

"Navigating Change: English Graduates' Perspectives on Shaping Curriculum, Teaching Strategies, and Higher Education Policies in Pakistan"

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Abstract:

This research explores the perspectives of English graduates on the educational policy, curriculum and teaching methodologies, in various universities of Pakistan. Every year many students complete their MA or BS degree in English literature of language in Pakistan and continue their future in various dimensions including MPhil, teaching or other fields etc. but it has been noticed that many students are not satisfied by their degrees and even after the degree they are unable to secure good jobs. The researcher has collected and analyzed the views of graduated students using the grounded theory to comprehend the reasons and deficiencies in the education system. This study explores graduates' opinions on the setting of curriculum, advancements in teaching methodologies, and policies of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) regarding students of English. Student's responses highlighted many important suggestions regarding educational, teaching and curriculum design and policies. The results showed that students emphasized on the practical research work, English language speaking, communication skills, and technological advancements, and proper counselling regarding their future in the fields related to their degree.

Keywords: English graduates, HEC Policies, Teaching methods, Educational Improvements.

1. Introduction

Education is an important part of human life and its importance cannot be denied. Some decades ago, it was very unusual to find many graduates in Pakistan but now as the value and demand of education has increased, a lot of students are trying to get more and more education. But it has been observed that this demand is not because of interest or research passions but instead of these students are taking admission in higher classes due to societal pressure, job requirements and other factors. These are not the latest factors in this regard but the intensity has been changed. One of the main reasons is that the higher education is not only a road for standard knowledge only, it has also become a mean to get a better job and life.

But sometimes it is not the case and many students after completing their degrees are not getting any proper job at a good institution. So, there are multiple reasons and influences which are creating such scenarios that students even after spending many years studying are not getting jobs and still lack the basic skills to survive in their practical life. Maybe the focus is not on the utility of the courses but just on the marks and degrees. In this study the researcher will investigate and try to find out the student's opinion about the deficiencies and issues in the education system, which they think should be considered and rectified to enhance the efficiency of the students. It has also been noticing that many students don't have proper counselling about their subject and degrees due to which they don't know what they should do or prefer so the researcher will also collect suggestions from graduated students regarding the skills and habits the students should focus during their BS or MA English. The main purpose of this study is to discuss about the changes the graduates think, should be made in the education system or HEC policies.

In this study, the researcher is going to find out students views towards the teaching method, course design or curriculum and the education policies of HEC, and why some students prefer literature/linguistics for their MPhil degree. The researcher will collect data from MPhil students of some universities of Pakistan and evaluate their responses to analyze the reasons for their particular suggestions and their importance in the education system. This will help the researcher to analyze graduated students' opinions about the specific curriculum they have been taught, the teaching methodology or the policies of HEC.

1.1 Research Gap

There have been many researches about the teaching methods, students' opinion towards different methods, and learning activities etc. but it is important to know what should be taught and how can we know that what is ben taught is enough or useful for the students or not. If a student pf BS or MA English can't speak or write English properly after completing the degree then instead of just ignoring it, we should understand the problem and situation to eradicate the problems. So that the student can learn maximum and useful skills which can help them after degree. And many students don't know watt should they focus I their English degree this will also be discussed from students' point of view.

This study deals with the students of MPhil English in Pakistan particularly and to analyze the factors which have influenced and their views on the education system comprehensively. This study will also analyze the student's opinions regarding educational system for English studies particularly and what the graduates view their degree and its worth and what changes they think should be made in the education system to improve it.

1.2 Aims and objectives

The aim of this study is to find out the shortcomings in the current education system according to the students and what improvements should be made for better academic learning and teaching in this modern era.

Objectives of this study includes:

- To determine the main shortcomings that MPhil English students felt about HEC policies,
- Or the curriculum and the teaching style,
- The usefulness of the learnings in this degree

1.3 Research Questions

The basic research questions of this research are given below:

1.3.1 Main Question

1. What are the primary deficiencies felt by English students during or after their BS/MA degrees regarding the HEC policies/curriculum/ teaching methods or the usefulness of the degree in their future professional careers?

1.3.2 Subsidiary Questions

1. What are the deficiencies in the education system in BS/MA English degrees, according to the English graduates?
2. What should be added in the current syllabus or curriculum according to the graduates?
3. What should be the basic aim or goal of the degree in the perception of degree holders?

1.4 Significance

This study is significant because it explores the basic skills and expertise which students feel they should have learned or acquired during their BS or MA degrees but they did not. Opinions of students can explain it more because they are currently facing the situation after completing their degree so that can explain at best what are the deficiencies and how that should be fulfilled during the degree. This study can be used by officials and authorities to understand the market trends and needs and the basic skills which that should focus during course design so that the students cab avail best opportunities after completing their degree. This insightful information by the English graduates can be used to improve career guidance, curriculum design, and support systems, academic institutions, legislators, and career counselors need to have a thorough understanding of these elements. This will guarantee that students have more relevant and informed educational experiences and that the workforce is more appropriately matched. The results also add to the larger conversation about higher education policy and how they impact professional outcomes and career decisions.

1.5 Delimitations

In this study the data is obtained only from the MPhil students who are currently pursuing their degrees because they are experienced and they have completed their degree, that's why they can provide better and useful responses.

2. Literature Review

Studies have been conducted to analyze the usefulness of different courses and degrees and their demand in the market. Sometimes a course is in demand but the students are not taught or there is some lacking in the system due to which they get the degree but still they are not able to start their career or face difficulties in the upcoming degree as they were not ready for that level. As far as the possibility of reforms in the education system is concerned, in 2014, Aziz, Mehnaz Aziz, David E. Bloom, Salal Humair with some other researchers wrote an article on "Education system reform in Pakistan: Why, when and how? In which they talked about quality, access and equal opportunities at different levels. Due to rapid increase in the numbers of private schools, there has been no significant focus on the development in the educational policies in government schools. This inability to improve the system has resulted in many issues and restrictions in the societal and economic development of Pakistan. As the population is increasing on a rapid rate these issues will be very difficult to solve in the future. In this article they discussed the imperative for the reforms in education system of Pakistan and have highlighted some key points which include reforms should involve all level of education, in every sector the reforms should be in a proper way or systematic, there should be defined goals and objectives. But still there are many examples where it has been noticed that success is attainable if the state tries to fulfill the missions. (Mehnaz Aziz, 2014)

Some people supported a change in the education model as Memon (1989) explored a possible alternative curriculum development model, grounded in the learning context, which may improve the existing situation, which is concerned with understanding the teachers' and students' perspective on innovations developed externally to the schools in the realms of teaching and learning English as an additional compulsory language. He said that the current curriculum in Pakistan is often criticized for being bureaucratic, with teachers feeling like "humble servants" of the system (Memon, 1989). In addition to this he proposed alternative models emphasize curriculum negotiations and professional development to better align with local contexts and student needs (Memon, 1989).

