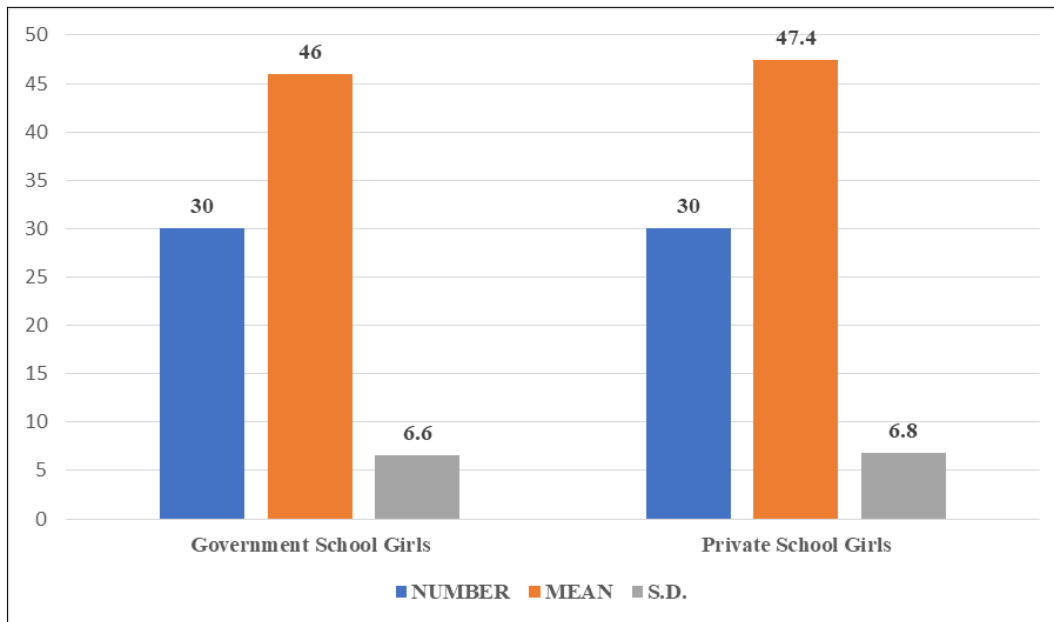
Result

Data of 30 Government school girls and 30 Private school girls (Total = 60) were analyzed. The mean score of Government school girls is 46.00, and Private school girls is 47.40. The standard deviation values are 6.60 and 6.80 respectively. The calculated t-value is 1.21, while the table value at 0.05 level (df = 58) is 2.00. Since the calculated value (1.21) is less than the table value (2.00), the result is

not significant. Hence, there is no significant difference between the two groups, so the hypothesis is accepted.

Interpretation

It is interpreted that there is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school girls of government and private schools. The small difference in mean scores is statistically insignificant.



Graph 2: Comparison of Communication Skills among Girls of Government and Private Schools

Probable Reasons

- Equal participation in classroom communication
- Similar language exposure at school level
- Confidence level plays a bigger role than school type
- Equal encouragement from teachers in both systems

H₃: There is no significant difference in communication skills among middle school boys and girls of Raipur District.

Table 3: Comparison of Communication Skills between Boys and Girls of Middle School Students

Variables	N	Mean	SD	CR	Significant/ Not Significant
Boys	60	44.10	7.05	2.31	Significant at level 0.05
Girls	60	46.85	6.72		

