

A Study of Verbal Intelligence and Commerce & Management Career Preference Among Senior Secondary School Students

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ABSTRACT:

In the ever-evolving landscape of career choices, the interaction between verbal intelligence and career preferences has emerged as a fascinating field of inquiry. Within the vast array of disciplines, Commerce and Management stand as influential forces shaping the global economic stage. This study embarks on an engaging exploration of the intricate relationship between verbal intelligence and the career inclinations of senior secondary school students, aiming to illuminate the factors that guide their preference for professions within the realms of Commerce and Management. To achieve this objective, a sample of 304 twelfth-grade students was selected from five senior secondary schools located in District Sirmour, Himachal Pradesh. The assessment tools employed included the General Mental Ability Test developed by Jalota and the Career Preference Record devised by Bhargava and Bhargava. These instruments were administered to the entire sample of 304 students.

Keywords: Commerce and Management, Career Preference, Verbal Intelligence.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY: To compare five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different levels of fondness for Commerce & Management career with respect to their mean verbal intelligence.

HYPOTHESIS OF THE STUDY: Five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different levels of fondness for Commerce & Management career will differ significantly with respect to their mean verbal intelligence.

DELIMITATION: The study was delimited in the following aspect:

The sample was confined to the students studying in senior secondary schools situated in district Sirmour of Himachal Pradesh.

SAMPLING: In this current investigation, a group of 304 students was selected from both rural and urban locations within Sirmour District of Himachal Pradesh, representing five Government Senior Secondary Schools. Notably, these schools adhered to the curriculum outlined by the Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education. It is essential to highlight that, owing to time constraints and the study's

specific focus, the selection of schools was based on convenience. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that the chosen schools are geographically dispersed over a broad area.

Table: The distribution of the sample

S. No.	Name of the school	Locality	Boys	Girls	Total
1	GSSS (GIRLS), NAHAN	Urban	-	61	61
2	GSSS (BOYS), NAHAN	Urban	61	-	61
3	GSSS, MOGINAND	Rural	30	31	61
4	GSSS, SANIO DIDAG	Rural	30	31	61
5	GSSS, BOGDHAR	Rural	30	30	60
Total			151	153	304

TOOLS TO BE USED: To collect the requisite data for the present study the investigator used

1. General Mental Ability Test by Jalota
2. Career Preference Record by Bhargava and Bhargava.

STATISTICS TO BE APPLIED: The techniques of frequency distribution and Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) were used to analyse the data in the present study.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION: General Mental Ability Test by Jalota and Career Preference Record by Bhargava and Bhargava were administered to total sample of 304 students. Both the tools were scored as per the respective manuals and scores thus obtained were tabulated for further analysis. The analysis and interpretation of the data were carried out in the manner detailed below:

The students were placed under different career preference categories as per the criteria given in the manual of the test. The details of this categorization are given below:

- A. The students who scored 18-20 for a particular career were placed under the category “High Career Preference”.
- B. The students who scored 14-17 for a particular career were placed under the category “Above Average Career Preference”.
- C. The students who scored 7-13 for a particular career were placed under the category “Average Career Preference”.
- D. The students who scored 4-6 for a particular career were placed under the category “Below Average Career Preference”.
- E. The students who scored 0-3 for a particular career were placed under the category “Low Career Preference”.

The total sample of 304 students was divided into five sub-categories indicating their level of fondness for Commerce & Management career. The results are given as under :

Group/ Sub-Categories	High	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Low
N	98	35	96	43	32

These five groups of students were compared with respect to their mean scores on verbal intelligence. Before applying the statistical technique of ANOVA, all the five groups were equated in terms of N. Since, the minimum number of students falling in sub-category ‘Low’ was 32, 30 students from each of the five categories were selected randomly. Thus the total sample for the purpose of studying relationship of Commerce and Management career preference with verbal intelligence through ANOVA came out to be 150.

The means for the groups of students falling under abovementioned five sub-categories on the variable of Verbal Intelligence are given below:

Group	High	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Low
N	30	30	30	30	30
Mean	59.03	58.90	65.70	60.87	61.00

Table presents the results of Analysis of Variance for five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different levels of fondness for Commerce and Management career in respect of their scores on Verbal Intelligence.

Table: Results of Analysis of Variance for five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different strengths for Commerce and Management career preference in respect of their scores on Verbal Intelligence

Source	df	Sum of Squares	Mean Squares	F-Value
Between Groups	4	910.0667	227.5167	1.42*
Within Groups	145	23275.4333	160.5202	
Total	149	24185.5000		

* Not Significant at 0.05 level of confidence

It is revealed from Table that F-value came out to be 1.42 which is not significant at 0.05 level of confidence. This indicates that five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different levels of fondness for Commerce and Management career do not differ significantly with respect to their mean scores on Verbal Intelligence. Hence, the hypothesis that “*Five groups of senior secondary school students exhibiting different levels of fondness for Commerce and Management career will differ significantly with respect to their mean verbal intelligence*” was rejected.

Hence, it may be said that senior secondary school students possess more or less similar level of verbal intelligence irrespective of their level of fondness for Commerce and Management career.

CONCLUSION OF THE STUDY: The present study deals with the relationship of career preference and verbal intelligence among senior secondary school students. The findings of the present study indicates that Senior secondary school students possess more or less similar level of verbal intelligence irrespective of their level of fondness for Commerce & Management career.

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