Syed in 2024 conducted a study in which he combines sociolinguistic and translanguaging perspectives to explore and study the language ideologies and idealized listening/reading subject positions which have a great influence on the undergird discourses on ELT in Pakistan.

He collected data from the English proficiency assessment reports, national curriculum for English and national policy documents and explained how the English language curriculum, and assessment in Pakistan are fraught with deficit ideologies that emphasize a particular view of English proficiency. He also proposed a translanguaging orientation which placed the students' multilingual identities at the center of ELT (English language teaching) practices. He concludes with a call for ELT practitioners and critical language scholars to develop organic links between classroom translanguaging and political activism in order to dismantle socioeconomic hierarchies (Syed, 2024).

Many policies have been made by HEC for the improvement of the education system in Pakistan. The aim of Single National Curriculum (SNC) was uniformity but the diverse student's needs are calling for a more pluralistic approach to the education system (Shaikh & Benedetti, 2024).

English has been emphasized as a compulsory subject in Pakistani education system by the National Education, but still the implementation often face lack of the necessary support and resources (Channa et al., 2020). If we ponder there are many factors which contribute to a good education system and a system which can help the students in securing a good job. There is a different tendency between students of different fields and classes about the future goals, aim and aspirations. But in all the fields there are some basic skills which are supposed to be learn and if the course is not designed according to

the market applications and demands it becomes difficult for the students to get a job instantaneously after the degree. There are many researches which provide in-depth information and psychology and condition of the students. While discussing the advancements and changes in the educational policies it is important to consider that how technology has influenced education. As technological advancements are increasing day by day, it has altered our ways of living and utilizing resources for various purposes. This change is not only limited to the other fields but also affects the education department in which technology is being used by teachers and students to enhance their efficiency. The use of computers in the schools has revolutionized the entire system. It has not only made more resources of knowledge easily accessible but also make it enjoyable in some ways. The technology is used in multiple fields in education, it helps in teaching, as a tool to increase learning process, and has change the system from passive to interactive kind. This has many positive impacts on the education system. On the other hand, it also has some adverse effects. The online classes and communication have brought up the education to a next level and has made the classes possible even in the case of pandemic etc. Now it is up to the students and the teachers that how they utilize and every country should adopt latest technological advancements and courses to teach their students about the modern and changing world (R. Raja, 2018).

In 2020, Dina conducted a significant research, to study the impact of blended learning which means a way of teaching in which both online and face to face teaching methodologies are used. This study was mainly designed to understand different teaching designs made by the teachers and to find out about the efficiency of this new teaching method in a French university. In this study 18 courses were included and the total number of students were 294. Both quantitative and qualitative method were used to conduct this study (Dina Adinda, 2020). Another study was conducted in 2022 in which the researchers examined the social media platforms to analyze the reviews of students about different subjects. They examined the link between the enrollment data with the scoring given by students to their classes and also tried to investigate what reasons can be behind certain rating of a subject by the students. This research highlighted many important points like there is no relation between the rating and the enrollment trends and classes which are based on project tasks are considered as easier by student, etc. such studies shows that how information from online sources can be used like students reviews and analysis can be done to understand the psychology of the students. (Bobbie L. Eicher, An Examination of Unofficial Course Reviews in a Graduate Program at Scale, 2022). So, there has been a few researches in which the student's opinions are taken for improvements in the education system.

3. Research Methodology

As this research deals with the exploration and discussion of the views of English graduates on the educational policy, curriculum and teaching methodologies, in various universities of Pakistan. And to collect and analyze the responses of students a proper methodology is required. So, different parts of research methodology are discussed below.

3.1 Research design

First of all, a questionnaire was designed on Google survey forms so that it can be distributed easily to students from different universities and data can be collected easily and in accurate way. This questionnaire was circulated among MPhil students from various universities across the Pakistan and now the collected data will be analyzed to find the answers of research questions. This is a mix method approach, but more precisely a qualitative one although it has some quantitative aspects as well (counted responses, percentages, etc.) for the analysis. The collected data will be analyzed by the ground theory and thematic analysis for proper and systematic analysis and necessary graph and tables will be made. By this theory the researcher will categorize the main problems and their solutions given by the participants regarding the syllabus and teaching methods. This will help the researcher to reach at a comprehensive conclusion of what are the deficiencies in the current education system.

3.2 Data

The data will be collected from 150 MPhil students, including both males and females, of age from 21 years to onward from different universities and then it will be analyzed. This data is enough to draw conclusions regarding our research questions and objectives. This data will be collected online and will be use to draw graphs and to run different descriptive test and functions.

3.3 Research tool

The main tools used in this research is Google Survey forms, to collect data online from students of different areas. A questionnaire with basic questions related to the education policy, curriculum and HEC policies for English students is designed to collect data from the students. The questionnaire is designed keeping in mind the modern trends and the assumed difficulties and trends in today's world by the students of different universities across Pakistan,

3.4 Framework of analysis

The conceptual framework of this research included some basic key points of the Grounded theory. In this method the researcher has to find the theory embedded in the data gathered from the participants or other method. That specific data is then used to create categories then some categories are defined and a specific conclusion or theory is made keeping in mind the basic concepts of the data (Barney Glaser, 1999). This theory is basically divided into three categories or parts

3.4.1 Open coding

In this part the researcher goes through the data and look for the common points and try to make categories in which the data can be divided. In this way the conceptual elements in the data are detected.

3.4.2 Axial coding

At this stage the researcher identifies the connections between different responses in the data and finds a link between them and a single coherent point.

3.4.3 Selective coding

First, the researcher has to find a core category or a single base and relate the data with proper method. The link between data and category must be authentic and refined (Helen Noble, 2016). The researcher will use this method and evaluate the responses of all the students according to the Grounded Theory and will try to find common elements and suggestions for change in the educational policies and teaching methodologies.

3.5 Participants and the processes

The participants in this study are 150 MPhil students, including both males and females, of age from 21 years to onward. The study was conducted by using online Google Survey Forms, the questionnaire was designed according to the theory of planned behavior and distributed to the students of renowned universities in Pakistan. The students filled the forms online and then the researcher analyzed the data according to the set standards.

4. Data analysis

If we know about the participants and their current status it will help us to understand their responses and intentions in the current field. So here is the analysis of the demographics of the students.

