# CENTRE FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT Paro College of Education, Paro BHUTAN

PO Box. 1245 Tel: +975-8-272011/271620, Fax: +975-8-271917 www.pce.edu.bt

Printed: KUENSEL Corporation Ltd., 2015, Thimphu

# JOURNALOF

# EDUCATIONAL ACTION RESEARCH



NOVEMBER 2020 VOLUME 1, NUMBER -4

ISSN: 2413 - 5992

# Journal of Educational Action Research (JEAR)

#### Vol. 1. No. 4. November journal of educational action research

#### **Editor-in-Chief**

Sonam Dorji W

Dean,

Research & Industrial Linkages, CERD, PCE

#### **Editors**

- 1. Sangay Bidha (English), Assistant Professor, PCE
- 2. Penjor (Dzongkha), Assistant Professor, PCE

#### **Production Editors**

Pelden Dorji Dadil Jamtsho

#### Reviewers

Dorji Wangchuk, PhD, PCE Bhutan Sonam Rinchen, PhD, SCE,

Bhutan

Timothy Bedford, PhD, Finland

Adele Nve. PhD. Australia

The Journal of Educational Action Research (JEAR) is published once a year in the Autumn Semester by the Centre for Educational Research and Development, Paro College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan. The JEAR aspires to develop a strong educational research and scholarship culture, through which a systematic, collaborative and participatory process of inquiry address areas of concern facing education today. This would not only help provide technical skills and specialized knowledge, but also bring about positive changes within the classroom, schools or the community at large. The journal welcomes contributions from researchers and scholars who work in the field of action research and related activities in education. The JEAR utilizes a blind peer review process of its manuscript and involves both national and external reviewers.

Karen Peterson, PhD, Denmark

#### November 2020

© Center for Educational Research and Development

ISSN: 2413 - 5992

#### **Editorial Correspondences**

Any inquiries related to JEAR, including manuscripts for submission, together with an electronic copy of the article in MS Word format should be addressed to: the Dean Research and Industrial Linkages (Sonam Dorji W), Editor in Chief at sonamdorji.pce@rub.edu.bt , Mr. Pelden Dorji Dadil Jamtsho at peldenjamtsho.pce@rub.edu.bt, Production Editor. The manuscript must be submitted based on the JEAR guidelines for manuscript.

# **Table of Content**

Grammar Instruction through a Blend of Processing Instruction Model and Creative Learning Approach Pratima Rai	4 – 21
Finding Research Topic and Its Effect on Research Learners' Motivation: An Action Research Jigme Dorji	22 – 39
Improving Students' Performance in Class Nine Mathematics through Collaborative Learning	40 – 55
<sup>1</sup> Chakrapani Khanal and Ugyen Dorji	
Importance of students participation in improving the English Language Proficiency. <i>Ugyen Dorji</i>	56 – 68
लगाले व विचा तर्केला देव कंव र	
ৠয়ৢয়য়য়ৢয়য়য়ৢয়	69 –
ন্ত্র্বাঘা	
Guidelines for Manuscript	98 – 99

# Grammar Instruction through a Blend of Processing Instruction Model and Creative Learning Approach

Author: Pratima Rai

Khangkhu Middle Secondary School, Paro

#### **Abstract**

One of the most prevalent practices in the Bhutanese classrooms on grammar instruction has been through explicit explanation of grammar rules followed by some practice questions. This approach, however, according to the second language researchers, has not helped much in the process of language acquisition. Therefore, this action research was conducted to find out if the blend of two approaches: the Processing Instruction Model and the Creative Learning Approach can impact grammar instruction in Bhutanese classroom by enhancing not only the understanding of grammar structure but also the communicative competence of the learners. At the end of the eight-week intervention strategy, students claimed that the Processing Instruction Model helped them to connect "form, meaning and function" of a grammarelement which resulted into meaningful lessons. The lesson was further enhanced by the Creative Learning Approach as it provided students with a new avenue to articulate their knowledge and skills according to their choice which made them feel accomplished. Thus, the intervention strategy was effective as it helped students to gain a better understanding of the grammar elements both at structural and discourselevels.

**Key words:** Processing instruction, creative learning, "form, meaning and function", discourse

#### Introduction

The fundamental role of grammar in the study of language is undeniable. Alptekin (2002) posits that the competency in grammar "provides the linguistic basis for the rules of usage which normally result in accuracy in performance" (p. 57). It helps to communicate thoughts and ideas clearly and effectively. Besides this, it also relates to better academic scores. Although many Bhutanese students can communicate in English quite well it is dotted with grammatical errors that are avoidable. These errors are noticed both in the spoken and written discourse of the students. It is indicative of the students' lack of proper grammar knowledge and awareness on the discourse aspect of the language. This, in fact, is a very grave state on the ground that the English curriculum of Bhutan is documented based on the communicative approach to teaching English. CAPSD (2013), which is the curriculum and policy support division of Bhutan, states that the English curriculum of Bhutan is informed and guided by the language learning theories propounded by James Moffett. According to Moffett, it is

Journal of Educational Action Research, Vol 1, No. 4 November 2020

very beneficial to teach language in the classroom integrating the four modes of discourse: listening, speaking, reading, and writing as they are the ways people learn to use language.

Furthermore, the curriculum also mentions the importance of the study of grammar and usage for classes four to twelve. There is explicit instruction for the teachers not to teach grammar in isolation but to provide context and meaning.

However, very little evidence exists to indicate that the change in the curriculum document has translated into the desired result. One of the plausible reasons could be the continuation of the teacher-centric and rule focused approaches implemented to teach grammar lessons even after the revision of the curriculum. This approach not only contradicts the guidelines provided in the curriculum framework but also results in lessons that fail to fulfill their objectives.

Based on this observation, action research on how to help students learn and retain not just the structure but the meaning and function of grammar too was conducted. The intervention strategy used to remedy the current practice was geared toward enhancing a learner's understanding of grammar both at structural and communicative levels. Further, an opportunity to explore the creative skills of the learners was also provided through project work as the output task. Thus, the intention of this project was twofold. It intended to let the students learn and notice the "form, meaning and function" of the grammar, besides developing their communicative and creative skills.

#### **Situational Analysis**

From my teaching experience, I have observed that those grammar instructions limited to teaching rules at the sentence level in the classrooms are unfruitful practice. Research conducted to assess the effectiveness of the communicative approach to teaching grammar in Japanese classrooms indicated contradictions between the curriculum goal framed by the government, and the actual practice in the classrooms (Sakui, 2004). He claims that although the rationale of the documented English curriculum was to enhance the grammar knowledge and communication skills of the learners; in the real classroom scenario, Grammar Translation Method and Audio-lingual Method happened to be the key mode of teaching grammar lessons. This study revealed that the teachers did not follow the communicative approach as it contradicted the assessment system. Findings further revealed that while the communicative approach centered on developing the communication skills of the learners, the exam-oriented system assessed learner's proficiency in grammar rules rather than their communication skills.

Likewise, CAPSD (2013) has also stated clearly in English Curriculum Guide for Teachers for class ten the importance of teaching grammar based on the communicative approach. However, majority of the Bhutanese language teachers still use the conventional approach of teaching grammar in their classrooms. This is done

mostly to cater their grammar lessons toward preparing students for the state and school-level exams which confine teaching grammar at sentence or clause level. Heaton (1990) states that standardized tests and state examinations determine how average teachers teach grammar lessons in their classrooms. If the tests are set to measure the student's grammar knowledge only then the classroom teaching will focus on grammar rules at the sentence level. On the contrary, when a language test is designed to find out what candidates can do with a language then the grammar lessons will target "providing a focus for purposeful, everyday communication" (p.5). Inspired by his idea on how designing assessment tasks skillfully can help to achieve the very goal of teaching grammar; I began to plan an assessment task on grammar that differed from the ones that I regularly used. My enthusiasm to vary my grammar teaching approach was motivated by the new insights I received when the education division of Paro dzongkhag spearheaded a professional development workshop titled 'Enhancing Creative Teaching' for the teachers of Paro. This workshop exposed me to the concept of seven pillars of creativity which provided me the confidence to design and implement an English project on grammar which attempted to assess not only the grammar knowledge and language competency but creative skills as well.

#### **Theoretical Framework**

### **Processing Instruction Model**

Processing Instruction is conceptualized on VanPatten's input processing model. The underpinning idea of this approach is that grammar lessons become highly effective when learners are presented with an opportunity to process grammar both through noticing and understanding the connection between its form and meaning. VanPatten (1996), in his work, states that when learners are exposed to input, the language they either hear or see and rely on to obtain meaning or message is referred to as input, they don't attend to both the form and meaning of the input at the same time. They either "focus on meaning without paying adequate attention to form or may focus on form without adequately processing meaning" (VanPatten, 1996, in Nassaji & Fotos, 2011, p. 21). He also says that theoretically after receiving the input, processing of the language for meaning occurs. During that process of comprehension to make meaning of the input received following things happen: processing, perception, noticing and intake.

According to him 'processing' means making meaning from input, 'perception' means registration of audio signals present in the input, 'noticing' means conscious registration of those forms in memory and 'intake' means the part of the input that the learner has noticed and stored in his or her working memory. He further says that "both perception and noticing can take place prior to or without assigning any meaning to a particular form. However, processing involves both perception and noticing and also assigning meaning to the form" so it is important to teach learners how to process input correctly for both grammar and meaning (Nassaji & Fotos, 2011,p. 21). For instance, this could answer why students use "have" and "has" inaccurately.

To this end, he claims that incorporating Processing Instruction can help design lessons and tasks that help the students to notice grammar as they make meaning out of the input. In this light, Processing Instruction model believes that firstly, the learners should be provided with input for language acquisition to occur. Secondly, understanding how learner- process input can cater to devising strategies that can enhance language acquisition (Nassaji & Fotos, 2011).

Finally, learners should be assigned with input-based tasks to help them understand and internalize the grammar as well as its meaning and function. However, to further enhance the impact of this model this action research has embedded the features of creative learning in it.

#### **Creativity in education**

His Majesty, the fifth Druk Gyalpo, has mentioned many times in his royal speeches the need for Bhutan to enhance its creative and innovative skills so as to stand with confidence in this dynamic era of knowledge expansion and economic competition. The Bhutanese education system has integrated higher-ordered thinking skills in lessons and assessment systems to promote and enhance creativity. Further, the Royal Education Council of Bhutan and the Teacher Professional Support Division have also provided professional development workshops such as Place-based education and transformative pedagogy to expose the teachers to techniques and features of creative teaching and learning.

Read (2015) maintains that in the field of education there are two types of creativity. They have been termed as big 'C' and little 'c' by Anna Craft, and providing opportunities to develop these two types of creativity is essential for developing children's creativity (Craft, 2005, in Read, 2015, p. 30). Many researchers further state that children's creativity is different from adult's creativity. While adult's creativity is gauged by the society in terms of its novelty and usefulness, children's creativity is dependent on their previous knowledge so "subjectivity is the intrinsic characteristic of children's creativity" (Kudryavtsev, 2011, in Toivanen, Halkilahti & Rusimaki,2013, p.1170).

This action research approaches the field of creativity from Craft's (2005) point of view on 'little c' to explain students' creative process and creative learning: she says that big 'C' in primary ELT classroom would refer to new and original outcomes such as a completely new story or poem written by the student, while little 'c' refers to the process of children using the available second language repertoire to creatively construct and communicate meaning in daily interactional context (Craft,2005, in Read,2015). She further claims that the seven pillars of creativity and the generic elements which help develop creativity in the classroom irrespective of the age and levels of a student are very significant. The seven pillars are: build up positive self- esteem; model creativity yourself; offer children choice; use questions effectively; make connections; explore ideas and encourage critical reflections.

Read (2015) posits some of the benefits of fostering creativity are: it enhances the motivation and engagement level to study language, makes the learning fun and unforgettable, provides a sense of ownership, promotes divergent and flexible ways of responding and thinking, develops risk-taking skills, patience and tolerance, and promotes creative thinking.

#### School experiences and observations

While there is a dearth of research in the Bhutanese context to validate why classroom practices of teaching grammar digress from the national curriculum outcomes and what impedes enhancing communicative proficiency and creative skills of the students, findings from past research conducted in other Asian countries seem to relate to the Bhutanese anecdotal evidence. Some of the closely related issues and experiences are teacher's belief systems, pedagogic practices, resource constraints, exam-oriented education system, inadequate proficiency in language and communication skills; lack of adequate awareness on the roles and relevance of creativity in education.

This study aims to shift grammar instruction from rule centric teaching to an enriching experience by integrating communicative approach and creative learning aspects. It is also to implicate that numerous opportunities for teaching grammar effectively can be unfolded by drawing on our own experience as language teachers.

Journal of Educational Action Research, Vol 1. No. 4 November 2020

Our goal should not be just to explore options for eclectic grammar teaching practices by referencing books and articles but to enrich our current practices by aligning them to our own context and resources.

#### **Research question**

Can integration of the processing instruction model and the creative learning approach lead to meaningful and purposeful grammar instruction?

#### **Action plan**

This action research was conducted in Khangkhu Middle Secondary School, Paro, with 128 class ten students. It was conducted in the month of September and October, 2019. A total of 40 periods of 50 minutes eachwas used for planning and teaching the lessons. A total of eight weeks were devoted to teaching the following grammar elements: tenses and their aspects, direct and indirect speech, active and passive voice. These lessons were planned based on the Processing Instruction model given below (Figure 1).

According to Nassaji and Fotos (2011), the substantial number of research conducted in the classroom has revealed the Processing Instruction model to be more effective than the traditional instruction approach to teach grammar. In addition to this, VanPatten and Oikkenon (1996) state that their research on object pronoun placement in Spanish found out focus on structured input to be the significant element in making Processing Instruction approach very efficient (VanPatten & Oikkenon, 1996, in Nassaji & Fotos, 2011). Structured input is classroom activity that facilitates the learners to notice the grammar structure and then process for its meaning.

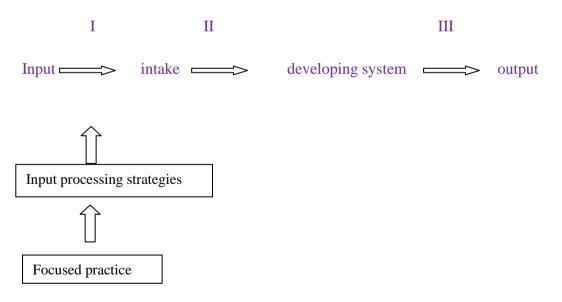


Figure 1: Processing instruction

Journal of Educational Action Research, Vol 1, No. 4 November 2020

Out of the eight weeks, six weeks were allocated as instruction time for the above mentioned three grammar elements. The remaining two weeks of the total eight weeks were used as project preparation period by the students for planning, writing scripts, practicing and recording.

The first two weeks were devoted to tenses and their aspects. When the majority of the students informed me that they did not remember their previous lessons on grammar well, I had to prepare and execute detailed lessons on all the above mentioned grammar elements.

My lessons were based on the three key concepts of Input Processing developed by VanPatten on which the Processing Instruction model is envisaged. The three key concepts of Input Processing are input, intake, and output. As I planned the lessons, I started to collect and prepare input materials in the form of handouts, PowerPoint presentations, video lessons from YouTube and my own lesson recordings. These materials were used for varied purposes, such as to help the students understand the meaning and function of the grammar structure or to help notice how the native speakers or proficient speakers of English use them in their daily discourse.

According to experts, for language acquisition to occur and grammar to be learned accurately, it is very important to have well planned and developed input materials. (e.g. Gass (1997); Ellis (1999); VanPatten (1996) in Nassaji & Fotos, 2011). A rich input learning environment with various kinds of teaching-learning materials will not only cater to the individual learning needs of the students but will also help in providing repeated opportunities to notice and learn the form and meaning of the grammar element.

During the course of teaching and learning, I took notes and student feedback on the effectiveness of the materials and the activities implemented. I ensured that the materials and the activities helped the students to notice the form and connect it withmeaning.

At the end of the instruction and practice period, students were assigned project work. It asked them to apply the grammar knowledge at the communicative level by integrating it in real life situations (Appendix A).

After the submission of the project work, a questionnaire was uploaded in Google Classroom for the students to respond and submit (Appendix B). Two teams were also identified for face to face interview.

#### **Intervention Strategies: Processing Instruction**

The Processing Instruction model aims to convert the input into intake by enhancing opportunities for the students to understand the connections between form and meaning. This is mainly achieved through implementing structured input. Structured input refers to those activities that are used during the input processing stage to help students understand "form-meaning connections" (Nassaji & Fotos, 2011, p. 28). The guidelines proposed by Lee and VanPatten (2003) and VanPatten (1993) while designing structured input activities are by designing activities that help the students to notice the form as they process for meaning which involves precise instruction on the grammar element. Presenting one grammatical element at a time to allow internalization of the concept and to avoid overwhelming them with too many information, for instance, teaching only one of the aspects of tenses so that learners get adequate opportunity to focus on grammar as they process for meaning. And, incorporating activities that allow the learners to experience the lesson at communicative level (Nassaji & Fotos, 2011, p. 30).

Three different grammar elements were chosen for the intervention strategy: Tensesand their aspects, Direct and Indirect Speech, and Active and Passive Voice. For eachof the grammar elements, all the six steps to structured input activity were integrated. Following is an example of how the six steps to structured input activity wereintegrated to teach present tense and present continuous tense. The other two, Directand Indirect speech and the Active and Passive Voice, followed the same structure. The structured activities: Present Tense and Present Continuous Tense

1. **Present One Item at a Time**: As per the steps to structured input activity, the teacher should present one grammatical element at a time to avoid confusion and allow adequate time for practice. I asked the students to recall their previous lesson on types of verbs which helped me to present the four types of verbs as in the following chart. Next, I told the students that the focus of this lesson would be on Present tense and its aspects.

Type of verb	Present form	Present	Past	Past continuous	Examples
		continuous	form		
1. Verb to 'be'	am/is/are	am/is/are	was/we	was/were + being	I am a student. I was a student of KMSS last
		+be <b>ing</b>	re		year. She was being questioned by the police when
					you walked in.
2. Verb to 'do'	do/does	am/is/are	did	was/were + doing	Dorji does his duty on time. They do their work
		+do <b>ing</b>			on time.
					We were doing the work assigned by the
					Principal.
3. Verb to 'have'	have/has	am/is/are	had	was/were + hav <b>ing</b>	We have books to carry home. Deki has done
		hav <b>ing</b>			her work.
					Students <u>are having</u> a great time.
4. Bare	jump/jumps	is/are + jump <b>ing</b>	jumped	was/were+jump <b>in</b>	This dog jumps very high.
infinitives:	write/writes			g	Dogs jump very high.
a. jump					Those dogs were jumping very high.
b. write		is/are +writ <b>ing</b>	wrote	was/were +	
				writ <b>ing</b>	

# 2. Use Oral and Written Input

Since in this approach the explanation on the "form" of the grammar element is followed by activities that help students to understand the connection between the form and its meaning the chart given below was used. This chart was used to teach the forms of the present tense and its aspects in addition to its meaning and usage.

# **Simple Present Tense**

<u>Singular</u> <u>Plural</u>

1 <sup>st</sup> person: I write letters often.			We do our homework daily.		
2 <sup>nd</sup> person: You write a letter.			You go for your karate class.		
3 <sup>rd</sup> person:					
He	writes/does/s	speaks			
She	speaks four languages.		s.	They go to the temple once every month.	
It	writes	very	well.		

#### It is used to:

To indicate the present period, which may continue indefinitely

✓ My mother works in this shop.

Express regular or habitual/routine work or actions and general truths:

✓ I drink two cups of tea every morning.

# **Present Continuous Tense**

#### Singular/Plural

It is used to:

1 <sup>st</sup> person: I am writing a letter now.		We are doing our homework.		
2 <sup>nd</sup> person: You are cooking.		You are going to school these days.		
3 <sup>rd</sup> person:	is writing his homework.			
He				
She	is writing her homework.	They are going to school.		
It	is playing with a ball.			

- Express action taking place at the time of speaking
- ✓ We are having a party, come and join us.
- I am feeling very happy.

