

ASSESSMENT OF CRITICAL AND CREATIVE THINKING OF NEWLY ADMITTED UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH STUDENTS

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Abstract: Creative thinking is the ability to come up with unique, original solutions. Also known as creative problem-solving, creative thinking is a valuable and marketable soft skill in a variety of careers. The purpose of this study was to assess critical and creative thinking among English and other undergraduate students. A total of 100 English and 100 Other than English students were selected from various affiliated colleges of Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad. The interview schedule use to measure the Critical and creative thinking of the students. The findings of the study revealed that significant differences were found in critical and creative thinking between English and other students. It was found that English students had better critical and creative thinking than their counterparts.

Keywords: Critical, creative, Students, English

I. INTRODUCTION

English is the primary language for higher education students as it helps them in many ways. English is the language largely used by the students of Science, Literature, Commerce and Technology streams. So it is important for the students to learn English in any part of the world (British Study Centres, 2023). English is the common language at global level . Students who are proficient in English have greater access to academic resources and can participate in various platform at national and International Level (Colquhoun, 2023).Critical thinking is the ability to think clearly and logically about information presented to us. Creative thinking is about generating new, innovative or useful ideas. (Alhalabi , 2021. Kaplan, Courtney, Pelta 2023). Creative thinking is an invaluable skill for college students. This is important because it helps to see problems and situations from a new perspective (Alhalabi , 2021. Creativity is about generating ideas, while critical thinking is about examining them. ... It is fundamentally creative in the sense that it aims to generate something new: an insight, an argument, a new synthesis of ideas or information, a new level of understanding. Creative thinking and critical thinking are two expressions that show differences between them when it comes to their inner meanings (Kaplan, Courtney, Pelta 2023). On the other hand, critical thinking is more evaluative in nature and analyzes a particular thing. Therefore, one can conclude that while creative thinking is productive in purpose, critical thinking is analytical in purpose. This is one of the main differences between creative thinking and critical thinking (Critical and Creative Thinking | Newsletter – October 2021). Creative thinking can bring out hidden talents that you may not have noticed before. Instead of worrying about a problem, it helps you discover new opportunities that you didn't know about. (Critical and Creative Thinking | Newsletter – October 2021). Very little information is available on creative and critical thinking, so the researcher conducted this study

II. METHODS

Sampling method and Sample Size:

The method of sample was purposive –A non-random method of sampling design for English and other students with a specific purpose. The sample size of the study was to 100 English students and 100 other students who were studying in colleges affiliated to dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada university were selected for present study. The data was collected through respondents in the form self-design questionnaire from different students. The data was collected through respondents in the form of different descriptive tests. The demographic information about, age, sex, daily smoking etc. was obtained before seeking responses. To measure academic Critical and creative thinking of students, 20 items Critical and creative thinking questionnaire prepared by investigator was used. The data was checked for accuracy and completeness and was coded and put up into the SPSS Descriptive statistics for all studied variables, mean, standard deviation and t-ratio, was considered statistically technique throughout the study and the level of significant was set-up at 0.05 level.

Results of the study:

The following order was adopted for results

**TABLE -1.
PERSONAL INFORMATION OF ENGLISH STUDENTS**

Sr.No.		Students Approximately Percentage (%)
1	Use of Facebook	40.00 %
2	Use of Internet	60.00%
3	Daily smoking	5.00%
4.	Use of WhatsApp	80.00%

Table-1 indicates the percentage of personal information of English students. The result revealed that, 40.00 % English students Facebook, whereas 60.00% English students used internet. 05% English students reported that they have smoked, while 80 .00% English students WhatsApp.

