

## A Study of Metaphors about Student

Dr. Atul I. Kanaiya  
Assistant Professor,  
Department of Education,  
K. S. K. V. Kachchh University, Bhuj.

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### ABSTRACT

The present paper discusses the metaphorical ideas of the pre-service teachers about student. The sample of 367 pre-service teachers of five colleges of education of four districts of the Gujarat state during the year 2003-04. The metaphorical ideas of them reflected what they thought of student. The result of the research indicated that most of them had positive ideas about student. It reflected their faith on the students on whom their existence would be possible.

**Key words:** metaphor

### Introduction

To understand and to explain a concept, a point easily, we compare it with a familiar person, a place, or a thing. A particular way of thinking procedure plays a very important role in doing so related to that concept. Reflective technique leads a person to understand that problem or the proper understanding of the concept. Metaphor is a very powerful and effective technique to express beliefs or assumptions of a person. Metaphor is used to clear any concept with some characteristic of a person, a thing or a place. It helps in clarifying the understanding. Metaphor clears the thoughts of a person in a picture form. (Dominic Beux, N.D.)

According to Lackoff and Johnson, metaphors are a technique to reflect mental views of people in a picture form. The most effective aspect of a metaphor is to clear the image of a concept that it stands for (Collin, 1993). e.g. if a teacher is a 'gardener', then students are 'plants' 'flowers'. If a school is a temple, then the teacher is a 'Statue of God' and students are 'worshippers' or 'devotees'. The present research was finalized based on the researches undertaken earlier.

### Objectives of the Research

The following were the objectives of the research:

1. To know the metaphors about student of pre-service teachers.
2. To classify the metaphors about student given by the pre-service teachers.
3. To decide the sequence of the group of metaphors about student.

### Questions of the Research

The following were the questions of the research:

1. What are the metaphors about student of the pre-service teachers?
2. Can the metaphors about student be classified?
3. What are the classes of metaphors about student?
4. What is the sequence of groups of metaphors about student?

### Delimitations of the Research

The following were the delimitations of the Research:

1. The present research was delimited to the pre-service teachers of teacher-

training colleges of the Gujarat state only.

2. No any self financed colleges of teacher-education were included here.
3. Only the secondary pre-service teachers of the academic year 2003-'04 were included here.
4. The pre-service teachers of P.T.C., Dr.Baba Saheb Ambedker Open University and IGNOU were not included here.

### **Operational Definition of Words**

Metaphor: A word or a group of words about student of pre-service teachers of granted colleges of education of the Gujarat State

### **Scope**

The granted colleges of education offering training to pre-service teachers of the Gujarat State were the scope of the study.

### **Sample**

367 pre-service teachers of five granted colleges of education of four districts of the Gujarat State were the sample of the study. The three university i.e. Bhavnagar university, Saurashtra University and Gujarat University were included. The metaphors of student were got from the 367 pre-service teachers of the academic year 2003-'04.

Five teacher training colleges were selected with the purposive random sampling method. Only the granted colleges of education were included. No any self financed colleges of education were included. Out of 367 pre-service teachers;77 from Shri G.H.Sanghvi Shikshan Mahavidyalaya, Bhavnagar; 99 were of Shri R.B.Sagar College of Education, and Shri Prakash College of Education Ahmedabad;56 were from Shri P.D.Malaviya College of Education , Rajkot; and 47 were from Shri C.H.Shah Maitree Mahila College of Education, Surendranagar.

### **Tool**

A self prepared tool was used by the researcher. It contained three parts.The first part was of the primary information and illustration of what 'love' is and briefly was explained.The second part contained the primary but voluntary information about the respondent. The third part had the space to write five metaphors about student.

### **Data Collection**

The researcher went personally to the colleges of education on the days allotted to him by the principals of the concerned colleges .He also helped the respondents in giving the data. In this way, the respondents from each college of education responded by writing metaphors about student.

### **Data Analysis**

To analyze the data in the form of metaphors about student by the respondents, a general list of the metaphors about student was prepared. Then, the groups of metaphors having common qualities and features were classified. The procedure of listing and relisting and classifying and reclassifying continued for three times. Thus, 12 groups of metaphors about student were classified. The description of each metaphor under each group was noted down. The frequency of each metaphor group was noted down. Total frequency and percentage were also noted down. The reliability of classification was checked by the Pierson co-relation inter-reliability. The pre-service teachers were expected to give 1785 metaphors but the researcher had only 1429 metaphors were grouped into 12 main groups. Under such 12 groups, metaphors classified and percentage are shown as under-

Inquisitive 658(46.04), Foundation 170(11.89),Rainbow 165(11.54), Reformer 158(11.05), Ocean 83 ( 5.80), Gem of Learning 65(4.75), Blank Slate 49(3.42),

Puppet 19(1.32), Glass 13(00.90) , Friend 11 (00.83), Savior 10 (00.69) , and Sea- diver 09(00.62) in total 1429 metaphors about student could be classified.

It was found out while interpreting the beliefs about student that the role of him /her is very crucial and without whom the whole schooling climate is impossible.

It was clarified that the researches undertaken earlier were mostly similar to the research undertaken here. It was similar to the present research undertaken here.

In metaphors about student given by the pre-service teachers, it was observed under the group Seeker of Knowledge; Seeker of Knowledge, Contemplator of Knowledge, Bagger of Knowledge, Having Right of Knowledge, Insister of Knowledge, Provider of Knowledge, Worshiper of Knowledge, Light of Knowledge, Under Foundation; Future of Nation, Citizen, Maker, Mile Stone, Foundation of the Society, Under Rainbow, Well mannered, Sensitive, Obedient , Easy going, Self Controlled, Hard Worker, Searcher of Knowledge; Under Reformer; Exciting, Reformer of Society, Under Flower vase , Flower, Nurturing Plant, Bird, Ocean, Sun, Spring of the School; Under Gem; Gem; Under Blank Slate; Inexperienced, Blank Slate, Raw Clay; Under Puppet, Machine, Customer, Ox; Under Glass; Reflection of the Society; Under Friend; Friend; Under Masihaa, Omnipotent; and under Sea-diver; Sea-diver.. such

metaphors were found. Metaphors classified under these groups showed that the role of student in the whole teaching learning procedure is very crucial. Metaphors found here about student were very positive.

The metaphors about student given by the pre-service teachers here could be classified. The sequence of their groups was decided. The inter-reliability of the metaphors about student given by the pre-service teachers was established.

### Conclusion

It was also found out that the metaphors found here and earlier researches, the respondents were very positive about the metaphorical beliefs about student. Very few negative metaphors about student were found in both of them. It really reflected the faith and trust to students of the pre-service teachers. Their responses were very positive and this was the major derivation from the study.

### References

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**I've failed over and over and over again in my life and that is why I succeed.**

**~ Michael Jordan**