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FACTOR AFFECTING THE PERSONALITY OF SLOW LEARNERS

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Abstract

Children who learn at a slow pace are called those whose educational achievement is less than normal children. Slow learning children development, adjustment and self-reliance are not the same as other boys in their age group. Their personality does not develop like the personality of other children. Heredity and environment mainly affect the personality of a normal child. But apart from inheritance and environment, many other factors influence the personality of students who learn at a slow pace. In this paper, children with slow learning, causes, characteristics and factors affecting their personality are discussed in detail.

Keyword: Slow Learners, Personality.

Introduction

Different types of children come to school for education. All children have their own physical and mental characteristics. Some children are general and some are special. Some abnormalities and characteristics are found in special children as compared to normal children. Such children are mentally, emotionally, physically and socially different from normal children. One of them is slow learners.

Slow learners appear to be similar to ordinary children. But they lack of mental maturity. Children with slow learning are unable to think in order to do any task. Such children are often educationally backward and their educational achievement is less than the average child. According to **Portim**, learning retardation in children occurs at a young age. The mental development of these children is not complete. Various psychologists gave the following definitions of slow learners-

According to **Crow & Crow**, children whose IQ is less than 70, such children are counted as slow learners.

According to **Vert**, slow learners are mentally different from normal children of their age level in school life.

According to **skinner**, students of each class have to complete a fixed program of education in one year. Students who complete it are called normal students and students who do not complete it, they are known as slow learning students.

According to **Burton Hall**, educational achievement is considered the basis for children with slow learning. According to him, children who learn at a slow pace are those who are unable to develop their natural abilities properly and unable to demonstrate academic ability to suit their intellectual abilities.

Based on the above definitions, it can be said that, the educational achievement of slow learners is relatively less than the normal children of their age. Slow learners are used for children from different classes who are mentally retarded and backward.

Who are slow learners?

Sometimes teachers consider children with slow learning to be children with mentally retarded but this is not the case, their IQ is between 75-90. There can be many reasons for their slow learning like- economic scarcity, poverty, family strife etc. it is not that they are different from normal children, slow learners are also like normal children. They are neither handicapped nor retarded, they are capable of doing all their tasks. They only take more time to understand the content, so they fall behind in terms of education. There is no need to organize a separate school, curriculum or special class for such children. These can be taught in the general classroom by making an educational diagnosis. The only need is that they can be diagnosed according to their educational weakness. If we look globally, there are many people who learn at a slow pace but they have become doctors, engineers, professors and teachers in their lives. Therefore, teachers should make teaching work interesting and easy for such children in the classroom so that they can achieve academic success enthusiastically.

Characteristics of slow learners

- The IQ of slow learners is often found between 70-90.



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- These children have limited reasoning power and ability to concentrate.
- The learning capacity of these children is very low and they make a lot of errors during learning.
- They have lack of ability to think abstractly.
- Such children are unable to take appropriate decisions regarding the problem.
- Often negative emotional adjustment is weak in such children.
- Physical and mental development is very low in slow learners.
- There are disorders related to the sense organs.
- Fear of anxiety, despair, inferiority and failure are found more in these children.
- Such children can use the knowledge with difficulty in new situation.
- Lack of curiosity and self-confidence is found in such children.

Literature review

- Kashyap, Divya (2019) carried a research on slow learners: Identification and solution. The aim of this study was to identify the factors affecting the student's performance. The result was found that these students need special instructional pacing, frequent feedback, corrective instruction for learning.
- Salomi, Saral (2018) was write a paper on slow learner- causes, problems and solutions. The aim of this paper was to find out the causes of slow learners and problems of them. The finding was that there are many causes of slow learning like- short attention span, defective vision, health problem and emotional & social hazard. The main problem of slow learners was that adjustment in society, school and family.
- Berdud, Isel Ramirez (2017) did a research on a challenge for teachers in class: how to cope with slow learners. The purpose of this study was to explain the concept about this diagnosis category and also how to differentiate it from a disability. Finding was that the teachers have to distinguish all the characteristic of slow learners in order not to confuse them with the standards. Using appropriate method and techniques with the adequate activities and exercise will provide a successful learning process to slow learners.
- Vasudevan (2017) was discussed on slow learners- causes, problems and educational programmes. The purpose of this paper was to know the cause of slow learning and find out the various educational programmes for slow learners. The finding was that the causes of slow learning are low intellectual learning and personal factors such as illness and absence from school, the environmental factors also contribute to this slow learning.