4.1 Demographics and Background of the students

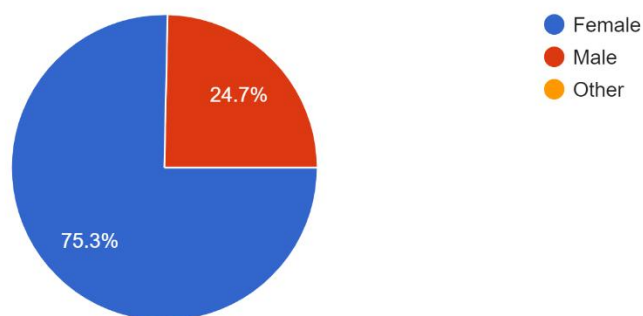
In data analysis the collected data will be analyzed and the trends will be evaluated. So, in the collected data of 150 participants it is noticed that 24.7% are males and 75.3% are females, means that number of female students in MPhil English.

Figure 4.1

Gender Ratio of the Participants

Demographics Gender:

150 responses



Among 150 students, 74% of the students are less than 25 years old, 18% are between 26-30 years and 11% are above 30 years it shows that most of the students are less than 25-year-old, it means that they have started their MPhil degree just after completing their BS/MA. As far as their previous academic background is concerned, 68% of the students have completed their BS/MA degree in combined form studying both literature and linguistics, 21.3% have studied literature and 10.6% in linguistics.

Table 4.1

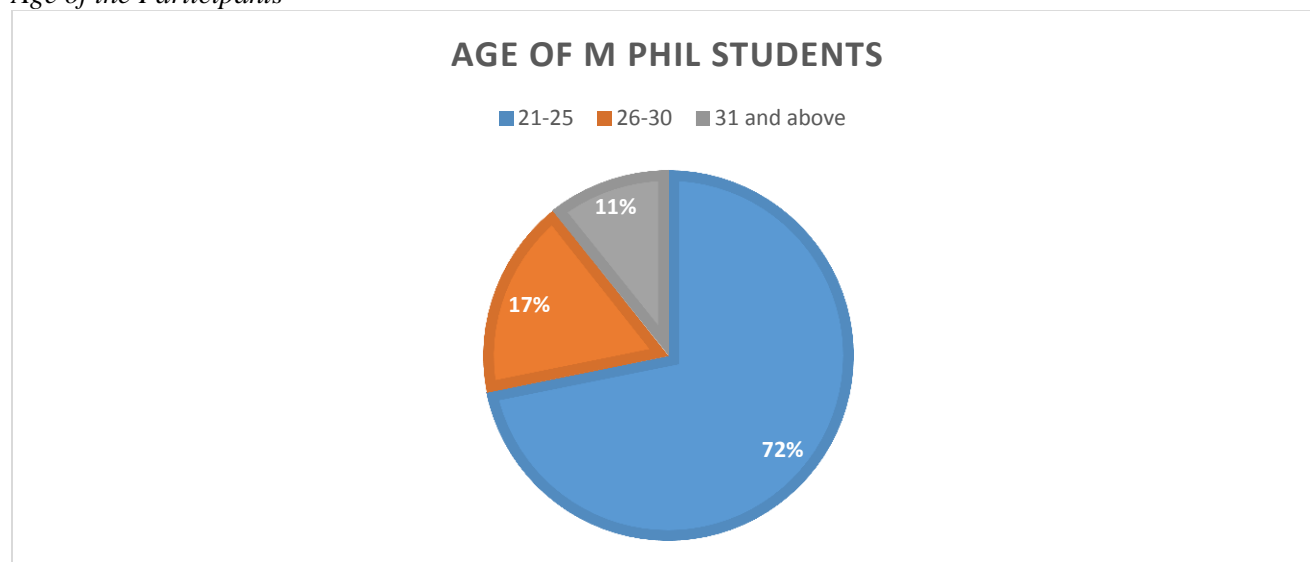
Distribution of Students by Age Group

Age of the Students	Percentage of the Students
21-25	74%
26-30	18%
31 and above	11%

The pie chart of the age of MPhil students is given in chart 4.1

Chart 4.1

Age of the Participants

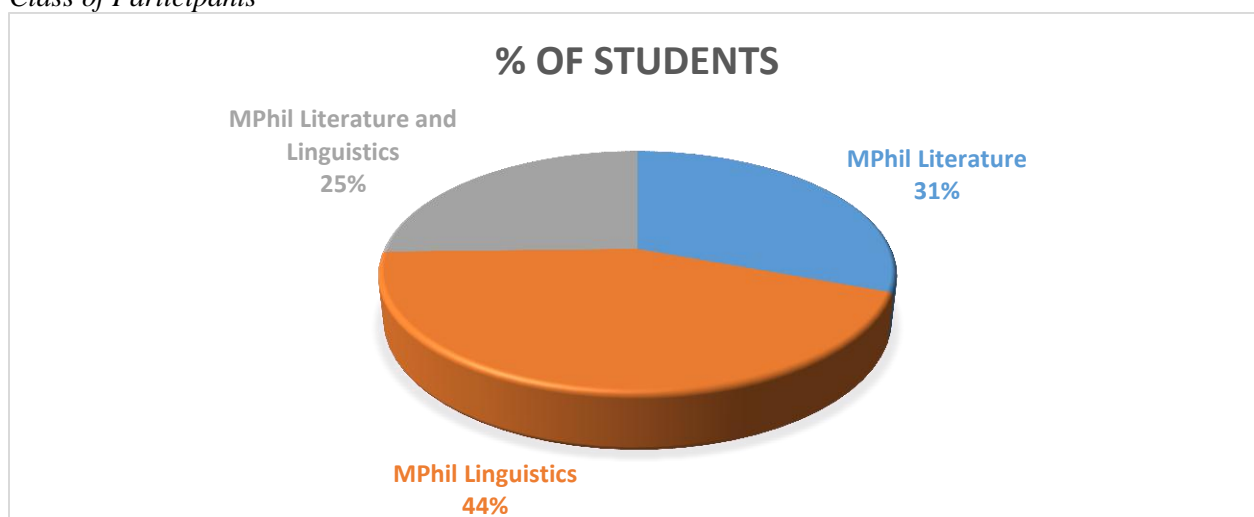


4.1.1 Trend of literature and linguistics

In MPhil, again there are three main categories; 44% of the students are pursuing their MPhil degree in linguistics, which shows the demand and interest of linguistics in modern era (as described by the students in the short statements collected through survey, and also given in appendix), and 30.7% in literature and around 25.4% have taken admission in MPhil English Literature and Linguistics. Some responses are also collected from the students about why they selected Literature or Linguistics and why they have preferred one over the other. The results showed that students think that linguistic is a more advanced and scientific field and can be investigated in many new ways and it has a broader scope than literature. On the other hand, students have also selected Literature and their primary point was to increase knowledge and more life related material. The responses are given in the Students Responses 4.2.1.2, a chart representing the percentage of students in different classes of MPhil in Chart 4.2.

