

THE INTERCEDING EFFECT OF MOTIVATION TO LEARN ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LANGUAGE LEARNING PROBLEMS AND STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

ABSTRACT

Numerous studies have linked language learning problems to student motivation and engagement. However, learning areas where students struggle, namely Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing, has received little attention. This study examines the interceding effect of Motivation to Learn on students' Speaking, Reading, Listening, and Writing difficulties, and their Affective, Cognitive, and Behavioral Engagement. The main tool used was an Adapted Questionnaire implemented through Google Forms. This study utilized a descriptive-correlational design with 359 Grade 11 and 12 students enrolled in the 2nd Semester, 2021–2022 at 3 private institutions in Davao City, selected through Stratified Random Sampling. Mean, Pearson r , Regression Analysis and Path Analysis were employed as the data analysis tool. The study revealed that (1) Students sometimes experience language learning problems ($\bar{x}=2.40$, $SD=0.53$) (2) Students sometimes experience positive events inside the campus ($\bar{x}=3.41$, $SD=0.81$) (3) Students are sometimes motivated to carry on learning the English Language ($\bar{x}=3.11$, $SD=0.92$) (4a) Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement are positively and significantly correlated ($r=0.135$, $p=0.010$) (4b) Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn is negatively and insignificantly correlated ($r=-0.060$, $p=0.255$) (4c) Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement is positively and significantly correlated ($r=0.579$, $p<0.001$), and (5) Motivation to Learn of the participants significantly affects their Engagement in their classes ($\beta=.523$, $p<.001$), and after Motivation to Learn has interceded, the Language Learning Problems of the participant still significantly affects their Student Engagement ($\beta=.26$, $p<.005$), yielding a Partial Mediation.

Keywords: *education, language learning problems, motivation to learn, student engagement, mediating effect, Philippines*

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INTRODUCTION

Student engagement in English classes has been a concern for many educators and researchers in the past few years. One of the main problems regarding student engagement in an English classes is the lack of motivation. Zou discussed that many students are never motivated to learn the language, and as a result, they tend to be less engaged in the class and in the learning process (213-228). Getie added that this can be due to a variety of reasons, such as the lack of relevance of the subject matter, a negative classroom environment, or a lack of interest in the language (4-5). Several authors added other reasons as to why student engagement has been deteriorating over the past few years. One of them is that the use of traditional teaching methods that may hardly be effective for all students. Wang (1-15) discussed that some students may find the teaching methods used in English classes to be boring or unengaging, and as a result, they may not be motivated to participate in class discussions and activities.

Moreover, Sari (349-361) added that students may also experience problems in language learning that can affect their engagement in the class. Lastly, technological advancements have changed the way students learn and interact with information, and some students may find it challenging to engage with traditional classroom learning environments (Simamora 86-103). All of these notions are aligned with both Locke and Latham's Goal Setting Theory (93), and Vygotsky's Collaborative and Social Learning Theory found on the work of Gopinathan (6844). Locke and Latham's Goal Setting Theory (93) emphasizes the importance of setting challenging and specific goals in motivating people to achieve more. This concept suggests that, in the context of student participation in English classes, educators can increase student motivation by establishing clear goals and objectives for English learning. Setting specific, challenging, yet attainable goals may inspire students to work harder and become more engaged in English classes.

Vygotsky's Collaborative and Social Learning Theory found on the work of Gopinathan (6844), on the other hand, emphasizes the importance of social contact and collaboration in the learning process. This concept suggests that by fostering a collaborative and supportive learning environment, teachers can increase students' motivation in the context of English class engagement. Students can learn from one another and become more invested in the learning process by encouraging peer-to-peer interactions, group discussions, and cooperative learning activities. These theories contend that increasing student engagement in English classes necessitates both individual and group goal setting. By establishing clear learning goals and objectives and fostering a supportive, collaborative learning environment, instructors can encourage students to participate more in English lessons.

The study of affective, behavioral, and cognitive engagement is important for understanding student motivation, involvement, and learning outcomes in the classroom. These three dimensions of engagement are interrelated and can impact a student's overall experience in the classroom. Dincer (2) have shown that students who are more engaged in their learning, whether through affective, behavioral, or

cognitive engagement, tend to have better academic outcomes, including higher grades, increased knowledge retention, and improved critical thinking skills. On the other hand, students who are less engaged tend to experience lower grades, reduced motivation, and a decline in overall learning.

A study conducted by Xu, Chen, and Chen in 2020 have also revealed that affective, behavioral, and cognitive engagement are interrelated, and that when one dimension of engagement is improved, it can lead to positive changes in the other two dimensions (157). For example, a study by She et al. (530) found that when students have positive attitudes towards learning, they are more likely to engage in behaviors that support learning, such as asking questions or participating in class discussions. In turn, these behaviors can lead to increased cognitive engagement, as students become more focused on the learning process.

From the Philippines's landscape, in terms of the impact of motivation to learn on language learning problems, Torres and Alieto (51-72) found that students who were more motivated to learn English had better language learning outcomes compared to students who were less motivated. The study found that motivation was positively related to language learning outcomes, such as increased vocabulary knowledge and improved grammar skills. In terms of the role of engagement in second language acquisition, Dizon et al. (1526-1547) found that students who were more engaged in the classroom, through behaviors such as participation in class discussions, completing homework, and attending classes regularly, had better language learning outcomes compared to students who were less engaged. The study also found that students who were more engaged in the learning process were more motivated to learn the language.

Despite the plethora of data on Language Learning Problems, Student Engagement, and Student Engagement, there is still the need for further research to fully understand the relationship between these variables and language learning outcomes. By exploring the importance of student engagement and motivation in language learning in greater depth, educators in the Philippines can develop more effective strategies this study to support student success in language learning. More specifically, given the following facts, we may deduce the motivation of the researcher to conduct this study: if a drop in Language Learning Problem results in an increase in Motivation to Learn, which results in an increase in Student Engagement. Additionally, this study aims to determine if an increase in student engagement can assist learners in overcoming their Language Learning Problems.

Atmojo et. al (49-76) discussed that language learning can be a challenging task for students, and it is often difficult to maintain engagement in the classroom. One of the main problems in language learning is the lack of opportunities for students to practice using the language in real-life situations. Esra and Sevilen (11-22) supported this claim and added that this can lead to a lack of motivation and interest in the subject, as students may feel that what they are learning is not relevant to their daily lives.

Another problem that can affect student engagement in language classes is the lack of personalization in instruction (Zólyomi 8). Many language classes are taught in a one-size-fits-all approach, which can be frustrating for students who have

different learning styles or who are at different levels of proficiency. Additionally, language classes can also be affected by cultural barriers. Fitriyani and Andrivanti (259-273) added that any students may feel uncomfortable or out of place in a language class if they do not feel like their culture is represented or respected. This can lead to students feeling disengaged and uninterested in the subject matter.

On the other hand, Esra and Sevilen (11-22) also discussed that when students are engaged in their English classes, they are more likely to experience fewer problems in language learning. Engaged students are motivated to learn and are invested in their education, which can lead to a more positive and successful learning experience. One of the main benefits of higher engagement in English classes is an increase in motivation. Mercer elucidated that students who are engaged in their classes are more likely to put in the effort to learn and practice the language (643-660).