### 3. Keep Meaning in Focus

In order to bring to the notice of students the connection between form and meaning of the above two aspects of present tense, the following activities were carried out in the class. Firstly, students were given eight minutes to read the above handouts and note down their doubts. Secondly, they were given five minutes to share their understanding of the form, meaning and function of the 'Present Tense' and its aspects with their team members, turn wise. They were also told to pose their question(s) to the team in the course of their sharing to clarify their doubts. Thirdly, at least a member from each team was asked to share their team's understanding with the whole class. As they shared their understanding, the rest of the class had an opportunity to do the following: reaffirm their own understanding, clarify their doubts or even relearn the lesson. An example of an explanation shared in the class is given below:

For, verb to "be" the present forms are am, is and are. If the subject is singular: He/She/It/Dechen/Dorji/School /etc. then singular verb "is" is used while for plural subject They/We/ Children/Schools/etc. plural verb "are" is used. However, for the subject "I" the verbis "am". The present form of the bare infinitive; "eat", are eat and eats. The verb "eat" is used with plural subject while "eats" is used with singular subject......Present form of verbs are used to talk about habitual action, regular works, general truths and even the time period whichmay continue for indefinite period of time. I can use this tense to talk about my likes and dislikes, describe my country ... Present continuous tense can be used to talk about action that is taking place right now and even future....

### 4. Keep Learners' Processing Strategies in Mind

Some of the students portrayed their confusion in differentiating the present continuous tense from present tense. When they were asked to write some example sentences, they mixed up the two forms. Instead of writing an example sentence for the present continuous form, they wrote it for the present tense.

This particular set of students claimed to have immensely benefited from this activity especially because itentailed immediate feedback and explanation.

They were guided to notice the difference in form and meaning and then self-correct it. Further, in order to avoid such error in the future, VanPatten's significant finding that the second language learners usually "focus on meaning without paying adequate attention to form or may focus on form without adequately processing meaning" was also explained to the students based on the above error they made. (VanPatten, 1996,in Nassaji & Fotos, 2011, p. 21).

One of the observations from my notes reads as below:

It was surprising to find out that some of the students still could not differentiate present tense from present continuous even after years of grammar lessons. They had assumed present continuous and present tense to mean the same. This is a very good reminder to give equal importance to both grammar structure and its communicative value for accurate and appropriate use.

Additionally, many students claimed that they didn't give importance to the correct use of third person –s, have and has, etc. This affirms VanPatten's theory that second language learners usually focus on meaning without noticing its form.

This highlights the importance of and the idea that through meaningless focus on rules language learning is not possible.

### 5. Have Learners Do Something with the Input

The students were asked to either share their daily routine or describe somebody's daily routine. This activity was designed with an objective to help the students experience the usefulness of the lessons learned by putting them to use immediately. Additional activities to check their comprehension level were assigned followed by the peer and whole class approach correction. For example, the answer to each question was displayed and either the teacher or the students had to explain why the answer was correct or incorrect. This approach to correction was preferred by the students compared to the typical practice of teacher correcting the students' work. They acknowledged the power of immediate feedback and explanation in understanding the form and meaning of the lesson.

#### 6. Move from Individual Sentences to Connected Discourse

After having discussed the form, meaning and function of the three grammar elements: Tenses and their aspects; Direct and Indirect Speech; and Active and Passive Voice, an English project work was assigned to students. The project basically asked the students to apply the grammar lesson in a real-life situation.

#### **Discussion**

As per the responses provided by the students through the questionnaire, the

Journal of Educational Action Research, Vol 1, No. 4 November 2020

intervention strategy was a great success. It helped them to discover their skills and interest besides making them understand the lesson in greater depth. The following

These are some of the highlights of my classroom observations and students' opinions expressed in the questionnaire and the interview.

### Lesson input and activities

I noticed that only after extensive explanation, and deliberate attempt to help the students notice the grammatical features (and a good amount of practice), they could use the language with better accuracy. For instance, many students could use 'have' and 'has' accurately. They could differentiate the form, meaning and function of the present continuous tense from that of the present tense and use the third person –'s' appropriately.

Nassaji and Fotos (2011) state that careful presentation of input will lead to noticing of the form and meaning of the grammar element accurately. Therefore, lesson activities framed according to how students process language will prove more effective than those that are designed without any groundings.

For instance, the positive impact of quality inputs in lessons followed up by an adequate number of conscious practice, and effective immediate feedback is evident in the following excerpts taken from the responses to the questionnaire submitted by the students.

When I look back at what I understood in grammar classes few years ago and weigh it with what I learned this year, I think there's a considerable difference. It's not that the grammar classes I attended few years ago were fruitless, but the way it was taught was different. Previously, we were provided more of complicated and elaborate notes and less of examples, verbal explanation, questions to practice. I realized that I had learned so much regarding grammar this year. Few years back, I did not really enjoy grammar classes....I really enjoyed the grammar classes I had this year because it was composed of explanations not only by the teacher but also through videos. One thing which was different was that of students being called in front of the board and to write examples, and it was especially apparent while we were learning tenses. I found it to be an effective method...

We learned most of the things in our academic years that were taught this year and the concepts were the same, however this year, the learning was deep and in detail. This year, I quiet implemented a lot of grammars that I have learned and I could correct a lot of grammatical mistakes on my own writings and speaking plus on other people as well. In other academic years, we didn't do like this, so the learning was very less. I hope everyone learned their mistakes this year and corrected them. We were told to implement tenses, direct and indirect speeches, passive and active voices. Through the project, we could almost master these topics.

### Creative learning strategy

Farley (2001) claims that when the output tasks are based on meaning-focused activity which integrates input, Processing Instruction can become very effective. In this stem, the output task designed for the students was to apply the grammar lesson or the input, at the communicative level. As mentioned earlier, in this paper, the project was based on the concept of "little c" and seven pillars of creativity.

The literature claims that one of the most effective ways of supporting communicative grammar instruction is to provide extensive platforms to use the language in authentic contexts, so I asked the students to create contexts in which they would use the grammar lesson(s) appropriately and effectively. A total of 22 video clips were submitted based on varied themes such as interview, story, instruction, anecdote, presentation, song, artificial intelligence, etc. For instance, one of the teams chose to narrate a typical school day starting from the daily morning bus trip to the end of school day. The grammar element used for this narration was an active voice (Appendix C). Likewise, another team had implemented direct and indirect speech to record an interview on COVID- 19 protocols followed by the public and private schools of Bhutan The student participants expressed creating a hypothetical context acted as a great advantage to understand application of classroom knowledge. In an interview, one of the students said that she would have never realized that in daily discourse it was impossible to communicate using only one type of grammar element. She said, "I had to use tenses along with direct and indirect speech for my video project on "interview", before this I thought the interview was all about only direct and indirect speech." They considered the project work to be a huge eyeopener for them.

The other significant feature of the project was providing students with a healthy amount of flexibility, independence, challenges, choices and ownership. These are the core features of a classroom environment that support creativity. It helped them to find relevance in their work by putting it into practice and relating to it emotionally and personally. Some of the benefits that students claim to have received from this project are being able to discover hidden talent and creative skills; develop social skills; make learning fun and memorable; etc. The following excerpts from the questionnaires submitted by the students further explain their experiences.

We enjoyed the appreciation and compliments from our friends and most importantly we got to know how much potential we all have if we really put in our efforts and dedication in whatever we do.

We could really use our brains and come up with new ideas through our imaginations. We were able to develop original ideas and showcase our creativity. We discovered our potential and gained valuable experiences that can be helpful throughout our life. It was like a value lesson on our potential skills. The next project like this one in the future is going to be a whole next level of creativity if we get the opportunity to make so.

I realized, after completing the project, that I have a passion for photography. I am delighted that I discovered this passion early, through this work. I am also certain that many students must have realized that all of them possess potentials; photo/videography skills, acting, filming, editing and more. Many must have been able to implement their skills in the project. In my case, I have been able to bring out my skills as well as teach few to my friends as well. Besides, after going through this work, I gained ideas and knowledge for other projects too. For instance, I also learned to create motion doodle art while exploring for the English project, which really proved helpful for my Biology project.

The willingness of the students to carry out another such kind of project in future as mentioned in their response is a strong indicator of the success of this project work. Their readiness to redo and resubmit their video project confirms the immensity of this approach in making grammar instruction appealing to the students. I personally have never witnessed such enthusiasm and passion to complete and even redo an assignment by the students.

#### Conclusion

According to Hinkel and Fotos (2002), a purely communicative approach does not help learners in gaining advanced proficiency and accuracy in the target language, therefore "Explicit instruction is necessary to promote high levels of accuracy ..." (p.137). However, VanPatten (1996) argues that compared to those activities which target grammar instruction at clause level, designing structured activities that compel the learners to understand the connection between the form and its meaning leads to mastery of both structure and communication competence (Nassaji & Fotos, 2011). This fetches discussion on how grammar instructions are planned and executed in the Bhutanese classrooms. For instance, what type(s) of input are implemented in grammar lessons; how they feature in the practice activities; when the practice activities are designed to occur; and if the communicative value is addressed in a context-appropriate manner.

This action research lacks in many ways and it is evident in the responses submitted by the students. They have mentioned that some of the team members were not cooperative while some wrote about the inconveniences caused due to proximity issues, unfavorable weather, lack of ideas, and many more. These lapses indicate the need for better planning and instructions to make it more effective. The other important aspect I would consider, in similar future projects, would be a critical review by the whole class because this could take the lesson to a whole new dimension of learning.

Although this intervention strategy cannot be used to teach grammar elements that do not have proper "form and meaning connections" such as "article: a, an, the", it has proven useful in helping the learners both at primary and secondary school levels to learn grammar with understanding. The findings of this study affirm in some mannerthat Bhutanese language teachers should seek ways to make grammar instruction effective by understanding how learners interpret and process grammar elements formeaning which will result in designing meaningful grammar lessons.

#### References

- Alptekin, C. (2002). Towards intercultural communicative competence in ELT. *ELT Journal*, 56(1), 57-64.
- Bardovi-Harlig, K. & Dornyei, Z. (1998). Do language learners recognize pragmatic violations? Pragmatic versus grammatical awareness in instructed L2 learning.
- Tesol Quarterly, 32 (2), 233-259. doi: 10.2307/3587583.
- Curriculum and Professional Support Division. (2005). *English curriculum guide for teachers: Class IX*. Paro: Ministry of Education.
- Craft, A. (2003). The limits to creativity in education: Dilemmas for the educators. *British Journal of Education Studies*, 51(2), 113-127. <a href="http://www.jstor.org/stable/3122416">http://www.jstor.org/stable/3122416</a>
- Farley, A. (2001). Authentic processing instruction and the Spanishsubjunctive. *Hispania*, 84(2), 289-299. doi:10.2307/3657760
- Heaton, J, B. (1988). Writing English language tests. England: Longman Group UK Limited.
- Hinkel, E. & Fotos, S. (2002). New Perspectives on grammar teaching in second language classrooms. Mahwah, N.J: L. Erlbaum Associates.

- Hinkel, E. & Fotos, S. (2008). New perspectives on grammar teaching in second language classrooms. New York: Routledge.
- Nassaji, H. & Fotos, S. (2011). *Teaching grammar in second language classroom: Integrating form-focused instruction in communicative context*. London:
  Routledge.
- Read, C. (2015). Seven pillars of creativity in primary ELT. In Maley, A., & Peachey, N.
- (Eds.). *Creativity in the English language classroom* (pp.29 36). London:British Council.
- Sakui, K. (2004). Wearing two pairs of shoes: Language teaching in Japan. *ELT Journal* 58(2), 155-163.
- Toivanen, T., Halkilahti, L. & Ruismäki, H. (2013). Creative pedagogy: Supporting children's creativity through drama. *The European Journal of Social & Behavioural Sciences*. vol. 7 , pp. 1168-1179

  .https://doi.org/10.15405/ejsbs.96

#### **Appendices**

# Appendix A: Questionnaire on Processing Instruction and Creative Learning approachto grammar instruction

# **Questionnaire on Processing Instruction and Creative Learning approach to GrammarInstruction**

This questionnaire is private and confidential. The information gathered from each questionnaire will be analysed for action research purposes only. Please remember there are no correct or incorrect answers.

**Direction:** Please answer all the questions given below.

- 1. What did you enjoy about completing your project?
- 2. What did you not enjoy about completing your project?
- 3. Do you think this project helped you to identify as well as use your skills and abilities? Explain your answer in detail.
- 4. In the scale of 1 to 10 rate yourself on your understanding and confidence on grammar. Where did you think you were in the beginning of the year 2020 and where do you think you are now (after submission of the project work)? Explain youranswer in detail.
- 5. Do you think the time given for preparation was enough? If your answer is "no" then suggest how long it should have been.
- 6. Will you be happy to work on similar type of project? Why?
- 7. List down the resources and references you used to complete this project. Mentionyour experience while using them.
- 8. Explain the similarities and differences you experienced learning grammar this year compared to other years. (Please do mention the impact of how the manner in which the grammar was taught in the class and then asked to apply in the context helped or did not help in the deeper understanding of the lesson.)

# Appendix B: English Grammar Project Work English Grammar Project Work

#### Guidelines:

- 1. Form your own groups with maximum of 5 members
- 2. Choose the topic of your interest (grammar lessons covered so far)
- 3. Plan, design and produce a project in any form such as power point presentation, video clip, role play, drama, etc

#### Question

Design a project using ICT to indicate accurate and effective use of grammar in communication:

- a. Concept: proper understanding on (form, meaning and function) of one or more of the following grammar element and its aspects: Tenses, direct and indirect speech and active and passive voice.
- b. Time: 3 to 5 minutes
- c. Presentation: title, concept, theme or value/ conclusion
- d. Your project should include all the names of the team members, class and section

**Preparation time:** (a) Four periods for planning and writing scripts

(b) two periods for recording/ writing/ practicing role play/etc

**Due date:** 31 October 2020

#### Marking criteria

Concept	4
Time	2
Presentation	2
Value addition (theme/ big idea/moral)	2
Total	10

# Appendix C: Sample of video transcript A Day in the Life of a Bhutanese Student

This is Paro valley situated in the western region of the beautiful Himalayan kingdom of Bhutan. Today, with the sky being so clear and stunning; let us take you all through the journey to Khangkhu Middle Secondary School. Here comes the school bus. Let us go inside. Most of the students have reached the school gate, and the teachers are taking their temperature. If they are fine, they enter the school gate and happily swing their lunch pack bag.

The water is quite cold but the students are following the school protocol and washing their hands properly.

The students must disinfect their shoes in this area.

So, this is our school ground decorated with colourful flags. There is a student hoisting our national flag.

This is how we the Bhutanese greet our teachers. This is our classroom with 21 students. The walls have been painted purple and there are drawings of stars and butterflies pasted on the ceiling. Though our class is not as attractive and decorated as other classes we enjoy learning here with our friends. That is the projector. The lesson has already been projected on the board and the teacher is teaching. The students also participate in the discussion.

Its lunch break now and students are praying to present their first offering of the lunch to the gods.

Now, let us go and see what students do outside. They are the students of 10 B, it is interval right now and they have come out in the sun as it is quite cold in the classroom. While some of the students are studying some are just standing in the sun; like him.

Hi, where are you going? I am going to submit the books. Ohhh. Lets go inside and submit the books. This is the staffroom.

The students are here in the library and they are flipping through the pages of the books theylove.

That is the multi-purpose hall, this is the football field and that is the basket ball court. Some of the students are here at the canopy. Hi, what are you doing? Just thinking of a topic for my science project. What are you going to work on? Maybe, why the sky is blue? Why the sky isblue. Oh, wow.

The school is finally over and the students are leaving for home.

# Finding Research Topic and Its Effect on Research Learners' Motivation: An Action Research

Jigme Dorji

#### Biographical note

Jigme Dorji works with College of Language and Culture Studies as an Associate Lecturer in English language and literature. He has a Master's Degree in Applied Linguistics from Mahidol University, Thailand. He taught English language at different level of schools for nine years prior to joining RUB. Currently, he teaches critical reading, academic skills, literary theories and basic research methods to undergraduate students. His research interest is in the field of second language acquisition, bilingualism, and teaching English as the second language.

#### <sup>3</sup>Abstract

This paper reports the effect of teaching how to find research topic to the undergraduate students. It also talks about students' interest and motivation in learning research. The action research employing mixed methods approach was conducted with 95 first year Bachelor of Bhutan and Himalayan Studies (BHS) students taking research method course. Baseline data were collected using selfdeveloped questionnaire (N=95), focus group interview (N=6) and four experts' rating on students' research topics. Based on the baseline findings, intervention strategies to find research topic were adapted from Bru (2009) and Lester and Lester Jr.'s (2010) framework and implemented to enable students to speculate, frame and evaluate their research topic. After three weeks of intervention, a post-intervention data were collected employing same techniques and tools as the pre-survey data were collected. Further, to validate the findings, researcher added field note from the observation during implementing the intervention. Finding showed that intervention strategies have made an impact on students ability to find research topic, which in turn, indicated that students interest and motivation towards research learning augmented. Recommendations to fortify students' research learning experience and need for future research are also provided.

**Keywords:** *Undergraduate research, research education, research topic* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lecturer, College of Language and Cultural Studies, jigmedorji.clcs@rub.edu.bt

#### Introduction

Research is an essential discipline the undergraduate students get to experience early in life. Rowlett, Block and Susan (2012) rightly remarked that research is "...high-impact educational practice that has the ability to capture students' interest and create enthusiasm for and engagement in an area of study" (p.5). Indeed, research supports students' innovation, creativity, analytical and critical competence development (Harb, 2019), which is important for students to overcome real life issues in 21<sup>st</sup> century world. Accordingly, most of the universities in the world have incorporated research as a core element of the academic programs. However, undergraduate research in various parts of the world suffers from the plight of mediocrity (Mahannoda, 2016; Cheung, 2013).

Research by nature is a difficult discipline, especially for the undergraduate students who would have little or no research experience. For this, Nind, Homes, Insnga, Lewthwaite and Sutton (2019) contended that unlike the postgraduate students who learn research methods experientially, for undergraduate students, research method training is imperative. However, owing to the complexity of research teaching, where tutors need to pay attention and help at every process of research (Fillery-Travis and Robinson, 2018), the research teaching across the world currently lack vigor and pedagogical innovation to motivate the learners (Alsied & Ibrahim, 2017; Mahannoda, 2016). And students experience frustration and distress because of poor research instruction and their own inadequate competence to learn research, affecting their interest and motivation to learn research (Lesko, Simmons, Qurshei and Newton, 2008).

In this regard, research teaching needs to be redesigned and focused on developing and sustaining interest in students towards learning research. Most research method courses overlook the need of teaching the basic aspects of undertaking research. One of the key challenges students confront in learning research is to choose and narrow down a research topic (Todd, Smith and Bannister, 2006). And research tutors tend to take it for granted that finding topic is left untaught in research methods courses. However, studies have claimed that students who do not receive instruction on such fundamental elements and process of research fail to establish relevancy between the study and themselves, thus deterring their interest in learning research (Qasen & Zavid, 2019; Harb, 2019). To this, scholars like Bru (2009), Alter and Dennis (2002), and Lester and Lester Jr. (2010) offered frameworks for selecting research topic with emphasis on using personal experience to generate research idea. They suggest that finding research topic within personal experience will give a sense of personal significance to study the topic, thereby developing and sustaining interest in research. Teaching to find research topic, therefore, could not only help the students find research topic, but also develop interest and motivation in learning research (Nind et al. (2019).

#### **Situational Analysis**

The need for research education to develop students' understanding and problem solving ability is recognized in all universities today (Shcofield, 2016; CUR, 2010) including Royal University of Bhutan (RUB, 2015). Research is part of all the programs offered in the colleges under RUB today. In College of Language and Culture Studies (CLCS), research is taught in both the Bachelor's Degree programs the college offers: in first year to B.A. in Bhutanese and Himalayan Studies (BHS) and in third year to B.A. in Language and Literature Studies (BLL). The students have to undertake a research project as a part of the course where students are allowed to choose their own topics. In this case, the anecdotal experience depicts that students confront challenge in finding research ideas. It was also observed that most of students tend to study research merely to fulfill the course requirement and do not display learning spirit and motivation. Hence there is a need to explore for means to enhance students research skill and interest in learning research.