Chart 4.2

Class of Participants



Note: There are three types of MPhil English; MPhil Literature, Linguistics or Combined

Now the researcher will analyze the answers received by the students to analyze the reasons why they selected MPhil studies. By keeping in mind TPB, the influence of family, friends and society can be discussed.

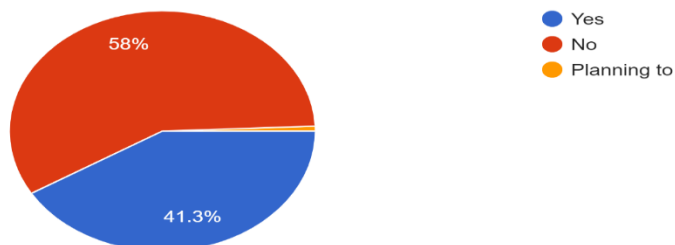
4.1.2 Job perspective

From the collected data it is counted that after completing their BS/MA degrees, 58% of the students are not doing part time jobs, 0.7% are planning or trying to get a job and the rest of 41.3% are currently doing a job along with their MPhil degree.

Figure 2

Percentage of the Participants Doing Any Part Time Job

Are you currently doing any part time job along with your MPhil degree?
150 responses



Most of the students didn't start any job after BS/MA degree and almost same number of students are doing part time jobs, those who have started job after BS/MA degree. Students have many different plans after completion of their MPhil degree but most of them will be looking for any job to get themselves settled. The second preference is to go for competitive exams.

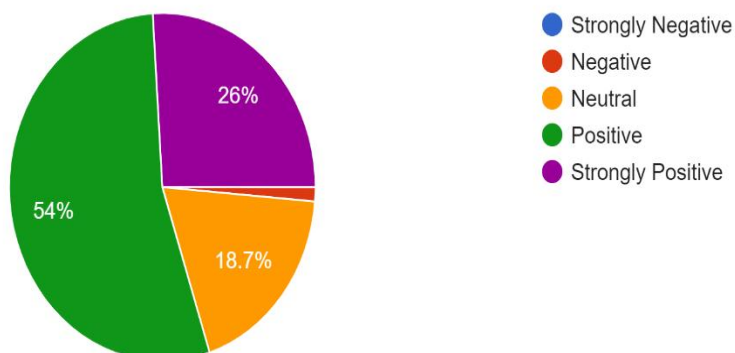
4.1.3 Usefulness of MPhil

It is noticeable that not all the students who are pursuing their MPhil, consider this idea of pursuing degree as much beneficial. Most of them think that it is important for various purposes. 54% of the students says that they are positive about their admission in an MPhil degree and they think it was a good decision.

Figure 3

Perception of the Idea of Pursuing MPhil Degree

1.How do you generally perceive the idea of pursuing an M Phil degree in English?
150 responses



It can also be seen that 13.3% of the students believe completely that this degree is going to be their professional foundation and 47.3% of the students thinks that their degree can very useful for them but the rest of students are not sure 34% said it will have a moderate affect, maybe because they wanted to carry another job on which the degree is slightly useful and there are some students who firmly believe that this degree is of no use for them.

4.1.4 View of your decision:

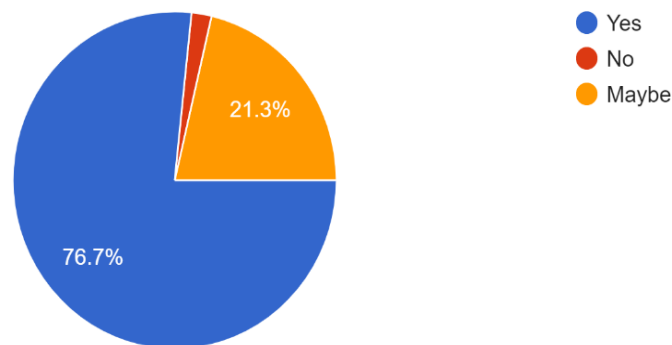
The first question was how they made their decision to pursue MPhil degree but after taking admission in MPhil the question is, are they currently satisfied with their degree? And 76.7% of the students said that they are satisfied with the decision. It is observable that 76.7% of the students think that it was a good decision that they decided to get admission in Phil degree. 21.3% are uncertain, it shows that they are confused but very few are those who are regretting their decision.

Figure 4

Perception of the Decision about Pursuing MPhil

8. Do you think it was a good decision to pursue an MPhil program?

150 responses



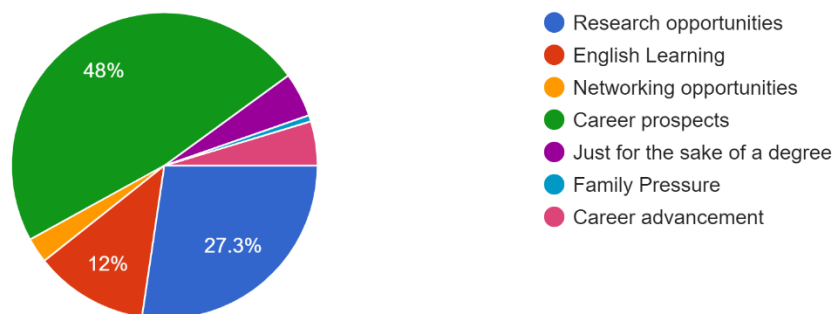
Keeping in view all the above points and this question response it can be seen that most of the students think that their decision of pursuing MPhil was a good decision as it is being helpful for them in many ways.

Figure 5

Motivation for MPhil of the Participants

What aspect of an MPhil program in English motivated you to start this degree?

150 responses



4.1.5 Suggestions

In the questionnaire, questions regarding the changes in the teaching methods and suggestions for undergraduate students were asked and student's responses will be analyzed here. The value of MPhil in their view was asked to understand how they perceive this degree and the percentage can be seen in Figure 4.16.

Figure 6

Value of MPhil in Current Education System

Count of 2. What is the value of M Phil degree in current education system of Pakistan?