This can lead to a greater sense of accomplishment and a higher level of confidence in using the language. Furthermore, the researcher also added that engaged students tend to be more invested in learning the language and are more likely to seek out opportunities to practice and improve their skills. Another benefit of higher engagement in English classes is an increase in interest in the subject matter. Zaidi (269-292) discussed that when students are engaged in their classes, they tend to be more curious about the language and are more likely to be interested in learning about different cultures and customs. This can lead to a more well-rounded understanding of the language and can make the learning experience more enjoyable.

Motivation is a key factor in language learning, and the more motivated students are to learn the language, the less they will experience problems with it. Lou, Mantou, and Noels elucidated that when students are motivated to learn, they are more likely to put in the effort to acquire the language, which can lead to a more positive and successful learning experience (86).

One of the main benefits of motivation in language learning is an increase in effort and practice. When students are motivated to learn, they are more likely to put in the effort to study, practice, and use the language (Alawamleh, Al-Twait, and Al-Saht 380-400). This can lead to a greater sense of accomplishment and a higher level of confidence in using the language. Furthermore, Mercer added that motivated students tend to be more invested in learning the language and are more likely to seek out opportunities to practice and improve their skills (643-660).

Another benefit of motivation in language learning is an increase in interest in the subject matter. When students are motivated to learn, they tend to be more curious about the language and are more likely to be interested in learning about different cultures and customs (Lee, Ho, and Chen 1-25). Chi, Chen, Tseng, and Liu agreed with this notion and added that this can lead to a more well-rounded understanding of the language and can make the learning experience more enjoyable (105-121).

On the other hand, demotivation can be a major obstacle to language learning. Alyousif and Alshuibani (29-39) agreed with this notion and added that the more demotivated students are when learning the language, the more problems they

will experience. Wallace and Leong added that when students are demotivated, they are less likely to put in the effort to acquire the language, which can lead to a negative and unsuccessful learning experience (221-230).

One of the main problems associated with demotivation in language learning is a lack of effort and practice. When students are demotivated, they are less likely to study, practice, and use the language (Evans and Tragant 23), which can lead to a lower level of proficiency and a lack of confidence in using the language. Furthermore, demotivated students tend to be less invested in learning the language and are less likely to seek out opportunities to practice and improve their skills. (Tran and Moskovsky 1-18) Another problem associated with demotivation in language learning is a lack of interest in the subject matter. Putri, Suyarno, and Hardiyanto (155-168) added that when students are demotivated, they tend to be less curious about the language and are less likely to be interested in learning about different cultures and customs which can lead to a narrow and superficial understanding of the language and can make the learning experience unenjoyable.

As students' motivation to learn the language increases, so does their class engagement. Esra and Sevilen (11-22) agreed with this notion and added that Motivation is a crucial factor in language learning, and when students are motivated to learn, they tend to be more engaged in the class and in the learning process. One of the main ways in which motivation affects class engagement is through an increase in effort and practice. When students are motivated to learn, they are more likely to put in the effort to study, practice, and use the language (Alawamleh, Al-Twait, and Al-Saht 380-400).

They added that this can lead to a greater sense of accomplishment and a higher level of confidence in using the language, which in turn can increase engagement in the class. Furthermore, Mercer added that motivated students tend to be more invested in learning the language and are more likely to seek out opportunities to practice and improve their skills, which can lead to a more positive and successful learning experience (643-660).

Another way in which motivation affects class engagement is through an increase in interest in the subject matter. When students are motivated to learn, they tend to be more curious about the language and are more likely to be interested in learning about different cultures and customs (Lee, Ho, and Chen 1-25). Nagle's idea correlates with the previous statement, elucidating that this can lead to a more well-rounded understanding of the language and can make the learning experience more enjoyable, which as a result, enables students to be more inclined to pay attention and participate in class discussions and activities (1238-1256).

On the other hand, there are some instances that as students' motivation to learn the language decreases, so does their class engagement. Alamer and Almulhim's (3-5) work is in congruence with this notion, discussing that motivation is a crucial factor in language learning, and when students are not motivated to learn, they tend to be less engaged in the class and in the learning process. One of the main ways in which a decrease in motivation affects class engagement is through a lack of effort and practice. When students are not motivated to learn, they tend to be less likely to put in the effort to study, practice, and use the language (Lestari &

Wahyudin 25-30). This can lead to a lower level of proficiency and a lack of confidence in using the language, which in turn can decrease engagement in the class. Furthermore, Philippakos added that demotivated students tend to be less invested in learning the language and are less likely to seek out opportunities to practice and improve their skills, which can lead to a negative and unsuccessful learning experience (1-30).

Another way in which a decrease in motivation affects class engagement is through a lack of interest in the subject matter (Answer 154-170). Lambert and Zhang added that when students are not motivated to learn, they tend to be less curious about the language and are less likely to be interested in learning about different cultures and customs (391-411) which can lead to a narrow and superficial understanding of the language and can make the learning experience unenjoyable. As a result, students are less inclined to pay attention and participate in class discussions and activities.

Several theories have surfaced and have been able to support and enhance language learning, motivation, and engagement. We begin discussing the anchor theory that would bind all the theories and variables mentioned in this study which would be Gardner's Socio-educational Model (21-37). This indicates the motivation of the student in learning a language. The model is connected to two ideas: either the student wants to learn the language for communication purposes (*integrative motivation*), or the student wants to learn the language so he/she could use it for educational or work purposes (*instrumental motivation*). In the context of this study, given that the students are to be engaged in learning the language, their motivation in doing so must be aligned with their purpose; setting a specific and challenging goal to increase motivation.

Furthermore, applying these ideas in the context of this study; since learning the language can either be instrumental or integrative, we can further deduce that a learner could choose which one would be the path they are to concentrate on. This would allow the learners to concentrate and be ascertained to learn the language without any external influences and autonomy that would lead to them overcome their language learning problems; given the fact that they can monitor their language usage. The learners can do this since they purposefully do the things that allow them to surmount their language learning problems, given their engagement with learning the language in the first place.

Next, we combine the ideas of Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn through the theory of Self-Determination by Ryan and Deci (21) where they talked about the motivation of a learner to learn the language without external influences and interference will then lead to autonomy. Applying this idea to the context of this study, if the student can overcome his/her difficulties in learning the language; then the student will be able to learn the language since the student is motivated to do so. This implies that if the motivation of the students to learn increases, their language learning problems decreases.

To support the notion that there is a connection between Student Engagement and Motivation to Learn is Locke and Latham's Goal Setting Theory (93) where he mentioned that students are to set their goals in learning the language so that they

can keep themselves challenged and motivated. Applying this theory to the context of this study, they need to receive regular feedback on their progress and provided, the learners will then be engaged, productive, and motivated to learn more of the language presented. This implies that if the motivation of the student to learn increases, the engagement of the students in classes also increases.