In fact, difficulty in finding research topics is a common feature the studies found in undergraduate research education. Studies from different countries (e.g. Mahannoda, 2016; Alsied & Ibrahim, 2017; Cheung, 2013) have corroborated that finding research idea or identifying a research topic is a major problem among the students. This has negative impact on students' esteem and confidence to take up research work. Students feel their failure from the start breaking their confidence. To this, Harb (2019) recommended the scholars or research tutors to redesign the teaching approach in a positive, active, social, and efficient learning environment. However, in Bhutan, while there are studies investigating the general state of research development in RUB (Phanchung & Choden, 2019; Sherub & Schuelka, 2019), there is lack of literature to show how research can be best taught to Bhutanese students. Therefore, this action research will explore ways to improve research learning experience for the students by focusing on enhancing their skill to find good research topic using personal experience as suggested by Bru (2009), Alter and Dennis (2002), and Lester and Lester Jr. (2010).

#### **Literature Review**

There is plethora of literature supporting undergraduate research education considering the significant contribution research has on innovation and economic development of a nation (CUR, 2010). The studies from across the world (e.g., Mahannoda (2016) [Ethiopia], Dwihandini, Marhaeni and Suarnajaua (2013) [Indonesia], Alsied and Ibrahim (2017) [Libya], and Cheung (2013) [Singapore]) however revealed that the undergraduate research students find research difficult and uninteresting to learn. For example, Harb (2019) and Lewthwaite and Sutton (2019) revealed that the students bear negative attitude towards learning research. Students perceived research as boring, difficult to understand and irrelevant to their daily life indicating the inadequate understanding about research. Likewise, Nind et al (2019) observed that students find research learning stressful and difficult, and many students

either choose not to study research where there is option, or they undertake it only to fulfill the course requirement when there is no choice. Literature therefore suggests the research tutors need to provide pedagogical intervention to enable the students undertake research with confidence and interest.

Students' interest and motivation is affected by their competency. Bocar (2003) and Qasen and Zayid (2019) maintained that students lose their interest and motivation when they lack knowledge and skill to perform required task. For example, their study found that students' poor language competence and inadequate knowledge and skill in conducting research affect students' motivation to learn research. Demonstrating this phenomenon, Howard and Brady's (2015) study noted that while the undergraduate research learners express disinterest in learning research, the postgraduate students who have better understanding about research crave to learn it. This suggests that proper research training could augment learners' motivation towards learning research. But, unfortunately, researchers like Fillery-Travis and Robinson (2018); Nind, et al. (2019), Mapolisa and Mafa (2012) and Mahannoda (2016) observed that many tutors teaching research overlook the undergraduates' unpreparedness to learn research methods as the research students at higher level of degree learns, thereby failing to offer sufficient attention to each process of research. Consequently, as Lesko, Simmons, Qurshei and Newton (2008) claimed, students seem to be battled emotionally when their knowledge and skill is inadequate to perform what they are assigned.

Among the difficulties that aggravate the students' predicament in learning research, the most common challenge studies from various context reported was students' inability to find and narrow down research topic (Alsied and Ibrahim, 2017; Mohammoda, 2016; Todd et al, 2006). It was found that while it is a key challenge students confront, tutors teaching research take it for granted that it is left untaught in research method courses. Suggesting the needs to address it, there are studies which supported group research to develop collaborative learning which might help solving the problem of finding topic through peer assistance. However, Mahammoda (2016) found that group or collaborative work for the students at early stage of learning affects the learning opportunities of those who have fallen behind in learning, because the member who have the competency to perform the task complete it, often in isolation. Likewise, there is also an opinion that providing a topic by tutors might relieve the students of the pressure in searching research topic (Lester & Lester Jr. 2010). However, the mismatch between the topic tutor provided and students' interest could render the study irrelevant to the students' life that it might fail to generate interest in student to undertake it. On the other hand, if tutor explores for ways to teach students find research topics on their own rather than providing the topic, it could motivate the students in taking up a project that give personal significance so that their interest in it sustains (Bru, 2009).

Generally, it is acknowledge that research demands high level analytical skill and linguistic competency (Cheung, 2013), which students in CLCS seem to lack.

Yangdon (2019) studied the level of critical thinking among the students of CLCS and found that the students' critical thinking ability is 46% against standard average 54% lower than the standard CT. Besides, the school education system in Bhutan also lack support in shaping knowledge and skill in research. Studies in the context of Bhutanese education (e.g., Schofield, 2016; Dorji, 2017) pointed against the prevalence of traditional mode of teaching and learning where memorizing information is considered intelligence and regurgitated information the knowledge. Even the teaching and learning at the colleges in Bhutan at present has not fully realized the potential of active, student-centered approach (Schofield, 2016). Likewise, students are also deprived of affluent research culture, since, according to Sherub and Schuelka (2019) ad Phanchung and Choden (2019), the research culture in RUB still remains underdeveloped. Further, students in CLCS learn research methods in the first year where they would lack numerous academic skills required at higher education. From these contextual limitations, it could be construed that undergraduate research tutors has vital role to play in success of research courses.

### **Finding Research Topic**

Bru 2009, Lester and Lester Jr. (2010) and Alter and Dennis (2002) offered a framework for finding research topics from within so that it relates to personal significance. So, exploring for ways to teach students find research topics on their own rather than providing the topic could fulfill the purpose of developing and sustaining interest and motivation in research (Bru, 2009).

Alter and Dennis (2002) offer a framework for selecting research topic where they offer multiple of factors for research ideas and topic. They believe that research topics could be found by means of looking into the factors such as: selecting Ideas to pursue, study framework issue, simply complex theories, study anomalies and create new value. Further they added that the sources for research topics are: resources and current practice, personal experience, fundamental issue and previous research. Further, Lester and Lester Jr. (2010) emphasize on the significance of personal experience in finding research topic. They believe that finding research topic can be facilitated by relating personal experience to scholarly problems and academic disciplines; and speculating about a subject by listing issues, asking questions, engaging in free writing and using other idea-generating techniques. Similarly, Bru (2009) asserts that the "first place to find research topic is within" and that research topic should be something that has personal significance. Further, the authors suggested issue related to immediate surroundings and the previous studies as a good source of research topic.

While guideline on how to find research topics are available, there are common perspective among the researchers that students confront confusion and low confidence in choosing research topics (Chueng, 2013). This tends to hinder their progress in research learning. And, studies also recorded that most of the research tutors do not teach how to find research topic because it is not perceived as a part of research methods (Alsied & Ibrahim, 2017). Withstanding this view, there is need for the research tutors to work towards enhancing student's knowledge and skill in

research so that they find better relation between their research, learning and their future. This suggests that research teaching needs to be contextually determined and pedagogical intervention could help students learn research better. This study will, therefore, examine the effect of using personal experience on students' ability to find research topic and its effect on students' interest and motivation to learn research.

#### **Research Question**

This action research aimed to answer following research questions

#### **Overarching Research Question:**

Does personal experience help students find the research topic?

#### **Sub questions:**

- What is the students' perception on the level of difficulty in finding a research topic?
- What ways do students employ in order to find a research topic?
- Were there significant differences in the students' ability to find a research topic between pre and post intervention data?
- Does enabling students identify a research topic enhance students' motivation to learn research?

#### Methodology

This action research employed concurrent mixed methods approach (Creswell, 2012). The study was framed within the quasi-experimental research design, where pre and post-intervention were collected to evaluate the effect of the intervention (Frankel, Wallen & Hyan, 2012). The study was conducted in CLCS with 95 BHS first year students to whom researcher was teaching *Basic Research Method* course.

Following the principle of census survey, baseline data were collected from 95 students. Self-designed questionnaire with 10 statements describing different research idea sources was used to collect quantitative data. In addition, participants submitted a topic each for the research project in research method course. The topics were then sent to four experts for evaluation. The baseline findings were used to formulate the intervention strategies to teach students how to find research topics. In addition, to get in-depth understanding on the participants' experience in finding the topics, a focus group interview was conducted with six participants (one male and one female each from three sections). The researcher also maintained a field note in the course of classroom intervention which helped to substantiate illustration and evidences to other data.

Based on the baseline data, intervention strategies were formulated and administered (see the section on intervention phase for details) to the students for three weeks starting March 1<sup>st</sup>. Baseline data were collected in the second month of the semester because the participants had learned basics about research by then. Post intervention data were collected in April employing the same data collection tools as for the

baseline data on same group of students (N=95) using the same survey questionnaire. A focus group interview (N=6) was conducted to understand their experience in how to find research topics. Further to assess if there was difference in their ability to find topics after the intervention, students were asked to submit their finalized topic for the project. They were asked to submit the same topic they had submitted for the baseline data. Alternatively, they were also free to submit a new one. The same experts were requested to assess and rate the topics like they had done with the pre-intervention topics.

#### **Baseline Data Analysis and Finding**

The students (N=95) submitted a research topic each after two days of assigning them to select a topic. The topics were sent to four experts (2 PhDs, and 2 Master's in Applied Linguistics who are active researcher in the field of education and social science) requesting them to rate the topics on the scale ranging 1= Not-researchable, 2=Too broad, 3=too specific, 4=appropriate and 5=good. The experts' ratings on each topic were compared to examine for consistency to confirm students' ability to choose a good research topic. Further, a self-designed questionnaire was administered based on a four-point Likert type scale ranging from 4=strongly agree, 3=agree, 2=disagree and 1=strongly disagree to 95 students present in the class on the day. There were total of 10 items that measured students perception on difficulty of finding research topic (3 items) and their existing practice in identifying the topics (7 items). A focus group interview was also conducted in order to get in-depth insight into the students experience in finding search topic. The six participants are named P1, P2, P3, P4, P5 and P6 in reporting them to assure identity confidentiality. The data from the questionnaire were analyzed using SPSS to calculate mean and standard deviation. The mean score were interpreted employing Best and Kahn's criteria (1998).

Further the data from interview and the researcher's observation were analyzed applying content analysis technique and triangulated with the findings from the quantitative data.

# **Students' General Practice in Selecting Research Topic**

The baseline data showed that the students selected their topics mostly based on their personal experience (M=3.27; SD=0.68) and by asking their friends (M=3.22; SD=0.73) as shown by the high means. Students also searched for topics in previous and books (M=2.83; SD=0.61) and online materials (M=2.79; SD=0.93). Asking their tutor scored the lowest mean (M=2.37; SD=84). In selecting the topics, the survey shows that students also looked into the relevancy of the topic to their program (M=2.87; SD=0.78). The qualitative finding from the interview conformed that students did explore various sources for topics, largely depended on their personal experience. The interview extract below illustrates a participant's experience:

For me, I just tried thinking of some problems we have in college and then picked up one of the issues as my research topic. I think, that way, it is easier to search for research topic. I tried to look for a research topic which is related to BHS. But I could not think of any; I thought attendance issue in evening prayer needs to be researched, so picked it as my topic.

Likewise, students felt other sources ineffective for research topics. In deviation to survey finding, qualitative findings revealed that students felt reading previous studies too difficult. The interview revealed that some students adopted the research titles directly from the previous studies without actually reading or understanding the paper. P1 stated "I think some of the friends copied the topic directly the topics of some papers. They may not have read the article completely." P6 added, "To me reading research article is difficult to understand. It could be my poor reading habit." Other participants agreed that most of the students have "no reading habit" which makes reading ineffective to find topics. P2 lamented, "I read almost four papers without understanding much what it is about, so I could not really find a research idea from it. Aligned to the survey and interview, the researcher's observation on types of students' topics also suggested that students mostly selected their research topic based on the practical problem they observe in the college.

### **Students' Pre-perception on Finding Research Topic**

Overall high mean (M=3.3; SD=0.75) showed that students generally perceived selecting research topic very difficult. Indeed, most of them agreed that finding research topic was difficult for them (M=3.09; SD=), and strongly agreed that they think most difficult part of research is to find a good research topic (M=3.52; SD=0.67). This was confirmed by the focus group interview. All participants agreed that finding a research topic was difficult. This seems to be even instilling fear and anxiety in students. P4 wondered, "If I fail to find a research topic, how can I do a research. I think I cannot do research." On the other hand, P1 thought that there was need for more time to learn research to be able to undertake it. The participant stated "learning how to do research for a semester does not prepare us enough; we need more training before we start doing projects."

The interview showed that the students have little or no idea about research. "Since it is first time, it is difficult for me to think of any topic that can be researched" a participant postulated. P4 echoed "Actually it is very difficult for me to find the topic and to decide which topic because, firstly, research is new module for us, and the knowledge I have on conducting research is limited." Further the participant added "Although I have interest in some topic, it difficult to say whether it can be research topic or not. In general, the findings show that students perceive finding research topic as a difficult task.

# **Students' Ability to Select Appropriate Research Topic**

The inter-rater congruence on each topic students submitted showed that most of the students have difficulty in identifying research topics. Out of 95 topics, only six were rated *Good* against 20 *Not-researchable* by all the raters. There were 10 topics rated appropriate for researching, 19 as too broad and 17 as too specific by all the experts. In addition, three topics were rated *Good* and seven rated *Appropriate* by three experts each. In overall the students ability to select appropriate research topic as per the experts' rating was low as shown by the mean (M=2.23; SD=0.41)

Students admitted that they were unsure of whether the topic they chose could be actually studied. Although the criteria for good research topics were taught, students still seemed to have difficulty in determining the feasibility of the study they had chosen.

#### **Intervention Phase**

Intervention strategies were designed based on the baseline findings. Searching research topic was a challenge to the students. Their poor reading habit and linguistic deficiency limited their access to academic articles and previous studies. Therefore, students largely depended on their personal experience for the topic. Hence enabling them to generate topics by linking the personal experience to academic field be effective strategies.

The strategies were adapted from Lester and Lester Jr's (2010), Bru (2009) and Alter and Dennis's (2002) suggestions on selecting research topics. These scholars suggested that personal experience offers a good source research topic. And that, selecting a topic that bears significance to individual will augment interest and motivation in research learners. So, following Lester and Lester Jr's exercise where students need to draw link between personal interest and academic field was implemented for three weeks. Likewise, Bru's four important facts for selecting a research problem: personal significance, critical issues in the field, the existing research literature and ethical consideration, and topic evaluation criteria were used for assessing students' topics.

#### Stage 1. Identifying personal experience and connecting to scholarly topic

Bru (2009) stated that research topic can be found firstly from personal interest, and secondly from observing immediate surroundings. Following that, Lester and Lester Jr.'s (2010) exercise was adopted in order to facilitate the students how to develop link between personal interest and an academic area. Students were made to list down their interest in relation to academic studies, social issues and cultural background they belong to. With the help of friends and the tutor, students linked those areas of

personal interest to some areas of academic subject, or social issue which then were formulated into possible research topic.

For example, if a student chose *learning Dzongkha language* as personal interest, related academic subject associated was *language learning*. From this, students could formulate a possible topic as *Factors contributing to Dzongkha language development* or *Factors affecting Dzongkha learning*.

Following worksheet helped them undertake the exercise.

1. Combine personal interests with an aspect of academic studies

Personal interest:

Academic subject:

Possible topics:

2. Consider social issues that affect you and your family

Personal interest:

Social issue:

Possible topics:

3. Let your cultural background prompt you towards detailed research into your heritage, your culture, or the mythology of your ethnic background

Ethnic Background:

Personal interest:

Possible topics:

Students expressed that the exercise employing personal experience to find research idea made little sense initially. However, they affirmed that it came handy to them gradually. On the other hand, they shared their difficulty in narrowing down the idea to researchable topic. Also, it was observed that many students had the difficulty to actually relate their personal experience to an academic field. Thus, although baseline finding showed that students found reading previous studies difficult, it was assumed that it would be easier for the students to relate identified experience to some previous studies. This would be different from finding research idea from previous studies, which students might not find so useful. Hence, in next stage, students were let to relate their personal experience to academic discipline following some previous studies.

# Stage 2 – Relating identified issue to previous studies

In this stage as an addition to finding their personal experience, students were also asked to use their imagination to contemplate the issues and problems worthy or investigation. Ideas could be generated by free writing, listing keywords, and narrowing by comparison. After they identified a general idea, they were asked to find previous studies on the ideas or topic they identified. They were then asked to read the abstract of the previous study and see whether the paper is related to their idea. In

case of relevant papers, students were asked to read introduction, literature and conclusion parts of the paper, and see if they could now formulate their idea into a researchable topic. Also, they were asked to then fill out the same work sheet used in the stage I to locate the topic into an academic discipline.

This way, the students could find relevancy between their possible topic and the previous studies which provided them better insight to formulate a topic. Besides, it could also improve students' ability to read scholarly articles and use previous studies in finding topics. Students also shared that it was helpful for them to read the previous studies after they had a general idea to focus unlike reading the papers randomly in search of topics.

#### **Stage 3 Evaluation**

In this stage, students were made to evaluate their own topics. Students were asked to examine whether the topic is personally significant to them; whether the issue is important in the areas of study they identified; and whether it has any ethical issue when undertaking (Bru, 2009). They were also asked to assess their topics by Bru's criteria: *Feasibility* – realistic it will be to access data or participants and the time needed to complete the study; *Accessibility* – the ability to gain access or entry to the research site and participants; and *time* – researcher's time to complete the task and available time to devote to the task.

To assist researcher perform the intervention process effectively, the critical friend observed the lessons twice a week for the entire duration of the intervention. The observer took note under the three themes related to the researchers teaching: clarity of the strategy delivery, students' response and teaching approach. It helped the researcher restructure the lessons, provide feedback and relate the strategies to the students better.

#### **Post Intervention Data Finding**

The findings of the post intervention data are categorized under the three research questions. The data were gathered employing the same data collection methods and tools as the baseline data. Questionnaire (N=95) and experts' rating on students' topics (N=4) were used to gather quantitative data, and focus group interview and participatory observation during the course of intervention were employed to generate qualitative data. Data from all these sources are triangulated to provide answers to each research question.

#### Question1. What ways do students employ in order to find research topic?

Pre-and-post-survey findings and post-intervention focus group interviews answer the above research question. The means and standard deviation of the two surveys against the statements describing students' research topic finding practices are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. Mean and Standard Deviation of Pre and Post intervention Survey

	<b>Pre-intervention</b>		Post-int	tervention
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Read academic articles	2.83	0.61	3.00	0.61
Reading articles and journals helped	2.99	0.83	3.00	0.83
Asked tutors for help	2.37	0.84	2.47	0.84
Asked friends	3.22	0.73	3.24	0.73
Based on my personal ideas	3.27	0.68	3.51	0.68
I looked for the research topic online	2.79	0.93	2.53	0.93
Relevant to my program (BHS)	2.87	0.78	3.34	0.78

The post-survey means are higher than pre-survey on all the ways to find research topic except looking for the topic online. This depicts that students still seek the research topics in various sources. While the students still hold personal experience (M=3.51; SD=0.68) the most agreeable source, it is interesting to see the highest mean difference on students' agreement on finding a topic based on the relevance to their program (M=2.87 < M=3.34). Likewise, the students' agreement on searching topic from academic articles (M=3.00 > M=2.83) also increased. Substantiating to survey finding, the interview divulged that the intervention benefited the students in generating research topic from their personal experience. The researcher's field note also recorded that students were using the worksheet on linking personal idea with academic areas effectively. Further, qualitative findings also revealed that students read more previous studies when they have recognized a topic of their interest.

# Question2. Is there change in the students' perception on the level of difficulty in finding research topic?

Table3. Mean and Standard Deviation of Pre and Post intervention Survey

	<b>Pre-intervention</b>		Post-intervention	
	Mean	S D	Mean	S D
It was difficult for me to find a research topic	3.09	0.83	3.00	0.83
I think most difficult part of research is to find a good research topic	3.51	0.67	2.91	0.84

The table 3 shows students' perception on the level of difficulty in finding research has significantly (P<.05) dropped after intervention. The post survey means are below the average, which indicates improvement in students' perception on finding research; students seem to perceive finding research topic less difficult after intervention. Student participants (N=6) in the post intervention focus group discussion shared that, after knowing how to link their personal experience to academic subject, finding research topics became easier. The researcher observed that students could at least come up with acceptable topics much easily each time they carried out the exercises in the class.

# Question3. Is there significant difference in experts' rating on pre-and post-intervention topics students submitted?

Students (N=95) were asked to submit a research topic each again after intervention. The same baseline data experts (N=4) rated the topics on the scale ranging from *Good* to *Not-researchable*. The inter-rater congruence against each topic was analyzed, and accordingly topics were labeled on the scale as shown in the Table 4. Only the topics which received same rating from at least three experts were labeled under particular scale. Frequency, mean and standard deviation were calculated to analysis of the experts' rating on the pre-intervention and post-intervention topics as shown in the table below.

