

Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance

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Abstract

Many practical studies are carried out to investigate factors affecting college students' performance. The focus of this research is that student performance in intermediate examination is linked with students' outline consisted of his approach towards communication, learning facilities, proper guidance and family stress. The research is based on student profile developed on the bases of information and data collected through assessment from students of a group of private colleges.

Index terms— Students performance, communication, learning facilities, proper guidance and family stress.

1 Introduction

chool, colleges and universities have no worth without student. Students are most essential asset for any educational institute. The social and economic development of the country is directly linked with student academic performance. The students' performance (academic achievement) plays an important role in producing the best quality graduates who will become great leader and manpower for the country thus responsible for the country's economic and social development ??Ali et.al, 2009). Student academic performance measurement has received considerable attention in previous research, it is challenging aspects of academic literature, and science student performance are affected due to social, psychological, economic, environmental and personal factors. These factors strongly influence on the student performance, but these factors vary from person to person and country to country.

From the last few years in Pakistan literacy rate and education improved and most of the instituted in Pakistan improving the educational level and produce well educated, competitive and skilled person, those meet dynamic growing market requirement. That's a reason the researcher find out such factors that effecting student performance, especially in rural areas where student face lot of problem.

Previously mostly study of student academic performance conducting on such issues like gender difference, teacher's education and teaching style, class environment, socio economic factor and family education background. The finding of this study varies from region to region and their results differ in cities and rural areas.

This research is focuses on the private colleges in Pakistan. Students of private colleges of Rawalpindi and Islamabad are taken as population and focuses on the result of the student performance and their achievements in the academic year.

We measure the student academic performance through several ways like CGPA, GPA and their test result. Most of the researcher around the word used the GPA to measure the student performance ??Galiher, 2006; ??arling, 2005; ??roh, 2000; ??tephen & Schaban, 2002). They used GPA to measure student performance in particular semester. Some other researcher, they measure student performance through the result of particular subject or the previous year result (Hijazi & Naqvi, 2006; ??ake, 1988; ??&1994).

2 II.

3 Significance

Previous studies focuses on different factors such class schedules, class size, English text books, homework, environment of the class, technology used in the class and exams systems, extracurricular activities, family and

44 work activities, financial, and etc. The study may helpful for both college's policy makers and parents of the
45 students. It helps the college administration to design and implement the policies to improve the students'
46 performance and the quality of education by changing the attitude of students towards learning, facilitating
47 students and improving the teaching procedures. Parents can use the outcomes of the study to solve the students'
48 problems especially financial problems and to look after them. It may also create awareness among students about
49 their rights and responsibilities to achieve quality education.

50 4 III.

51 5 Research Question

52 What are the important factors that affect students' academic performance?
53 IV.

54 6 Research Objectives

55 The objective of this research paper is to explore the important factors that affect the academic performance of
56 the students.
57 V.

58 7 Contribution

59 Previously a lot of research has been done on this topic. Different researchers researched on various variables
60 and a lot of different variables were studied. This research is different in a way that it is the first research in
61 which a variable "proper guidance" is studied, moreover in Pakistan only one research was carried out on this
62 topic and it was conducted by Abid Hussain in 2006 and that too was based on the findings of school's whereas
63 this research is conducted on colleges.

64 Our contribution to this study is that we explore the four factors that affect students' academic performance.
65 These factors are students' communication skills, learning facilities, proper guidance and family stress. In
66 Pakistan scenario, many researchers have done a lot of work on communication, learning facilities and family
67 stress. This research will be helpful for the parents as well as the teachers of the students to guide them
68 properly and as per their abilities. H H1: There is a positive relationship between communication and student
69 performance. c) Learning Facilities ??aremera (2003) found that students' performance is significantly correlated
70 with satisfaction with academic environment and the facilities of library, computer lab and etc. in the institution.
71 With regard to background variables, he found a positive effect of high school performance and school achievement
72 he found no statistical evidence of significant association between family income level and academic performance
73 of the student.

