

A Study of Internet Awareness among Higher Secondary School Students

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Abstract: Education is the information that you are taught by others and what you learn on your own. It is a life's long journey for every person. A person experiences most of their education through school from grade school all the way to high school and even college. Teachers in educational institutions direct the education of students and might draw on many subjects, including reading, writing, mathematics, science, and history. The Internet supplements the traditional tools you use to gather information, Data Graphics, News and correspond with other people. Used skilfully, the Internet shrinks the world and brings information, expertise, and knowledge on nearly every subject imaginable straight to your computer.

Introduction

The country, information, including access to the Internet, will be the basis or personal, economic, and political advancement. The popular name for the Internet is the information superhighway. Whether you want to find the latest financial news, browse through library catalogues, exchange information with colleagues, or join in a lively political debate, the Internet is the tool that will take you beyond telephones, faxes, and isolated computers to a burgeoning networked information frontier. The Internet supplements the traditional tools you use to gather information, Data Graphics, News and correspond with other people. Used skilfully, the Internet shrinks the world and brings information, expertise, and knowledge on nearly every subject imaginable straight to the computer.

Need For the Study

Today, with the increasing global competition, changes in production techniques transformation of workplace, our school education needs to enable students with employment-orientated skills. All these developments have made the knowledge of computers necessary to everyone. Hence it has become necessary to introduce computer education at school level. The widespread use of computers has led to another revolution called internet revolution. The internet is often termed as the network of networks; it is the world's largest computer network and is scattered all over the globe. Nowadays it is possible to access any information through the internet. The students used to spend their time in library searching for information in books and journals. Nowadays they use web search engines and figure out the web sites containing the required information. The information sharing has become very easy due to access. Chatting and downloading anything from internet are regarded as higher-level applications of internet. The internet is a powerful means of communications,

dissemination and retrieval of information and it has made tremendous impact on the academic activities of the faculty, researchers, and the students.

Statement of the Problem

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Operational Definiition

Internet

Galbreath (1997) has defined the internet simplistically as 'a network of network with universal addressing scheme allowing real time computer to computer, local independent communication and information exchange'.

Awareness

Webster's new dictionary (1990) defines awareness as "Cautions of something" (p-50). It means having knowledge or realization of something that affects the surrounding.

Functional Definition

Awareness

Awareness is the state or ability to perceive, to feel, or to be conscious of events, objects or sensory patterns. In this level of consciousness, sense data can be confirmed by an observer without necessarily implying understanding. More broadly, it is the state or quality of being aware of something.

Objectives of the Study

The main objective of the present study is as follows

1. To find out the significant difference between Boys and Girls higher secondary school students in their awareness of internet.
2. To find out the significant difference between Rural and Urban higher secondary school students in their awareness of internet.
3. To find out the significant difference between Tamil and English medium higher secondary school students in their awareness of internet.

4. To find out significant difference between Arts group and Science group higher secondary school students in their awareness of internet.
5. To find out whether there is significant difference in Internet awareness of higher secondary school students in respect of their religion, community and type of schools.

Null Hypothesis

1. There is no significant difference between Boys and Girls higher secondary school students in their Internet awareness scores.
2. There is no significant difference between Rural and Urban higher secondary school students in their Internet awareness scores.
3. There is no significant difference between Arts and Science higher secondary school students in their Internet Awareness scores.

