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Descriptive study to assess the factors influencing the level of confidence in English speaking among first year nursing students in selected school and college of nursing

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Abstract
With the world changing to a village, the use of English language, and most importantly, the English speaking competence is becoming more important. Looking at its importance, students of every field are required to have high oral proficiency. However, we find that undergraduate students show less desire to speak English during the speaking classes. When it comes to oral communication, they still cannot communicate effectively and confidently. There might be many factors involved that stops them from communicating.
Aim: Descriptive Study to assess the factors influencing the level of confidence in English speaking among first year Nursing Students in Selected School and College of Nursing At Madurai was carried out.
Methodology: 65 samples were selected using Purposive Sampling Technique. A self- administered questionnaires for demographic variables and Four point Rating scale was used to assess the level of confidence in English speaking among first year Nursing Students. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data.
Result: Data interpretation revealed, (38.46%) had Low confidence, (61.54%) had Moderate confidence, (0.00%) had High confidence. There is significant association between the factors influencing student confidence in English speaking and the willingness in Nursing.
Conclusion: The study emphasis that most of the undergraduate students on entering into the higher studies struggle in communication as the medium of education at college level is in English. English should be taught and training should be given to improve their speaking skills, so that their confidence level and challenges to encounter their studies can be met.

Keywords: Confidence, English speaking, communication

Introduction
Humans have variety of characteristics that they live with. One of these characteristics may be referred to as self-confidence. Recently, self-confidence has become an important topic for research in education context and especially in language classes. Self- confidence refers to the image and view that students have about their knowledge.

Background of the problem
Language is one of the most important things in communication and it is used as a tool of communication among the nations in all over the world. It is important for all people to survive in their lives. Every human in the world always use language to communicate, give information and knowledge, and express their idea and thought.
Amelia (2017) [1] mentioned in a study to assess the causes of low confidence in English speaking classes were based on the knowledge of grammar, pronunciation (accent), lack of vocabulary, fluency, and listening comprehension. Students fear of making mistakes, losing face to speak in front of many students, no sufficient knowledge on the discussion topic were important factors hindering to speak in English.
Considering the importance of self-confidence in today's educational context, there are various reasons by stating the need of conducting this research.
First, a research on such a topic will help to maximize pupils' knowledge about the concept of self-confidence.

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It will also offer pupils more accurate understanding on the effects of social status on self-confidence.

Second, many other researches about this issues has been conducted in United States, Europe and other countries which have a completely different context than our country. Those researches have a generalization problem if they can be applied here in our context or not.

Third, as self-confidence has significant role in students' personal development, finding out its determinants will help us to develop and improve the methods of improving self-confidence. This research would help serve as a reference for any further studies or in any other educational context's reform. In order to help students to overcome their problems in speaking, it is necessary to figure out the factors that affect their oral communication.

Statement of the problem

A Study To Assess The Factors Influencing The Level Of Confidence In English Speaking Among The First Year Nursing Students At A Selected Nursing College In Madurai.

Objectives of the study

- ▪ To find out the factors influencing level of confidence in English Speaking.
- ▪ To find out the association between the factors influencing the level of confidence in English Speaking and their selected demographic variables.

Research methodology

- ▪ **Research Design:** Descriptive Design
- ▪ **Research Approach:** Quantitative Research Method
- ▪ **Settings of The Study:** The Study Will Be Conducted In selected School and College of Nursing Madurai.
- ▪ **Population:** First year nursing students in School and College of Nursing.
- ▪ **Sample**
- ▪ The sample consists of First year nursing students who fulfill the inclusion criteria. The sample consists of 65 students.
- ▪ **Sample Size:** 65 students
- ▪ **Sampling Technique:** Purposive Sampling technique will be adopted to select the sample.