74 8 VI.

75 9 Literature Review

76 Robert & Sampson (2011), found that the member of educational board will be educated and their impact on
77 school is positive, for professional development it is essential for student learning.

78 The students who are actively engage in the learning process are observed to have a positive correlation
79 with the CGP. A Study effort from student and the proper use of the facilities provided by the institution to
80 the student, a good match between students' learning style and are positively affect the student's performance
81 (Norhidayah Ali, et. al., 2009) Young (1999), held the view that student performances are linked with use of
82 library and level of their parental education. The use of the library positively affected the student performance.

83 The academic environment is the effectivevariable for students and has positive relationship with fathers'
84 education and grade level (Kirmani & Siddiquah, 2008).

85 H2: There is a positive relationship between learning facilities and student performance.

86 10 d) Proper Guidance

87 11 Noble

88 (2006), students' academic accomplishments and activities, perceptions of their coping strategies and positive
89 attributions, and background characteristics (i.e., family income, parents' level of education, guidance from
90 parents and number of negative situations in the home) were indirectly related to their composite scores, through
91 academic achievement in high school.

92 The students face a lot of problems in developing positive study attitudes and study habits. Guidance is of
93 the factor through which a student can improve his study attitudes and study habits and is directly proportional
94 to academic achievement. The students who are properly guided by their parents have performed well in the
95 exams. The guidance from the Factors Affecting Students' Academic Performance teacher also affects the student
96 performance. The guidance from the parents and the teachers indirectly affect the performance of the students
97 (Hussain, 2006).

98 H H3: There is a positive relationship between proper guidance and student performance.

99 **12 e) Family Stress**

100 Socio-economic factors like attendance in the class, family income, and mother's and father's education, teacher-
101 student ratio, presence of trained teacher in school, sex of student and distance of school are also affected
102 the performance of the students. (Raychauduri et al., 2010) Kernan, Bogart & Wheat (2011), academic
103 success of graduate student will be enhanced if the optimal health related barriers are low. There is negative
104 relationship between college credit and stress but weak relationship between GPA (Grade Point Average) and
105 stress. ??Zajacova, Lynch and Espenshade, 2005) Amitava Raychaudhuri, et. al., (July 2010), found that
106 numerous studies have been done to identify those factors which are affecting student's academic performance.
107 The students' academic performance depends on a number of socio-economic factors like students' attendance in
108 the class, family income, mother's and father's education, teacher-student ratio, presence of trained teacher in
109 school, sex of the student, and distance of schools.

110 Hijaz and Naqvi (2006) observed that there is a negative relationship between the family income and students'
111 performance and they focus on the private colleges in Pakistan.

112 H4: There is a negative relationship between family stress and student performance.

113 **13 VII.**

114 Theoretical Framework VIII.

115 **14 Methodology**

116 This section discusses the sample selection procedure, variables selection, the model used for the research and
117 the statistical techniques.

118 **15 a) Measures**

119 The extent of existence for all variables in the research area was measured on a five-point likert scale ranging
120 from, strongly disagree to Strongly Agree.

121 Ranging from 1 to 5 Strongly Disagree (1), Disagree (2), Neutral (3), Agree (4), Strongly Agree (5).

122 **16 b) Data Set**

123 The source of data for this study is primary data acquired through questionnaire. 175 questionnaires were
124 distributed.

125 **17 c) Statistical Tools**

126 Mean, Standard deviation, correlation and regression analysis are used through appropriate statistical package.

127 **18 IX.**

128 **19 Results And Conclusion**

129 Findings of the study are discussed as under.

130 **20 a) Data Analysis and Discussion**

131 In order to meet the purpose of the study, this section has five parts for analyzing the data collected for the
132 study. The There is a degree of association between communication and student performance i.e. 13 percent and
133 also shows negative value and probability of error is also low.