Table -1, Awareness of Internet Score: Sex

Gender	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value
Boys	62	150.73	26.55	-3.3464**
Girls	118	135.79	31.78	

From the above table it is inferred that, there is difference in the mean value of awareness of internet scores of boys and girls students. The mean score of boys' students is higher than the girls' students. The calculated t-value (3.35) is greater than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is significant difference in the awareness of internet of boys and girls' students. Hence the null hypothesis is

Table-2, Awareness of Internet Score: Location of the School

Location	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value
Rural	90	146.3	28.544	2.365
Urban	90	135.57	32.243	

From the above table , it is inferred that, there is difference in the mean value of awareness of internet scores among rural land urban school students. The mean score of rural school students is higher than the urban school students. The calculated t value (2.37) is less than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is no significance in the awareness of internet of rural and urban school

Table-3, Awareness of Internet Score: Medium of the school

Medium	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value
Tamil	90	138.87	31.439	0.899
English	90	143	30.259	

From the above table it is inferred that, there is difference in the mean value of awareness of internet scores among Tamil and English medium school students. The mean score of English medium school students is higher than the Tamil medium school students. The

4. There is no significant difference in the Internet awareness score among higher secondary school students who are studying in government, government aided and private school.

Scope of the Study

The present investigation is an attempt to study the school students' internet awareness, studying in government, government Aided, and Private schools located in Coimbatore District. The findings of the study help to understand the level of internet awareness of students.

Analysis and Interpretation of the Data Gender

The following table gives the mean and standard deviation of awareness of internet score and t-value with reference to Gender.

**significant at p=0.01 level

'there is significance difference in the awareness of internet of boys and girls students' is not accepted. Thus, Gender of the students contributes for the awareness of internet.

Location of the School

The following table gives the mean and standard deviation of awareness of internet score and t-value reference to location of the school.

students. Hence the null hypothesis **'there is no significant difference in the awareness of internet of rural and urban school students'** is accepted. Thus, location of the students does not influence internet awareness.

Medium of the School

The following table gives the mean and standard deviation of awareness of internet score and t-value reference to medium of the school.

calculated t value (0.899) is less than the table value (1.97) at 5% level of significance. Therefore, there is no significance in the awareness of internet of English medium and Tamil medium school students. Hence the null hypothesis **'there is no significant difference in**

the awareness of internet of Tamil and English medium school students' is accepted.

Thus, Medium of the school students does not influence internet awareness.

Table-4

Awareness of Internet Score: Course of the Study

Course	Number	Mean	S.D	t-value
Science	110	147.49	28.13	3.59**
Arts	70	130.63	32.26	

**significant at p=0.01 level

From the above table it is inferred that, there is difference in the mean value of awareness of internet scores of Science and Arts students. The mean score of science students is higher than the Arts students. The calculated t-value (3.59) is greater than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is significant difference in the awareness of internet of Science and Arts students. Hence the null hypothesis is **'there is significance difference in the awareness of internet of Science and Arts students'** is not accepted.

Thus, Course of the Science and Arts students contributes for the awareness of internet.

Findings

The data was analysed by using descriptive statistics, t-test. The findings of this study are as follows

The calculated t-value (3.35) is greater than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is significant difference in the awareness of internet of boys and girls students. It shows that sex of the students contributes for the internet Awareness.

The calculated t value (2.37) is less than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is no significance in the awareness of internet of rural and urban school students. This indicates that location of the students does not influence for internet awareness. The calculated t value (0.899) is less than the table value (1.97) at 5% level of significance. Therefore there is no significance in the awareness of internet of English medium and Tamil medium school students. This shows that Tamil and English medium of the school students does not influence internet awareness.

The calculated t-value (3.59) is greater than the table value (2.60) at 1% level of significance. Therefore, there is significant difference in the awareness of internet of Science and Arts students. It indicates that Course of the Science

Course of the Study

The following table gives the mean and standard deviation of awareness of internet score and t-value with reference to course of the study.

and Arts students contributes for the internet awareness.

Conclusion

The internet is often termed as the network of network, it is the world's largest computer network and is scattered all over the globe. Internet has evoked the interests of school students. The ambitious projects of providing computer education to some selected government, government aided, and private school can create a positive impact among students. The project is successful in enhancing their internet awareness. The findings of present study indicate internet awareness among higher secondary school students in Coimbatore district is high. The overall results of the study suggest the need effective learning. Students who are highly motivated in using internet will learn more effectively than students who don't have internet awareness.

Reference

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