The last connection to be made would be between Student Engagement and Language Learning Problems which is possible through Vygotsky's Collaborative and Social Learning Theory found on the work of Gopinathan (6844) where he cited that the learning process of a learner acquiring a second language will continue to be more effective as a result of interactions, they engage in with peers that are more knowledgeable. This will also exponentially increase their affective, behavioral, and cognitive engagement, ensuring the learners' development. The implication of Vygotsky's idea in this study can be double-edged, we can deduce that students; given that they are engaged in learning the language, must have a clear goal to overcome their language learning difficulties. Specifically, learners are to be proficient in speaking, reading, writing, and listening after hitting the goals they have purposefully set. Conversely, this also means that if the students are not engaged in setting appropriate goals when it comes to learning the language, this would effectively increase their problems in learning the language. Simply put, as the language learning problems of the students increases, their engagement in learning the language decreases.

The theories presented above served as basis for the following hypothesis: the less engagement students have with their English classes, the more problems in Language Learning the students will experience; The more motivated the students are with learning the language, the less they will experience problems with learning the language; and as students' motivation to learn the language increases, so does with their class engagement.

The mentioned theories also served as the primary bases for the conceptual design of the study presented below.

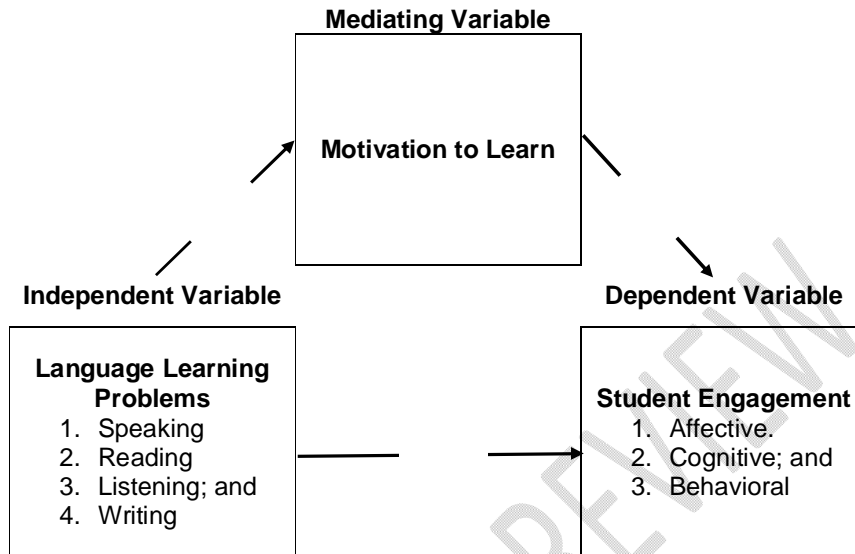


Figure 1. *Conceptual Framework of the Study*

Shown in Figure 1 is the conceptual paradigm that indicates the three variables of this study. The independent variable would determine the language learning problems or issues that students encounter when learning English, specifically in terms of Speaking, Reading, Writing, and Listening Skills. This is influenced by the study of Pawapatcharandom where she defined Language Learning Problems as "the issues that students encounter when learning the English Language". Al-Garni and Almuhammad defined Speaking Skills as "the act of constructing and communicating meaning via the use of verbal or non-verbal symbols, across many situations" (73). Reading skills is defined by Campbell and McMartin as the ability to interpret written information, where one may have access to a wide range of resources (234). Listening Skills, according to Sabdarifah (4-5), is "the ability of one individual to perceive another via sense, auditory organs, give a meaning to the message and grasp it." Lastly, Writing Skills is the encoding of letters and characters on various materials, such as paper and wood, for the purpose of capturing thoughts (Anderson, Sandberg, and Garpelin 24)

The dependent variable would be Student Engagement in terms of Affective, Cognitive, and Behavioral aspects. Saeki defined this as how a learner is meaningfully engaged in the learning activity through different affective, behavioral, and cognitive engagements, ensuring the learners' development, especially in learning the language. This has three main indicators: Affective, Behavioral, and Cognitive. Affective Engagement is defined by Furlong et al. (23) as the positive emotions that people experience when participating in activities. On the other hand, Behavioral Engagement is defined by Finn and Rock (7) as placing a high value on proper conduct, such as abiding by rules and not causing trouble. Lastly, Cognitive

Engagement is defined by Fredricks et al. (24) as are the desire to go above and beyond what is expected at school, or a preference for taking on new and difficult tasks.

These ideas would be correlated to the Motivation to Learn of the students. Amirian and Komesh (26) defined this as a motivating power in any situation that leads to action. Ryan and Deci (56-67) colluded with this idea, defining Motivation to Learn as the "the motivation to engage in an activity for its own sake, without any external rewards or punishments." They further state that motivation to learn is associated with a number of positive outcomes, such as increased learning, creativity, and well-being. Pintrich (631-668) added that Motivation to Learn is "the set of beliefs, values, and emotions that influence how people approach learning tasks." He further states that motivation to learn is a complex construct that is influenced by a variety of factors, including the individual's goals, beliefs about their ability, and the perceived value of the task.

Numerous research has established a link between the effect of language learning problems on student engagement. However, little emphasis has been paid to the specific areas of learning in which learners struggle, namely Speaking, Listening, Reading, and Writing. They only point out general discussions on how to tackle issues in relation to their language learning problems. Additionally, a small number of research have been conducted to examine the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement, especially Cognitive, Affective, and Behavioral Engagement. Finally, because the combination of these variables have not been explored specifically for the population specified in this study, it is uncertain if they have a substantial effect on the Second Language Learning of the group selected for this study.

This study aims primarily at examining the interceding effect of Motivation to Learn on the relationship between the difficulties that the Grade 11 and Grade 12 senior high school students encounter when it comes to Speaking, Reading, Listening, and Writing, the their level of Affective, Cognitive, and Behavioral Engagement, as well as the level of their Motivation to Learn. Specifically, the study will work to realize to: First, determine the level of Language Learning Problems in terms of Listening, Speaking, Reading, and Writing Skills; Second, determine the level of Student Engagement in terms of Affective, Behavioral, and Cognitive Engagement; Third, determine the level of Motivation to Learn. Fourth, determine the significant relationship between (a) Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement, (b) Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn; and (c) Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement. Lastly, this study aims to determine the interceding effect of motivation to learn on the relationship between language learning problems and student engagement

It is geared towards discerning the interceding effect of motivation to learn on the relationship between language learning problems and student engagement of the Senior High School Students. Further, the findings of the study may hopefully benefit the following:

First, this would benefit the global community of researchers since this study would add to the repository of knowledge related to motivation to learn (learning

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motivation), language learning problems, and student engagement, derived from the data, results, conclusions, and recommendations from this study which will serve as the stepping-stone for the future researchers.

Second, this will benefit the community, especially the parents when it comes to assisting their children in dealing with their language learning problems and on approaching the student's motivation to learn and student engagement. Lastly, this will benefit the Institution since the result of the study may give significant information about the different Language Learning Difficulties that students encounter; The instructors since the result of the study may serve as their guide in deciding how to effectively address the different language learning difficulties and enhance student engagement of the learners; and the Future Researchers since the information provided in this study may be used to supplement their future studies.

UNDER PEER REVIEW



METHOD

This section presents and describes the type of research design used, respondents of the study, research instruments as well as the data gathering procedure and statistical treatment to be applied in the study.