Section 1: Distribution of Subjects According To Their Demographic Variables

Table 1: Frequency and Percentage Distribution of First Year Nursing Students N= 65

Demographic data	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
17-18 Years	47	72.30%
18-19 Years	15	23.06%
Above 20 Years	3	4.64%
Medium of previous		
Education	33	50.76%
English	32	49.24%
Tamil	0	0%
Any other		
Father's education		
Professional	3	4.63%
Graduate	8	12.30%
Higher Secondary	32	49.23%
Primary	12	18.46%
Illiterate	10	15.38%
Mother's education		
Professional	2	3.1%
Graduate	9	13.84%
Higher Secondary	27	41.53%
Primary	18	27.69%
Illiterate	9	13.84%
Father's occupation		
Government	10	15.38%
Private	13	20%
Business	9	13.84%
Coolie	33	50.76%
Mother's occupation		
Government	6	9.23%
Private	5	7.69%
Business	1	1.55%
Coolie	15	23.07%
Housewife	38	58.46%
Place of domicile		
Urban	19	29.24%
Rural	46	70.76%
Types of schooling		
Co- education	34	52.30%
Girls school	31	47.7%
Board of school education		

CBSE	4	6.16%
Matriculation	22	33.84%
State board	39	60%
Willingness in nursing		
Yes	62	95.38%
No	3	4.62%

Section 2: Distribution of Subjects According To Four Point Rating Scale Score

Table 2: Distribution of Level of Confidence in English Speaking Among the First Year Nursing Students N=65

Sample	Frequency	Percentage
Low confident	25	38.46%
Moderate Confident	40	61.54%
High Confident	0	0.00%

Table 3: Association between level of confidence in English speaking and their demographic variables N=65

Demographic variable	Low confident	Moderate confident	High confident	Chi-square test
Age				
17-18 Years	19	28	0	
18-19 Years	5	10	0	0.22
Above 20 Years	1	2	0	
Medium of previous education				
English	7	26	0	
Tamil	18	14	0	8.43
Any other	0	0	0	
Father's education				
Professional	1	2	0	
Graduate	5	3	0	
Higher Secondary	9	23	0	8.51
Primary	3	9	0	
Illiterate	7	3	0	
Mother's education				
Professional	1	1	0	
Graduate	3	6	0	
Higher Secondary	7	20	0	4.08
Primary	9	9	0	
Illiterate	5	4	0	
Father's occupation				
Government	3	7	0	
Private	2	11	0	
Business	4	5	0	4.73
Coolie	16	17	0	
Mother's occupation				
Government	2	4	0	
Private	3	2	0	
Business	0	1	0	
Coolie	5	10	0	1.64
Housewife	15	23	0	
Place of domicile				
Urban	12	7	0	
Rural	13	33	0	6.32
Type of schooling				
Co- education	15	19	0	
Girls school	10	21	0	0.94
Board of school education				
CBSE	3	1	0	
Matriculation	7	15	0	2.62
State board	15	24	0	
Willingness in nursing				
Yes	24	38	0	
No	1	2	0	0.0016*

*0.05 statistically significant

Table 3 reveals that obtained chi- square value showed significant association between the level of confidence and their demographic variables Age ($X^2 = 0.22$),Types of school ($X^2 = 0.94$),Willingness in nursing ($X^2 = 0.0016$).

Discussion

The First Objective of The Study: To Find out the Factors Influencing level of confidence in English speaking

The study revealed that (61.54%) of them had low confidence, (38.46%) of them had moderate confidence, (0.00%) of them had high confidence based on the four point Likert scale comprising the following areas:

- Regarding the Linguistic factors
- Regarding the affective factors
- Regarding the topical knowledge
- Regarding the classroom environment
- Regarding the role of teacher

The study results are substantiated with Mbarek chaykh (2020) conducted a study to Explore the psychological factors affecting speaking English among 36 students in English department at Casablanca revealed that the factor that most hinders the students from Speaking in English class is: Fear of making mistakes. It was reported by about 60% of the participants. The principal causes as reported from the questionnaire are: the question of fear of being laughed at is marked by 30.7% 'Agree' plus 16.1% 'Strongly Agree', fear of negative evaluation from the teacher is marked by 35.7% plus 23.3%. Anxiety and shyness which is sometimes related to lack of self-confidence are all also important factors that hinder students from speaking after the fear of making mistake.