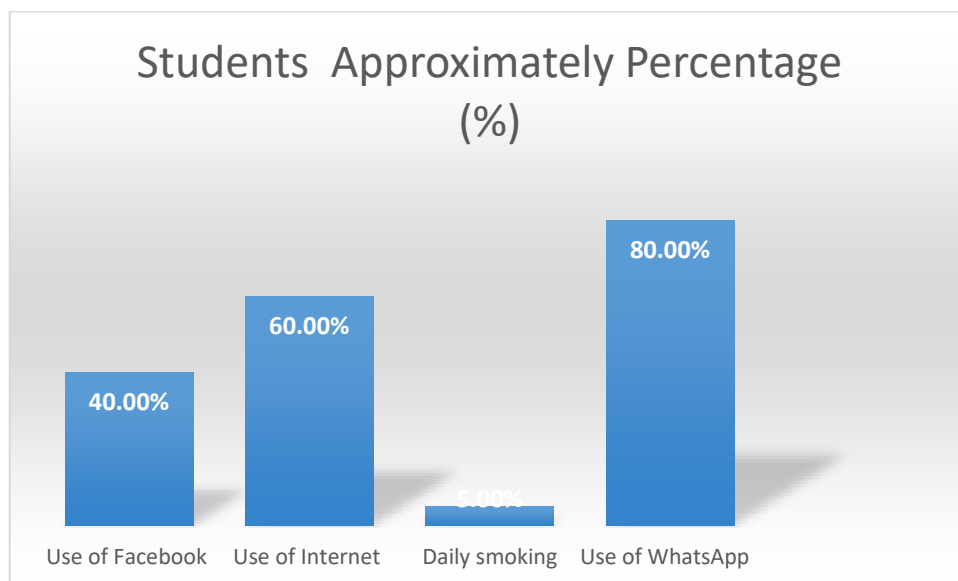


Figure 1 shows the personal information of Newly admitted English students

**TABLE -1.
PERSONAL INFORMATION OF OTHER THAN ENGLISH STUDENTS**

Sr.No.		Students Approximately Percentage (%)
1	Use of Facebook	45.00 %
2	Use of Internet	55.00%
3	Daily smoking	8.00%
4.	Use of WhatsApp	77.00%

Table-1 indicates the percentage of personal information of English students.

The result revealed that, 45.00 % other than English students used Facebook, whereas 55.00% other than English students used internet. 8.00% other than English students reported that they have smoked, while 77.00% other than English students WhatsApp.

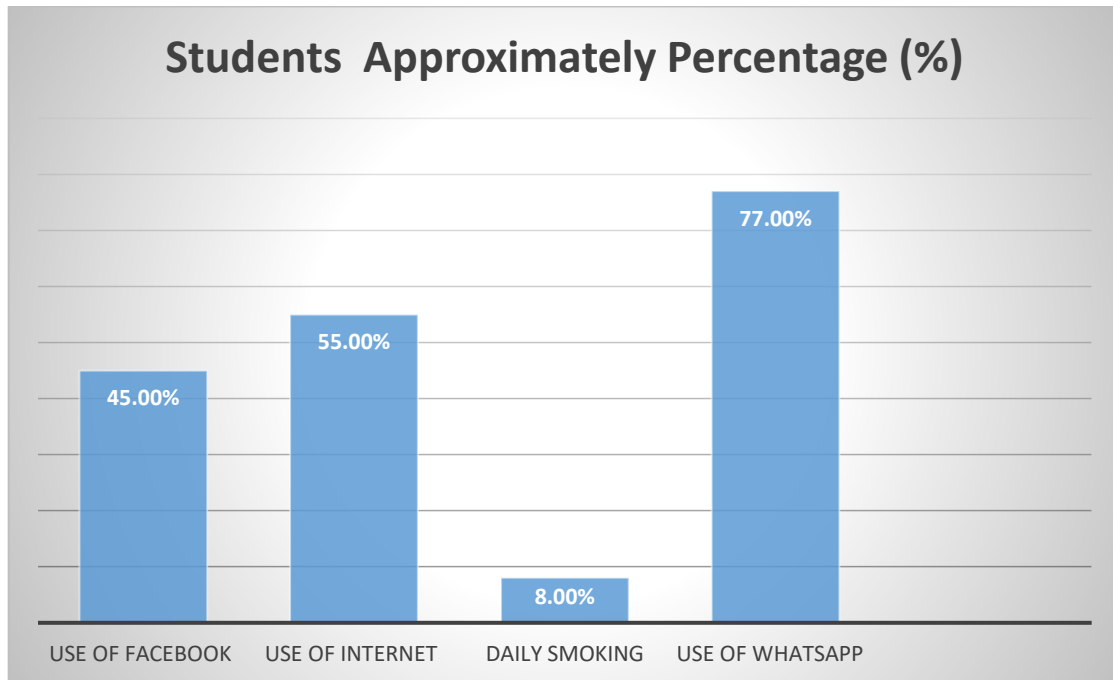


Figure 2 shows the personal information of Newly admitted other than English students

TABLE –3
Mean scores, Standard deviations and T-ratios of Critical and creative thinking between English and other students