Table4. Experts' Assessment of Students' Pre and Post-intervention Research Topics

	Frequency						
Frequency							
	Not Researchabl e	Too Broad	Too Specifi c	Appropriat e	Good	Overa ll Mean	SD
Pre- intervention	22	19	20	17	9	2.23	0.41
Post Intervention	4	7	5	30	19	4.01	0.32

The result shows there is significant improvement in experts' rating on post-intervention topics from pre-intervention topics. The mean rating has increased to 4.01 from 2.23 indicating students' ability enhancement in finding research topic. Further the increase in *Good* and *Appropriate* topic (19, 30 respectively) against decrease in *Not researchable* topic (4) also suggest students' topic finding skills development. The post intervention focus group interview confirmed that the students felt more confident in finding their topics. Besides the exercise on generating topics from personal experience, participants seem to have benefited from learning to evaluate the topics. Interview participant, P5, shared that learning to evaluate research topic "gave confidence in selecting my topic."

The interview finding also suggested that students' ability to find research topic helps in generating their interest in learning research. The participants in the discussion shared their excitement when they could find a topic of their interest: "I think, it is topic which is very important in research. If I could find a good topic, I think we can somehow do a research" fathomed one of the participants. Another added "I thought I cannot do research when I could not find a research topic. Now I am more confident."

#### **Discussion and Conclusion**

Research by nature is perceived as a difficult task by the students of all level, especially the undergraduate students who have little exposure to the field (Harb, 2019). And one of the common challenges that have discouraged the research learners is their inability to find a research topic. Conforming to Nind et al., (2019), the findings of this study revealed that students perceived finding research topic very difficult. Likewise, this study also conformed to Lesko et al. (2008) that students experience anxiety and frustration when they fail to find a research topic. Further it was found that students lose their confidence in learning research when they could not find a topic. In return, finding topic rather becomes confusing and they become less confident to decide their topic.

Likewise, students could also lose confidence and develop disinterest in research when they have less access to academic materials (Alsied & Ibrahim, 2017). The interview findings suggested that students' poor reading habit and linguistic deficiency disable them from reading the previous researches and comprehending what they read. Familiarizing the students to various means of finding topic and redesigning the research teaching methods specific to the context and students' competence could ameliorate students' interest and enthusiasm in learning research (Bui, 2009). In general, this study showed that teaching how to use students' personal experience to formulate research topic enables them find research topic. The finding was compatible to Alter and Dennis (2002) and Lester and Lester Jr.'s (2010) who suggested that exploring research topic within personal experience is an effective factor that facilitates finding research topic.

The findings also suggest that students' ability to find research topic has close association to their motivation to learn research since that gives a sense of connectivity to their learning. Lester and Lester Jr. (2010) further offered a frame to link personal idea to academic field, which was employed as an intervention in this study to augment students' knowledge and skills to search research topic. The findings showed that the method assisted the students significantly in finding their research topic. The post survey findings on students' choice of finding research topic showed that while students mostly agreed that personal experience provides them the research topic, there was a drastic increase in their agreement for reading previous studies and looking into the relevancy to their program. This suggests that with proper instruction and guidance, students could overcome some of the practical challenges such as their inability to comprehend academic material. Besides, the students also demonstrated their augmented ability to find research topic. The inter-raters' mean on students pre (M=2.23) and post intervention (M=4.1) topics showed there was a significant improvement in the research topics, indicating that the intervention strategies helped them formulate ideas, identify and evaluate topics effectively.

This study shows students can be taught how research topic can be searched. Further it was also discovered that students' confidence and interest in research could be augmented by providing instructional assistance in finding their topics. Several

previous studies (e.g. Mahannoda, 2016; Cheung, 2013) from across the world have recorded that students experience anxiety, frustration and disinterest in research because of numerous factors, of which, confusion and low confidence in deciding research topic appears commonly. Also, the studies pointed that students experience such emotional displeasure because they lack knowledge and skill to perform the assigned task. For example, the participants of this study revealed that it was difficult for them to read and comprehend the academic works, suggesting that research tutors should be cognizant of their students' ability when assigning independent tasks such as finding research topic.

In conclusion, personal experience could be effective source of research topic for the students. However, it might require the tutor's input in order to link personal experience to academic fields. The study also suggests that teaching how to find research topic is an essential part of research course in order to boost and sustain students' interest and confidence in learning research. Finally, the study showed that the perception of the students on level of difficulty in finding research topic changes with their knowledge and skill to tackle challenges in undertaking research task. So, with pedagogical intervention in the process of students' research learning, the research learning experience for the students could be improved.

#### Limitation

This study was undertaken with the first year students of CLCS and the findings are context specific. So as is the case with all action research, the findings of this study may not be applicable to other contexts (Creswell, 2012). Moreover, this study does not establish any causal effect since it did not have any control group.

#### Recommendation

Findings of this study suggest that students' interest and motivation in learning research can be enhanced by providing assistance and guidance in the fundamental steps of research such as finding research topic. Teaching research, therefore, entails not only focusing on core research methods, but also must focus on augmenting and sustaining students' emotional state and attitude towards research learning. One way it can be done as per the findings of this study, is by providing assistance to the students in initial steps of research such as finding research topics. So, teaching how to find research topic should be part of research methods lesson since it sets the students goal of learning research course.

Personal experience could be an effective factor the students could use to find their topic. The study found that students enhanced their ability to use their personal experience to determine their research topic by linking to the academic field. This also enhanced the students' perception on reading academic works, which is an essential learning strategy. Therefore, students could be taught how to use their personal

experience to find research topics. Tutors could also encourage them to read academic works.

#### Reference

- ALsied, S. M. & Ibrahim, N.W. (2017). Exploring challenges encountered by EFL Libyan learners in research teaching and writing. *Journal of Language learning*, *I*(2), 143-158.
- Bocar, A.C. (2003). Difficulties encountered by the student-researches and the effects on their research output. *Proceeding of the Global Summit on Education*. Kuala Lumpur.
- Bui, Y. N. (2009). *How to write a master's thesis*. New Delhi: SAGE Publication India Pvt. Ltd.
- Creswell, J. (2012). *Educational research: Planning, conducting, and evaluating quantitative and qualitative research (4<sup>TH</sup> ed)*. Boston: Pearson Education.
- Cheung, Y. L. (2013). Exploring first-year undergraduates' difficulties in writing discussion section of a research paper: a Singapore study. *The English Teacher*, 42(2), 229-248.
- Davis, D. (2001). Ph.D. thesis research: Where do I start? *Personal Notes*. Columbia University. Retrieved from http://www.columbia.edu/~drd28/Thesis%20Research.pdf
- Dorji, J. (2017). Communicative language teaching as conceptualized by Bhutanese English as second language teachers. *Indonesian EFL Journal*, *3*(1), 1-10.
- Dwihandini, L.A., Marhaeni, A.A. & Suarnajaya, I.W. (2013). The analysis of the factors
  - affecting undergraduate students' difficulties in writing thesis in department of mahasaraswati university. *E-journal Program Pascasarjan University Pendidikan*
  - Ganesha Program Studi Prendidikan Bahasa, 2, 1-16.
- Fraenkel, J, R., Wallen, N.E. & Hyan, H. H. (2012). *How to design and evaluate research in education (8<sup>th</sup> ed)*. New York: McGraw-Hill Companies, Inc.

- Harb, G. K. (2019). Reshaping undergraduates' research experience with station rotation learning model. *International Journal of Advance Research*, 7(11), 702-710. DOI URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.21474/IJAR01/10061
- Howard, C. & Brady, M. (2015). Teaching social research methods after the critical turn: Challenges and benefits of constructivist pedagogy. *Teacher in Higher Education*, 22(1), 109-125.
- Ifeoma, O. D. (2019). Examining the challenges faced by undergraduate students in writing research projects. Unpublished Postgraduate Diploma in Higher Education Project. National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe.
- Lester, J. D. & Lester, J. D. Jr. (2010). Writing research papers: A complete guide. United State: Pearson Education. Inc.
- Lesko, N. J., Simmons, A., Quarshie, & Newton, N. (2008). The pedagogy of monsters: Scary disturbances in a doctoral research preparation curse. *Teachers College Record*, 110(8), 1541-1573
- Mahammoda, S.A. (2016). Factors affecting the quality of undergraduate research work in Bihar Dar university, Ethiopia. *International Journal of Innovative Research & Development*, 5(12), 23-27.
- Mapolisa, T. & Mafa, O. (2012). Challenges being experienced by undergraduate students conducting research in open and distance learning. *International Journal of Asian and Social Science*, 2(10), 1672-1684.
- Nind, M., Homes, M., Insnga, M., Lewthwaite, S. & Sutton, C. (2019). Student perspectives on learning research methods in the social sciences. *Teaching in Higher Education*. DOI:10.1080/13562517.2019.1592150
- Phanchung & Choden, T. (2019). Creating an enabling research culture at the Royal University of Bhutan An analysis. *Bhutan Journal of Research and Development*, 8(2), 15-24.
- Qasem, F.A.A. & Zayid, E.I. (2019). The challenges and problems faced by students in the early stage of writing research projects, L2, university in Bisha, Saudi Arabia. *European Journal of Special Education Research*, 4(1), 23-40
- Rowlett, Roger S., Blockus, L. & Larson, S. (2012). Characteristics of excellence in undergraduate research (COEUR) in Hensel, N. (Eds). *Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research (COEUR)* Council on Undergraduate Research, 2-19.

Royal University of Bhutan. (2015). *RUB research degree framework 2015*. Thimphu: Author.

Schofield, J. W. (2016). Higher education in Bhutan: Progress and challenges In Scheulka, M. J. and Maxwell, T.W. (Eds.), Education in Bhutan: Culture, Schooling, and Gross National Happiness. Springer Publishing, 87-102.

Sherub, K. & Scheulka, M. J. (2019). The value of research culture. *Druk Journal*, 5(1), 72-83.

Todd, M.J., Smith, K., & Bannister, P. (2006). Supervising a social science undergraduate

dissertation: Staff experiences and perception. *Teaching in Higher Education*, 11(2), 161- 173.

Yangdon, K. (2019). Identifying critical thinking skills of 2<sup>nd</sup> year, bachelor of language and

literature students at Taktse, Trongsa. *Bhutan Journal of Research and Development*, 8(2), 55-70.

# Improving Students' Performance in Class Nine Mathematics through Collaborative Learning

<sup>4</sup>Chakrapani Khanal and Ugyen Dorji

# **ABSTRACT**

Mathematics curriculum is taking an overhaul globally due the challenges of delivering the curriculum to students through the traditional teacher-centred rote-drill learning strategy. Gelephu Higher Secondary School observed decline in performance in mathematics in BCSE examination for number of consecutive years. Though there are numerous strategies, which have been in use, to teach mathematics lessons for improving students' performance, there had never been any such comparative research done to find out their effectiveness in the classroom. This action research was undertaken to find out the effect of collaborative learning on students' academic performance through Multiple Intelligence based lessons with feedback for positive reinforcement. A section of class nine students were randomly divided into two mixed ability groups: a control group and an experimental group. A pre-test was conducted for knowing their existing level of competency. On a chosen topic, collaborative learning based on Multiple Intelligence based lessons with feedback for positive reinforcement was given to the experimental group while usual traditional teacher-centred lessons were delivered to the control group for a period of one month. Two post-tests: one half way through the topic and another after completion of the topic, were administered to check their level of improvement. Further, a survey was administered to experimental group to determine their level of satisfaction due to the intervention. Mean scores of pre-test and post-tests were compared. Response from the satisfaction survey was analysed using SPSS software. The results of the research revealed that the academic performance of participants improved. The participants were positive about the effect of collaborative learning conducted for them.

#### KEYWORDS

Collaborative learning, multiple intelligence, mathematics, students' performance, positive reinforcement

#### INTRODUCTION

Teachers continue to deal with mathematics curriculum reform in order to make mathematics more relevant and meaningful for students. They encourage students to think critically and make the process of learning mathematics more student-centred and interactive. They have been trying to include a number of references for the need for learner-centred approaches such as cooperative learning strategies in mathematics education. The curriculum framework, however, does not prescribe specific methods for implementation of cooperative learning strategies. This article attempts to fill the gap by describing three approaches to implementing cooperative learning in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Teacher, Gelephu Higher Secondary School, <u>chakarapanikhanal@education.gov.bt</u> Teacher, Gelephu Higher Secondary School, <u>ugyendorjimath@eduction.gov.bt</u>

mathematics classes. The use of cooperative structures extensively does not preclude the use of mini-lectures or teacher lead whole class discussions. Cooperative learning activities help identify widespread student misconceptions, and enable the teacher and students to focus on specific concepts. Effective mathematics instruction should involve active student participation. The interactive and collaborative learning states that mathematics teachers will foster interactive learning through student writing, reading, speaking and collaborative activities so that students can learn to work effectively in groups and communicate about mathematics both orally and in writing. Oral and written claims can be made and interpreted so that they can communicate effectively while working with others and can convey the results of their work with clarity and power (REC, 2014).

#### **Problem Statement**

It has been observed that students' performance in mathematics in Gelephu Higher Secondary School has been declining successively over the past five years. This has raised concern amongst school academics and management as it has increased number of academic failure in mathematics. So, there is a need to evaluate appropriate teaching and learning strategies that would overcome the aforementioned problem on time. It was unclear whether a collaborative setting would help increase their students' success in these areas. Further, the data also showed low standardized test scores owing to the lack of daily homework completion and the students' poor motivation in mathematics. Hence there was an urgent need to conduct a serious research based on actual classroom practices and find solutions

#### **Research Question**

How can students' achievement and attitude towards mathematics be improved through collaborative learning?

### **Situational Analysis**

Modern education in Bhutan was introduced in 1960 in which 3R were important indicators of education being delivered as well as acquired. Overtime the notion of education has changed wherein the idea of wholesome education was brought in. In tryst with development of students in all spheres of life, the academic standard were weakened without being realized. Subjects like mathematics and sciences which needed more interaction and collaboration were affected. Although there could be many contributing factors to this fact, minimal research is available to ascertain this fact. In fact, it is a global phenomenon. Students in different countries exhibit the same symptoms of being weak or not interested in mathematics. Bhutanese students are exceptions. The national education assessment was conducted in 2013 to assess standard of English and mathematics and findings show that students' ability to do

well in examination paper and what was done in the class according to the marks given for it as CA do not match at all. It is felt either the way we provide feedback (the CA) is not appropriate, or we need a rethinking for an overhaul.

Even at Gelephu Higher Secondary School students show that they could obtain pass mark in the overall aggregate due the help of CA. However, students do very poorly in standardized tests. Teachers need to think from different perspective such as the methods of teaching mathematics (which is quite often chalk and talk). Teachers should be mindful of catering to the needs of multiple intelligences in classroom and the way they give feedback. Teachers need to convey the shortcomings of each student by providing positive feedback for positive reinforcement. In other words, there is need to rectify the ineffectiveness of strategies for learning mathematics in the classrooms.

# Competence

The research was conducted by a team consisting of two teachers with fifteen and twenty three years of teaching experiences. They have even facilitated national level Teacher Professional Development Programmes, written academic textbooks and participated in National Level Curriculum Conferences. The researchers have taught mathematics, physics and information technology in classes nine to twelve. One of the researchers has, to his credit, published research papers in international journals. The researchers were part of a research team for the action research conducted by the school in 2017. The participants for this research consisted of one section of class nine students of Gelephu Higher Secondary School (ranging from ages 14 to 16 years).

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

Literature states that students find difficulty in learning and understanding science and mathematics because of their theories about how the world works - their schemes for understanding phenomena - conflict with scientific understandings (Fellows, 1994). According to Herrera, Murry and Cabral (2007), students are now being asked to use their cognitive development, academic knowledge, and language skills to read, comprehend, synthesize, analyse, compare, contrast, relate, articulate, write, evaluate and more. There is a need for appropriate teaching strategies in the classrooms that enhance learning and support the shift in perception of assessment of learning to assessment as learning and the teachers/instructors can measure academic performance incremental gains distinctly.

Educationists and enthusiastic researchers around the globe have proposed several findings and new approaches to get rid of difficulties in teaching science, satisfy the needs of students and help students retain and develop higher thinking skills. One such approache is corporative learning strategy. There are numerous studies on the benefits, detriments, advantages, and disadvantages of cooperative learning. In addition, there are many ways to utilize this strategy in the classroom. Cooperative learning is usually perceived as a generic name for a number of instructional techniques. Among those are group investigations, student team

learning, structural approach, and learning together (Köse, Sahin, Ergü & Gezer. 2010). Choosing the most appropriate instructional techniques that fits the learners' level, subject and interest is crucial. So, the cooperative learning strategy that incorporates creating lessons based on multiple intelligences, incorporating more group work, and the use of feedback for positive reinforcement in the classroom has been chosen to improve academic performance of learners in the classroom

# **Use of Multiple Intelligences**

To develop higher level thinking skills and better retention level in learners, inclusion of learning strategies catering to multiple intelligences in the classroom lessons is important. As per Howard Gardner's Theory of Multiple Intelligences (MI), MI has significant implications for all mathematics teachers who are looking for diverse instructional methods that encourage depth of understanding by tapping students' particular inclinations. According to Binet and Simon (1973), intelligence is a fundamental faculty, the alteration or the lack of which, is of the utmost importance for practical life. This faculty is judgment, otherwise called good sense, practical sense, initiative, the faculty of adapting one's self to circumstances. A person may be a moron or an imbecile if he or she is found lacking in judgment; but with good judgment he or she can never be either. Indeed the rest of the intellectual faculties seem of little importance in comparison with judgment. The potential of students is no longer just based on a student's IQ. Research has shown that a students' IQ accounts for only 20% of the students' potential. To utilize students' potential, Gardner (1993) proposed each individual having multiple intelligences, such as mathematical-logical intelligence, linguistic, spatial, bodily-kinaesthetic, musical, inter-personal, intra-personal, and naturalist. The use of multiple intelligences in teaching and learning has been described as a framework allowing teachers to explore their teaching styles and assisting them in making decisions about ways to structure teaching and learning experiences for students (Ozdemir & Tekkaya, 2006). According to Teela (1999), teachers who have experience in the use of multiple intelligences have expressed its strength in conveying interdisciplinary content and concepts. Gardner (1993) found that a teacher who has a decade's worth of experience greatly improved student progress, parental communication, and growth. In other words, the use of multiple intelligences within the classroom is an ongoing process and highly beneficial.

# **Grouping students**

Stearns' (1999) indicated that there is improved student achievement when there is difference in the quality of instruction involving working together. For instance, children learned to listen to their teacher and to each other in a way that was self-edifying. It was also found that students shared ideas and encouraged each other's efforts. Moreover, group activities became an excellent vehicle by which students

achieved successes and gained peer recognition, an important issue with all students. Grouping students in the mathematics setting is very substantial and effective according to many sources (Lee, 2006). For example, Lee in The Power of Groupthink, stated that when people pull together their knowledge, they can outperform the brightest of individuals. One of the researchers explained that groups have an edge because they build on each other's insights, making it easier to recognize correct answers. According to Panitz (2000) in using cooperative learning in the mathematics classroom, there are many benefits of cooperative learning. It not only benefits the students and their learning, but it also benefits the teachers. Working together with those around me in a group was a great help in understanding the material and the many different ways in which a problem can be tackled and solved. Grouping students motivates them and their critical thinking skills are enhanced, as well, students becoming more familiar with their peers while still enjoying mathematics. The groups that worked together also had no problem with reporting to the class on something they had produced as a group (Williamson, 2006).

#### **Positive Reinforcement**

There have been many debates about whether teachers should incorporate positive reinforcements to their students. Some argue that students should not be rewarded for things that they should be doing anyway, while other teachers believe that student demographics are changing and that education and pedagogical practices need to follow that change in order to better help our students (Lysakowski & Walberg, 2001). Despite these views, there have been many studies that have shown the benefits of giving positive reinforcements. Effective feedback appears as one of the most powerful influences on learning, achievement, and teaching. Sutton (2010) stated that feedbacks can be of evaluative scores and descriptive comments that are used extensively in learning science and mathematics including other subjects too. According to Hattie and Timperley (2007), feedback serves as part of assessment for learning. It focuses on the students' receiving, understanding, and acting on the feedback in their learning which reduces discrepancies between a current understanding of a performance and a targeted goal, in order to enhance students' learning and performance. Therefore, an effective piece of feedback should provide explicit information to close this gap, and teachers must continue monitoring and evaluating students' understanding. Patzelt (1992) reported one case where a 9-yearold student was failing to complete daily homework assignments. In response, the teacher created a three-week contract that required the student to complete homework assignments neatly, check homework with the teacher, and complete a homework recording chart with the teacher. As a reward for the student complying with the contract, the teacher gave positive reinforcements, such as certificates of accomplishment, food, verbal praise and encouragement, and being able to function as the teacher's helper. Awarding points has been discovered to be a way to help students stay on task and as a way to implement positive reinforcement.