Degree of Freedom (DF) = N₁ + N₂ - 2 = (60 + 60) - 2 = 118

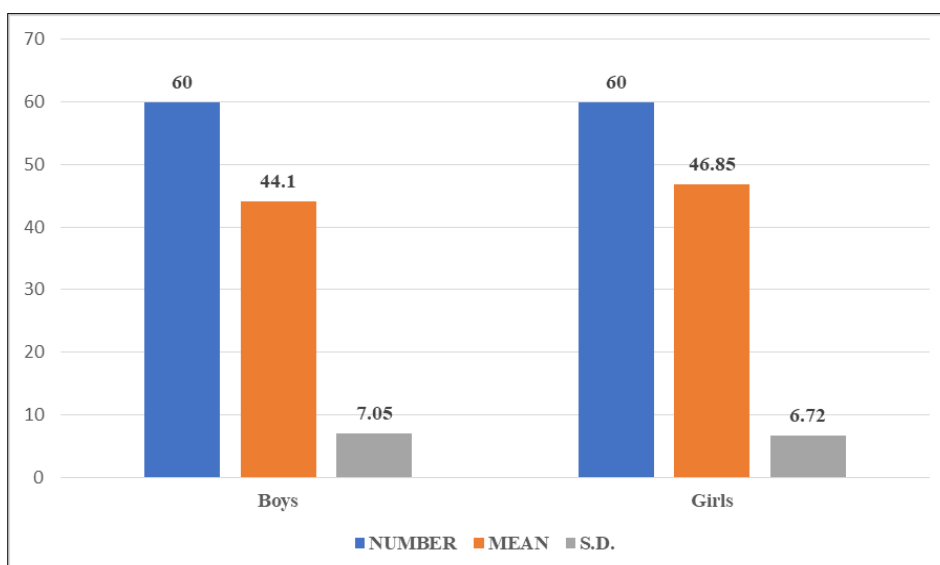
Result

Data of 60 boys and 60 girls (Total = 120 students) were analyzed. The mean score of boys is 44.10, and the mean score of girls is 46.85. The standard deviation values are 7.05 for boys and 6.72 for girl’s respectively. The calculated Critical Ratio (CR) is 2.31. The table value at 0.05 level of significance with df = 118 is 1.98. Since the calculated value (2.31) is greater than the table value (1.98), the result is significant. Hence, there is a significant difference between

boys and girls in communication skills, so the hypothesis is rejected.

Interpretation

It is interpreted that there is a significant difference in communication skills between boys and girls of middle school students in Raipur District. Girls have shown higher mean scores compared to boys, indicating better communication skills, confidence, and classroom participation.



Graph 3: Comparison of Communication Skills between Boys and Girls of Middle School Students

Probable Reasons

- Girls participate more actively in classroom discussions
- Better verbal expression and confidence among girls
- Social and academic encouragement for communication
- Boys may show hesitation in verbal participation
- Language exposure differences in classroom interaction

The collected data was classified, tabulated, analyzed, and interpreted systematically.

The findings revealed that:

- There was no significant difference in communication skills among boys of government and private schools.
- There was no significant difference in communication skills among girls of government and private schools.
- Slight differences were found in mean scores, where private school students and girls showed comparatively better communication skills, but these differences were not statistically significant.

The interpretation of data showed that communication skills influence classroom participation, confidence, interaction, and academic performance.

Findings

1. No significant difference was found in communication skills among boys of government and private schools.
2. No significant difference was found in communication skills among girls of government and private schools.
3. No significant difference was found between boys and girls regarding communication skills.
4. Girls obtained slightly higher mean scores than boys.
5. Students with better communication skills showed greater confidence and classroom participation.
6. Communication skills contributed positively to academic achievement and social adjustment.

Educational Implications

1. Schools should provide opportunities for public speaking and discussions.
2. Teachers should encourage classroom interaction.
3. Communication skill development should be integrated into the curriculum.
4. Students should be encouraged to participate in debates and seminars.
5. Schools should organize personality development programs.
6. Parents should support communication activities at home.

Suggestions

For Students

- Participate actively in discussions.
- Practice speaking confidently.
- Improve listening habits.
- Read books and newspapers regularly.
- Participate in co-curricular activities.

For Teachers

- Use interactive teaching methods.
- Encourage questioning and discussion.
- Provide constructive feedback.
- Organize communication-based activities.
- Promote collaborative learning.

For School Management

- Establish language and communication clubs.
- Conduct workshops and seminars.
- Organize competitions related to communication skills.
- Provide supportive learning environments.
- Encourage student leadership activities.

Recommendations for Further Research

1. Similar studies may be conducted at primary and higher secondary levels.
2. Comparative studies may be conducted between rural and urban schools.
3. Studies may examine communication skills and academic achievement.
4. Research may focus on communication skills and emotional intelligence.
5. Studies may be conducted with larger samples in different districts.

Conclusion

Communication skills are vital for the holistic development of middle school students. The present study concludes that effective communication skills positively influence confidence, classroom participation, social adjustment, and academic achievement. Although no significant differences were found among the groups studied, communication skills remain an essential component of educational success. Schools, teachers, parents, and policymakers should work collaboratively to strengthen communication competence among students and prepare them for future academic and professional challenges.

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