Measure	Students	Number	Means	S.Ds.	T-ratio
Critical and creative thinking	English Students	100	95.97	11.56	3.87*
	Other Students	100	91.76	10.94	

Table -3 Shows the **Mean scores, Standard deviations and T-ratios of Critical and creative thinking between English and other students**

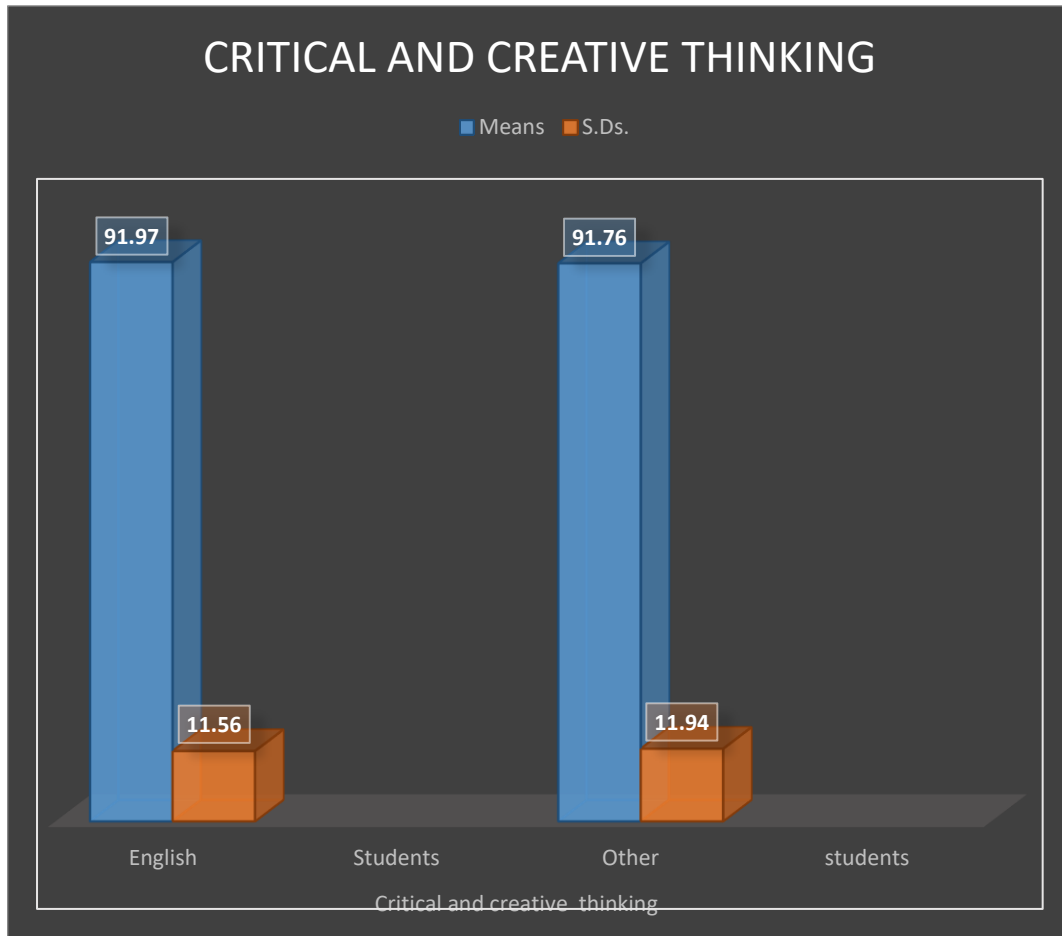


Figure -3 Shows the Mean scores and Standard deviations of Critical and creative thinking between English and other students

TABLE –4

Mean scores, Standard deviations and T-ratios of Critical and creative thinking between Female English and other than female students

Measure	Students	Number	Means	S.Ds.	T-ratio
Critical and creative thinking	English Students	47	91.23	10.56	3.32*
	Other Students	44	88.09	10.24	

Table – 4 shows the Mean scores, Standard deviations and T-ratios of Critical and creative thinking between Female English and other than female students.

