

Malayalam Language Test - MLT

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A standardized Language Test is a necessity for assessing the language functions across different dimensions. The present study aimed at developing a language test for children between 4-7 years, in Malayalam Language.

The material developed had a semantics and a syntax section. The testing was done on 90 children, belonging to age groups between 4-7 years, with 30 from each age group.

The overall results were the following :-

Language performance improves with age.

Performance on expression is poorer than on comprehension.

Performance on syntax is better than on semantics.

The limitations of the study were the following :-

The age groups tested were limited.

The sample was not sufficiently homogenous.

The sample was not large enough in order to study normal pattern.

Some of the test plates were ambiguous.

Scope for further study :-

A larger age group could be tested

A larger sample could be taken and tested.

The sample could be made more homogenous by considering the intelligence factor, socio economic criteria and cultural background more strictly.

Separate samples could be taken and separate norms could be established for Rural and Urban populations.

An item analysis could be done of the individual items in order to check the efficiency of the test material.

So we can conclude that a test is an evil, but it is a necessary evil. Test results contribute to, but cannot substitute for, a clinician's judgement. Hence a test result should always be supplemented with the Clinician's subjective judgement.