Research Respondents

The respondents selected were Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School online learning students from 3 Academic Institutions at Davao City, the names of which were redacted, who were enrolled in the 2nd Semester, Academic Year 2021 – 2022 using the Yamane's Simplified formula of proportions with 5% margin of error. Particularly from students of the following Academic Strands: Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), Accountancy, Business, and Management (ABM), Humanities and Social Sciences (HUMSS), and General Academic Strand (GAS) who were enrolled in Oral Communication and English for Academic and Professional Purposes from the 1st semester and in Reading and Writing in the 2nd semester. The total number of respondents for this study were 359 Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Online Learning students who were enrolled in 2nd semester, academic year 2021 – 2022 at 3 private academic institutions in Davao City.

Following the Stratified Random Sampling method (Easton & McColl) where the stratified sample is obtained by taking samples from each stratum or sub-group of a population, the researcher was able to compute for the representation of each grade which provided them with the samples needed per grade from each institution: School A had the following population per grade: 808 Grade 11 and 1186 Grade 12 Students. This brought the samples needed per grade of School A: 84 Grade 11 and 124 Grade 12 Students. School B had the following population per grade: 155 Grades 11 and 76 Grade 12 Students. This brought the samples needed per grade of School B: 16 Grade 11 and 8 Grade 12 Students. School C had the following population per grade: 400 Grades 11 and 804 Grade 12 Students. This brought the samples needed per grade of School C: 42 Grade 11 and 84 Grade 12 Students.

Since the data was gathered online, the study excluded students with printed modular as their chosen mode of learning for the 2nd Semester of A.Y. 2021-2022 due to their lack of access to the internet or to any gadgets. Second, this study excluded Grade 11 and Grade 12 students from the Technical, Vocational, and Livelihood (TVL) Track since even though they have subjects and activities that require the use of the English Language, their focus is more on pragmatic and applied activities that require skills and knowledge of their chosen specializations (Hospitality, Tourism, Industrial Arts, Cookery, etc.). Lastly, this study excluded participants who were not bona fide, who either have dropped or totally withdrawn, or who had transferred to other academic institutions beyond the scope of the study as this would have set off issues that might arise when contacting the participants and when collecting data.

A participant also had the right to refuse to take part if they do not feel comfortable. A participant can leave the research study at any time. When withdrawing from the study, the participant should let the researcher know that they wish to withdraw. A participant may provide the researcher with reason(s) for leaving the study but is not required to provide their reason. If they choose to withdraw from the study, all their information as well as the data collected from them will immediately be discarded and will neither be retained nor included in the interpretation and publishing of the final paper in accordance with Republic Act 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012.

They were chosen as respondents because most of the activities to be held in these classes include a combination of the 4 macro-skills which they can use upon moving forward to their higher years. They were also selected due to the poorer student engagement of the students in class documented through in-class observations, as well as recorded exams, quizzes, and participations.

Materials and Instrument

The instrument used in the study consists of four parts. Part 1 questionnaire dealt with the Demographic Data that focused on the age, gender, and their year level. Part 2 focused on the Language Learning Difficulties of the Senior High School Students. Part 3 focused on the Student Engagement of the Senior High School Students. Part 4 focused on the Language Learning Motivation of the Senior High School Students.

These questionnaires were patterned, adapted, and modified from the research conducted by Elina Saeki (110-114) on *Student Engagement and Motivation: An Evaluation of Their Relations to Social-Emotional and Behavioral Functioning*; Ratana Pawapatcharadom (67-69) on *An Investigation of Thai Students' English Language Problems and their Learning Strategies in the International Program at Mahidol University*, and from the work of Seyyed Mohammad Reza Amirian and Najme Komesh's (31-32) on *A Study on the Relationship between EFL Learners' Nationality and Language Learning Motivation*.

Before performing the Cronbach's α to determine the reliability of the questionnaire, the adapted questionnaires were submitted for validation by five expert validators, three of which were from the University of Mindanao and two of which were from external sources. Upon validation, it yielded a total validation rating of 4.484, which means that based on the check made by the internal and external evaluators, the questionnaire was structurally cohesive, and its purpose was aligned on the research objectives, making it suitable for implementation.

Following the Part 1 of the Questionnaire (Demographic Data), the second part was adapted from Ratana Pawapatcharadom's (67-69) *An Investigation of Thai Students' English Language Problems and their Learning Strategies in the International Program at Mahidol University*. This instrument used a five-point Likert scale that measured how often students experience Language Learning Problems. It was divided into four subsections: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. The questionnaire was verified by Dr. Ngamthip Wimolkasem, a professor at King Mongkut's Institute of Technology North Bangkok. In addition, the study of Abe et al.

tested the reliability of the instrument using Cronbach's α yielding the result of 0.843 which meant that the instrument is reliable (49). On the context of the study, after performing a pilot testing, this section yielded a Cronbach's α based on Standardized Items value of 0.968, implying further that the questionnaire is reliable.

The third part of the Questionnaire was from the research conducted by Elina Saeki (110-114) on her *Student Engagement and Motivation: An Evaluation of Their Relations to Social-Emotional and Behavioral Functioning*. This instrument used a five-point Likert scale that measured student's feelings about school in relation to their Engagement. It is divided into three subsections: Affective, Behavioral, and Cognitive Engagement. Individually, Saeki tested the reliability of each section and yielded the following results:

First, Affective Engagement section reported a Cronbach's α of .87, Second, Behavioral Engagement section reported a Cronbach's α coefficient of .84, and Lastly, Cognitive Engagement section reported a Cronbach's α of .87, implying that the questionnaire was reliable. On the context of the study, after performing a pilot testing, this section yielded a Cronbach's α based on Standardized Items value of 0.959, implying further that the questionnaire is reliable.

Lastly, the Part 4 of this Questionnaire was from Seyyed Mohammad Reza Amirian and Najme Komesh's (31-32) *A Study on the Relationship between EFL Learners' Nationality and Language Learning Motivation*. Amirian and Komesh tested the reliability of this Questionnaire between three different nationalities, in respect to their study, and it yielded the following results: First, Cronbach's α test with Persians reported a reliability score of 0.801; Second, Cronbach's α test with Turks reported a reliability score of 0.752; and Lastly, Cronbach's α test with Arabs reported a reliability score of 0.794, further implying that this questionnaire was reliable. On the context of the study, after performing a pilot testing, this section yielded a Cronbach's α based on Standardized Items value of 0.963, implying further that the questionnaire is reliable.

To interpret the participants' responses to the Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement questionnaires, the following rating scale was utilized: From 4.20 to 5, this is described as *Very High*, implying that Measures of Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement are always manifested and/or observed. From 3.40 to 4.19, this is described as *High*, implying that Measures of Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement are often manifested and/or observed. From 2.60 to 3.39, this is described as *Moderate*, implying that Measures of Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement are sometimes manifested and/or observed. From 1.80 to 2.59, this is described as *Low*, implying that Measures of Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement are seldom manifested and/or observed. From 1.00 to 1.79, this is described as *Very Low*, implying that Measures of Motivation to Learn, Language Learning Problems, and Student Engagement are never manifested and/or observed.

The research questionnaire was submitted to the research adviser for comments and suggestions. Upon approval, the instruments were validated by the

experts and the University of Mindanao Ethics Review Committee before deploying the survey.