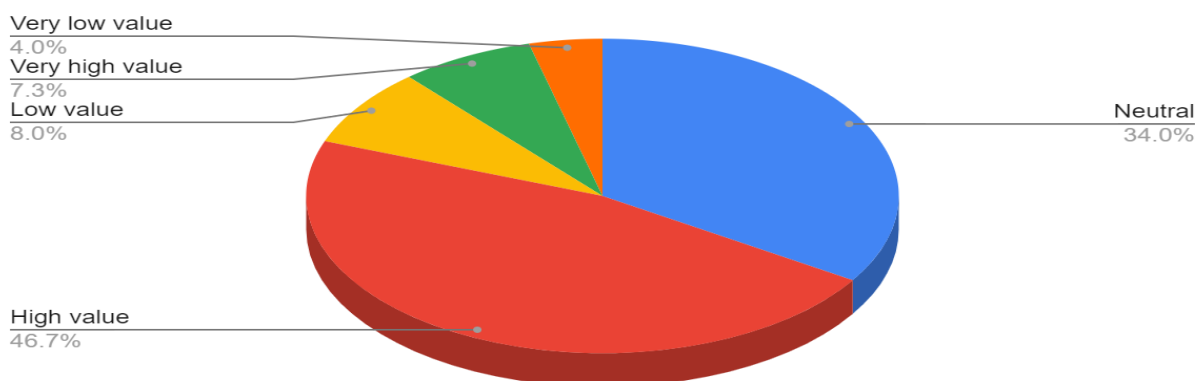
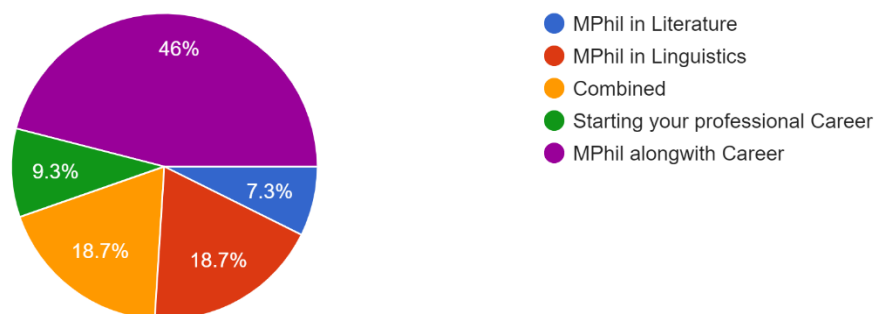


Figure 7

Suitable Options for Fresh Graduates

9. Keeping in view the current trends, which of the following is more suitable for freshly graduate students?

150 responses



When the students of MPhil were asked about what the freshly graduate students should do, 46% of them responded with the option that they should start a career along with their MPhil.

4.2 Educational policy

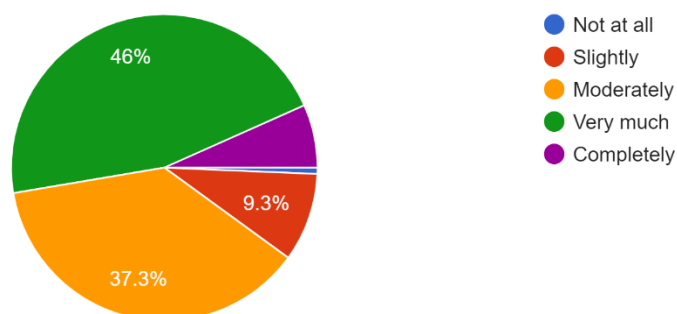
Education policy and curriculum by HEC is an important factor which leads to the development of various skills in the students. A short question was asked about the changes student think should be made in the curriculum of graduating. By analyzing their answers, it can be seen that majority wants that so practical work should be added in their curriculum, speaking skills should be focused and students should be trained for the market trends and latest things should be taught to the students. MPhil degree encourages students to embrace change and innovation in their academic pursuits and only 6.7% of the students completely agree with this statement 46%

Figure 8

Encouragement to Embrace Change and Innovation

To what extent do you think M Phil degree encourages students to embrace change and innovation in their academic pursuits?

150 responses



The opinions of students regarding educational policies, teaching methodologies, curriculum and the problems they faced during their BS/MA and current education are collected and the researcher will analyze and summarize them for suggestions and implications.

4.3 Students Responses

Some short questions were included in the questionnaire to ask for the opinions of the English Graduates'. As they have completed their degrees in this field recently, they can highlight important points which can be analyzed for a productive discussion for the students who are currently pursuing their degrees in English Studies.

4.3.1 Suggestions for Underrated Students

- For all students, the only key to success in any field particularly in literature is extensive self-study, especially in your area of interest. Explore your niche explore yourself. Plus, don't make any compromises on your communication skills.
- Start Performing little research works on your own
- Learn important skills
- Be clear why are you learning this subject
- Practice reading and writing
- Try to do any one project in BS for better understanding.
- Give your best, do smart work, English is a piece of cake once you get to know the intricacies of this program.
- Reading books, novels, research paper will help them a lot.
- Create your own skills

- Give a proper attention to your studies if you have already entered in your professional career otherwise it will not be beneficial for you to only grab the degree.
- They should focus on their reading, and speaking skills
- Hard working
- Reading habit needs to be developed as it broadens the view and understanding.
- As a student, we have to be voracious readers.
- Read novels, history books gain more knowledge and improve English skills.
- Understanding
- Practical work
- Students should be very much clear about their interest in the field
- Read and write a lot, and not just your course outline
- It's overall a good major. I don't think there are as such some major lacking.
- Make book reading your habit and try to write a paragraph on daily basis
- Beside study, learn skills
- According to my perspective, students should mainly focus on their language and communication skills.
- Students should try to do as much research work as possible on their own
- Don't waste your time. Continue doing your efforts.
- Try to give the concept regarding English literature
- Focus on spoken
- Awareness about artificial intelligence
- Digital library
- Do work on your research paper. It is needed in many prestigious universities. I wanted to get admission in my dream university and I did passed my test but couldn't clear the interview because I did not have any of my own published research paper as my university did not opt us to do. So that was sad and hurtful.
- Be focused, vigilant and keep on working to explore the new ideology of education.
- MPhil requires stamina, passion and strength to continue it.
- First they have explore what is the worth of the degree so they would be clear in the future
- It's very essential to clear concepts.
- Practical use of English in life
- Do effort
- Focus more on the practical approach
- Focus on their studies. Learn everything with full of intension.
- Learn everything with full intention
- Consistency
- Correct guidance is very important for the students.
- Research-oriented focus Preparation for a doctoral degree Specialization and expertise. Academic and teaching opportunities. Personal and intellectual growth.
- Try to focus on book reading more than notes. Books of International (native speakers) authors should be preferred.
- MPhil English has high scope in Pakistan.
- Make a small survey paper so that people can fill it with interest
- Just they'll figure out on their own
- A bit more serious they should be
- Go for reading as much as you can

