

# **An Empirical Study on University Student Personal Characteristics With Respect To Entrepreneurial Traits in Chennai**

**Dr.P.Sankar**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce SRM University, Kattankulathur*

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**Abstract:** *The personality of an entrepreneur is one of the most important characteristics of reaching success by creating jobs and opportunities. In this paper, we demonstrate an empirical study on personal characteristics of students who are supposed to act as entrepreneur to create jobs in seven fields of accounting, computer science, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, metallurgy engineering, electrical engineering and drawing. There are seven aspects of accepting reasonable risk, locus of control, the need for success, mental health conditions, being pragmatic, tolerating ambiguity, dreaming and the sense of challenging in our study to measure the level of entrepreneurship. We uniformly distribute 133 questionnaires among undergraduate students in all seven groups and analyze the results based on t-student test. Our investigation indicates that all students accept reasonable amount of risk, they preserve sufficient locus of control and they are eager for success. In addition, our tests indicate that students believe they maintain sufficient level of mental health care with strong sense of being pragmatic and they could handle ambiguity and challenges.*

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## **I. Introduction**

Today, there is no doubt that people with great personality are best candidates of being successful entrepreneurs in different fields from information technology to other industries. There are many dedicated people like Steve Jobs, who contribute all their lives to create value added products even one day before they die. These people leave a cultural heritage among our nations and give many moral stories. The primary concern with most of these people is that they have special characteristics to sacrifice their best times on what they were planning to create. People like Bill Gates spent all their personal times including their weekend to build a remarkable product such as Windows operating system, which would benefit literally billions of people round the world.

Personality is one of the most components of entrepreneurs and in many cases, this is the main criterion to decide whether an entrepreneur is entitled to receive financial assistance or not. In fact, many banks' officials, venture capitals make financing decision solely based on the interview on entrepreneurs' personal characteristics. During the past few decades, there have been tremendous efforts on detecting important factors on the success of an entrepreneur.

In this paper, we present an empirical study to measure different entrepreneurship characteristics of students who study in various educational fields. The study designs a questionnaire based on different criteria such as locus of control, need for success, dream, challenge, etc. The organization of this paper is as follows. We first present details of our questionnaire in section 2 and the results of our analysis are discussed in section 3. Finally, concluding remarks are given in the last to summarize the contribution of this paper.

## **II. Statements of the Problems**

In this paper, we select all students who were studying in different fields of accounting(AC), computer science(CS), electrical engineering (EE), mechanical engineering(ME), civil engineering(CE), metalurgy(MR) and drawing(DR).

The questionnaire was designed based on Likert scale (Likert, 1932) from completely agree to completely disagree in four different scales. In our study, 72.2 percents of the participants were young people aged 18 to 22, 20.3 percents of them were between 23 to 28 and only 7.5 percents were between 29 and 36 years old. The questionnaires were equally distributed among seven groups of students who were involved in various fields of accounting, electronic, drawing, civil, metallurgy, mechanical and computer engineering. In terms of gender, 70.9 percents of the participants were male and 29.1 percents were female students. In terms of personal skills, 49.3 percents replied positively and the rest of them representing 50.7 percents claimed they had no personal skills. In terms of being motivated for setting up a small business, 40.3 percents responded yes and 59.7 percents responded no. The proposed study of this paper considers the following eight hypotheses,

1. Students accept reasonable amount risk (ARR).

2. Students have desirable level of locus of control (LOC).
3. Students have desirable level of reaching prosperity and success (NFS).
4. Students are in good mental health conditions (MHC).
5. Students are pragmatic (P).
6. Students could handle a good level o ambiguity (HA).
7. Students have desirable level of dreaming (D).
8. Students could handle challenges in their life (C).

### III. Results

In this section, we present details of our finding on eight hypotheses.

#### 3.1. Accepting desirable level of risk

The first hypothesis is associated with the level of risk they could accept.