Design and Procedure

The study made use of Creswell's (49) Descriptive –correlational design to help provide specific direction for procedures in this research study. This study made use of descriptive design to determine, describe and analyze the level of the three variables which are the motivation to learn, the language learning problems of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School students, and their engagement. This study also made use of the correlational design to describe and measure the degree or association (or relationship) between two or more variables or sets of scores (Asenahabi 76-89), particularly in determining the interceding effect of motivation to learn on the relationship between language learning problems and student engagement.

The study duration was estimated to be around four to twelve weeks; during the first four weeks in the study's implementation, the researcher requested a signatory for the letter to conduct the study from the University of Mindanao Professional Schools and complied the necessary requirements to acquire the Ethics Review Certification from the University of Mindanao Ethics Review Committee. Upon approval, the researcher then coordinated with the Principal, the Senior High School Registrar, and the class advisers of the three academic institutions and asked assistance for the students to participate in answering the survey questionnaires.

Before the study's implementation, the researcher together with the help of the assigned Guidance Counselor of each Academic Institution clearly explained to the participants the study's details, its benefits, and how this was done through a Virtual Briefing and Debriefing. For minor respondents, they were asked to read and fill out an Assent Form and their Parent or Legal Guardian were also asked to fill out a Parent's Consent Form allowing them to participate in the study. Once agreed, the researcher started the data gathering. For the fifth until the final week, the researcher compiled the data from the Digital Version of the Adapted Research Questionnaire filled out by the respondents and were analyzed and evaluated by the University's Assigned Statistician in accordance with their importance based on the study's hypothesis and objectives.

Upon the conclusion of the study, the data collected from the respondents, which has been retained in accordance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012, was expunged properly to avoid unnecessary access to the sensitive data of the study.

Following the specification of the Statistical Tools when analyzing data, the researcher utilized Mean to determine the level of Language Learning Difficulties, Student Engagement, and Language Learning Motivation of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, Pearson's r to determine the correlation of the student's Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement; student's Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn; and Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, Regression Analysis to determine the relationship between and among the variables, and Path Analysis to understand the interceding effect of Motivation to Learn on the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement.

In terms of the ethical considerations, the following were regard before, during, and after data gathering. It relates to moral standards that the researchers should consider in all research methods in all research design stages. The researchers obtained written informed consent from all participants and their Parent or Legal Guardian to conduct a survey and utilize the allotted time to discuss the following research ethical standards: *Inclusion Criteria, Exclusion Criteria, Withdrawal Criteria, Potential Risk(s) and Benefits, Voluntary Participation, Privacy and Confidentiality, Informed Consent, Fabrication, Falsification, Deceit, Conflict of Interest, Permission from Location/Organization, Technology Issue(s), Authorship, and the Rights of the Research Participants.*

All these moral standards were discussed and stipulated on the Informed Consent Form, Child Assent Form, and Parental Consent Form which were used in conducting the study. The aforementioned forms were approved by the Ethics Review Committee on May 7, 2022 with Certification Number UMERC-2022-086.

UNDER PEER REVIEW



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section of the paper focuses on the presentation of the data collected from implementing the study. The tables presented are exhibited with the following subheadings: Level of Language Learning Problems, Level of Student Engagement, Level of Motivation to Learn, Significance on the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement, Significance on the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn, Significance on the Relationship between Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement, and Mediation Analysis of the interceding effect of Motivation to Learn on the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement

Indicated in the statistical tables, the total standard deviation of tables 2 to 4 ranged from 0.53 to 0.92, signifying that the overall ratings per indicator garnered from the data collection of the study are consistent among all the participants (Wittink and Bayer 14).

Language Learning Problems

The data presented in Table 1 suggest that Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School students sometimes experience language learning problems. The overall mean score of 2.40 indicates that students, on average, experience language learning problems "seldomly". This is supported by the standard deviation of 0.53, which indicates that there is a moderate amount of variation in the data. Some students may experience language learning problems more frequently, while others may experience them less frequently.

The descending order of mean scores for the four language skills is writing (2.46), speaking (2.45), reading (2.35), and listening (2.34). This indicates that, despite of the result being low, students are more likely to experience language learning problems in writing than in any other skill (Yusof, Zarina, & Yunisrina 1399-1412, Ebadi & Rahimi 527-555). This may be due to the fact that writing is a more complex skill than the other three skills. It requires students to be able to organize their thoughts, express themselves clearly, and use correct grammar and punctuation. In addition, writing can be a more challenging skill for students who are learning a language as a second language (L2). This is because they may not have the same level of proficiency in the L2 as they do in their native language (Fernandez-Dobao 48-68).

The result is also aligned with the Theory of Comprehensible Input by Krashen, found on the work of Patrick (34-47), where they posited that language learners acquire language most effectively when they are exposed to input that is slightly beyond their current level of proficiency. This input should be comprehensible, but it should also be challenging enough to force the learner to think about the language and make inferences.

The data presented in Table 1 suggests that Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School students are exposed to a variety of language input in their classrooms. They are exposed to listening, speaking, reading, and writing activities that are all slightly

beyond their current level of proficiency. This input is likely helping them to acquire language and improve their language skills.

The fact that students experience language learning problems "sometimes" is also consistent with the theory of comprehensible input. This theory states that language learning is a gradual process that takes time and effort. Students will inevitably experience some difficulty as they learn a new language. However, by being exposed to comprehensible input, they will eventually overcome these difficulties and become proficient in the language.

Table 1. *Level of Language Learning Problems*

Indicator	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Writing Skills	0.64	2.46	Low
Speaking Skills	0.62	2.45	Low
Reading Skills	0.69	2.35	Low
Listening Skills	0.64	2.34	Low
Overall	0.53	2.40	Low

Student Engagement

The data presented in Table 3 shows the overall mean score for Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students' Student Engagement. The overall mean score is 3.41, which is labeled as moderate, indicating that students sometimes experience positive events inside the campus. The results show that the highest indicator is Behavioral Engagement with a mean score of 3.18, followed by Cognitive Engagement with a mean score of 3.16, and Affective Engagement with a mean score of 3.12. The overall mean score is an average of the three indicators, which are Behavioral Engagement, Cognitive Engagement, and Affective Engagement.

Research has shown that student engagement is positively associated with academic achievement (Naibert et al. 1359-1386; Daily et al. 173-180). In a study of over 1,000 students, Naibert et al. found that students who were more behaviorally, cognitively, and affectively engaged had higher GPAs and test scores (1359-1386). Similarly, Daily et al. found that students who were more engaged in their coursework were more likely to persist in school and graduate (173-180).

The moderate level of overall mean score for the three indicators of student engagement indicates that there is still room for improvement. This is in line with the findings of previous research, which have shown that student engagement can vary depending on a number of factors, such as the subject matter, the teacher, and the student's individual characteristics.

One suitable theory that can support this result is the Student Engagement Theory developed by Fredricks, Blumenfeld, and Paris, found in the work of Mao and Lee (788-798). The theory posits that student engagement is a multidimensional construct consisting of three core components: behavioral, cognitive, and emotional.

Behavioral engagement refers to students' active participation in learning activities, cognitive engagement refers to students' investment of mental effort in learning, and emotional engagement refers to students' affective reactions to the learning environment. The results presented in Table 3 align with this theory as they show that the highest indicator is Behavioral Engagement, followed by Cognitive

Engagement and Affective Engagement, which indicates that students are actively participating in learning activities and investing mental effort in learning, but may not be fully invested emotionally in the learning environment.

