



## INTERNET AWARENESS AND STUDY SKILLS OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS – A GENDER WISE ANALYSIS

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**ABSTRACT** The purpose of this study is to find out the level internet awareness and study skills of high school students with regard to gender. In order to study the problem, the survey method was used to collect the data. The population of the present investigation is all the high school students studying in Kadayannallur taluk. From the population, 300 high school students were randomly selected as the sample for the study. The finding reveals that the level of internet awareness and study skills of high students are found to be moderate. The research reveals that there is a significant difference between male and female high school students in their study skills.

**KEYWORDS :** Internet awareness, Study skills, High school students

### Introduction

Learning is the continuous process happening throughout the life of human beings. It is the desired change or modification of behaviour attained through experience and environment. A skill is ability perform a given task with ease and precision. A study skill is a set learning skills that last a life time and bring many rewards. No two people study the same way and the study the skill that works for one person may not work for another. However, there are some general techniques that seem to produce results. For any student success is dependent on one's ability to study effectively and efficiently. The results of poor study skills are wasted time, frustration and low grades. There is a saying: "practice doesn't make perfection". Effective study skills need to be always practiced. Internet has significant impact on the changing scenario of education. It is the fundamental necessity of students. Students make use of the internet to learn and play. Through the internet, the student can find knowledge resources in any discipline. It leads to improve thinking and problem-solving. The Internet has proven to be a double-edged sword for education. Teachers and students benefit from the unprecedented access to information the Internet provides, as well as from the ability to share knowledge across the globe. The internet has made it easy for students to communicate with others because it is cheap and convenient. Students are able to share their thoughts and views on matters affecting the globe (Hema and Krishnamacharyulu, 2016). In this article the investigator wants to study the internet awareness and study skills of high school students.

### Need and significance of the study

Internet which is one out of the many components of ICT has changed the way we work and interact with each other. The world today is information driven and internet has become a key player in education. The internet has increasingly become an invariable asset in education in terms of learning, teaching and research. The use of internet helps the students to learn the latest information. Internet is a wonderful tool for students. E-mail communication with other teacher provides for sharing of lesson plans or the specific classroom problems and issues. E-mail has changed the way, thus students work and communicative within few minutes of efforts a message to one or many individuals can be composed, send and received. Bulletin board system helps the students to ask question, advice, locate and share information. Chatting has become a very popular type of discussion. Chat groups direct the students 'live communication with others by typing words on computer. Study skills encompass a broad range of abilities which facilitate academic achievement in an equally broad range of subject areas. High school students who fail to study at all may become under-achievers both academically and in other areas of life. High school students with a desire to succeed will accomplish their goals with effective study skills. Activities for high school students seeking to improve their study skills may involve memorization exercises, meditation and relaxation techniques to relieve test anxiety, effective note-taking methods, time management exercises, and listening to audible tapes that test the student's reading comprehension study skills [1]. Internet helps' the students to develop study skills through simulation and multimedia techniques. So the present study intends to measure the internet awareness and study skills of high school students.

### Objectives of the study

The researcher has framed the following objectives for the present study.

1. To find out the level of internet awareness and study skills of high school students.
2. To find whether there is any significant difference between male and female high school students in their internet awareness and study skills.

### Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between male and female high school students in their internet awareness and study skills.

### Methodology

The researcher used survey method for the present study. For data collection, the investigator used the standard tool of "Study skills inventory" comprises of 21 statements developed by Patel and "Internet awareness test" comprises of 25 questions, which was developed and validated by Raja mari muthaiah (investigator) and Anandaraj (Research supervisor) in 2016. The investigator has selected the sample by random sampling technique for the present study. It comprises of 300 secondary students studying in Kadayannallur taluk. The data were analysed using Mean, Standard Deviation and 't' test.

### Analysis of the Data

The data were subjected to statistical treatment leading to the findings which may satisfy the requirements of the objectives of the study.

**Objective 1:** To find out the level of internet awareness and study skills of high school students with respect to gender.

**Table 1 : Level of internet awareness and study skills of high school students with respect to gender**

Variable	Internet awareness						Study skills					
	Low		Average		High		Low		Average		High	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Male	28	22.8	77	62.6	18	14.6	17	13.8	78	63.4	28	22.8
Female	36	20.3	105	59.3	36	20.3	40	22.6	105	59.3	32	18.1

It is inferred from the above table that 22.8% of male students have low, 62.6% of them have moderate and 14.6% of them have high level of internet awareness. 20.3% of female students have low, 59.3% of them have moderate and 20.3% of them have high level of internet awareness.

13.8% of male students have low, 63.4% of them have moderate and 22.8% of them have high level of study skills. 22.6% of female students have low, 59.3% of them have moderate and 18.1% of them have high level of study skills.

**Ho1:** There is no significant difference between male and female high

school students in their internet awareness and study skills.

**Table 2 : Difference between male and female high school students in their internet awareness and study skills**

Variable	Gender	N	MEAN	SD	Calculate d value	Remark
Internet awareness	Male	123	13.42	4.308	0.809	NS
	Female	177	13.86	4.781		
Study skills	Male	123	35.03	4.676	2.873	S
	Female	177	33.41	4.917		

(at 5% level of significance the table value of 't' is 1.96, S- Significant, NS- Not Significant)

It is inferred from the above table that there is no significant difference between male and female high school students in their internet awareness. But, there is a significant difference between male and female high school students in their study skills.

### Findings of the study

The major findings derived from the study are:

1. The level of internet awareness and study skills of high school students are found to be moderate with respect to gender
2. There is no significant difference between male and female high school students in their internet awareness.
3. There is a significant difference between male and female high school students in their study skills. When comparing the mean scores of male and female high school students, male students (35.03) are better than the female students (33.41) in their study skills.

### Conclusion

The Internet has introduced improvements in technology, communication and online entertainment, but it is also incredibly useful for education purposes as well. Study skills can be improved among students with multimodal learning. Regular study skill training would help them in improving their academic performance. In this study the investigator found that the male students are better than the female students in their study skills. This may be due to fact that the male students do not feel shy to join any activities in their school. They are having the ability to adapt to their situations and in the environment. Hence school should arrange internet awareness related seminars, workshops and symposium for school students. Proper guidance through special and extension lectures, regarding the proper study skills are to be improved to the students.

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