- "Learn everything academic yourself. Do not rely on teachers" this should be internalized by everyone in my opinion.
- Crammed knowledge will not help you anywhere
- This subject is not for money making. If you want to earn money don't pursue any language or literature. It's only good for life not for sustenance
- Know as much as you can about the field you have chosen.
- They should focus on research and read books as many as they can.
- Do not waste your time and research, a lot.
- try to think like linguistics and prepare yourself for any kind of research keep in contact with your teacher
- I must say that if someone is planning to study English, they should go for linguistics and not for the literature. I believe literature can be studied at home but linguistics cannot. And, I believe that there isn't any need for a classroom to study literature at all. Therefore, study something practical like sciences, commerce or anything that is applicable in the society.
- Hone research skills, be tech-savvy
- Give more attention to methods of research and methods and tools for data analysis
- Must do reading as much as they can.
- Start gathering content for their research work and start making their thesis before the 3rd semester of their MPhil coursework
- Improve communication skills
- Develop strong research skills, including effective use of libraries, databases, and online resources. This is especially crucial for MA and MPhil students.
- Just don't only read but also apply that knowledge
- They must know expertise practical knowledge about how to use a laptop.
- Build Strong Foundations: Focus on building a strong foundation in language skills, literature, and critical analysis during your undergraduate studies. Diversify Reading: Read a wide range of literature from different periods, genres, and cultures to broaden your understanding of the English language and its literary traditions.
- Things are not tough we make it tough for ourselves ...be relax everything is fine with time choose what in which u r interested ...no care about people
- that MPhil is Very hard...there is a lot of pressure on you regarding your studies
- No matter what degree or career you choose afterwards just remember one thing choose something that is your favorite something you are passionate about and keep in mind your area of interest because that will mold your career
- Faculties must assist their students in the journey of their M Phil degree program.
- They should be very attentive teaching
- Focus more on soft skills than just reading from books
- Please just don't take stress about grades go for learning personality making.
- Complete it on time
- Reading in this field is a very influential
- Degree has its own worth ,Go for online business Portals for a professional career improvement
- Focus on what you're perceiving and gained knowledge
- Be much focused. And manage your time well.
- They should focus on reading and writing
- Stay curious, engage in diverse reading, actively participate in discussions, and cultivate strong writing skills to excel in your English studies.

- Hard work and consistency
- Focuses on your daily based targets about study
- For research a lot of reading activities must and strongly recommend.
- Read daily at least one topic
- Should Focus on research
- They should have command on English language
- Should be sincere with our goals.
- Learn it from heart
- They should participate in class lecture and should do their work with responsibility
- For students pursuing degrees in English (BS/MA/MPhil), it's crucial to diversify their reading across genres and authors. Developing strong critical thinking skills is essential for analyzing texts deeply.
- Read more and always enhance your vocabulary.

4.3.2 Students Response to Lacks or *Improvements* in the Current Education System

- "Practical work must be encouraged"
- "Research ethics should be taught from the very beginning"
- "Teachers should be able to guide students about recent changing circumstances."
- "By keeping up with the latest trends and new techniques regarding teaching methodology in classrooms."
- "Positive criticism should be done."
- "Unbiased behavior."
- "There should be serious focus on speaking skills of students along with their reading and writing skills"
- "Use of technology rather than old tool of teaching."
- "Practical"
- "Change the teaching Method."
- "In my opinion, the only change that is necessary to make is to execute such a policy to inculcate good speaking skills in students, especially in the English departments. Unfortunately, students usually complete their degrees in English but they are unable to communicate in the English language properly. That's a pathetic situation for the English graduates. Due to the lack of basic speaking skills, unfortunately, they are not hired in the market in the same way, they must be."
- "Teachers should be more supportive in research works."
- "There should be a strong bound between teachers and students."
- "Instead of giving papers, students should be asked to submit research work or article."
- "Lecture timings should be not more than 45 minutes, so that students do not deviate from the lecture."
- "Teachers should be equipped with subject knowledge as well as current trends. Students should be allowed to embrace innovative practices without any societal pressure."
- "Higher proficient teachers"
- "There should be more practical lectures instead of theoretical ones."
- "Not satisfied with the curriculum, so curriculum should be changed.in my opinion, they should focus more on practical things."
- "Teacher should motivate students to believe in themselves because after doing BS & MPhil in English most of the students try their luck in competitive exams."
- "Teaching methodologies"
- "Class should be discussion based instead of just depending on presentations."

- “In my opinion, the foremost thing is that the environment of the department should be changed. “Teachers should encourage students to improve their speaking skills. And teachers should give some time to such activities which improve student's speaking skills on daily basis.
- “Positive competition
- “Bring creativity, teacher’s assistance in terms of more friendly & flexible behavior. Instead of guidelines, they need to practically involve with them in conducting research. Some students are ignorant of the execution process but are fully aware of tools and criteria.
- “Lectures should be continued as per schedule and instead of focusing on attendance at this level, more time should be granted for practical work. Equality should be promoted and favoritism should be negated strongly.
- “Improving education access, equity and quality to solve the global education crisis. Teaching life skills.
- “Class timings and teaching method.”
- “Try to make more innovative course content.”
- “Modern methods of teaching should be practiced.”
- “Regularly. Spoken classes in English.”
- “Introduction of new content.”
- “Professional use of AI tools.”
- “Bring online system.”
- “If we are going to be a researcher in the end so the department should give a complete notes for research including what or what not to include in a research. Because teachers do not guide us in this way and they just command us to do so. But if we haven't learn about it how will we be able to write an excellent research paper. So a complete guideline is necessary.
- “Provide the students with maximum research opportunities to fulfill their further thrust.
- “Practical works should be performed.
- “Grammatical courses should be add in course outline
- “More practical work and practice
- “The students have no base in the English especially in rural areas.
- “Something make interesting
- “Improvise research environment in the educational institutes
- “Investing in the professional development of teacher.
- “Teachers must be linear“
- “More research opportunities should be provided“
- “No opinion“
- “Should practical work
- “1. More Practical Learning. 2. Individualized Learning. 3. More Relevant Subjects. 4. Inclusive Education. 5. Less Focus on Memorization. 6. Emphasis on Mental Health and Well-being. 7. More Technology Integration. 8. Environmental Education.”
- “More focus should be on practical inside classroom. Notes should be of better quality and without any grammar mistake. “
- “Syllabus should be short and faculty should be qualified. “
- “No course work or sitting exam in MPhil, when it is research degree then articles and projects should be prioritized. “
- “Not much. It's irreparable. “
- “There should be clear difference between BS and MPhil teaching methodologies. For instance, Students should reply on their own but not without the professors. “