Table 2. *Level of Student Engagement*

Indicator	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Behavioral Engagement	1.02	3.18	Moderate
Cognitive Engagement	0.99	3.16	Moderate
Affective Engagement	0.96	3.12	Moderate
Overall	0.81	3.15	Moderate

Level of Motivation to Learn

Presented in Table 3, the mediating variable's overall mean score for Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students' Motivation to Learn are 3.11 and presents with an overall standard deviation of 0.92. Even with a single low-rated item (item 15), the moderate level of overall mean for Motivation to Learn indicates that students are sometimes motivated to carry on in learning the English Language.

The overall mean is an average of the 15 items arranged in descending order: *Having a great wish to learn more than the basics of English* with 3.31 labeled as Moderate, *Studying English can be vital to me because it will allow me to be more at ease with a fellow foreigner who speaks English* with 3.31 labeled as Moderate, *Studying English is essential for me so that I can graduate from school* with 3.31 labeled as Moderate, *Studying English can be essential for me because it will allow me to meet and converse with more varied people* with 3.26 labeled as Moderate, *Having the desire to learn English* with 3.25 labeled as Moderate.

I try to understand all the English I see and hear with 3.23 labeled as Moderate, *Trying to understand the more complex aspects of English* with 3.22 labeled as Moderate, *Thinking that learning English is fun* with 3.14 labeled as Moderate, *Enjoying learning English* with 3.12 labeled as Moderate, *Treating English as an essential part of my program* with 3.07 labeled as Moderate, *Doing the checking of my corrected assignments in my English course* with 3.00 labeled as Moderate, *Keeping up to date with English by working on it almost every day* with 2.96 labeled as Moderate, *Tending to approach my English homework in a planned manner* with 2.85 labeled as Moderate, *When studying English, I ignore distractions and stick to the job at hand* with 2.77 labeled as Moderate, and *When I have a problem understanding something we are learning in my English class, I always ask the instructor for help* with 1.89 labeled as Low.

There are several factors that can influence a student's motivation to learn, including their interest in the subject, their self-efficacy, and their perception of the value of the subject (Zhou, Sihan, and Thompson 102998). In the case of English, students may be motivated to learn the language for a variety of reasons, such as to improve their communication skills, to prepare for college or university, or to gain a competitive edge in the job market (Sari and Aminatun 16-22). Motivation is a key factor in language learning and has been found to influence learners' engagement, effort, and persistence in learning (Mercer 643-660). The moderate level of overall mean score for Motivation to Learn suggests that the majority of students have a

moderate level of motivation to learn English. The highest rated items, such as *having a great wish to learn more than the basics of English* and *Studying English can be vital to me because it will allow me to be more at ease with a fellow foreigner who speaks English*, suggest that students may have a practical or personal interest in learning English (Bashori et al. 1058-1089). The lower rated item, when I have a problem understanding something we are learning in my English class, I always ask the instructor for help, indicates that some students may feel hesitant to seek help or may not have a supportive learning environment. Overall, understanding students' motivation to learn can help teachers design effective language learning strategies and interventions to support students' language learning needs.

The result found on Table 3 can be supported using Self-Determination Theory (SDT) found on the work of Ryan et al. (300-306). According to SDT, motivation is a continuum ranging from extrinsic to intrinsic, with intrinsic motivation being the most desirable. Personal interest and enjoyment drive intrinsic motivation, whereas external rewards or punishments drive extrinsic motivation.

The moderate overall mean for Motivation to Learn indicates that students are motivated to learn English on occasion, which could be due to a combination of intrinsic and extrinsic factors. Students, for example, may be motivated to learn English because they enjoy it or recognize the value of English in their future career prospects. Intrinsic factors are those that come from within the learner. They include things like enjoyment, interest, and a sense of challenge (Alamri et. al 322-352). Extrinsic factors are those that come from outside the learner. They include things like grades, rewards, and parental pressure (Ulfa and Bania 163-170).

According to SDT, satisfying three basic psychological needs: autonomy, competence, and relatedness, can boost intrinsic motivation. Promoting autonomy, competence, and relatedness in English language learning can thus improve students' motivation and language learning outcomes (Alamer, Abdullah and Al Khateeb 149-175).

Table 3. *Level of Motivation to Learn*

Item	SD	Mean	Descriptive Level
Having a great wish to learn more than the basics of English.	1.36	3.31	Moderate
Studying English can be vital to me because it will allow me to be more at ease with a fellow foreigner who speaks English.	1.36	3.31	Moderate
Studying English is essential for me so that I can graduate from school.	1.38	3.31	Moderate
Studying English can be essential for me because it will allow me to meet and converse with more varied people.	1.36	3.26	Moderate
Having the desire to learn English.	1.35	3.25	Moderate
I try to understand all the English I see and hear.	1.37	3.23	Moderate
Trying to understand the more complex aspects of English.	1.35	3.22	Moderate
Thinking that learning English is fun.	1.29	3.14	Moderate
Enjoying learning English.	1.31	3.12	Moderate
Treating English as an essential part of my program.	1.29	3.07	Moderate
Doing the checking of my corrected assignments in my English course.	1.26	3.00	Moderate
Keeping up to date with English by working on it almost every day.	1.17	2.96	Moderate

Tending to approach my English homework in a planned manner.	1.13	2.85	Moderate
When studying English, I ignore distractions and stick to the job at hand.	1.08	2.77	Moderate
When I have a problem understanding something we are learning in my English class, I always ask the instructor for help.	1.11	1.89	Low
Overall	0.92	3.11	Moderate

Significance of the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement

The correlation between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement, the independent and dependent variable respectively, were measured using the Pearson correlation test and yielded four out of twelve significant bivariate correlations and an overall significant correlation. In totality, Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Language Learning Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.135$, $p=0.010$. It was found out that: First, Affective Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Speaking Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.188$, $p<.001$. Second, Affective Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Writing Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.105$, $p=0.048$. Third, Behavioral Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Writing Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.127$, $p=0.016$. Lastly, Cognitive Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Writing Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.116$, $p=0.028$.

Reflecting on the data below, there is a positive relationship between student engagement and language learning problems among Senior High School students in Grades 11 and 12. Affective, behavioral, and cognitive student engagement were found to be significantly related to writing skill problems, whereas affective student engagement was found to be significantly related to speaking skill problems. This finding is in collusion with the notion of Esra and Sevilen (11-22), where they stated that students who are more engaged in their English classes have fewer language learning issues, particularly in their writing and speaking skills. The researchers found that engaged students were more likely to participate in class discussions, ask questions, and complete homework assignments. They were also more likely to feel confident in their ability to communicate in English. Feng and Papi (163-170) have found that engaged students are more likely to achieve higher levels of proficiency in a new language, and they are also more likely to persist in their language learning efforts.

