

M.A THESIS IN LIGUISTICS

**ATTITUDES AND MOTIVATION
TOWARDS LEARNING ENGLISH
AMONG THE LEARNERS AT
UNIVERSITY OF THE VISUAL AND
PERFORMING ARTS**

**DISSANAYAKA MUDIYANSELAGE
THILAKASIRI**

Department of Linguistics

University of Kelaniya

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ABSTRACT

Having experience about the poor performance and low levels of English proficiency, there seems to be a lack of interest or motivation to acquire English proficiently among the students who are studying at University of the Visual and Performing Arts. The positive attitudes and motivation on which good language learning depends can be considered as a crucial point which needs a careful study. Many factors could be account for a decline or loss of interest in learning English which is essential for survival for a developing country like Sri Lanka in the global village. Some kind of misunderstanding and ignorance in nature on the part of learners could create such an unfortunate situation of lack of interest and motivations to learning English though competition for jobs is so high where English is essential. This research studies the attitudes and motivation towards learning English among the learners at University of the Visual and Performing Arts. In order to meet the aims and objectives of the study, 100 learners from the second year have been taken randomly as the key to the study. A questionnaire was developed and students' responses were tabulated and analyzed by using charts, tables and some statistical tools. The study finds that most students have positive attitudes towards learning English but they show their poor interest in attending the English lectures at university. The study also reflects on the obstacles confronting the students and some suggestions to facilitate the learning process.

Keywords: attitudes, motivation, learning English.