134 There is degree of association between learning facilities; proper guidance and family stress with student
135 performance are 13 percent, 20 percent and 2 percent respectively as shown in Table ?? On the basis of Beta
136 coefficients the model shows that communication causes 20% positive variation in student performance and t -
137 value is also significant. . So we accept H1 which states that "there is positive relationship between communication
138 and student performance.

139 Learning facilities causes' 16% variation in student performance but the direction is positive direction. Here
140 t-value is also significant. So we accept H2 which states that that "there is positive relationship between learning
141 facilities and student performance Proper guidance causes 17% variation in student performance in positive
142 direction and t -value is also significant. So we accept H3 which states that that "there is positive relationship
143 between proper guidance and student performance Family stress causes 13% variation in student performance
144 but in opposite direction or negative direction and t -value is insignificant. So we reject H4 which states that
145 "there is negative relationship between family stress and student performance.

146 X.

147 **21 Discussion**

148 This study was conducted to explore the important factors that affect the students' academic performance.
149 Research was conducted on private colleges in Rawalpindi and Islamabad. Four hypothesis used in the study to
150 check the effect of independent variables on dependent variables. By using the appropriate statistical package
151 it is found that communication, learning facilities, proper guidance and family stress are the factors that affect
152 the student performance. Our three hypotheses are accepted and one hypothesis is rejected. Communication,
153 learning facilities and proper guidance shows the positive impact on the student performance and the family
154 stress shows the negative impact on the student performance but the significant level is high. So, it is indicated
155 that the communication is more important factor that affect the student performance and the learning facilities
156 and proper guidance are also affect the student performance. Family stress also affects the student performance
157 and reduces the performance of the student and affects negatively the student performance.

158 **22 a) Limitations**

159 There are certain limitations of this study. Firstly, the sample size taken in this study was very small that is only
160 155. If this study is being carried out again with large sample size the result might be improved than existing
study. ^{1 2 3}



Figure 1:

1

which

[Note: c) Reliability of Total ItemsReliability of Individual Items is shown in Table2.]

Figure 2: Table 1

161

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Figure 3: Table 1 :

63

		Correlations				
		Student Performance	Communication	Learning Facilities	Proper Guidance	Family Stress
Student Performance	Pearson Correlation	1	.132 **	.137 *	.200 *	-.020
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.002	.040	.013	.809
	N	155	155	155	155	155
Communication	Pearson Correlation	.132 **	1	.157	.176 *	.139
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.002		.051	.028	.085
	N	155	155	155	155	155
Learning Facilities	Pearson Correlation	.137 *	.157	1	.571 **	.245 **
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.040	.051		.000	.002
	N	155	155	155	155	155
Proper Guidance	Pearson Correlation	.200 *	.176 *	.571 **	1	.055
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.013	.028	.000		.498
	N	155	155	155	155	155
Family Stress	Pearson Correlation	-.020	.139	.245 **	.055	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.809	.085	.002	.498	
	N	155	155	155	155	155

Figure 4: Table 6 :Table 3

8

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients		Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta	t	
1	(Constant)	2.514	1.038		2.423	.017
	Communication	.204	.160	.104	1.279	.003
	Learning Facilities	.160	.146	.041	.413	.020
	Proper Guidance	.177	.108	.161	1.642	.103
	Family Stress	-.132	.207	-.053	-.638	.524

g) Coefficient & Hypothesis Testing

Figure 5: Table 8 C

162 Second limitation of the study was that study conducted on only thein the 2 cities of Pakistan i.e., Rawalpindi
163 and Islamabad. Including more others relative factors that affect the student performance can improve the
164 results.

165 .1 b) Suggestions and Recommendations

166 The student performance should be improve if the administration of the college provides proper leaning facilities
167 to the students and also improve the environment of the college. The student performance should be improve if
168 the students have good and effective communication skills and have good competence in English. For this the
169 administration should take steps to arrange the class for the English language. The student should perform well
170 if they are properly guided by the parents and also by their teacher. If the student should know well about their
171 abilities and their competences then he performs well.

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