The literature supports using multiple intelligences, incorporating more group work, and using positive reinforcement to increase student achievement in mathematics. The articles provided the processes and uncovered the advantages of using these strategies. Through the use of lessons driven by the multiple intelligences, it has been found that teachers have reached more of the students' needs. Grouping students together in the classroom not only supports their learning of mathematics, but improves their confidence as well. Positive reinforcement gives the students the extra incentive needed for them to do well in mathematics. It also becomes a way for students to take responsibility for their choices. All three of these strategies together would contribute to student success in mathematics.

#### RESEARCH METHOD

# **Research Design**

The objective of the research was to implement collaborative learning strategy with MI based lessons and feedbacks for positive reinforcement by teachers in class nine, and its impact on their academic performance. So to collect the data, a survey questionnaire and conceptual tests (pre-test and post-test) were administered and data analysed to record improvement in mathematics.

The attitude questionnaire was adopted from Subba (2011). It consisted of 13 items as referred in Appendix, which were categorized under three categories, viz. interest, participation and satisfaction. The questionnaire investigated students' attitude/satisfaction level towards the collaborative learning strategy. The survey questionnaire was administered only with those students participated in experimental group. The items were rated through highest satisfaction, high satisfaction, moderate satisfaction, low satisfaction and least satisfaction. Standardised pre- and post-tests scores on a portion of mathematics content taught to control and experimental group of students were also compared through descriptive statistics.

Standard research procedures were followed including permission taken from the school administration for the conduct of action research, consent from individual students and permission from their parents in case the participants were minor. Data confidentiality were strictly maintained for participants' indignity and security. It was solely used for analysis of research objectives only.

# **Participants**

The participants for this research consisted of one section of class nine of Gelephu Higher Secondary School. The students were divided randomly into two groups: a control group and an experimental group, both groups having 17 mixed ability students each. Both the groups were taught the same concept for the same duration separately from grade nine mathematics. The intervention was implemented with

experimental group participants only whereas control group participants were taught in traditional teacher-centred method.

#### Intervention

The intervention consisted of using Multiple Intelligences in lessons, assigning more group work, and using feedback in the tasks they did for positive reinforcement. This was treated only with participants of experiment group. Firstly, lessons were planned with activities incorporating various multiple intelligences. Secondly, students were grouped into small group for activities as per the multiple intelligence dominant in them and they were asked to do the activity in the learning style they preferred. The students were encouraged to share ideas, teach their peers so as to improve their interpersonal abilities. Lastly, the feedbacks were provided regarding their completed task verbally as well as in written. This acted as positive reinforcement and aroused interest in learning mathematics and helped them change their attitude towards the subject.

# **Research instruments**

The following instruments were used in collecting data.

Performance Tests

The performance tests were classified into two categories – pre- and post-test respectively. The tests for 30 marks were administered to both the groups that could be answered in an hour. The test items were purely based on the concept/content that was taught.

Pre- test

The objective for implementing pre-test was to determine the level of competency that the student possessed prior to implementation of the intervention program. It was conducted before the start of the program in both the pilot groups.

Post- test

Similarly, the objective of administering post-test was to investigate students' level of performance in the subject after participating into four weeks interventions in term of learning outcomes. So, two post-tests were implemented. First one was conducted during the mid of intervention and second one at the end of the program.

Satisfaction Questionnaire

A 5-points Likert scale questionnaire was developed and administered to investigate students' attitude/satisfaction level towards intervention program (Appendix). It was surveyed only with participants of experimental group. The data collected from the questionnaire was analysed in terms of mean scores and standard deviations to determine the satisfaction level towards the program.

**Anecdotal Records** 

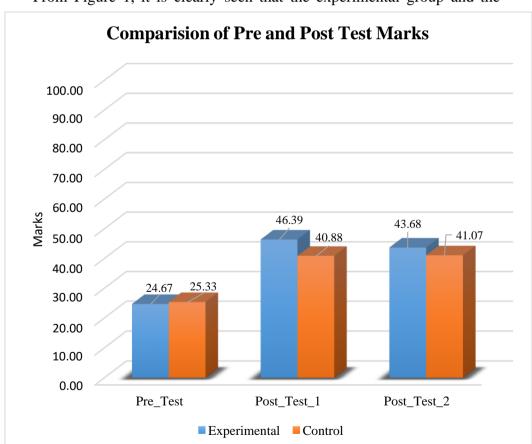
Anecdotal records were maintained by the researchers during delivery of the lessons to the experimental group of students. The responses, in terms of behavioral and

psychological changes to the intervention methods of each student were noted and analyzed.

#### RESULTS

#### Performance tests

The mathematics mid-term marks were taken as the pre-test marks which was administered to the participants covering a number of chapters that were taught in the past. The scores of control group and experimental group were analysed by calculating the mean marks. Two post-tests having same items were administered to both the groups. First one was conducted during the mid of intervention and another one at the end of the program. Second post-test included skills and content learn from entire content area taught. The means of post-test score was compared with means of pre-test score and means of post-tests among different groups was compared for analysis and interpreted. The graphical representation of the means are depicted in Figure 1.



From Figure 1, it is clearly seen that the experimental group and the

Figure 1. Mean marks for pre-test and post-test of Control and Experimental group

control group in the pre-test have same mean score. The mean marks are 24.67 and 25.33 for experimental group and control group respectively. It is observed both the

Journal of Educational Action Research,							
Sati	sfac	ti <sub>on</sub> . Vol 1, No. 4 November 2020	Mean	SD	Remark		
Interest	•	I enjoy lessons very much when integrated with multi- intelligence tasks.	4.31	0.60	High satisfaction		
	•	I become more curious and observant in the class when teacher teaches lesson(s) with multi-intelligence and positive feedback methods.	3.81	1.22	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	I was encouraged to participate in the team discussions when the lessons are taught using multi-intelligence and positive feedback methods by our teachers.	3.25	1.29	Moderate satisfaction		
Satisfaction	•	The lessons using various multi-intelligence tasks related to our day to day life situations activities make me more attentive in the class.	4.38	0.81	High satisfaction		
	•	Integration of Multi-intelligence and positive feedbacks in the lesson promotes better interaction amongst friends and teachers.	3.56	0.51	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	It is easier for me to understand the content taught as multi-intelligence tasks helps to develop the relevance between the course and real world situations.	3.75	1.06	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	I found the multi-intelligence tasks with positive feedbacks useful in enhance me to think and analyze the real things in world.	3.81	0.98	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	I get learning satisfaction when I learn the lesson with multi-intelligence tasks as it broaden learning ability.	3.50	0.82	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	I gain confidence when I learn the lessons when teacher engaged me actively and meaningfully with positive feedbacks.	4.06	1.12	High satisfaction		
	•	I was helped by my friends to learn faster and better when sessions are integrated with multi-intelligence lessons.	3.81	0.91	Moderate satisfaction		
	•	The use of multi-intelligence in the lesson helps me to build confidence in understanding the concept of mathematics clearly.	4.13	0.81	High satisfaction		
	•	Lessons with multi-intelligence tasks allow me to develop skills needed in the real world.	4.06	1.00	High satisfaction		
Satisf	•	I like multi-intelligence tasks with positive feedbacks teaching strategy to be integration in all the subjects to help enhance our critical thinking.	4.13	0.72	High satisfaction		
	groups were equally competent. In the first post-test, mean marks of both the experimental group and control group have increased. They are 46.39 and 40.88 for						

experimental group and control group have increased. They are 46.39 and 40.88 for

experimental group and control group respectively. Increase of mean mark of experimental group (88.04 %) is much higher than that of control group (61.39%). In the second post-test also mean marks of both the experimental group and control group have increased as compared to that of pre-test but have decreased as compared to first post-test. They are 43.68 and 41.07 for experimental group and control group respectively. Again increase in mean marks of experimental group (77.06 %) is found to be higher than that of control group (62.14%) when compared to the pre-test mean marks. It is seen that the experimental group has performed better than the control group in the tests during and after the intervention.

# **Learning satisfaction analysis**

Finally, to answer the third research question, the attitude questionnaire was implemented with a research objective, "to investigate the students' satisfaction/attitude towards the corporative learning to enhance the academic performance in class nine mathematics with those students participated in experimental group". This questionnaire found students' attitude with regards to students' interest, participation and learning satisfaction as a result of corporative learning strategy in learning mathematics.

The questions were made simple to the level of grade nine students. The researcher explained the statements before answering them. The total of 16 students in experimental group answered the questionnaire. The data collected from attitude questionnaire were analysed by mean and standard deviation to determine the learning satisfaction level/ learners' attitude towards the intervention implemented in learning one of class nine mathematics unit (Commercial mathematics). The means of learning satisfaction were then compared to the predetermined criteria as shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Analysis of students' satisfaction survey questionnaire items.

Table 2. Summary of students' satisfaction in term of three classified factors.

	Least atisfactio	Low Satisfaction	Moderat e Satisfact ion	High Satisfaction	Highest Satisfaction	Total
Interest	3.15 %	3.15%	15.65%	40.65%	37.5%	100 %
Participation	6.3%	0%	31.3%	39.6%	22.9%	100 %
Satisfaction	1.3%	3.9%	27.3%	36.7%	30.5 %	100 %

The overall analysis of the responses from the survey questionnaire revealed that participants had "High Satisfaction" in all category factors. Table 2. shows that 40.65% of learners rated "High Satisfaction" for their interest towards learning mathematics unit through collaboration learning strategy, 39.6% of the participants stated that they had "High Satisfaction" in classroom participant in learning

mathematics better as it encouraged them to participate in the learning activities through frequent group interactions. Another 36.7% of the participants rated "High Satisfaction" for satisfaction in learning concept through the corporative learning method which includes MI activities for various level of MI students, grouping into smaller groups for better learning and positive reinforcements to encourage individual learners as shown in Table 2. Eventually, the conclusion was derived that students were satisfied and had positive learning attitude towards the collaborative learning strategy for learning mathematics.

#### **CONCLUSION**

This study was conducted to improve students' performance in mathematics and attitudinal change towards mathematics through multiple intelligence based lessons, collaborative group work and reward-based positive reinforcement. The comparative analysis of mean marks of two post-intervention tests of experimental group with that of control group revealed that performance in mathematics of experimental group was significantly high. From the analysis of learning attitude survey results, it was found that most of the students had positive attitude, satisfaction and interest in learning mathematics due to the change of learning strategy. Anecdotal records analysis too revealed that students in experimental group, who in the beginning were passive, started to get involved more and more. Thus, it can be concluded that performance of students in mathematics improved significantly in the experimental group of students due to collaborative learning strategy. The traditional teaching methods with book, chalk and board merely gave learning satisfaction to students, because, it could not create joy, excitement and a love for learning. Therefore, how hard and different approaches teacher teaches the concept in a subject like mathematics, still remains as abstract and vague in their brains. That is the reason of students never putting into application the theoretical learning from school in their daily lives. If we are to inspire and engage students in learning, then we should show them how we learn rather than tell them what we know. This desire for learning can be fulfilled by collaborating some teaching strategies that cater to individual learning styles. This is because cooperative learning evolves into peer tutoring, where individual learner coaching or teaching specific material to another student to help weaker learners in their group (Armstrong, 2008). Along with peer learning, inclusion of MI based lessons serve three main purposes: it matches teaching to the way students learn, encourages students' development, and encourages diversity (Ozdemir & Tekkaya, 2006). By using all of the multiple intelligences it has been shown that lessons can be presented in more interesting ways. I also leads to students' having confidence in themselves and inducing in them the desire to learn the material their ways (Gardner, 1997). Moreover, positive feedbacks and reinforcement are vital in learning mathematics because it serve as incentive for learners to build positive attitude and then perform better in the subject. All three of these strategies together can contribute to students' success in mathematics as collaborative learning strategy improves conceptual understanding of the subjects. This study also revealed that teacher-centred and text book-oriented mathematics instructions are not enough to improve students' conceptual understanding of the subject. There is, thus, a need for the inclusion of collaborative learning instructions for learning abstract concepts in mathematics classes.

# Limitation and Recommendation for Further Study

The study is limited by small size of both the participants and the content area. It was observed that intervention period saw many distractions in which research participants participated in other more important school activities. They were also preoccupied. So there were difficulties in planning lessons to meet the research objectives. The conclusion drawn could be further authenticated if the participants are more diverse and content area is wider. It is recommended that future researchers conduct the same study with different level of participants and different teachers with minimal distractions to the participants during the research period.

#### REFERENCES

- Armstrong, T. (1987b). In their own way: *Discovering and encouraging your child's personal learning style*. New York: Tarcher/Putnam.
- Binet. A., & Simon, T. (1973). *The development of intelligence in children*. Baltimore, Williams & Wilkins, New York: Arno Press.
- Gardner, H. (1993a). Frames of mind: The theory of multiple intelligences—10th anniversary edition. New York: Basic Books.
  - Herrera, S.G., Murry, K. G., & Cabral, R.M. (2007). Assessment accommodations for classroom teachers of culturally and linguistically diverse students. Boston, MA: Pearson Education Inc.
- The School Education and Research Unit (2012). School Enabling Conditions: An educator's guide: assessment and evaluation. Paro, Bhutan: Royal Education Council.
- Hattie, J., & Timperley, H. (2007). *The power of feedback*. Rev Educ Res, 77(1), 81–112.
- Köse, S., Sahin, A., Ergü, A., & Gezer, K. (2010). The Effects of Cooperative Learning Experience on Eighth Grade Students' Achievement and Attitude Toward Science. Education, 131(1), 169-180.
- Lee, H. (2006). *The Power of Groupthink* [Abstract]. Prevention, 58. Retrieved from www.apps2.sxu.edu:2255/ehost/detail?
- Lysakowski, R. S., & Walberg, H. J. (2001). *Classroom Reinforcment and Learning: A Quantitative Synthesis*. Journal of Educational Research, 70-77. Retrieved on June 10, 2018.
- National education assessment in Bhutan, *A Study of Student Achievement in English Literacy and Mathematics Literacy in Class X*,(2013), Technical Report, Bhutan Council for School Examinations and Assessment (BCSEA), Bhutan.
- Ozdemir, P., & Tekkaya, C. (2006). Enchancing learning through multiple intelligences. *Education Research*, 40, 74-78. Retrieved June 10, 2008, from
- Panitz, T. (2000). *Using cooperative learning 100% of the time in mathematics classes*. Establishes a Student-Centered Interactive Learning and Environment. 3-12. Retrieved on June 10, 2018.

- Patzelt, K. E. (1992). *Increasing homework completion through positive reinforcement* [Abstract]. 15. Retrieved on June 14, 2018, from www.apps2.sxu.edu:2255/ehost/detail?
- Royal Education Council (2014), A Teachers' gude to understanding mathematics: Textbook for class ix. Thinley Pelbar Printers & Publishers, Thimphu, Bhutan.
- Royal Education Council (2014), *Understanding mathematics: Textbook for class ix.*Thinley Pelbar Printers & Publishers, Thimphu, Bhutan.
- Stearns, C. (1999). A Middle School Venture Into Cooperative Learning: Successes and Dilemmas. Theory Into Practice, 38(2), 100.
- Sutton, R. (2010). Making formative assessment the way the school does business: The impact and implications of formative assessment for teachers, students and school leaders in A. Hargreaves, A. Lieberman, M. Fullan, & D. Hopkins (Eds.), *Second international handbook of educational change*, volume 23 of the series Springer international handbooks of education (pp. 883–899). Netherlands: Springer.
- Ucak E., Bag H., Usak M. (2006). Enhancing learning through multiple intelligences in elementary science education. *Journal of Baltic Science Education*, 2006 No. 2 (10).
- Williamson, V. (2006). *Group and Individual Work. Mathematics Teaching Incorporating Micromath*, 195, 42-45. Retrieved June 10, 2018.

# **About the Author(s)**

Chakrapani Khanal is a Cluster Lead Teacher in Gelephu Higher Secondary School with teaching experiences in physics, mathematics and information technology for 23 years. With M.Sc. in Mathematics, he has facilitated national level professional development programs since 2004. He has numerous contributions in development of ICT curriculum framework and textbooks. He is primarily interested in 21<sup>st</sup> century education innovation including computational thinking and research related to lesson strategies. He also has publication in journal EIP recently.

Ugyen Dorji is teacher in Gelephu Higher Secondary School with a teaching experience of more than 15 years. He has M.Sc. in Science and Technology Education from Thailand. He teaches physics, mathematics, ICT and TVET. He has done several researches, some of which have been published national and international online journal as well as print journals. He has taken part in national level curriculum framework development and reviews, and has numerous contributions in textbooks writing (Mathematics) and facilitated a number of national level professional development programs. He is keen in conducting researches to improve students 'academic achievement.

# Importance of students participation in improving the English Language Proficiency.

Ugyen Wangchuk

#### **Abstract**

The involvement of students in the process of teaching and learning to give learners the hands on experience to practically prepare them for lives and living in the process of educating and to equip them with better abilities to make the best use of reading, writing, speaking and listening skills, to be a fittest person in this ever challenging world is very crucial and important. The modern students unlike in primitive era prefer and enjoy the student centered classroom teaching learning (active learning process), which is also the overriding goal of the ministry of education over the teacher centered teaching classroom (passive learning). The learnings and impact on overall developments are far better in student centered classroom teaching practices. However, as of now without any proper record and evidences on the benefits of students' centered teaching learning method, our teachers have been practicing the traditional method (lecturing), simply rushing to cover lengthy and vast syllabus for the examination purpose which actually on the other hand has minimal impact on learners or no learning for some students and become sheer wastage of time and energy. Therefore, this paper aims to throw the lights on teachers on the benefit of students' centered classroom teaching and learning and to create a paradigm shift from learning through lecturing to learning by doing. This student participatory teaching method will not only make learners competent but also ease the workload of teachers.

**Key Words**: Participation, learning by doing, impact, teacher-centered, student involvement.

5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Teacher, Dashiding Higher Secondary School, Phunakha ugen@education.gov.bt

#### Introduction

This action research on 'importance of students participation to improve the English language proficiency' is conducted to find out whether the teacher centered classroom practices or the student centered classroom practices (student participatory method) plays important role in improving the English Language proficiency in students in Bhutan. This paper also explores other influencing factors which are necessary for the development of the English language proficiency, which will help guide the teachers to follow the best practices which will contribute the most to the students learning of the English language. To produce students with proficient in the international language, English, is vital in this globalized world to be remain fit and competent candidatures for the working space not only in the country but also at the international level. As it is stated in the Darwinian evolutionary theory, "the only fittest will survive", likewise, our future children will have to be fit with all the competent skills anywhere in the world.

Many educational stakeholders in Bhutan agree that the English language proficiency of our children is not meeting national standard and also up to the international level. The reports (Pupil Performance Report, 2012) have also clearly shown that our students are not able to meet the standard that is being set in the **English Curriculum Guide for teachers (2005).** This shortfall is not that our children are incapable, it's of the mismatch between teaching method and the expected outcome. This confusion and deviation which bring adverse effect in the lives of our children will be addressed should the teacher embraces students participatory method (students centered classroom learning). Further this will open the door for our learners to explore information beyond the prescribed text and equipped them with the required skills and knowledge of twenty first century. This will also make the bulkiness of syllabus less burden for teachers. Besides our students will be well equipped with new tools and relevant skill to face the ever mounting challenges in this fast changing world. This action research, therefore, aims to guide our teachers based on the concrete findings of the paper.

This action research on the importance of students' participation (practicality model) to improve English language proficiency for the eleven standard came into thought when senior students could not repeat the words and pronounce the words correctly that the teachers have been using frequently while explaining the text. Besides, the students in the teacher centered classroom are neither active nor responsive and found not learning what teacher taught. In fact teacher centered teaching learning becomes wastage of energy and time of both the teacher and students. Therefore, this paper explores how effective is the students centered learning: active, productive, efficient and impactful teaching learning practices on

contrary to teacher centered classroom-passive, inefficient and least impacted teaching learning skill.