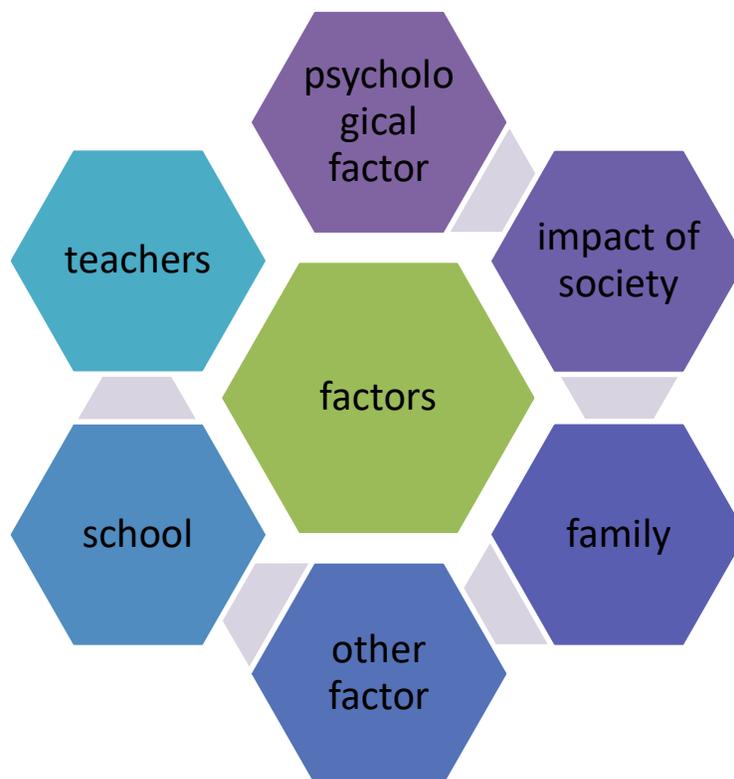
Objective

- To study the characteristic of slow learners.
- To study the personality of slow learners.
- To find out the factors that affect the personality of slow learners.

Personality of slow learners

Personality includes not only the physical and mental qualities of a man but also his social qualities. The personality of slow learners is not the same as that of normal children. The personality of such children is aggressively, angry and introverted. They do not like to interact and meet other people. Their personality does not develop like the personality of other children. Heredity and environment mainly affect the personality of a normal child. But apart from inheritance and environment, many other factors influence the personality of students who learn at a slow pace.

Factors affecting the personality of slow learners



- 1 **Psychological factor-** Psychological factors that affect personality include physical, mental and emotional development. Physical development of slow learners is less in proportion to normal children. Their mental and emotional development is also very less. Because some type of physical defect is found in such children, due to which their mental development is also blocked. All these in some way affect the personality of slow learners.
- 2 **Impact of society-** Being an integral part of the society, it is natural for the slow learners to have a wider influence on his personality. Due to faulty environment of the society, social qualities are not developed in such children. Other children of the society do not like to play and interact with them, due to which they develop inferiority complex. Such behaviour has the negative effect on their personality.
- 3 **Family-** The work of building personality starts in the family. If the child gets an atmosphere of love, security and freedom in the family, then the qualities of courage, independence and self-reliance are developed in him. On the contrary if harshness is treated towards him, when he is rebukes for trivial matters, he becomes a coward and a liar.
 - The higher or lower socio-economic status of the family also has the effect of the personality of the slow learners.
 - Parental interpersonal conflicts also have a negative impact on the personality of slow learners.
 - Parents have a lot of expectations from their child, they don't know that their child is not normal. If the child is not able to achieve success according to them, then the behaviour of the parents starts changing. Which widely affects the personality of slow learners.
- 4 **School-** Slow learner's personality has a direct and indirect effect on everything in the school like- curriculum, teaching methods, discipline, student-teacher relation and sports etc.
 - If the wishes and interest of such children are not kept in mind and textual concomitant activities are not organized for their development, then all these creates a disadvantage for slow learners.
 - The curriculum in the school is the same for all children. Slow learners are not able to achieve successes in line with the curriculum, which has a negative impact on their personality.
 - Such children can't be taught by method taught to ordinary children. They are unable to learn anything from normal method. Due to which the behaviour of the school and teachers starts to get intolerance towards them and sometimes they are punished. Which affects the personality of slow learners?



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- Due to complex examination system in the school, they are not evaluated according to the intellectual abilities and they become frustrated.
- 5 **Teachers-** The teacher has an important place in the development of the personality of children. If teachers treat slow learners with love and sympathy and use appropriate teaching methods and teaching materials according to them, and understand their problems and solve them, then the personality of such children is good.
 - 6 **Other factor-** Apart from this, there are some other factors which affect the personality of slow learners such as- child's neighbourhood, groups, friends, physical & mental defects, emotional imbalance etc.

Conclusion

In conclusion, we can say that many factors affect the personality of the slow learners. These factors can be discovered and treated appropriately. Support of teachers, parents, mobilizers, schools and doctors should be coordinated in their development. For such children, education should be imparted to them by arranging special schools, new psychological teaching methods and special classes. They should enhance their self-confidence by improving their hidden abilities so that their personality is properly developed.

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