

## DIFFICULTIES FACING BY SECONDARY STUDENTS IN LEARNING TAMIL GRAMMAR

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### ABSTRACT:

The paper aims to investigate the difficulties facing by secondary level students in learning Tamil Grammar. The sample of the study comprises of 300 secondary level students who were randomly selected. The findings revealed that the secondary level students differ significantly in face difficulties in learning Tamil grammar with respect to the selected demographic variables.

### KEYWORDS:

Tamil Grammar,  
Secondary Level Students.

### INTRODUCTION:

Language is a tool for communication. It helps to interact, share our ideas, thoughts and feelings with others. It is astonishing that people with varieties of opinions, difference in status, business are all being united when using a language. It is important to use a language without changing its traditional form and means to the next generation. The general aim of teaching Tamil is to develop among the students the skills of reproducing the language, while speaking or writing and to develop the receptive skills when they listen to others speaking or when they read what someone has composed. The teachers of Tamil are to train the hearing, speaking, reading and writing abilities of the pupils. It is known as the linguistic aim of teaching Tamil. If a language is learnt without grammatical rules, it cannot be considered as a good learning.

Grammar helps us to use a language in the proper order to convey the exact ideas that are conceived in our mind. Grammar helps to know the structure of a language and helps in speaking and write the language properly. It helps to specify the errors in spoken and written and spoken form of a language. In the schooling age, development of language abilities

is the most important. At the same time, the students are facing difficulties in understanding Tamil grammar. According to Sidney (2002) in the study of language, grammar occupies central position. A grammar of a language is an account of the languages as possible sentence structures organized according to certain general principles. Chomsky (1928:11) writes "A grammar is a device of some sort for producing the sentence of the language under the analysis to which is added rider that the sentences produced must be grammatical ones acceptable to

the native speaker". Grammatical errors have their own role in learning processes as they may affect students' acquisition. There are many factors causing grammatical errors which affect students in learning grammar. Based on this observation, the investigators have analyzed the difficulties faced by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar.

### OBJECTIVES

1. To find out the difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Gender, Locality of school and students.



2. To find out the difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Kind of school, type of school, parental qualification and occupation.

### HYPOTHESES

1. There will be significant mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Gender, Locality of school and students.

2. There will be significant mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Kind of school, Type of school, Parental qualification and occupation.

### METHODOLOGY

The researchers have adopted normative survey method for the collection of data. The sample is selected using satisfied random sampling technique. The sample consists of 300 students studying ninth standard in Thiruvannamalai district. Test of significant difference is used to analyse the data.

### TOOL

The investigators have used a questionnaire on difficulties in learning Tamil grammar to collect data. There are 38 items existing in this questionnaire. There are five options ranging from strongly agree, agree undecided, disagree, and strongly disagree. The statement are to be scored 5,4,3,2,1, from strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree, strongly disagree. Higher the score indicates higher the difficulties.

### HYPOTHESES TESTING

Hypothesis No: 1

There will be significant mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Gender, Locality of school and students.

According to Table-1 there is mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary level students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to gender, locality of school and students. It is

statistically significant at 0.05 level. So, the hypothesis No.1 is accepted.

TABLE-1

Mean score difference difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Gender, Locality of school and students

Variables	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	t Value	Level of significance at 0.05 level
Gender	Male	155	121.10	15.56	3.14	Significant
	Female	145	126.17	12.39		
Locality of school	Rural	161	125.99	13.70	2.39	Significant
	Urban	139	121.82	15.32		
locality of students	Rural	162	126.41	13.70	2.39	Significant
	Urban	138	120.96	15.32		

Hypothesis No: 2

There will be significant mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Kind of school, type of school, parental qualification and occupation.

It is seen from the Table-2, there is mean score difference in difficulties facing by secondary level students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to kind of school, type of school, parental qualification and occupation. It is statistically not significant at 0.05 level.

**TABLE-2**

Mean score difference difficulties facing by secondary students in learning Tamil grammar with respect to Kinds of school, type of school, parental qualification and occupation

Variables	Sample	N	Mean	S.D	t Value	Level of significance at 0.05 level
Kind of school	Mixed	144	123.05	13.23	0.28	Not Significant
	Unisex	156	123.53	15.65		
Type of School	Government	165	123.56	12.68	0.23	Not Significant
	Private	135	123.16	16.23		
Parental Qualification (Father)	School Education	153	123.54	15.43	0.24	Not Significant
	Collegiate Education	147	123.12	13.03		
Parental Qualification (Mother)	School Education	147	122.99	15.26	0.05	Not Significant
	Collegiate Education	153	123.82	13.44		
Parental Occupation (Father)	Employ	156	124.32	14.46	0.66	Not Significant
	Self- Employ	144	123.20	14.68		
Parental occupation (Mother)	Employ	144	125.05	14.03	1.49	Not Significant
	Housewives	156	122.55	14.08		

**FINDINGS**

- 1.While compared with male students the female students are facing more difficulties in learning Tamil grammar. Likewise rural based students and students who are studying in rural schools are facing more difficulties in learning Tamil Grammar.
- 2.The selected variables such as kind of school, type of school, parental qualification and parental occupation does not influence in this study.

**CONCLUSION**

The findings revealed that the secondary level students are facing difficulties in learning Tamil grammar. The rural based students are struggling in learning grammar. Therefore, this indicates that high secondary school students need to be motivated to learn Tamil grammar.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.Organize orientation programmes to Tamil teacher on how to teach Tamil grammar effectively?
- 2.Increase the hours allotted for teaching grammar in the school time-table.
- 3.The present study suggests that computer based e-Content package can be developed for learning Tamil

grammar. Once developed, these packages can be used any number of times and individualized learning can be catered.

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