

ETIQUETTE OF TAMIL AND ENGLISH UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

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Abstract

Man is a social animal and rightfully so he or she must follow certain social etiquettes that are appreciated by one and all. Social etiquette helps us to be correct with our mannerisms, communication and our behavior in general. In earlier times, the rules of etiquette were used for two purposes: to remind people of their own status within society and to reinforce certain restrictions on individuals within that society. But today it is not like that. This study deals with etiquette of Tamil and English Undergraduate students. The investigator has used Etiquette scale was developed by the investigator and guide. This study used percentage analysis and 't' test for analyzing the data. The objectives of this study is to find out the difference between Tamil and English Undergraduate students with reference to gender, type of family, residence and department of study. The finding of this study is there is no significant difference between Tamil and English Undergraduate students with reference to gender, type of family, residence and department of study.

INTRODUCTION

Etiquette is merely a set of guidelines for politeness and good manners, the kindness with which we should always treat each other. Etiquette, the complex network of rules that govern good behavior and our social and business interactions, is always evolving and changing as society changes. It reflects our cultural norms, generally accepted ethical codes, and the rules of various groups we belong to. Good manners are important for considering the feelings of other people and being the kind of person that others will like and respect. Manners are important to make a good impression on others in everyday life. It is essential for graduate students to learn how to get along positively with others and show respect when interacting. A solid foundation in good manners and proper etiquette is keys when it comes to developing strong social skills. As graduate students, they should understand the importance of appropriate behavior as it can directly contribute to her success in young adulthood and beyond.

Significance of the study

We are in a modern society. Everybody wants to become modern. The study was designed with view to find out the level of etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students. Society and our culture are now changing so fast that it is hard for the rules of etiquette to keep up. Etiquette, like all other cultural behaviors, evolves to match the times. Without etiquette, members of society would show far too much impatience and disrespect for one another, which would lead to insults, dishonesty, cheating, road rage, fist fights, and a rash of other unfortunate incidents. The investigator has selected Tamil and English undergraduate students for her study. The investigator wanted to select language undergraduate students because at this age level, the student is scrutinized not only for educational capabilities but also on professional behavior and is deemed to mature in interacting with the society. The students want to become more modern but they may not show much interest in adapting good manners. So the investigator felt the necessity to bring into focus about the modernity and etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students. The present study “Etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students” therefore, is undertaken.

Objectives of the study

1. To find out the level of etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students with respect to gender, community, type of family, residence, monthly income, father’s occupation, mother’s occupation and department of study is average.
2. To find out significant difference of any, in etiquette between sample with reference to gender.
3. To find out significant difference of any, in etiquette between sample with reference to type of family.
4. To find out significant difference of any, in etiquette between sample with reference to residence.
5. To find out significant difference of any, in etiquette between sample with reference to department of study.

Review of Related Literature

Beckman Brito and Krishna, (2014) Conducted a study on “Classroom etiquette- A cross cultural study of classroom behaviors. Arizona Working Papers in second Language Acquisition and Teaching”. In this study cultural diversity in an ESL/EFL class offers both teacher and students the opportunity to meet and become familiar with various aspects of the students’ home countries. However, the resulting gulf between what is considered appropriate or inappropriate in a classroom setting can prove disconcerting if a teacher is not adept at interpreting those behavioral displays. This study was undertaken to compare the classroom etiquette that is appropriate and inappropriate behavioral displays in an instructional setting, across eight countries (Argentina, China, Italy, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, the Ukraine and Vietnam).

Chaney and Martin, (2016) conduct a study on “Etiquette with disabled” This study contained the main content which was discussed about the behavior towards disabled included way of speak to them, way of called them and avoid some unnecessary talk about them. A good place to start treating those with disabilities with respect is the language use. The choice of words and the way of saying them have an enormous impact on the way you interact with others. Many disability groups consider terms such as “physically challenged” patronizing. (i) Avoid using words such as “handicapped,” or “crippled,” to refer to those with disabilities. (ii) Avoid using words such as “healthy” and “normal” to refer to those without disabilities. (iii) Don’t refer to someone as “wheelchair-bound” or “confined to a wheelchair.” Use people-first terminology. (iv) Avoid getting overly concerned about figures of speech in the presence of people with disabilities. Talk to everyone in a medium tone of voice. Don’t talk too loudly to anyone with a disability.

Population for the study

The population for the present study was identified as the Tamil and English Undergraduate students those who are studying in arts and science colleges of Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli Districts.

Sample for the study

Among the population, 300 Tamil and English undergraduate students studying in Thoothukudi and Tirunelveli districts were selected as sample. Simple random sampling technique was adopted by the investigator.

Tools for the study

Etiquette scale was developed by the investigator and guide.

Statistical techniques used

The following Statistical techniques were used for the analysis of the data to draw meaningful generalization.