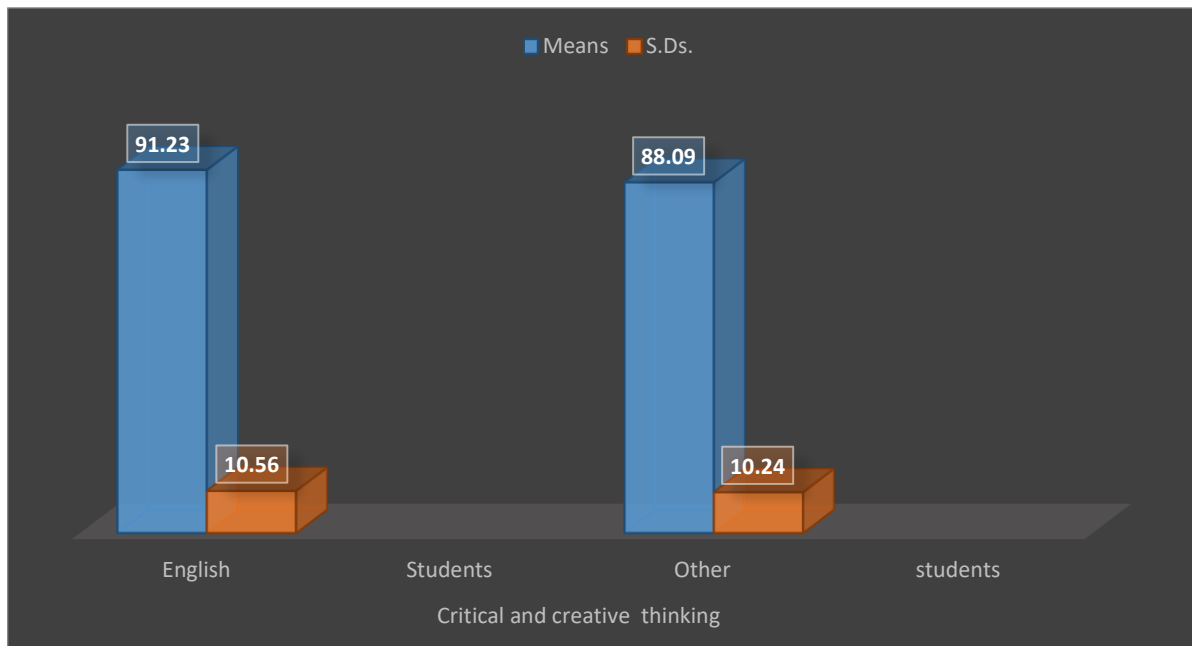


Figure-4 –the Mean scores and Standard deviations of Critical and creative thinking between Female English and other than female students

III. DISCUSSION

The result revealed that, 40.00 % English students Facebook, whereas 60.00% English students used internet. 05% English students reported that they have smoked, while 80 .00% English students WhatsApp. The result revealed that, 45.00 % other than English students used Facebook, whereas 55.00% other than English students used internet. 8.00% other than English students reported that they have smoked, while 77.00% other than English students WhatsApp.

The mean scores of Critical and creative thinking of English students were obtained 95.97 and the mean scores of Critical and creative thinking of other than English students were obtained 91.76 respectively. Meanwhile, the standards deviation Critical and creative thinking of English students were recoded 11.56 and the standards deviation of Critical and creative thinking of other than English students were recoded 10.94 respectively. The result given in Table 1 reveals that significant difference of Critical and creative thinking was found between English and Other than English Students.

The English students was found to have greater critical and creative thinking skills as compare to their counterparts. In addition, the mean scores of Critical and creative thinking of female English students were obtained 91.23 and the mean scores of Critical and creative thinking of other than female English students were obtained 88.09 respectively. Meanwhile, the standards deviation Critical and creative thinking of female English students were recoded 11.56 and the standards deviation of Critical and creative thinking of other than female English students were recoded 10.94 respectively.

The result given in Table 4 reveals that significant difference of Critical and creative thinking was found between female English and Other than female English Students. The Female English students was found to have greater critical and creative thinking skills as compare to their counterparts. Critical thinking will allow you to make your own decisions. This will help you improve decision making. For students, while taking a career decision or taking a new step in a career, it is important to make quick decisions and hence critical thinking plays an important role here.

Creative thinking helps you become self-reliant and more confident. You can think on your own without the help of others and that will make you a stronger, truly happy person. Creative thinking refers to developing innovative solutions to problems. (Alhalabi , 2021. Kaplan, Courtney, Pelta 2023) Creative thinkers not only brainstorm a large number of ideas, but also brainstorm on their diversity and range. Critical thinking is a way of thinking about any topic, problem or material. It thinks efficiently. Later, it applies and embeds those intellectual ideas on them. The best part of critical thinking is that it improves the quality of thinking.

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