



OCCUPATIONAL INTERESTS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

An attempt was made in the present investigation **Aim:** Occupational Interests among high school students. **Objective:** To assess the future occupational interest levels among high school students with reference to occupations and the professions of the accountancy. **Sample:** The sample selected for the study is 120 high school students, those who are studying in the schools of Mahabubnagar town in Telangana State. **Tool:** Occupational interests scale developed by Achala Umapathy and Mary Paul (1972) was administered. **Conclusion:** High school students have preferences of their occupational interests' in the accountancy and administrative & managerial workers.

KEYWORDS : Occupational Interests, Preferences, Profession and High school students.

Introduction

Interest is a powerful dictator in the realm of attention. It is a well known fact that different people see different things in the same scene. A farmer, an artist, a botanist standing on a hill together & looking down over the landscape actually perceive different things because they attend to different aspects of the situation depending on their interests. If an occupation is not of one's interest, it not only leads to occupational maladjustment but also to wastage of man power. When the choice of occupation is not made accordingly, one can neither develop one's own potentialities, nor can one prove to be useful member of the society.

Occupational interest is defined as one's own pattern of preferences, aptitudes like, dislikes preferred in any manner wisely or unwisely by self or by another source for a given occupational area or occupation. Therefore, the purpose of the present record is to help students to adjust themselves to the careers, jobs & vocations, by making wise choices. Only by making right choice the student will be able to utilize his all the potential to the maximum extent. The choice of occupation is one of the very important decisions a person must make for himself & this choice is a long process rather than a simple incident. Occupational interest & choices do null of a sudden during adolescence. They appear as a result of developmental process. Occupational interest patterns generally have a substantial degree of permanence at this stage. Occupational interest usually means in what vocation an individual is interested.

Review of Literature

Creed and Peter (2010) revealed that the work bound students had the poorest career development and personal functioning, the university students had the highest, whereas the college bound students falling in-between the two groups. The findings further suggested a relationship between career development and personal functioning in high school students.

Otta (2010) examined self concept and vocational interest among secondary school students in Ohafia Education zone of Abia State. The findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between self concept and vocational interest. There was no significant difference between the male in their vocational interest. Implications of these findings were stressed.

Sara Safyanu Shuaibu (2010) studied effects of learning styles on career preferences of senior secondary school students in India. The study further revealed that the female students tend to incline to artistic related careers whereas male students select scientific related careers.

Ukoha (2011) examined that many factors have been blamed for the lack of interest in vocation. They have allowed their brains to be filled with chunks, leaving other importance things of life. The researcher founded that environment plays about 50% role in influencing what an adolescent learns or becomes.

Gaikwad (2012) conducted the study on career preferences and attitude towards the rural health services among the graduating interns of a medical college in Bangalore rural reported that all the interns were aspiring for post-graduation seats; not a single intern wanted to The foregoing account of the review of related literature has made the researcher clear that although a number of research studies have so far been conducted on career preferences, still there is lacking of some areas specially related to Media Exposure.

Otta and Williams (2012) studied on the self concept and vocational interest among secondary students in ohafia. The findings revealed that there is a significant relationship between self concept and vocational interest. There was no significant difference between the male in their vocational interests.

Objective

1. To assess the future occupational interest levels among high school students with reference to the professions of the accountancy and administrative & managerial workers.

Hypotheses

1. How are the future occupational interest levels of high school students on the profession "accountancy"?
2. How are the future occupational interest levels of high school students on the profession "administrative and managerial workers"?

Sample

Sample for the present study consists of 120 high school students in Mahabubnagar district of Telangana State. The subjects were in the age group of 15-17 years selected and using purposive random sampling method.

Tool

Assessment of Occupational Interests: Occupational interests scale developed by Achala Umapathy and Mary Paul (1972). was used to the levels of interests of occupation. It was rated on a 7- point Likert scale ranging from Dislike very much (1) to like very much (7).

Statistical Analysis

A percentile is a statistic that gives the relative standing of a numerical data point then compared to all other data points in a distribution.

Results and Discussion

Table-I: Showing responses of high school students on the Profession of accountancy.

S.No		Dislike Very much	Dislike much	Dislike	Undecided	Like	Like much	Like very much
1	Responses	43	64	62	65	44	33	49
2	Percentages	11.94%	17.77%	17.22%	18.05%	12.22%	9.16%	13.6%

Table-I reveals that 11.94% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike very much the profession of accountancy. 17.77% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike much the profession of accountancy. 17.22% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike the profession of accountancy. 18.05% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town have not yet decided about the profession of accountancy. 12.22% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like the profession of accountancy. 9.16% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like much the profession of accountancy and 13.61% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like very much the profession of accountancy.

Table-II: Showing responses of high school students on the profession of administrative and managerial workers.

S.No		Dislike Very much	Dislike much	Dislike	Undecided	Like	Like much	Like very much
1	Responses	134	120	131	141	124	144	166
2	Percentages	13.95%	12.5%	13.6%	14.6%	12.9%	15%	17.2%

It is evident from the table-II reveals that 13.95% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike very much the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 12.5% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike much the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 13.6% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town dislike the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 14.6% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town have not yet decided about the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 12.9% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 15% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like much the profession of administrative and managerial workers. 17.2% of high school students of Mahabubnagar town like very much the profession of administrative and managerial workers.

Findings of the study

- 34.98% of respondents have preferred accountancy occupation.
- 45.1% of respondents have preferred administrative and managerial workers occupation.

Educational Implications

- The present study helps to know the future occupational interests of the students.
- The study helps to aware the students about different types of occupations.
- The study helps to give guidance to students about undecided occupations.
- The study helps to know the valuable occupations in the society.
- The present study helps to introduce new contents in the syllabus.
- The present study helps to introduce new schemes related to different occupations.

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