#### Literature review

The purpose of education is to cater ideas and create skillful students which will make the life and living of them better. Education must make them capable to tackle any kind of challenges in their endeavor in the world. According to Dr. John G. Hibben, former president of Princeton University, 'Education is the ability to meet life's situation' and Herbert Spenser 'The great aim of education is not knowledge but action'. Further, Bernard Shaw once remarked 'If you teach a man anything he will never learn, learning is an active process. We learn by doing' (as cited in Dale Carnegie, 1937, p. xiv-xvii). It is paramount for education to instill sense of competence with an ability to use all the four skills- reading, writing, speaking and listening in intact which is highly in demand in job markets both internationally and nationally.

Stephen R. Covey (2008) created a pyramid of influence which says that there is very little learning in hearing and teaching; little better in feeling and relating; and the best learning is in seen and in modeling. Further, 'One seeing,' says an old Japanese proverb, 'is better than hundred times telling about,' (Dale Carnegie, 2011, p.120)

Dr. Shashi Tharoor, Indian politician talked that students in Indian schools have 'filled mind'-filled with text book information not with 'Formed Mind'-better and responsive to stimuli (TED X Gateway, 2013). The Bhutanese educational practices are no better than Indian, which only produce students of filled mind and not with 'Formed Mind', whereby become incompetent as they lack the language skills to use in their day to day situation. Therefore, it is high time to re-think, re-look and make our education system more versatile to promote the over-all development of our students to make them able person to deal with any kind of unexpected situation in this challenging world.

According to Dorji Thinley and Sangay Bidha, in Bhutan in most classes, the teacher talks and students listen passively. They say in a typical Bhutanese classroom, the chances of deleting English from the students' classroom discourse are high since the students use their home language to learn academic content and the teachers do not generally insist on the use of the target language (RABSEL the CERD Educational Journal, 2010). Further DEBORAH G YOUNG writes 'Bhutan is dedicated to the holistic development of their students and their society, it is important to challenge students, teachers, and administrators to think critically about their lives as they shape their future (BHUTAN JOURNAL of RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, 2012, p. 13). The importance of explorative teaching learning process is understood from T.W. MAXWELL words 'Teaching in Bhutan has been to many students and academics the transmission of prior knowledge (see Gyamtso and Maxwell 2012). In a western university this is only partially the case. What to teach is also imbued with new

discoveries, new relationships and applications of ideas that test and often go beyond prior knowledge' (BHUTAN JOURNAL of RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, 2012, p. 41). BHUTAN PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS (2020) too states 'Maintain supportive learning environment that nurture and inspire learners to participate, cooperate and collaborate in teaching learning process (p. 41). Teachers to adopt the students participatory teaching-learning method to improve English language proficiency for our students is very paramount especially at this ever fast changing world for them put at the international standards.

Even the Education Ministry is trying to create an activities based learning center classroom in Bhutan. One clear evident of our ministry's effort is integration of Dr. Spenser Kagan's cooperative learning structure in Bhutanese classroom which can make students participate and active in learning in the class. According to Tashi Namgyal Kagan's structure emphasizes student engagement, participation, ownership and making learning processes fun and exciting (Kuensel, 2016). Students' participation is found imperative for English language proficiency and also to make learning interesting and enriching. The concept of student centeredness featured in Bhutanese Education system with the introduction of New Approach to Primary Education (NAPE) in the early 1980. A student centered approach views each child as the centre of the educational process. The student's needs in the cognitive, psychomotor affective domains are priorities to be addressed (Singye, 2011). Finding the student centered learning imperative, Royal Education Council (REC) now started advocacy on place based learning where the students are involved practically in their learning. The ministry's effort on changing the educating practices is further clear from the extract below:

The ministry asked for a change in the way in which students are taught, signaling a movement away from the teacher-dominated classroom. The revised curriculum, therefore, reflects a student or learner-centered approach to classroom instruction, that means will be more involved as active participants in the classroom. (Curriculum and Professional Support Division (CAPSD), 2010).

Therefore, it's high time for educationists and all stakeholders to sail on same board to implement the highly effective educating methods; participatory learning-learning by doing, with once own hands experience for the best education of our children in the building of our future generation.

# Methodology

The mixed method, the mix of quantitative (questionnaire) and qualitative (interview) method is employed to collect data for this research (Singye Namgyal (PhD), 2011).

The questionnaire with likert scale variables (strongly agree, agree, disagree and strongly disagree) were used to collect quantitative data for this action research. Forty seven students of class eleven (twenty two female and twenty five male) from two sections have used questionnaire for quantitative data collection. Five experienced

teachers; two female and three male also used questionnaire, slightly different from students to cross check and validate the students' responses. Besides, unstructured qualitative method was also used for students and teachers participants to collect information to further authentic the responses they have given in the quantitative questionnaire. According to Gay, Mills & Airasian (2006), the importance of employing the mixed method is:

Mixed methods designs combine quantitative and qualitative approaches by essentially mixing both quantitative and qualitative data in single study. The purpose of mixed methods research is to build on the synergy and strength that exists between quantitative and qualitative research methods in order to understand a phenomenon more fully that is possible using either quantitative or qualitative methods alone (as cited in Singye, 2011, p. 84).

Further, the advantages is made cleared by the line of Schutz et al (2004) 'the use of more than one method in the study of a phenomenon is helpful in the development of construct validity' (as cited in Singye, 2011, p. 85). Interviews and the observations were used as tools for the qualitative methods for the same participants who used the quantitative questionnaires.

The student participants were of different ability groups and also of different family background. The questionnaire for quantitative data collection covers different aspects of areas that deemed necessary to produce accurate result. Summary of the questionnaire is as shown in the table below.

Table 1: Summary of the Questionnaire

Part	Content	No. of Items
A.	Students participation	7
В.	Teaching Strategies of the Language Teacher; Effectiveness of teachers	5
C.	Gender Differences	6
D.	Examinations	3
E.	Parents Support	3
F.	Teachers Motivation and Support	3
G.	School Study Culture	3
H.	Peer Influences	3

Quantitative Data were analyzed using excel to calculate the percentage of overarching items of different variables of the questionnaire.

# Findings of the quantitative questionnaire

The pie charts below of some of the quantitative questionnaires which are of the most important questions for the findings of this action research conclude that students who take active participation are the most proficient in English and also the toppers are active participants. Our twenty first century learners prefer student centered unlike the past generation where there is a learning with fun. According to the findings

students go for all round development than examination and bookish testing which according to them impedes the exposure and controls learning. The finding also suggests that school should create more platform for students' participation and the needs of teacher's exploration of better and fitting teaching methodology for students centered teaching and learning. The percentage shown in the pie charts below for the important questions, prove the overhaul changes needed in teaching learning in the education system Bhutan.

Figure: 1

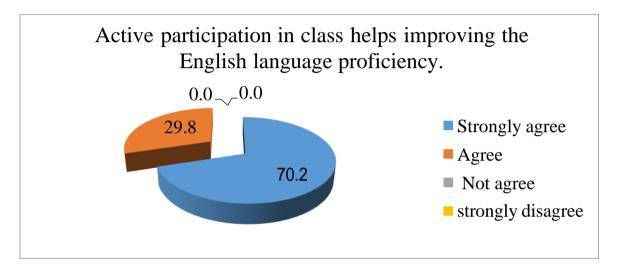
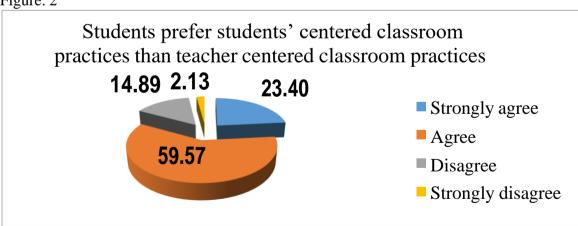


Figure: 2





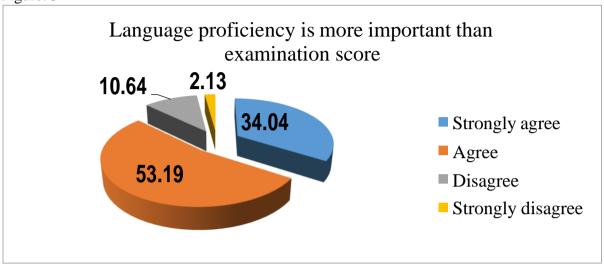


Figure: 4

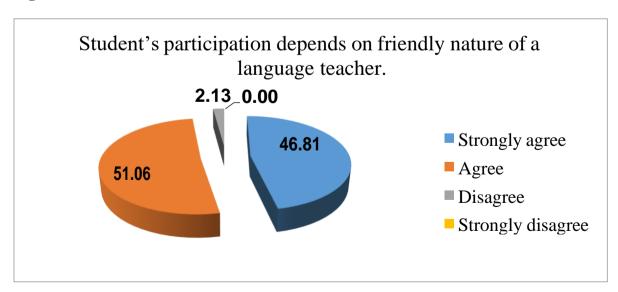
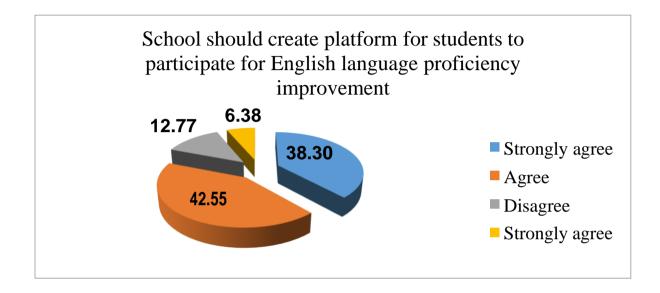
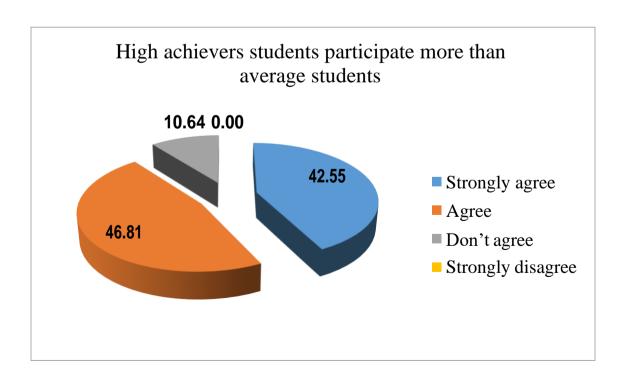


Figure: 5





# Findings of the qualitative method-substructure interview

In an interview, students' participants say that in a participatory learning, teacher gets to know the weakness of students which opens door for teachers and students friends to correct the mistakes and learner gets opportunity to learn through their own mistakes. Further, they say the students centered learning encourages to do research, get chance to share the information gathered and grow and groom analytically. The students say when brain get on work, new ideas pop up which motivate them for more and better ideas with interest and energy. Students also say the information learned, involving their own learning faculties could retain for a longer duration.

Students are also observed that when they keep speaking, they improve their fluency; when students engage in more writing they learn to write properly; when they keep reading they turn to become an avid reader which culminate students to become a sound and all round development. Students become more courageous and confident and prepare better for the subsequent activities. The participant candidate No: 7 summarizes the advantages of participation when he/she says, 'participation is important to improve English language proficiency because we will get chance to speak, chance to share our ideas to other and when others speak we will understand and learn more'.

# **Opportunities**

Teaching learning with students' involvement can be the best method in educating the children in the education system in Bhutan to ensure the quality of education for our children which is also one of the grave concerns of our nation. The students' centered teaching learning can create forum for our students to explore the information beyond the prescribed text book which in turn can equip the students with skills to face the challenges and unexpected twist and in turn the course of their lives in preparing for their lives and living.

Students' centered teaching learning can keep students active throughout the teaching and learning process where about it happens. The educators must simply arouse in the students and eager wants to learn (Dale Carnegie, 1937). Besides, it ignites the sense of motivation and encourage students to volunteer for participation with greater enthusiasm which will help keeping the learning faculties of children active for maximum learning and better result as Alfred Lord Tennyson, in his poem writes 'Ulysses', 'How dull it is pause, to make an end, To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!'(ENGLISH CLASS XII; READING & LITERATURE, 2013, p.63)

Unlike a teacher centered teaching and learning, it provides platform for the students to think more and critically when they are made to unearth the hidden meanings and

the reasons of learning of any particular topic. This can make students think broad and take them beyond the horizontal limit of teachers' limited knowledge that in teacher centered teaching learnings controls the student's innovative thinking. This can also make children engage in the social activities. When learners are made to search and inquire the information from different sources they could learn to cooperate to get the help for themselves and also for others. The needs of both self and others will be felt and understood and become a good human being which is one purpose of educating the children. Besides, when there is learning through hands on experiences, students can retain the information for longer duration and social survival skills to be the fittest person unlike learning by hearing which disappear from memory within no time and hardly instill any life skills.

With this students participatory teaching and learning, hugely work burden of teachers can be significantly lessen and able to teach with a greater energy level, meaningfully and productively. Teachers just have be facilitators facilitating learning and guiding the learning taking on the right track. In addition when there is learning with fun and learning with heighten motivation students can give the best answers ever which is missing in teacher centered teaching and learning where teacher has to spoon feed the students in fact. On the other hand the end result of teaching, involving the students will be much more effective, better ever and an in-depth analytical which creates wider scope for our students to come up with new and an innovative ideas. In fact this method can not only care the standard of education system in our country but also make educationist and learners realize ironical phrase 'the more output with the less input'.

#### **Challenges**

Going by the present scenario of the education system in Bhutan, the practical implementation of the most suitable and the most effective teaching learning method (students' centered teaching learning) will not go with without a mounting challenges for the educators. The bulky prescribed syllabus which are necessary to cover on time for the examination purposes and time limitation for the huge sizes of students in the classes would be the few obstacles which are of course in time can make break through with good adaptation with this world's most aspiring teaching and learning method. Quantum leap for our learners who are very much used to feeding from educators will not be easy possible without endurance, motivation and encouragement. Of course with the versatility and different taste needed in time, present students who are already looking for unleashing from the tyrant hands of teachers to learn of their own through experimentation, can make students' centered teaching and learning get root in the education system.

Limited facilities such as internet and relevant books for self-explorative learning will make the learning by doing little tough. More over the over work, the huge sizes of the students in the class and the limited time for teachers owing to more teaching periods could impede the bearing of fruits of the of students centered teaching learning practices. There will be also a criticism from people around and parents of the students and deem teachers who are educating children, practicing students centered learning

as ineffective teachers with their shallow understanding as teachers could not be in position to explain every line and every sentence.

But going by the demands of job markets and the expected skills of educated graduates for the works, all the stakeholders in the making must joint hands to produce such graduates that are versatile enough and fittest persons for the job markets available with all the competent skills to realize the noble goals of education.

#### Conclusion

Though the education remained central focus throughout the generation in the string of humanity, the same education that served best in the past cannot work anymore at present, in this fast ever changing world. The job market at present scenario demands such versatile candidatures who are well equipped with skills. More over in this globalized world graduates must compete for the job internationally. For this the education system must produce the graduates sound and proficient in the international language 'English'.

The present practice of educating children in Bhutan mostly of 'Rode' learning and spoon feeding with text books information doesn't align with demands of education and cannot serve any purpose in their lives. Therefore, to create person with holistic skills, ever fitting in every space with versatile all round development, students' involvement teaching learning must be incorporated to make the learning: speak, write, listen and read most to give hands on practice to face interview with well preparedness and execute the job given perfectly which are the true purposes of education. Besides, the children of this digital age would never enjoy the humdrum learning of teacher centered, in the fist of authoritative teachers where the free will and imagination of the students are controlled.

The researchers have proven that the top learners and the class toppers are the great practitioners. They learn practically using all their learning faculties effectively and actively involved. Same like in English too, the most proficient students are avid reader, passionate listener, writing lovers and enthusiastic speaker. They understand the latent potential available in learning by doing, in active participation, in hearing and listening and in reading and writing and they reap the true fruits of education.

#### References

- Bhutan, M. o. (2020). *BHUTAN PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR TEACHERS*. Thimphu, Bhutan: Ministry of Education.
- Carnegie, D. (1937). How To Win Friends and Influence People. Delhi: Pirates.
- Covey, S. R. (2008). *The Leader in Me*. New York: Franklin Covey.
- Curriculum and Professional Support Division (CAPSD). (2010). *The Purpose of School Education in Bhutan*. Paro: Curriculum and Professional Support Division (CAPSD), Ministry of Education.
- Development, D. o. (2013). *ENGLISH CLASS XII: READING & LITERATURE*. Paro: Department of Curriculum Research and Development.
- Dorji Thinley and Sangay Bidha. (2010). Building Students' Oral Fluency, Perspective on the use of Spoken English in Bhutanese Classroom. *RABSEL the CERD Educational Journal*, 21.
- Namgyel, S. (2011). Quality of Education in Bhutan: Historical and Theoretical Understanding Matters. Thimphu: DSB.
- PEALE, N. V. (2014). COURAGE AND CONFIDENCE AN ANTHOLOGY. Delhi: Rama Vihar.
- Thinley, S. B. (2010). Building Students' Oral Fluency, Perspective on the use of Spoken English in Bhutanese Classrooms. *RABSEL the CERD Educational Journal*, 21.
- T.W.MAXWELL. (2012). Academic Work in an Autonomous Royal University of Bhutan: Challenges and Responsibilities Rgarding Research. *BHUTAN JOURNAL of RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT*, 37-47.
- Wngdi, T. (2016). *Teachers introduced to transformative pedagogy*. Thimphu: Kuensel.
- YOUNG, D. G. (2012). The Role of Critical Pedagogy in Enhancing the Values and Principles of Gross National Happiness in the Royal University of Bhutan. BHUTAN JOURNAL of REASEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (bjrd), 13-22.

ब्दाःतर्रुषः द्वःर्वः याः दः े े व षद्। दःषद्।

प्रमाशिव 'ब्रिच' तर्क्ष्म 'में 'में व 'क्ष्व 'में म्या 'च्या 'च्य

5๙'ҳघ๙'११ ҳ८'गे॰'थेग'घ≅ॅ'५८°

ख्रिया त्रा विश्वित्ताः व्यक्तिः श्रीट्टा त्या त्या त्या व्याः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यक्तः व्यक्षः व्यवक्षः व्यवक्षः व्यवक्षः व्यवक्षः व्यवक्षः विवक्षः विवक्

ঘদৈ'ৰ্দ'

<u>८.४४%,४.४%,४५८८,३८,</u>

 येव र्ख्याषा प्राचित गर्डी र्येन रिष्णु यह ीर्स् क्ष्या न्वां अर्दे ही ही नि प्यां में ते त्वेन त्या ही प्यां या पिया केस छोत्। क्षेत्रमायन्यम् मिर्मियायम् त्यर्भ'यश धेग'नर्जे'दर्ने' ८'पठरा'र्घ'क'द्रेग' প্রমান্ত্রান্ত্রা ग्रवसंस्था सेन्य में प्रमास्था से प्रमास Fidder & Jernemer (2007) ग्रेशप्तन्द्रमः धेग्रान्ज्रित्दिः षामा कुरागा ठेगायया वे सेंवा कुंदा गावे पा ते या ते या त अपिं प्रति रेगा रता हिगा क्षेत्र चर ग्राह्म रामा क्षेत्र अस्। देखार्क्टा द्वामी त्युराचाद्यात्व्यादा के अटा विषानीषा धेवारिवाषावारितरानेषाउटा विवारिवार्थिवा लया अह्यास्त्रम्पासे प्रमाद्येष्ट्रालया लग्यायाम्या दर्ने'अंे'धेषा'च∃'दर्'े'रूर' ग्व े 'च 'विष्व 'के 'बेर 'च्रिन्ध' জৈব অমা तर्नातु सामित्र सार्वेषा ८'ग्रेश'यगर'३८' व्यव त्र्या चेर वर्षे स वर्ष ग'रु'त्रन्द' चेर'न'रुद' र्शेन'मु'र्कट'लु'यट'

अर्घ देश श्री प्राप्त के स्था कि स्था

अट्राच्यका अट्टा हिवा क्षेत्र।

अवाका मूं व्याप्त न्या हिवा क्ष्या व्याह्म व्याप्त स्था व्याह्म व्याहम व्याह्म व्याहम व्याहम व्याहम व्याह्म व्याहम व्याहम व्याहम व्याहम व्याहम व्याहम

प्रवितः (२०००) वीस्रायन् निर्धे से स्वास्त्र से स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र से स्वास्त्र स्वास्त्र से स्वस

क्षेया वि. त्या क्षेत्र क्

मु अर्ळन् ने तियन् भ्रायम मुं क्रियं प्रत्नि भ्रायम मुं अर्था प्रति भ्रायम प्रति प्

वियायह्यायायायान्या

प्यत्मात्मस्य स्टाविद्यानेस्यं विद्यान्त्र स्वाविद्यानेस्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्य स्वाविद्

ट्यार्ट्स्य स्ट्रिंस्य स्ट्रिंस्

नेषारेषा'षी'सेट्'भुषा'वट'सु'षि'षव'त्भुट'वर्षा लया स्वास्वाप्त वाववास्वापर्प्तास्वास्त्री स्वास्त्र खे. रूटावपुःलुवावर्ज्ञापट्टा लरामुबाविटाघ्यबाखाः क्षेत्रवायार्क्त रहायी कृत्य ध्याप्त वियाप्त विया विया बेट्रायम देते प्राताद्या सेया व्यमासासी हो देवा क्व पर्ट में म्यास यग सेव विच पर्क्य प्रचिस सम नेयारेगामी सेट व्याप्ट सम्बद्धा से वि सव वित्वयम् स्राप्त दे प्रविषा मे प्राप्ति । धेया पर्चे र्ख्य प्रम्य अध्वय प्रम्य प्रम्य प्रम्य वर्नेन धेन के र्कु खु के निम्न র্কুবাম্বন্য নাই ই জৌবা व्यादर्खयायादाया

नि'न'गर्डं'नें। ने'गे'र्स्ट'विते'धेग'नर्जे'धर'कुष'गिन्ट' वन्यातुः वन्यात्यस्यान्डिग्'र'र्सेव्स'न्ग्'ग?