Table 4. *Significance of the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement*

Language Learning Problems	Student Engagement			
	Affective	Behavioral	Cognitive	Overall

Speaking Skills	.188** .000	.096 .069	.084 .111	.148** .005
Listening Skills	.098 .064	.044 .404	.024 .648	.067 .208
Reading Skills	.092 .082	.071 .181	.062 .242	.091 .085
Writing Skills	.105* .048	.127* .016	.116* .028	.141** .007
Overall	.145** .006	.102 .053	.087 .101	.135* .010

This result is also consistent with Vygotsky's Collaborative and Social Learning Theory found on the work of Gopinathan (6844), which emphasizes the importance of social interaction and collaboration in learning. According to Vygotsky, students learn best when they interact with others in meaningful ways, such as collaborative writing activities, group discussions, and peer feedback. Students who are more engaged in their English classes are more likely to benefit from the social and collaborative nature of learning, which can lead to better language learning outcomes.

Significance of the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn

The correlation between Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn, the independent and mediating variable respectively, were measured using the Pearson correlation test and did not yield out significant bivariate correlations, nor an overall significant correlation. In totality, Motivation to Learn negatively and insignificantly correlated with the Language Learning Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=-0.060$, $p=0.255$. It was found out that: First, Motivation to Learn negatively and insignificantly correlated with the Speaking Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=-0.063$, $p=0.230$. Second, Motivation to Learn negatively and insignificantly correlated with the Listening Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=-0.090$, $p=0.087$. Third, Motivation to Learn negatively and insignificantly correlated with the Reading Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=-0.003$, $p=0.951$. Lastly, Motivation to Learn negatively and insignificantly correlated with the Writing Skill Problems of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=-0.045$, $p=0.396$.

Self-Determination Theory (SDT) proposed by Ryan and Deci posits that intrinsic motivation leads to more engagement, satisfaction, and better performance. However, the result presented here suggests that motivation to learn does not have a significant relationship with language learning problems. This finding may be explained by other factors that affect motivation, such as self-efficacy, task value, and interest. The lack of significant correlation between motivation and language learning

problems in the study you provided may suggest that extrinsic motivation or amotivation may play a stronger role in affecting language learning problems among the participants (Tanaka 306-320).

Extrinsic motivation refers to motivation that is driven by external factors, such as rewards or punishments (Borah 550-552). Amotivation refers to a lack of motivation, or a feeling of hopelessness about one's ability to succeed (Tao et. al 2941). This notion is supported by Chemsu et al. (17-29) stating that the theory also acknowledges the role of extrinsic motivation and amotivation, which are not related to autonomous and self-determined behavior, in influencing behavior and performance. The lack of significant correlation in this study may suggest that extrinsic motivation or amotivation may play a stronger role in affecting language learning problems among the participants. Further research may be needed to explore this relationship more thoroughly.

One theory that may support this result is the Social Cognitive Theory (SCT) proposed by Bandura found on the work of Schunk et al. (243-261). SCT posits that individuals' behavior is influenced by their personal, behavioral, and environmental factors. In this case, the personal factors may include the students' self-efficacy, while the behavioral factors may include their study habits and the feedback they receive from their teachers. The environmental factors may include the support they receive from their family and peers.

Table 5. *Significance of the Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Motivation to Learn*

Language Learning Problems	Motivation to Learn
Speaking Skills	-.063 .230
Listening Skills	-.090 .087
Reading Skills	-.003 .951
Writing Skills	-.045 .396
Overall	-.060 .255

Therefore, although motivation is an important factor in language learning, it may not be the only factor that affects language learning problems. Other personal, behavioral, and environmental factors may also play a role in students' language learning outcomes.

Significance of the Relationship between Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement

The correlation between Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement, the mediating and dependent variable respectively, were measured using the Pearson correlation test and yield out significant bivariate correlations, and an overall significant correlation. In totality, Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Motivation to Learn of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.579$, $p<0.001$. It was found out that: First, Affective Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Motivation to Learn of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.443$, $p<0.001$. Second, Behavioral Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Motivation to Learn of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.530$, $p<0.001$. Lastly, Cognitive Student Engagement positively and significantly correlated with the Motivation to Learn of the Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students, $r=0.450$, $p<0.001$.

The findings support Locke and Latham's Goal-Setting Theory (93), which states that setting goals can lead to increased motivation and performance. The positive and significant correlation between Student Engagement and Motivation to Learn found in this study suggests that students are more motivated to learn when they are engaged in their learning. This idea is in coherence with the notion of Lee, Ho, and Chen (1-25), where they posited that the positive relationship between specific types of student engagement (affective, behavioral, and cognitive) and Motivation to Learn provides additional evidence that engaging students in different ways can increase their motivation. When students are engaged in their learning, they are more likely to set specific, challenging, and attainable goals for themselves. This, in turn, can lead to increased motivation and improved performance (Locke and Latham 93). Overall, the findings indicate that encouraging student engagement can be an effective strategy for increasing motivation and improving learning outcomes, which is consistent with the Goal-Setting Theory's principles.

Table 6. Significance on the Relationship between Motivation to Learn and Student Engagement

Motivation to Learn	Student Engagement			
	Affective	Behavioral	Cognitive	Overall
	.443**	.530**	.450**	.579**
	.000	.000	.000	.000

The Interceding Effect of Motivation to Learn on the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement

Results below present the interceding effect of Motivation to Learn on the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement. Using Mediation Analysis, as discussed by McKinnon et al. (598) found on the work of Newsom (1) on Structural Equation Modelling, along with Path Analysis (Jenatabadi), it has revealed the following:

First, as presented in Table 7, when conducting a simple regression analysis to determine the direct relationship with Language Learning Problems predicting Student Engagement for Path C (Standard C) alone, it is revealed that the Language Learning Problems of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students significantly affects their Engagement in their classes ($\beta=.21, p<.05$)

Table 7. Simple Regression for Path C (Standard C)

Standard C (Before Mediation)	Estimate (β)	S.E.	C.R.	P	Label
STE <-- LLP	.206	.080	2.580	.010	Sig.

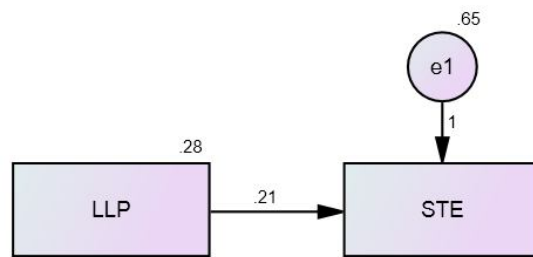


Figure 2. Path Diagram for the Direct Relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement before mediation

Second, as presented in Table 8, when conducting a simple regression analysis to determine the direct relationship with Language Learning Problems predicting Motivation to Learn to test for Path A, it is revealed that the Language Learning Problems of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students does not significantly affect their Motivation to Learn ($\beta=-.10, p=.25$)

Third, as presented in Table 11, when conducting a multiple regression analysis to determine the direct relationship with Motivation to Learn predicting Student Engagement for Path B and Language Learning Problems predicting Student Engagement for Path C' (C Prime), it is revealed that the Motivation to Learn of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students significantly affects their Engagement in their classes ($\beta=.523, p<.001$), and after Motivation to Learn has interceded, the Language Learning Problems of Grade 11 and 12 Senior High School Students still significantly affects their Student Engagement ($\beta=.26, p<.005$)

With traditional methods in interpreting the mediation data like with Baron and Kenny as discussed in the book of Warner (645-687) on testing if the predictor variable (X, Language Learning Problems) affects the mediator variable (M, Motivation to Learn), If X and M have no relationship, M is just a third variable that may or may not be associated with Y since a mediation makes sense only if X affects M.