The second objective of the study: To find out the association between the factors influencing level of confidence in English speaking and their selected demographic variables

The study findings reveals that regarding age 17 to 18 years (72.30%) 18- 19 years (23.06%)above 20 years (4.64%) first year nursing students who were in the age group of 20 years 2 (3.07%) students had moderate confidence and1 (1.54%)students have low confidence level in speaking English. The obtained X^2value =0.22 was not significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was not accepted so it inferred that there is no significant association between the age and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard medium of previous education in English (50.76%), Tamil (49.24%) while Tamil medium students 18(27.69%) low confidence in speaking English 14students (21.53%) moderate confidence in speaking English. The obtained X^2value =8.43 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was accepted so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the medium of previous education and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard to the education of father 3 (4.63%) were professional, 8(12.30%) were graduate, 32(49.23%) were higher secondary, 12(18.46%) had primary education, 10 (15.38%) were illiterate while profession of father education in 2students (3.07%) moderate confident in speaking English 1students (1.54%) low confidence in speaking English. The obtained X^2value =8.51 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the starter research hypothesis was accepted so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the fathers education and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of mothers education professional 2 (3.1%) graduate 9 (13.84%) higher secondary 27 (41.53%) primary 18 (27.69%) illiterate 9 (13.84%) while profession of mother education in student (1.54%) moderate confidence in English speaking 1 student (1.54%) low confidence in English speaking. The obtained X^2value =4.08 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the mothers education and the level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of father's occupation government 10 (15.38%) private 13(20%) business 9(13.84%) coolie 23(50.76%) while father had business 5 students (7.69%) moderate confidence in speaking English 4 students (6.15%) low confidence in speaking in English. The obtained X^2value = 4.73 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the starter research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the fathers occupation and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of mother occupation government 6 (9.23%) private 5 (7.69%) business1 (1.55%) coolie 15 (23.07%) house wife 38(5.46%) while mother had business 1 students (1.54%) moderate level up confidence in English speaking. The obtained X^2value = 1.64 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the starter research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is no significant association between the mothers occupation and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of place of domicile urban 19 (29.24%) rural 46 (70.76%) while the place of domicile in urban area 12 students (18.46%) low confidence in English speaking 7students(10.76%) moderate confident in English speaking. The obtained X^2value =6.92 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the place of domicile and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of types of school co-education 34(52.30%) girls school 31(47.7%) while the girls school 21 students (32.30%) moderate confidence in speaking in English 10students (15.38%)low confidence in speaking English. The obtained X^2value = 0.94 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the type of school and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

With regard of board of education CBSE 4(6.16%) matriculation 22 (33.84%) State board 39(60%) while CBSE 1student (1.54%) moderate level of confidence in English speaking 3 students (4.61%) low confident in English speaking. The obtained X^2 value = 2.62 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypothesis was rejected so it is inferred that there is a no significant association between the board of education among the first year nursing student.

With regard of willingness in nursing yes 62 (95.38%) no 3(4.62%) while the willingness in Nursing has no willingness in nursing 2 students (3.07%) moderate level of confidence in English speaking 1students (1.54%) low confident in English speaking. The obtained X^2value = 0.0016 was significant at $p<0.05$ level and the stated research hypotheses was accepted so it is inferred that there is a significant association between the willingness in nursing and level of confidence among the first year nursing student.

Conclusion

English is the most important foreign language to transfer and get knowledge, science, technology, art and culture and establish international relationship. As many pupils use English as media of communication and information. Others face a lot of speaking difficulties such as inhibition, nothing to say, low participation, and mother tongue use in their speaking classes. As a part of enhancing the skill of speaking in English, interactive tasks in class like debates, role-playing and interviewing pupil, activating English club and societies inside the colleges can be reinforced. Meanwhile the teacher's friendly class environment, this will reflect positively on student's motivation to perform the speaking tasks efficiently.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

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