$H_0$ : Students do not accept sufficient level of risk

$H_1$ : Students accept sufficient level of risk

Table 1 shows details of our finding,

**Table 1:** The results of t-student for ARR

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -21.706   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 1, we have a meaningful level of t-student, which means we can reject the null hypothesis. Therefore, we can conclude that students who are presently educating in this school accept a reasonable amount of risk.

#### 3.2. Locus of control

The second hypothesis is associated with the locu control.

$H_0$ : Students do not have desirable locus of control

$H_1$ : Students have desirable locus of control

Table 2 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 2:** The results of t-student for LOC

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -24.907   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 2, we see a desirable value for t-student, which means we can reject the null hypothesis, leading us to claim that students who are presently educating in the school maintain sufficient locus of control.

#### 3.3. Motivation of having prosperity and success

The third hypothesis is associated with their wish to reach prosperity and success.

$H_0$ : Students do not have good motivation to reach prosperity and success

$H_1$ : Students wish to reach prosperity and success

Table 3 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 3:** The results of t-student for NFS

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -26.589   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 3, we see reasonably high value for t-student, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school wish to reach prosperity and success in their carrier and lives.

#### 3.4. Having sufficient health care

The fourth hypothesis is associated with their mental health care (MHC).

$H_0$ : Students do not have good mental health care

$H_1$ : Students have good mental health care

Table 4 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 4:** The results of t-student for MHC

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -27.228   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 4, t-student is highly meaningful, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school have sufficient level of mental health care.

### 3.5. Being pragmatic

The fifth hypothesis is associated with their sense of being pragmatic (P).

$H_0$ : Students are not pragmatic

$H_1$ : Students are pragmatic

Table 5 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 5:** The results of t-student for being pragmatic

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -26.864   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 5, t-student is highly meaningful, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school are pragmatic.

### 3.6. Handling ambiguity

The sixth hypothesis is associated with their sense of handling ambiguity (HA)

$H_0$ : Students are not able to handle ambiguity

$H_1$ : Students are able to handle a sufficient level of ambiguity

Table 6 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 6:** The results of t-student for handling ambiguity

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -26.627   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 6, t-student is highly meaningful, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school are able to handle ambiguity.

### 3.7. Dreaming

The seventh hypothesis is associated with their sense of dreaming (D)

$H_0$ : Students do not have sufficient level of dreaming

$H_1$ : Students have sufficient level of dreaming

Table 7 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 7:** The results of t-student for handling sufficient level of dreaming

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -26.163   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 7, t-student is highly meaningful, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school maintain a good level of dreaming.

### 3.8. The Handling possible challenges (C)

The eighth hypothesis is associated with their sense of handling possible challenges (C)

$H_0$ : Students cannot handle possible challenges with their jobs

$H_1$ : Students can handle challenges with their jobs

Table 8 demonstrates details of our test,

**Table 8:** The results of t-student for handling possible challenges

| Hypothesis | t-student | Degree of freedom | P-value |
|------------|-----------|-------------------|---------|
| 1          | -26.265   | 18                | 0.000   |

As we can observe from the results of Table 8, t-student is highly meaningful, which means we can reject the null hypothesis and conclude that students who are presently educating in the school can handle possible challenges in their jobs, properly.

#### **IV. Conclusion**

In this paper, the researcher has demonstrated an empirical study on personal characteristics of students who are supposed to act as entrepreneur to create jobs in seven fields of accounting, computer science, mechanical engineering, civil engineering, metallurgy engineering, electrical engineering and drawing. There were seven aspects of accepting reasonable risk, locus of control, the need for success, mental health conditions, being pragmatic, tolerating ambiguity, dreaming and the sense of challenging in our study to measure the level of entrepreneurship. The researcher uniformly distributed 133 questionnaires among undergraduate students in all seven groups and analyzed the results based on t- student test. The results confirmed that all students accept reasonable amount of risk, they preserve sufficient locus of control and they are eager for success. In addition, our tests indicate that students believe they maintain sufficient level of mental health care with strong sense of being pragmatic and they could handle ambiguity and challenges.

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