## **रक्ष'पष'पषर'व्या**

स्त्राचत े स्वाप्त क्ष्या त्र क्ष्या विषय क्ष्या क

स्टायतः श्रेषा प्रम्या क्षेत्र स्टायते श्रेषा स्टायते स्टायत

गार्ने खायटा स्पर्याक्षेत्र उटा क्ष्मायर रु

८.प्रथा.प्रप्र.मेजा.प्रया.गी.

यार्थार्थायाव्य नित्र स्टास्य से मि स्प्रिंग्ये स्टास्य प्राप्त स्वाप्त स्व स्वाप्त स

 $\frac{1}{2}$ म् प्राप्त क्षेत्र क्षेत्र

मियाधित्यः भूत्रधेयात्र्

याः ८े वा विया केस स्रोतः व

न्यम्यः

याश्चरमारायान्याम्यायाः मुत्यावनाकेःकुरासुःधेन्य

אריקקריארישלאיתבּלֹקיתק ֹקישן

विट मिट त्रेया या मिट वा। र पा द्वापति सेट र्

प्रविवा अरद्रिं प्रविवर्ति स्वीय प्रमा बेर

विश्वप्रासे तर्वा

ৼ৾৽য়ড়য়৽ৼ৾য়৾৽ৢয়৽ড়ঢ়৽য়<del>ঀ</del>

र्स्याराष्ट्रियायायाववः यो श्चियाखः स्रम्याराष्ट्रियायायाववः यो श्चियाखः

य्येश्वर्यात्वर् वियोक्ते व्याप्तर्य में क्षाप्तर्य में त्या

न्यतः स्वायायि के के रावार वीषा तत्वा वीर रावा

বাধ্যুষ্য'শেু'

ने त्यन्भायमः ने र्खु याषा यो त्यन्ति ते रेन् त्या विष्यं स्याप्ति विष्यं यो त्या विष्यं स्टा विष्यं स्टा विष्यं स्था विष्यं स्टा विष्यं स्था स्था विष्यं स्टा विष्यं स्था स्था विष्यं स्था विष्यं स्था विष्यं स्टा विष्यं स्था विषयं स्था विष्यं स्था विषयं स्था विष्यं स्था विषयं स्था विषयं

स्ट. वि. पट्टी. ट. प्रक्या प्रप्त. भीता विच. व्याप्त विच. विच्या प्राप्त विच्या क्षेत्र विच्या व

यातः मुलार्धित्रान्वातः श्रेन्द्रायन् वे त्र्रं वे व्यव्यातः विष्याः विष्याः विष्याः विष्याः विष्याः विष्याः व

উবা'জীব'মামা र'ट्रायाञ्चय'तहेवाषार्थेट्रार्केषामो "दर्ने में वा क्षु निम् सेवा प्रते वा विम **イカケ・省・南へい** नेश हिंदे केंश गुव 'चेंदे 'चट अहेंद 'हा तह्रिप्यंदे गर्रेग तहेंग तदे ला धेर दें व छेट ॥ गट्रिया'यासुस्र केंस'गोस'सुया'सुर रेया।" श्चित्र'येवा'त्र'व्याद्यं वा'रा'वा'र द्रेंगो्ग्रंचा चेर *ऄढ़*॓ॱॻऻढ़॔॓ॱॸॱॸ॔॓॔ॱॺॱऄॻॱ चे'वे'८८'क्ष्या'वे' तदे'क्षेव'वेर'याशुट्याव्या <u>ང་བভས་ག་ར་གེས་ རོང་ཁན་ཡེག་བར剌ེ་འངུ་</u> लेग्रा र्वेअ'त्यन्'चन्ग्'तह्र्य'त्यन्'ने' चे'च'छेत्र' र्देट'पिंदे'श्लेट्'येंेवा'यर'क्रुष'ग्निट'वेंे'खे' मिं पव 'सेंब' त्प्र्'रूट गार्छ। ययम् । चेरायार्छे व त्रं अण्यं व नि ग्व'षो'षावा। वेर'र्दे'पत्रुब'षे' ८'पठष'षा'र'सु'षिष धेषा' हर्षेषा' सर्व 'तर्द 'सेवा मेषा'तर *ক্কু*'ঝর্চ্কর'ন্**র**্ धेवा विवा शुप्तरी र्खुवाका पूर्वी पा ठेव र्ने 'येग' नर्ने 'तर्' तिग' केस' क्षेत्र दे 'यर' Manning (1994) 🏹 📉

Journal of Educational Action Research,

यम् त्राच्यायाः व्याच्यायाः व्याच्याः व्याचः व्याच्याः व

यथा वर्षे त्यात्मा श्राया व्याप्त व्यापत व्याप्त व्यापत व्य

श्राम् व्याप्त व्याप्त व्याप्त विश्व विष्य विश्व विष्य विश्व विश्व

মুবাম'ণ্ডান্ত্র্রম' ক্রবাম'জর'ঝম'র্নম'বার্ত্রমার্বা।
(Amundson & Weil, 1996; McHale& Cermak, 1992; Tseng & Chow, 2000).

यायर स्वार्थित प्रमान्त्र प्रमान्त्य प्रमान्त्र प्रमान

र्शेन'पिट'र्वट'यवारा'वोश' র্ক্ডব' ন্দ্র'অ''অম্বর'ন্দ্র गर्रें 'र्ने 'र्सेक 'र्ने 'र्धेन्य 'स्रोक 'रुन' नेट'षट'त्ष'गो'त्शूर'च'न्ट'च्ह्रुव'ने' त्स्वारंगाया तर्भाये भार्षेत्रं में प्रिंद्रायश तह्र्याम्। ट्राय्या यावशःर्कन् 'यन्े 'र्क्ड्' য়ৢ৴৻ঀয়ৣ৴৻ঀ৾৾ৼয়৾য়৻ঀয়ৢ৾ৼঢ়৾৽৻৸৾ঢ়ৼ৻ मुल'विच' धर मुर्ग' दर्गेश' दें र्ख्' या'र' र्गेग'रेग'व्राथह्य'र्सेव'मुग'रोग'येथ'र्थ'र्दि' अट.शे.श्रुग.लूट्रा.जथा ट.रपु.केंट्र.शे.लटा लुग.टाड्रा. বদ্` অম'নৃঅম'নের্ট্র'দ্রি'বার্ঝ'ড**্রা'নের্ট্র**মন্ত্র'অম্ न्'त्रन्भ'ययः वेंद्रायुः प्रम्दं प्रचुअ'ये दापठ्यः ग्वम् 'न्र' स्य त्र' प्रदे 'ग्रिन्' रते त्र्वा मुल प्राप्त गो ৰ্কুথা.

श्री**८.८०० व्या**स्ट्राया

तर्ी धर में रागित्र प्रिंग प्राचित्

গ্র্হি'র্ন

पर्स्त्रभ्वाषाः प्रवादात्राः स्ट्रियः स्ट्रियः

स्वाकानकेट्टे.

बार्क्वाकानकेट्टे.

बार्क्वाकानकेटे.

बारकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बारक्वाकानकेटे.

बा

प्रज्ञान्त्रम् स्वाप्त्रम् स्वाप्त्रम्यम्यम्यस्याप्त्रम्यस्यम्यस्यम्यस्यम्यस्यम्यस्यम्त्रम् स्वाप्त्रम्यस्यम्यस्य

देग्वं अष्यः ध्रेष्ण्यं प्रेष्ण्यं प्रेष्ण्

च्या त्रेष्ठा व्या वित्र वित्

न् अय।

ने अय

यही ती प्राप्त के स्वार्थ के स्वर्थ के स्वार्थ के स्वर

नि त्रीःर्क्ष्यायाःक्षेत्रः ध्याःपर्त्रः ध्याःपर्त्रः ध्याःपर्तिः । त्रि त्रीःर्क्ष्यायाःक्षेत्रः ध्याःपर्त्रः ध्याःपर्तिः ।

गेषादियदाया छेत् Dubay (n.d)दर्े' र्मायोग'य्या'य≡'ेंें र्मा े 'ग्राच ुग्रा'प्रक 'प्र्चुस'से 'सर्वे 'प्रसंस'प्रहम्' ल्यां यञ्जात्र स्थान्य **二、口る以上以** यट निट न थर में ट कें ट के पट याञ्चयार्यापर में त्यार्कुं भीया भी त्यन में त्र में पञ्च अर्थे र्देट'र्न्की'नेर'क्षेत्र'ग्रम् ८८'त्यर्भ'यम् ८'य्रुगम् र तिन्तु दुर धे मृ तिने निते भ्रीन्य थे। सेस्य धेर्य के বৃষষ'নের্ক े ম'ম্যু'উব্য'নে বদ্'দ্রী'র े' वर्दे नदे केंग कें वनद अन्त नुद रा ठेव थे'गु'र्सेअ'र्कंट्र' ॺॱॺ॒ॖॱक़ॖॖॖॖॖॖॖॖॖॖॸॱग़ऻॖॱॸॣॸॱॺॱॶॱक़ॕॺॱढ़ॺऻऀॱ धेया'नर्जे'तर्दे'शेयाषार्श्वेयातन् ঐব্'অম্

দ্'ন≣্ত্রার্থ ঐবাধা ঐবাধা অবাংন্র্রের্কান্তুদ

८ पठमा महिष्या प्रमानि । विष्या तत्र प्रमानि । स्वा प्रमानि । स्व । त्र । त्

यायायदाय्याक्ष्यं येयायाः व्याप्तायद्वात्याः ने विषयाः विषयः विषयः

अवा ने प्यमः ग्रायाने अप्यमे प्यमः के प्रमे प्रमे प्रमे जिल्हा Getty यायाया प्रमाद्धाः व्यापा विष्या स्वाप्त्रं **Q**' বান্ত্রীবা'বা্রুম'বান্ত্রীবা'শ্র' अ'र्वेग'पर'द्रो'वे'द्र' धेगा'त्नु'रे'नेश'र्ळरस्'र्' गु'र्ळर'रे'थर'त्रशु'रा'छेत्र' थर'क्कुष'रानृद'र्ळुग्रां नेर' ष्ठेव अषा दे पत्रुवाको धेवा पर्ते ध्यम क्रुवा दर्वे प्रां ठेवः वयः धटा सर्वे ग्रायः पर्ने वे से से दिटा ने राष्ट्री व सार धे'गु'र्ह्धेग्रब'रुगायु'गर्धे'से'पे'प'रुद्र' ग'र'गर्धे'प्र्वीप' न्न तन्ते अतः धे मृत्या या प्राया मिष्य में प्रेन्त था थ गर्धेन 'सु'गर्धे 'से' ने 'न' 'ठेन' धेग 'नर्जे 'सेगर्भ में अ' स्नि ' ब्रे'बर्ह्मेट'बेर'ब्रेव'ब्रब्ग दे'त्वद्ध'य्ब्य' ट'वठव्य'ग्'र' रटायो धिया पर्झे तदी वेग्राश क्रिंग तप्त अर्वेट द्वे राष्ठ्र थे वा वा मार्से अकुट तद्व तद्दि यायायदान्द्रान् देखाया अर्वेचिया धेवाद्रा र्व्यवाया धेवा র্কু'ঝ'ঘঝ'র র'ঐ'র্নি'।

Keller & Melissa (2001) योष ध्येया पर्चे 'येयाषा में अपत्र प्रमान कें विषय के विषय कें विषय के विषय कें विषय के विषय के

म् प्राचीता अव अव न्या विष्य विषय अव विषय अव

चित्राचो (n.d) ची द्विंद्यादा त्या द्विंद्या द्वा त्या क्षेत्राची क्षेत्राच

तर्वे प्राचित्र प्राचित्र प्राचित्र प्राची स्टायी स्टायी

धे'ग्रा'त्रो'न्तर रोमपान्याप्य प्रमान्य प्रमान्य विकास व भ्रम्याखः शुःग्रंगे से मेंग से स्वाकुट से मधि मट में मथ न रेव पर्ने मेरा यह येगा न में भू हो से पर्ने मेरा र्धित् चेर प्रमृत्य ष्रोत् अया तयवा तयवा धे गु त्रे प्रते प्रते भ्रम्य पर्े में वा में रियम् क्रिं राम क्रिं वाय दिवा वी रियो वेते देव खु यग्या अर अर प्रम्य प्रमा विगाग् पर्दे थर प्रम्पार्चेतः येग्रार्भेवाधेवाचेराप्रम्पाधेवायश ने'लमः धे'म्'त्रे'नते'न्रमः नमः सुगालगः निर्वालगः ८२'श्रर'हे' यग'ळेंग्रा'८८'यर्द्घा'र्ये'र्ख्'याश्रर'प'ठेव' धे'ग्रायेग्रार्नेय'र्नेय'त्व्द्र्यं म्याचेर'स्रेव 'यय। ८'पठरार्कु'योदा धे'ग्'र्कु'येग्रार्श्नेय त्यन् ये र्कुण्या वे ते 'हेव खु' अपव्यापा वि येवा प्रम्न को र्कु'यग'येव'त्वच'रा'ठेव' धेग'चर्चे'येगरा'र्नेव' ८८ अध्व 'र्नेग'र्ने 'ययर' ये खुंग्रय 'क्षेत्र

स्वार्ण (2011) वीषा प्रचार पि स्वार्ण (2011) वीषा प्रचार पि स्वार्ण (2011) वीषा प्रचार पि स्वार्ण (या प्रचार प्रचर प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचार प्रचा

A. dot-to-dot worksheets

উব্

द्वारात्वि विवायम्य विवायम्य

तर्ने तर्राध्या प्राप्त प्राप्त विष्ण (n.d) वीषा रार्चे प्रमुद्धा प्राप्त विष्ण विष्ण प्राप्त विष्ण विष्ण प्राप्त विष्ण प्राप्त विष्ण व

क्याप्तः श्रुपाप्ताप्तः २०२० क्याप्तः

े' यग'येव'त्वच'से' येग्रास्ट्रिंस'त्न्'चेस'र्'े तर्गा

Norris (2011) वोशायन्य पाउँ । धेवायाँ ध्या प्राप्त । व्याया । स्वया ।

क्वांबा विद्या से स्टांवित स्था स्टांवित स्टांवित स्टांवित स्था स्था स्टांवित स्या स्टांवित स्था स्

দীঝা ব্যান্থ বিদ্যান্থ বিদ্যান্থ বাদ্যান্থ বিদ্যান্থ বাদ্যান্থ বিদ্যান্থ বাদ্যান্থ ব

ধব ইিঘাম র্কুঘামদ জীবা

न्नम् तर्म अयावाका ध्या

র্ক্বাঝ'অবা০১ র্ক্বাঝ'অবা

ण। गा. वि. वी. टा. वे. क. ह. थे। टे. व. टे. वी टा. त. टा. वी व्. क्. ह्. सी वे. च. ट.

र य भ भ जा ज जा

র কৈ ব্যাধা পূবা অবাবর কৈ Wangdi29রম সেই কি অবাবাঝ অবা দ্ব Tsuig-04 রম সেক্রোঝ অবা

द्वा क्ष्यः विद्वः विद

पर्चे क्ष्र्य वेदे 'देव 'खे' ष्पाय्याप्तग्रम् अहिषायषा ধ্বার্ইএ'শ্র'র্ম্বর'র্র্রম'শ্র ব্র্রুক্ম প্রকার্টনৈ বাদুস্যা गर्नेट'स्'र्नाबेद्या क्रवाषा भ्रेवाषा गाव प्राया अर्कु द्रषा अर ठिया बेर प्रते में लें गा तरें लाम सेंब त्रप्र यावर व े ल्टिता आक्ट्र हे में भेरा न्रेंब क्रिलं लात स्टायप्र लेग पर्ने क्ष्रपावेदे में वासा के के ले गा दि मह त्वराकें ने राज्युत्वया छोत् यय। दे रानुया वे विरा न्स्य. १८००€) य्रीयायतः स्तायप्रायो न्ना धेवाः नर्जे'मी'श्रमार्चेन'चेर'मेर मेरेम्' पर्रान्भूत'यन्। निर्दे भ्रम्या व्रिक्षामायद्गारम् रहा या या यो यो यह राष्ट्री या स्म र्रेट र्शेन अट में बागोबा श्रेन'म्याक्नाक्ना र्वे'लें' गा'तर्दे'रूट' लग'लेव'त्रवर्गार्दे'र्लेट्रा'क्षेव'सम् र्रावित येग पर्डे क्ष्म वेते यय स्व में लें गा परी ग्वराकें देशल्या खादी के लिल के किया में किया के किया के किया किया के किया के किया के किया के किया के किया किया लट श्रे प्रेश रामा अव उटः मुलापन लर मुमार विधान र्वे'र्ले'गा'तदे'र्वेवा'रेवा'वे'र्वेवा'यय' यहींच'र्सेव्'मुच'र्य'

ट.चरुषाया, र.मुषा प्राच्याचित्र हुया, प्रचर चर्चे हो.

## वियातक्याया व्ययायया

तपुः वित्यः टु.जयः ट्रेंब.क्बे.पटु.जे. ट.जू.ट.उट.जे.

. त्यर.क्वेयः विट्टा ह्यायः गुः ट्रेंब.क्बे. विट्यायः भीटा ट्यू.

ट्रुः वू.इट.विप्रुः जुवीः च्यू.

प्र्या.क्वा.वाव्यः चर्केः विट्टा ह्यायः जुवायः नेयः व्यू. इट.

व्यू.क्वा.वाव्यः चर्केः विट्टा ह्यायः जुवायः नेयः गुः व्यू. इट.

व्यू.क्वा.वाव्यः विट्टा ह्याः व्यू.च्यू. ह्याः व्यू. ह्याः क्वा. व्यू. इट.

व्यू.क्वा.वाव्यः विट्टा ह्याः व्यू. व्यू. व्यू. क्वा. व्यू. व्यू. क्वा. व्यू. व्

डि.प्याचे का वा का स्था का स्

ट.रपट्र तथ्यायक्यायः पटाः अ.क्यायताः अय.य.

