

Chapter III

METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH

3.1 Introduction

The preceding chapter has given a broad overview of the researches investigation on skills of English language. The purpose of educational research cannot be completed without detailed research design involves systematic procedures, which starts from identification of problems to analyze the obtained data.

Textbook play a crucial role in the teaching learning process. They are not a substitute for the teacher; rather they supplement the efforts of the teacher and provide a guideline to him/her relating to the approach and the depth of the treatment of the subject matter. Therefore, a textbook is an asset for the teacher as well as for the learner.

The purpose of this study is to know the status of skills of English language of class 8th class students of different government schools of Bhopal. This chapter deals with the methodology employed to achieve the objective of the study mentioned in chapter one.

- Methodology of the study
- Population
- Sample
- Tools
- Administration of tools
- Scoring

3.2 METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

This is a status study where the techniques of descriptive research are being used to find out the skills of English language among 8th class students of different state government schools of Madhya Pradesh.

3.3 POPULATION

In the study, the students of class VIII studying in government schools of Bhopal district form the population. For this study, the researcher has taken government and state board schools.

3.4 SAMPLE

Data collection is an important part of the research. Data is collected from a selected sample and the sample is the representation of the population.

"The large group we wish to learn are called population where the smaller group we actually study is called sample". Thus, the sample is a portion of the population, which represents the population

A good sample must be as clearly the representative of the entire population as possible and ideally it must provide the whole of the information about the population as from which the small number of sample has been drawn.

Sampling is the process by which a relatively small number of individuals or measures of individual objects or event is selected and analyzed to find out something about the entire population from which it is selected. For selecting a representative sample researcher identified six schools affiliated to Madhya Pradesh board of Secondary Education, Bhopal.

DETAIL OF THE SAMPLE:

Description of students and school name

S.NO.	Name of the school	Total no. of students
1.	Sarojini Naidu Girls H.S School	27
2.	Kamala Nehru girls H.S School	19
3.	Rajeev Gandhi H.S school	11
4.	Chandra Shekhar Azad School	15
5.	Mahatma Gandhi School	21
6.	Old campion School	27
	Total	120

3.5 TOOLS

A Researcher require many data gathering tools or techniques. There are many different types of tests available and many ways to classify them.

For the present study, the achievement test was prepared by the researcher herself and administered on students of 8th class of the selected schools. The tool used for this study was-Aself-made achievement test, which consist of questions for Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing part.

3.6 CONSTRUCTION OF TOOL

Constructing Achievement Test

An achievement test measures an individual's current proficiency in given area of knowledge or skill. Typically administered in school settings, achievement tests are designed to provide information about how well test takers have learned the material introduced in school. Achievement test, largely summative in nature, measure achieved performance in each content area.

Cunningham (1998) has suggested that an achievement test might include more straightforward measures of basic skills.

In this study, the researcher prepared an achievement test for testing the language skills of students. For constructing the test, the items were framed on the basis of selected content in textbook of English of class VIII.

For construction of tools the sample questions were discussed with the guide and according to their suggestion the necessary changes were made in the achievement test. The achievement test consists of following components of English language skills. The selected topic according to the four skills of English language is included in the test is givenbelow:

- 1. Paragraph writing
- 2. Short note
- 3. Reorganizing the text
- 4. Dictation
- 5. Conversation

17

- 6. Paragraph reading
- 7. Poem writing
- 8. Introduction
- 9. General Essay Writing

3.7 ADMINISTRATION OF THE TOOL

The researcher met the principal of the schools and get acquainted with the teachers concerned and established rapport with the students.

Prior to administration, the students were explained the test that was supposed to attempt. The significance of the test and necessary instruction were given before start of the test. The students were made clear that this test is designed to help them and is not for grade and the whole process had nothing to do with their school achievements. After this, researcher administered the test on the students. The study was conducted on both male and female students. They were given the question paper and asked to answer the questions, which they thought correct or write the answer in the space provided. There was no fixed time limit for the test but ordinarily the students took 45-60 minute to complete one test. The students were observed during the test. The investigator had friendly contact with the students and were strict to the instructions given below:

- Read the questions carefully.
- There is no time limit but try to finish as early as possible
- Do not talk while answering the paper
- · This test will not affect your final results in any matter
- Write the answer in the appropriate space provided in the paper.