- “To write more and more.”
- “In my opinion, most of the students are discouraged in English departments and others in the name of academic writing. They are dismissed as not knowing how to write a paper in academic fashion. I believe that the mentors we are having in Pakistan's have not mastered academic writing themselves, and so they perceive mere figments of diversity in the writing of students as irrelevant. They should have mastered academic writing themselves, and then they should train the students in academic fashion.”
- “Introduce them with emerging ideas in literature instead of reading those primitive studies
- “More exposure and job opportunities.”
- “Curriculum must be redesigned in regard to the range of subjects included in it.”
- “Students should be made to undergo as many tasks as they could.”
- “Teachers should check our research reports timely and give them back to the studs for the suggested changes. And then check again.”
- “To guide me thoroughly.”
- “I believe there must be a course about communication skills that should be included in the curriculum of every semester whether it's a master's or bachelor's degree. Students should be encouraged to come on stage and communicate with the audience. I believe it would make Pakistan a brighter nation.”
- “Highly qualified - updated on current trends - teachers, relying on creativity rather than cramming in assessments!!”
- “Linguistics should be taught more effectively and practically and not just theoretically.”
- “Just conceptual study.”
- “Teaching of spoken English and preparing students for presentations and public speaking opportunities must be given”
- “Practical work introduce.”
- “The English education system could benefit from incorporating more practical applications, such as real-world writing tasks and digital communication skills, to prepare students for modern demands.
- “More practical activities rather than cramping system.
- “Teaching methods and teaching aids should be improved so that students will learn anything interestingly.”
- “Incorporate modern technology and digital tools into the curriculum to enhance language skills, encourage digital literacy, and prepare students for communication in the digital age.”
- “Teachers should do practically for the better understanding of students, the should use projector to deliver their message.”
- “No changes are required.”
- “Put less burden on students.”
- “Education system especially universities should update their computer labs the old computers with new ones so they can be used by students in research purposes and the course content of any degree should include practical skills rather than cramming .also research opportunities should be provided and practical implications of knowledge should also be made possible.”
- “Education system, particularly English department requires to be improved and efficient by introducing such initiatives which aligns with the modern world's needs.”
- “They should concentrate on Research rather than in courses.”
- “For some students, the computer related tools are difficult to understand at first, as they haven't used it previously. I want the teachers to keep in view this situation, and give the tasks after

teaching them in an easy way, not just by relying on students who already have knowledge of using these tools and software.”

- “Students should have access to research opportunities.”
- “I think it should be practicing.”
- “Students should be guided properly before any academic activities given to them to be done
- “Course should be modern and innovative instead of history”
- “More researches should be done in an efficient way. Exposure should be given.
- “Proper guidelines should be provided to the students.
- “It should be practicing
- “Integrate more practical skills, digital literacy, and real-world applications into the English curriculum to align with the demands of the evolving job market.
- “Spoken, self-writing
- “There should be taught about use of digital tools
- “Start of Book reading during BS English Literature first year because reading books is most important at the end it would be beneficial for students during research. And one more aspect which is most important teachers must have to take research task in the beginning years of English Literature Degree program.
- “Practice by doing and reading with presentations
- “Management
- “We should honest with our career and responsibilities
- “It should include critical thinking instead of cramming
- “In my opinion, the education system, especially in English departments, can focus more on practical skills like critical thinking, communication, and digital literacy. Incorporating real-world examples and projects can help students apply their knowledge to current situations and prepare them for the evolving demands of the professional world. “
- “There should be complete understanding of what we are studying.”

4.4 Evaluation:

By using the ground theory we can categorize the responses of 150 students of which most are being given above, the researcher has used the open and axial coding and has identified three types of main categories including curriculum, problems faced by the students and improvements in teaching methodology. By reading and analyzing all the responses and evaluating the problems and suggestions are divided in three basic parts:

- 1. Curriculum**
- 2. Problems**
- 3. Teaching Methodologies**

Now, each heading of these three will be discussed individually to provide a detailed analysis.

4.4.1 Curriculum:

More practical work should be added and research oriented work should be assigned and monitored. Some students said that Grammar courses should be added as some students come from rural areas and they face a lot of difficulties in understanding Basic English. Students also suggested that latest AI courses, technology integration, practical emphasis, professional development, remote learning strategies, and flexible curriculum, global perspective, collaborative learning. Students have emphasized the practical work instead of just memorization. Increase practical communication skills, including writing for various platforms and speaking skills. Incorporate technology for language learning, digital literacy, and online resources. Include diverse literature and cultural studies for a broader global understanding. Prepare students for professional writing, editing, and communication relevant to the job market. Provide flexibility for students to tailor studies to areas like digital communication, journalism, or

creative writing. Engage students in collaborative projects and group work for real-world language use. Develop strategies for effective English learning in remote or hybrid settings.

4.4.2 Lack in study/ Problems:

Many students have written that proper instructions about research are not being provided. Lack of practical work is a big drawback. The main issues reported by the students included societal pressure, speaking skills gap, lack of teacher support, Limited Exposure, Time Management, Focus on Academic Writing, Need for Communication Courses, Outdated Curriculum. English graduates face challenges in effective communication. Inconsistency in research guidance and a need for more supportive teachers. Dissatisfaction with the curriculum, urging a shift towards practical aspects. Some students lack exposure to English language basics, particularly in rural areas. A call for a dedicated communication skills course in each semester. Students feel discouraged due to a focus on academic writing without proper training. Suggested shorter lecture timings for better student engagement and focus. Encourage innovative practices without societal pressure on students.

4.4.3 Teaching Methods:

Most of the students have responded that teaching methodologies should be a little changed and modified. Some students suggested that teachers should be lenient, teaching methods should be improved, and proper teaching sessions should be conducted. In addition to this they also said that some related things like online classes system, practical lectures, guidance on changing circumstances, discussion-based classes, clear guidelines, equal opportunities, motivational teaching can also be very useful and beneficial for the students.

Teachers should stay updated on the latest trends and teaching methodologies. Teachers should support students in research work, fostering a strong teacher-student bond. Encourage students to embrace innovative practices without societal pressure. Shift focus from theoretical to practical lectures, promoting hands-on learning. Foster discussion-based classes rather than solely depending on presentations. Teachers should motivate students and instill self-belief, especially for competitive exams. Provide clear guidelines for research papers and articles, emphasizing understanding over rote learning. Promote equality, discourage favoritism, and grant more time for practical work.

5. Findings/Results:

By the analysis of the data received from the respondents the researcher has find the answers for the research questions and the hypothesis have been proven to a large extent.

5.1 Educational changes:

By the opinions of the students, we can see that 46% of the students think that their previous degree is helpful for them but 42% are neutral which indicates something not well because if the students MPhil can't decide the usefulness of their previous degree, they don't even know what skills they have acquired.

It is important to understand what type of changes they think are important to teach in the BS/MA degrees. By analyzing students' responses, it is concluded that their suggested changes are mostly about technology-integrated curriculum, a more practical and innovative teaching methods, and addressing specific problems related to communication skills, teacher support, and outdated practices.

5.1.1 Curriculum Related:

- Students emphasize the need for more practical and research-oriented courses in the curriculum.
- Suggestions include adding grammar courses for students from rural areas and incorporating the latest AI and technology courses.
- Advocacy for practical communication skills, technology integration, diverse literature, and global perspectives.
- Flexibility in the curriculum, professional development, and strategies for remote learning are highlighted.