अविश्वाराः र्कुं वीशानर्गेन् थेन् से तिन

र्कु नेश थेंन्य क्षेत्र

विच 'तर्क्य'ग् 'घ्यक' 'यथा । विच 'तर्क्य'ग् 'घ्यक' 'यथा ।

गान्छ। सहाया थेवा

वययास्याप्त्रम् देन देन्यम् स्थाः वियापक्ष्यः वययास्य स्थाः

८८.७८.५०० प्रमूत व्यापकूषा अप्राप्त क्रा. ह

A. Research methodology

G. Quantitative Method H. Mixed method

- B. Baseline data collection
- C. Baseline data analysis
- D. Research methodology
- E. Research tools
- F. Qualitative method

व्यातक्षायामाकरा

नगतः ह्याधेन्छः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्वान्धः स्टान्धः स्वान्धः स्टान्धः स्वान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्वान्धः स्टान्धः स्यान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टान्धः स्टा

यो में या प्रम् र र्ख्याया प्राये रक्ष में या या स्विया खित्रा

न्यं प्राप्ति विचायर्षे व्याप्ते विचायर्षे विचायर्पे विचायर्षे विचायर्पे विचायप्ये वि

तहत्रकी के 'त्रात्य क्ष्य वाषा प्रति 'त्यात 'त्या के त्या क

শবার, মূল বিষ্ঠা, প্রথান বিষ্ঠা, প

याः विराद्यम् विराद्याः यात्र प्राप्ता क्रम् विराद्याः विराद्यम् विराद्याः प्राप्ता प्रम्याः विराद्याः विराद्याः विराद्यम् विराद्याः यात्र प्राप्ता विराद्याः विराद्य

अविष्यात्म क्रिया व्यापा क्रिया व्याप्त क्ष्या व्याप्त व्याप्त क्ष्या व्याप्त क्ष्य व्याप्त क्ष्या व्याप्त क्ष्य व्याप्त क्षय व्याप्त क्ष्य व्याप्त व्याप्त क्षय व्याप्त व्याप

यम्बित्राक्षे विचयायक्षायम् े र्क् वेस्रयायम् प्राप्त । यम्बित्राक्षेत्र विचयायक्षे स्मित्र

त्रम्भः तर्गाः स्ट्रां त्रां त्र भूषा प्रमाण त्रां त्रां के के स्वां त्रां त

A. Research tools

B. Document analysis

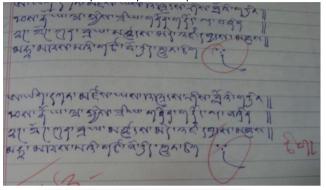
C. Observation

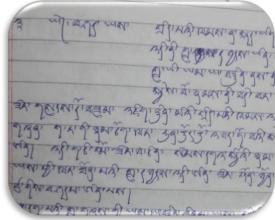
D. Critical friend



# त्यः स्ट्राने : प्रत्यः श्रेष्ठ। विष्याययः श्रे चुरः श्रुवायः ६एः प्राप्तः व्राप्ति : प्रत्याययः श्रे चुरः श्रुवायः ६एः

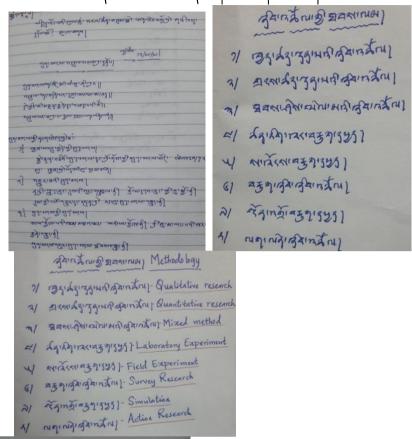
হ্যমেশ্যা'অবা'বহা





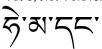
ब्रम् श्रेवाया ६मा विचायक्यायायन् । यता ५ सावा प्या

व्यातक्षात्यम् क्रिसाम् या प्याप्य



म्परित चेट्टरेट्ट्रेन्ट्रेन्ल्सिसाला स्वाल्ट्री महिलास्याला अपूरायती व्याल्ट्री पहेचक्रेप्ट्रेच्रामी प्राण्ट्रेन्ट्रेन्ट्रिंग्ट्रेन्स्याल्ट्र्येस्य स्थाप्ट्रेन्स्य स्थाप्ट्रेन्ट्रेन्ट्रिंग्ट्रेन्स्याल्ट्र्येस्य स्थाप्ट्रेन्स्य स्थाप्ट्रेन्ट्रेन्ट्रेन्स्याल्ट्रे स्थाप्ट्रेस्य स्थाप्ट्रेन्स्य रेत्स्रेन्

प्रश्चिष्य प्राप्त क्षात्र व्याप्त क्षात्र प्राप्त व्याप्त व्



योषार्ट्व क्व तट्टे यो विषा खे.

याष्ट्र क्षेत्र क्

न्गातः प्रथा शेषा वितः े व्यवा विश्वा साम्याति । व्हा वित्रा वित्रा स्वा वित्रा स्वा वित्रा स्वा वित्रा वि

त्रक्रम् विद्या त्रिया व्यवस्य विद्या स्था विद्या क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य क्ष्य विद्या क्ष्य क्ष

र्पेव 'नव 'न्न नुस्य हुँ न से 'न 'त र्षेच 'से । शुन 'त

र्ख्य प्रमास्त्र में गार्ने বেবদ্'বিষ'ষ'র্ক্তুবাষ'র্ষ'র্ক্তু' ৰিব' वर्ळेषावदीयशाचरेवाने ८.५४.५८८५४.८. लेव 'तवन' विंग' लग ঘ্রবর্ষ প্রকার্ম করা र्रेटाप्तरे'धे'ग्रु'र्ख्'यट' *ਕਵਕ'ಹ*ੇ' ञ्जा नर्वे अर्दे से से तनन ने स र्वे वाया प्रे विस क्रुषानी त्युरावार्षेवा बेरावेव वेव पेत्या छेव। छेव उटा धे ग्रांभासु हेगा र्ख्यान्य स्त्र में गार्ने प्रांच র্ক্তবাষা'ঐ'ন*দ* े'র্ক্তু' ब्राप**्रम्यापाय**्र लेग्राषाचर्डिषायन्द्रा ने'र्ख्याषय'त्यन्'वे'अव। यार्देट्यापास् য়৾৾ঀ৾৾৽৾ঢ়য়ঀ৽ঢ়য়৾ড়ৢ৾৽৸৾য়৽৾৾ঀয়৾৾৾য় *बिच*ॱदर्ळेष'द**८**े' यगायेत्र तवनात्रे र्येत् प्रांते वनमा भेषा या तन्स यगायेतात्रवाता हो। होया दे होत

विपादर्केषाची में वार्क्षवा में प्रावदे थिया पर्झे थर

Journal of Educational Action Research,
Vol 1, No. 4 November 2020

動利でするでは、
高口でんだいではてであれてい

高口でんだいでして、
高口でんだいでして、
またい。
「おいれているでは、
「おいれているでは、
「おいれているでは、
「おいれているでは、
「おいれているでは、
「おいれているでは、
「おいれている」
「はいれている」
「はいれて

न्न्राधित्य क्षेत्र। दे थटा विचायक्ष्याया स्टा पिते'भेग'पर्जे'भराकुष'गिन्द'वते'रेग'रल'८८' तर्वयार्वे प्रमात प्रमात क्ष क्षेया विष्य तर्केया तर्ने वर लगा लव 'तवरा से पेर्प पारे वर्ष के संदे र्तेषायन्य के 'मेंगा' में 'र्स्ट र्स' स्प्रिम । अन्य भेषा तर्ने र्क्षं में प्यव व्यय र्क्षं विच पर्क्षेय प्य स्ट में या स्ट य मेर्यायमा सेव 'त्रव्या वेदे' तकर मित्र प्रवे प्रवे 'भ्रायर्य' ८.४८.ग्रीश.घ्यश.चेश.५८.खें. तवन र्क्वाया ये। र्क्वाया येवाया में या तन् न्ने ना निम्न रे. यर्थाय भेय स्वालय लया लया लंग राष्ट्र रेजा ली. विपादर्केषायाम्यां <u> न्यातः स्याक्तं श्रेयः नः</u>

येग्रार्श्विं त्रात्त्र वितः येन्य अत्।

क्षेत्र उत् विचायर्क्षयायदी ययदाचित्र भ्राम्य राष्ट्र । त्राकेंद्राये न्यातर्वेत यश्चरत्रेत के धेषा पर्वे हुट प त्यन् वे सु वे स्वायायया थे म्याया निमान की था र्कुल'न्द्रस्वमात्रन्त्रिं में 'सु' लेवाबार्सेबार्डवा त्यन् र्सुन् वार्ख्वाबा *ॺॱढ़॒ऀ॔ॸॺॱॸॱॺ*ॢॱ

तर्ेर्कुं प्यर कुषाग्राप्तर वेते प्रें व सु

म्त्रित्रम्ति। त्र्राध्यम् स्त्रित्त्रम् स्त्रात्त्रम् स्त्रात्त्रम् स्त्रम् स्त्रम्

रति कुर्ता रूटायते थेवा राज्ञ र्ख्या र्ट्या स्वा र्

অম'ক্রুষ'বাদদ'র্ক্ত্রবাষ'মর

.पिर. शूटाची.पियी.पेट.जश्र.तर.

८.४५.ध्या.क्ष.ज.््र्यू.क्ष.ज्.्र्यू.क्ष.ज्. त्र्या.चर्च.ज्याया.च्या.क्ष.ज्.र्या.क्ष्याया.च्या.क्ष्याया.च्या.क्ष्याया.च्या.क्ष्याया.च्या.क्ष्याया.च्या.क्ष्य

यम् स्वाप्ति । व्याप्ति । व्यापति । व्याप

वीकायन्य उटा धेवा रेवाकावा छे रहा चे उहा कुंका हुहा

अध्व 'हेंग'हें 'त्रान 'त्री हो के कि 'ह्या हुं ग्रीक 'ध्या '

प्रमुद्धान्य । स्वाप्य ।

तक्षात्तर्धं अति स्राप्त वितात्र्वा वितात्र्वा ।

रो धेया पर्चे सेट परि प्रातं प्रथात स्ट्रिट से पर्टि से ।

二,

श्चास्या देखा क्यावयाने संघान्य स्वाकृताया सवा

भेग रिट्या प्रति क्ष्या प्रति के स्था प्रति क्ष्या क्ष्य क्ष्या क्

प्राचित्रः मुशावित्रः स्वर्णित्रः विष्यं विषयः विषयः

ব্যুষ্'বেক্তম্

८.पळ्याचा.प्रत्यत्.यूटा ला.ची.पट्टी.क्. क्या अध्व'त्रन्'ते'र्ख्याषा'वे'त्रः धेवा'त्र्चे'येवाषा'र्वेष' त्यन् न्वां पाठवः वार्षः वेषः रेषाः वीः राष्ट्राव्यनः र्द्धन्द्रविरादन्रे थन विवाके प्रवा ने थन। वट्रपर्ख्यायाः बिवावा **ৼ৾য়ঀ৾৾৾ঀ** ब्र्याम्याविदास्य ध्रियाः विद्याः क्रियाः विद्याः र्येवा सु । तर्रा र पर्ख्या र । स्वेवा र । स्वेव । यव 'र्स्था'त्वत् 'रत्वूत्'वे 'च्र्चुय'से' अर्थेत्य 'अर्थ दे.च बुका को क्रिया मु विदायका प्रमाणदा क्रिया द्वित क्रियोषाः स्तास्याःक्रियोः क्रिन्यः ध्याः चर्त्रात्याः क्रिसः

त्यन् गर्सं में र्सेव न्वेंदा त्र्वा नेर (वृ वे सेवा

यह्या'पङ्ग

यगायेत्र विचातर्सेया तद्रे योषा प्राचठका या राखु यव विग्रासेंग्रा त्वर रूट येंद्र सेंग्रा **片'以下'** येव विवादर्केषादर्भ सहराष्ट्रीवसासी त्वर्पा पार्छेव। रा चु सेंद् 'येग्राय' पर्टेश' गो ' व्यय अप्रेय 'येग्राय' में अ' रुग् ' अद ने'त्रन्भ'यम् यग्याये वेत्र तर्केया तर्ने पर्रः ८ पठरार्भेन ५ में व र्खु खु स्था पर्रा ५ प्राप्य क्ष (2000)対対マスタス、てごご、マヨご、み、対、 Ferrance तर्ने'गेष' यगायेव विपादर्केया ८'पठश'रते'कु८'शु ÉN'AÉA'A55'5' र्धेन् प्रंदे नगद न्या कुं व्राप्त्रायादे বাঝ'বিরম'থবা <u> রমুস'বর্জ্ঝ'রবদ'র্জ্ঞ্বাঝ'র্র</u>র' বি'শব'শ্ব र्षेट्र बेर होते अया पट्रेख ट र्र योषाप्ति द्रि या यार्छ'द्यद् <u> র</u>ম'ঘ'ড**े**র' रटावीयादें यात्रदारायवायेव वंेदातर्हीया त्पर्भार् भेषार्ख्यायारायाः चेरावावे छोत्।

रट गे कुट खु थेंट पंदे ट्याद

वियादर्सियादर्गेषा

प्याक् त्रेया वे 'शु' व्यया वेषायेषाया वेषा केषा केषा क्षेत्र 'या।

(Ferrance, 200 P.14)

ब्रायक्ष्यायः विपादक्ष्यायः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ष्यायः विपादक्ष्यायः विपादक्ष्यायः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ययः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ययः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ययः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ययः विपादक्ययः विपादक्षयः विपादक्ययः विपादक्ययः विपादक्ययः विपादक्षयः

## ক্র্ব'ব্ব'হা<sup>ত</sup> / Reference.

र्रें रे न्वर धुगा. (२००१). ग्रिंगे रेस्रिश पॅत्र नेवर् रेस न्य रेस न्य रेस स्वा: गे स्रिंगे।.

र्रे रे प्तर धुर्गा. (n.d). धेर्गा पर्जे क्विंट प्रेच र्रेट्र. विव्य सुर्गाः प्रगतः वीट प्रेचे क्विंट प्राप्त वीट प्राप्त क्विंट क्विं

5ूट हैं है। (१००६). र्हेट प्रति अग्वायाया धिया तिट हैं आ कैं प्रक्रंत्र क्वा धिया प्र्नेट प्रक्रं प्रति यात्रिया था. क्रं, व र्क्व्याया वीटा: गो खोख गी।

5ूट र्रे में। (१००८). र्रेट प्राविष्ठ यावाषा धिया यो अझ में अर्थे पार्क्त । धिया प्राविष्ठ रेटे प्राविष्ठ रेटे किया रेटे किया प्राविष्ठ रेटे किया रेटे किय

स्र प्रा. (२०११). विचातर्स्य में विच्या प्रमा. श्रे में। मान्य प्रा. विच्या विच्या प्रमा. श्रे में। मान्य प्रमा

Behavior Research Methods. (2010). *Ductus: A software package for the study of handwriting production*. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.proquest.com/pqrl/docview/204313886/fulltextPDF/1409EA1F96E49C86566/3?accountid=135687">http://www.proquest.com/pqrl/docview/204313886/fulltextPDF/1409EA1F96E49C86566/3?accountid=135687</a>

Ferrance, E. (2000). *Acton research*. 222 Richmond street, Suite 300: LAB at university.

Five steps to improve handwriting. Retrieved from <a href="http://kidshealth.org/kid/grows/school\_stuff/handwriting.html">http://kidshealth.org/kid/grows/school\_stuff/handwriting.html</a>

Improve Handwriting. Retrieved from http://www.improvehandwriting.com/

The Importance of Teaching Handwriting. Retrieve form http://www.ldonline.org/spearswerling/ The\_Importance\_of\_Teaching\_Handwriting/

Tips for improving your handwriting. Retrieved from <a href="http://www.paperpenalia.com/handwriting/">http://www.paperpenalia.com/handwriting/</a>

8 easy tips to improve your handwriting. Retrieved on September 06, 2013 from http://matadornetwork.com/life/eight-easy-tips-to-improve-your-handwriting/

### **Action plan for Action Research**

Activity	Timeline	Remarks
AR proposal preparation	Week 3 February	
AR proposal presentation to School AR Committee	Week 1 March	
AR proposal presentation to Cluster AR Committee	Week 2 March	
Baseline or pre-data collection and analysis	Week 4 March-Week 1 April	
Conduct intervention	Week 2 April-Week 4 May	
Post-data collection and analysis	Week 1 & 2 June	
Research finding presentation School AR Committee/Cluster AR Committee	Week 1 August	
Research report submission to the Ministry of Education	Week 3 October	

#### JOURNAL OF EDUCATIONAL ACTION RESEARCH

#### **Guidelines for Manuscript**

The *Journal of Educational Action Research (JEAR)* is published once a year in Autumn by the Centre for Educational Research and Development, Paro College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan. The *JEAR* aspires to develop a strong educational research and scholarship culture, through which a systematic, collaborative and participatory process of inquiry can actively seek to address areas of concerns facing education today. This would not only help provide technical skills and specialized knowledge, but also bring about positive changes within the classroom, schools or the community at large. The Journal welcomes contributions from researchers and scholars who work in the field of action research and related activities in education. The *JEAR* utilizes a blind peer review process of its manuscript and involves both the national and external reviewers.

The authors/contributors are requested to use the instruction below for preparing a manuscript to submit to the *JEAR*.

#### **Important Notes for the Contributors**

The JEAR will accept all manuscripts on the condition that the manuscript submitted:

- is your own original work and it is not the duplication of any previously published work, including your own previously published work.
- Y is currently not under consideration or peer review or accepted for publication or in press or published elsewhere.
- Υ does not contain anything that is defamatory, abusive, fraudulent, libelous or illegal in nature.

All manuscripts considered appropriate for this journal are peer-reviewed. The review process usually takes about one to two months. A copy of the edited paper along with the first proofs will be sent to the author for proofreading. They should be corrected and returned to the Editor within 5 days. Once the final version of the paper has been accepted, authors are requested not to make further changes to the text. The Editor also reserves the right to make any necessary minor changes in the manuscript, or request the author to do so, or reject the manuscript submitted.

#### Manuscript preparation guidelines

- 1. Manuscripts are accepted both in English and Dzongkha (National Language).
- 2. Authors should follow the guidelines in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA, 6th Edition) as a primary reference.
- 3. The length of the manuscript should not exceed 5000 words excluding the title page, abstracts, tables and figures, references, and biographical information.
- 4. Manuscripts should be prepared in the following order: title page (including Acknowledgements as well as Funding and grant-awarding agencies); abstract; keywords; main text; references; appendices (as appropriate); table(s) with caption(s)

- (on individual pages); figure caption(s) (as a list).
- 5. The abstract of 150-250 words are required for the manuscripts submitted. The manuscript should also have about 3 to 6 keywords.
- 6. The manuscript should include the author's names, institutional affiliations, mailing addresses, email addresses, telephone and fax numbers on the cover/title page (page separate from the body).
- 7. The manuscripts should be submitted along with a short biographical note. The biographical note should not exceed 150 words.
- 8. All pages should be numbered appropriately in the bottom right corner.
- 9. The use of Endnote and footnote is not encouraged. However, where the use of endnotes is necessary for the manuscript, the effort should be to minimize their number. Endnotes should be placed at the end of the paper immediately before the list of references.
- 10. The Editorial Board reserves the right to reject a manuscript without substantive reasons, if it does not fulfill the manuscript guidelines as specified.

#### **Tables and Figures**

- 11. All tables and figures must be numbered in the order by Arabic numerals in which they appear in the manuscript (e.g. Table 1, Table 2). In multi-part tables, each part should be labeled (e.g. Table 1 (a), Table 1 (b)).
- 12. The caption should be provided for each table, figure or symbols. All the figures and tables must be included in the text. The photographs or graphics are also considered as figures.
- 13. A reference to each table or figure should be made in the text. All the measurement units and abbreviation must also be defined appropriately.
- 14. Author must provide the highest quality figure format possible. A highest quality imported or scanned material must be used in the manuscript.
- 15. The Times New Roman Font on all graphics must be used.
- 16. The use of electronic or graphic files must be window-compatible (e.g., BIP, GIF, JPG).
- 17. The author should also on a separate document page submit all the tables, figures or images that are used in the manuscript.
- 18. In the manuscript, if you include any material in which you do not hold copyright, you must obtain written permission from the copyright owner prior to the submission to the JEAR.

#### Manuscript submission

- 19. The manuscript should be sent as an e-mail attachment to the Editor in Chief or the Production Editor of the journal at cerd.pce@rub.edu.bt / rameshthapa.pce@ rub.edu.bt
- 20. All manuscript submissions should be in a Word "doc" file or in a Word-compatible file with top, bottom, left and right margins set to one inch, and Times New Roman 12 point font.