1. Percentage analysis.
2. t-test.
3. F-test.

Null Hypothesis : 1

The level of etiquette of sample among undergraduate students with respect to their background variables is moderate.

Table : 1. The level of etiquette of sample with respect to background variables

S.	Background	Categories	No	Low	Medium	High
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No	Variables			No	%	No	%	No	%
1.	Gender	Male	147	19	12.9	113	76.9	15	10.2
		Female	153	22	14.4	101	66.0	30	19.6
2.	Community	OC	14	1	7.1	10	71.4	3	21.4
		BC	107	15	14.0	79	73.8	13	12.1
		MBC	113	17	15.0	74	65.5	22	19.5
		SC&ST	66	8	12.1	51	77.3	7	10.6
3.	Type of family	Join family	128	14	10.9	93	72.7	21	16.4
		Nuclear family	172	27	15.7	121	70.3	24	14.0
4.	Residence	Days Scholar	235	36	15.3	161	68.5	38	16.2
		Hostler	65	5	7.7	53	81.5	7	10.8
5.	Monthly income of family	10000 & below	126	23	18.3	85	67.5	18	14.3
		11,000-20,000	112	11	9.8	83	74.1	18	16.1
		21,000 & above	62	7	11.3	46	74.2	9	14.5
6.	Occupation of Father	Daily wages	99	17	17.2	72	72.7	10	10.1
		Private	148	15	10.1	107	72.3	26	17.6
		Government	53	9	17.0	35	66.0	9	17.0
7.	Occupation of Mother	Home Maker	199	30	15.1	141	70.9	28	14.1
		Daily wages	53	4	7.5	41	77.4	8	15.1
		Private	37	5	13.5	25	67.6	7	18.9
		Government	11	2	18.2	7	63.6	2	18.2
8.	Department of study	Tamil	139	23	16.5	97	69.8	19	13.7
		English	161	18	11.2	117	72.7	26	16.1
9.	Type of	Government	30	2	6.7	25	83.3	3	10.0

	Management	Government Aided	61	9	14.8	43	70.5	9	14.8
		Self Finance	209	30	14.4	146	69.9	33	15.8
Total			300	41	13.7	214	71.3	45	15.0

Finding: The majority of Tamil and English undergraduate students' etiquette is average.

Null Hypothesis : 2

There is no significant difference between etiquette of sample with reference to Gender.

Table : 2. Difference between etiquette of sample with reference to Gender

Variable	Categories	N	Mean	SD	t Value	Remark
Gender	Male	147	79.43	5.340	0.226	NS
	Female	153	79.58	6.368		

Table value at 5% level: 1.96.

Null Hypothesis : 3

There is no significant difference between sample in etiquette with reference to Type of Family.

Table : 3. Difference between etiquette of sample with reference to Type of Family

Background Variable	Categories	N	Mean	SD	't' Value	Remark At 5% level
Type of family	Join family	128	79.72	5.497	0.548	NS
	Nuclear family	172	79.35	6.156		

Table value at 5% level: 1.96.

Null Hypothesis : 4

There is no significant difference between sample in etiquette with reference to Residence.

Table : 4. Difference between etiquette of sample with reference to Residence

Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SD	t Value	Remark
Residence	Days scholar	235	79.43	6.171	0.529	NS
	Hostler	172	79.80	4.694		

Table value at 5% level: 1.96.

Null Hypothesis : 5

There is no significant difference between sample in etiquette with reference to Department of Study.

Table : 5. Difference between etiquette of sample with reference to Department of Study

Background Variables	Categories	N	Mean	SD	t Value	Remarks
Department of study	Tamil	139	79.30	6.112	0.556	NS
	English	161	79.68	5.680		

Table value at 5% level: 1.96.

Findings

1. The level of etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students with respect to gender, community, type of family, residence, monthly income, father's occupation, mother's occupation and department of study is average.

2. There is no significant difference in etiquette between sample with reference to gender.
3. There is no significant difference in etiquette between sample with reference to type of family.
4. There is no significant difference in etiquette between sample with reference to residence.
5. There is no significant difference in etiquette between sample with reference to department of study.

Interpretation

It is inferred from the percentage analysis that the level of Tamil and English undergraduate students' etiquette with reference to background variables is average. It is very clear that majority of the students have high level of etiquette. At the same time, 't' test showed that there is no significant difference between Tamil and English undergraduate students' etiquette with reference to background variables. This may be due to the society expect each and every one in the society should follow etiquette. It is common for all.

Conclusion

In this study, the investigator has focused on etiquette of Tamil and English undergraduate students. To make the study meaningful, valuable and reliable for the society, etiquette scales were prepared by the investigator and the guide. Then proper statistical techniques have been adopted. The investigator have given interpretation based on the findings. This present study contributes much to the society by providing clear view about the necessity of etiquette for the students.

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