5.1.2 Lack in Study/Problems:

- Identified issues include a lack of research guidance and insufficient practical work.
- Sometimes practical work is done but the checking system is not satisfactory, due to which students can't learn about their mistakes.
- Challenges in effective communication, limited exposure, time management, and a focus on academic writing are reported.
- Students of every semester demand communication class and English-speaking practice.

5.1.3 Teaching Strategies:

- Students recommend modifications to teaching strategies, such as more flexibility, better techniques, and appropriate lesson plans.
- Online courses, hands-on seminars, advice on adapting to changing conditions, and discussion-based sessions are all suggested.
- Encouragement for educators to remain current, back up research, and psych kids up for competitive tests.
- It is seen to be advantageous to provide clear guidelines, promote equality, and allow more time for practical work.

Students demand for a curriculum that addresses problems like social pressure and a lack of direction by including more practical and research components. It is necessary to modify teaching strategies to incorporate discussion-based learning, practical lectures, and online instruction. A successful learning environment is thought to include fair chances, clear guidelines, and supportive and modern teaching methods.

6. Discussion:

Students want some change in the educational system and HEC policies. Technology is very influential in teaching and it can increase the educational outcomes in Pakistan to a great extent. It can improve the academic performance and enhancing engagement of the students and helps in fostering equity in the education system. It has been observed in studies that the students with access to ICT resources perform much better academically than the students with no such facilities (Abbasi & Hussain, 2024). The same trend was also noticed by Sain and Lama (2024). Furthermore, technology has also bridged the gap between different socio-economic groups as it provides equal opportunities for learning to all (Njeri & Taym, 2024). The technology provides personalized learning and it is useful in increasing the creativity and learning environment (Eden et al., 2024). However, the digital divide is still an undeniable barrier in achieving equitable educational results, particularly in the rural and backward areas (Shahzad, 2024) (Ghani et al., 2024).

In 2019, Raza, Mehr Mohsin, Farooq, Muhammad and three other writers conducted research in which they analyzed the education policies of Pakistan and why new policies should be suggested. It was qualitative research, in which data was collected in document analysis form, semi structure interviews and focus groups, but in this research only questionnaire has been used to get the data but the number of students is far more to generalize the answers and increase their validity. They have selected participants from different levels for example from MPhil, PhD and even the lecturers the participants in this research were 5 PhD, 15 MPhil scholars and 5 teachers with PhD degrees in educational field. They all participated in this semi structured interview. The results of this study showed that the higher education institutions, lack of financial aids, incompatible technological instruments and methods etc. are major hindrances in the path of a fast and efficiently growing education system.

The suggestions included the empowerment of HEC and to give administrative and financial support so that it can provide latest education and guidance at people's doorstep and latest and advanced technologies can be utilized to improve the teaching system in short time (Raza, Farooq, Ahmad, & Anwar, 2019). And this study is intended to analyze and find the lack and changes in the education

system of the Pakistan. The findings of this research can be used by the educational policy makers to understand the students need according to the current era.

If we consider the possibility of reforms in Pakistani education system whether it is possible or not in 2014, Aziz, Mehnaz Aziz, David E. Bloom, Salal Humair with some other researchers wrote an article on "Education system reform in Pakistan: Why, when and how? In which they talked about quality, access and equal opportunities at different levels. Due to rapid increase in the numbers of private schools, there has been no significant focus on the development in the educational policies in government schools. This inability to improve the system has resulted in many issues and restrictions in the societal and economic development of Pakistan. As the population is increasing on a rapid rate these issues will be very difficult to solve in the future. In this article they discussed the imperative for the reforms in education system of Pakistan and have highlighted some key points which include reforms should involve all level of education, in every sector the reforms should be in a proper way or systematic, there should be defined goals and objectives, first the focus should be on a small area for better improvement. Implementation is the main thing to do and sometimes it is different when the resources are very restricted. But still there are many examples where it has been noticed that success is attainable if the state tries to fulfill the missions. (Mehnaz Aziz, 2014). So even on small level but the reforms can be made and it can change the system gradually.

One of the main reasons noticed in this discussion is the fact that many students are unable to get a proper and suitable job even after completing their degrees which suggests that there are deficiencies in the system and these are not being taken care of. As majority of the students replied that they want to get any job after BS or MA and there is a fear of unemployment in the students, even after securing good degrees, which highlights a back draw in the education system. So, from this discussion, it can be inferred that the teaching methodologies need to be refined in Pakistan. English graduates have given many suggestions regarding educational policies and have identified some deficiencies in the education system.

7. Conclusion:

In short, it is obvious that the teaching methodologies play a vital role in the learning of the students and through the suggestions given by English graduates the researcher has identified some suggestions regarding educational policies and have identified some deficiencies in the education system.

7.1 Educational System and Policy Reforms

There is a dire need for reforms in the teaching methodologies, educational policies, and curriculum for higher education institutions. Quality should be the main focus of the research and for this purpose interested students should participate in this activity. It can be done by keeping in view all the above-mentioned points and it can ultimately lead to a literary and productive environment. Empowering institutions like the Higher Education Commission (HEC) is a main pillar regarding an efficient and improved education system. These institutions should work to improve the policies according to the modern trends so that the students can learn latest skills to make them stable in this rapidly changing world. This study has highlighted the importance of analyzing and refining the educational system of higher classes in Pakistan, comprehensively. This study can provide vital guidance for making educational policy adjustments to tackle the identified obstacles and improve the general standard of education and these implications indicate the need of adopting a proper strategy for developing education policies, taking into account social factors, financial considerations, and student input, in order to enhance the education system.

7.2 Suggestions for Undergraduates

In the light of the above discussion and findings, the important suggestions for the students of BS/ MA English include cultivating skills, improve English speaking, develop your research skills, real world applications, self-study, develop habit of reading and writing, practice writing if you are

intended to continue it, learn the use of technology (e.g. Microsoft, Excel, etc.) , improve communication skills, read something daily, work on your vocabulary, explore your interests (literature/ linguistics) and study them thoroughly, engage in practical experiences through various works like internships, stay away from the distractions, embrace changes, prepare yourself for jobs / competitive exams / MPhil, build a proper portfolio, work hard and believe in themselves. These are the main points which they should consider during their degree to make themselves ready for the after-degree challenges. The guidelines focused on the qualities like continuous learning, adaptability, try to apply the things you learn (research), and effective time management, understand the trends. These guidelines will help them to be successful both in studies and in their future endeavors.

This study has emphasized the need for the changes in the education system of Pakistan and has highlighted the importance of technology and latest teaching methods in the education sector. Further researches can also be conducted to explore the syllabus design and the policies for a well-defined and modern education system.

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