But with modern techniques, like the one proposed by McKinnon et al. (598) found on the work of Newsom (1) on Path Analysis for Structural Equation Modelling, it is revealed that assuming there are significant relationships from Steps 1 through 3, one proceeds to Step 4. With the aid of the Step 4 model, some form of mediation is supported if the effect of M (path b) remains significant after controlling for X and

since X is still significant (i.e., both X and M both significantly predict Y), the finding of this study supports partial mediation.

Table 8. Regression Weights for the Paths A, B, and C' (C Prime)

Path Analysis of Three Variables.			Estimate (β)	S.E.	C.R.	P	Label
MT L	<---	LLP (Path A)	-.103	.091	-1.142	.253	Not Sig.
STE	<---	LLP (Path C')	.260	.064	4.038	<.005	Sig.
STE	<---	MTL (Path B)	.523	.038	13.940	<.005	Sig.

Overall, the study's result points out that: First, the higher engagement students have with their English classes, the fewer problems in Language Learning the students will experience. This implies that engaged students are motivated to learn and are invested in their education, which can lead to a more positive and successful learning experience.

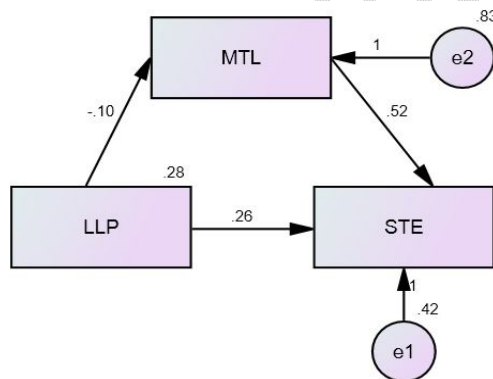


Figure 3. Path Diagram for the Direct Relationship between LLP & MTL and MTL and STE, and Indirect Relationship between LLP & STE after mediation.

This result coincides with the idea of Mercer (643-660), where they stated that students who are engaged in their classes are more likely to put in the effort to learn and practice the language, which can lead to a greater sense of accomplishment and a higher level of confidence in using the language. Second, the more motivated the students are with learning the language, the less they will experience problems with learning the English language. This implies that when students are motivated to learn, they are more likely to put in the effort to acquire the language, which can lead to a more positive and successful learning experience.

This idea coincides with the notion of Alawamleh, Al-Twait, and Al-Saht, where they discussed that when students are motivated to learn, they are more likely to put in the effort to study, practice, and use the language that can lead to a greater sense

of accomplishment and a higher level of confidence in using the language (380-400). Lastly, as students' motivation to learn the language increases, so does their class engagement.

This implies that motivation is a crucial factor in language learning, and when students are motivated to learn, they tend to be more engaged in the class and in the learning process. This idea is aligned with the discussion of Nagle (1-25) where they elucidated that this can lead to a more well-rounded understanding of the language and can make the learning experience more enjoyable, which as a result, enables students to be more inclined to pay attention and participate in class discussions and activities (1238-1256).

The conclusions presented coincides with the Socio-educational Model of Gardner (21-37). The idea that engagement in the class and motivation to learn the language are positively correlated with fewer language learning problems aligns with the notion that socio-cultural and motivational factors contribute to language learning. Gardner's Socio-educational Model emphasizes the role of motivation and attitudes in language learning, and the conclusions drawn in this study support this idea.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter focuses on the presentation of the conclusions and discussions derived from the results of the study conducted by the researcher. This will specifically present the encapsulation of the results and findings of the study, as well as the recommendations that are based on the findings/results of the study.

The findings on the language learning problem levels in Grade 11 and Grade 12 are low, which also shows consistency with the specific indicators of speaking, reading, writing, and listening skills. This implies that that have high language learning, as their problems are never manifested and/or observed. Despite the result yielding a "low" result, teachers should still address learners' problems, particularly in Writing, as this is the highest among the four indicators in terms of the Mean Value. Teachers could offer opportunities for students to practice and apply their writing skills in various contexts, such as creative writing assignments, research papers, or presentations. External Stakeholders could encourage community members to serve as mentors or volunteers to provide additional support and guidance to students who struggle with writing.

Parents could foster open lines of communication between parents and teachers to address any concerns or challenges related to writing skills. Future researchers could examine the long-term effects of addressing writing problems on students' overall language proficiency and academic achievement. Lastly, Academic institutions could allocate resources for the development of writing support programs or writing centers within the academic institution. These centers can provide additional guidance, tutoring, and resources for students to improve their writing skills.

The figures of engagement among respondents show that they have a moderate level of student engagement in terms of the affective, cognitive, and

behavioral aspects. Each indicator also shows that they have moderate levels of student engagement. Teachers can implement strategies to enhance behavioral engagement, such as setting clear expectations, establishing routines, and providing timely feedback. Encourage students' active involvement in classroom activities and offer opportunities for them to take ownership of their learning. External Stakeholders could collaborate with schools to organize community events and initiatives that promote student engagement. Provide platforms for students to showcase their talents, participate in community service, and engage in real-world applications of their learning.

Parents can advocate for the importance of student engagement at parent-teacher meetings and school events. Collaborate with teachers and school administrators to promote initiatives that enhance student engagement. Future researchers could Conduct research on effective interventions and support systems to enhance student engagement. Examine the effectiveness of different pedagogical approaches, technology integration, and student-centered learning methods. Academic institutions could provide professional development opportunities for teachers to enhance their knowledge and skills in promoting student engagement. Offer training on effective instructional strategies, classroom management techniques, and methods for fostering a positive learning environment.

The learning motivation level of Grade 11 and 12 students is moderate. Teachers could offer a variety of learning options and opportunities for students to explore their interests and personalize their learning experience, which can enhance their motivation. External Stakeholders could encourage community members to serve as mentors or guest speakers, inspiring students and showcasing the practical benefits of education. Parents could foster a supportive home environment that encourages and values learning. Engage in regular communication with parents to update them on their child's progress and provide resources or suggestions for promoting motivation at home. Future researchers could investigate effective strategies and interventions that can enhance student motivation and engagement in the learning process. Lastly, academic institutions could incorporate student-centered and inquiry-based approaches to teaching that promote intrinsic motivation and autonomy.

A significant relationship is established between the language learning problems and student engagement of Grade 11 and Grade 12 students. Teachers could implement instructional strategies that address the specific language skills in which students face challenges, such as writing, speaking, reading, or listening. External Stakeholders could collaborate with community organizations and resources to provide additional language learning support for students outside of the school setting. Parents could encourage open communication between parents and teachers to address language learning problems and their impact on student engagement. Future researchers could investigate effective interventions or strategies that can mitigate the impact of language learning problems on student engagement. Lastly, Academic Institutions could allocate resources and support services to provide targeted assistance for students with language learning problems, ensuring their needs are met and their engagement is maximized.

Regardless of the student's language learning problems, their motivation to learn does not vary. This implies that Language Learning Problem does not affect Motivation to Learn. Teachers could implement differentiated instructional strategies to address the specific needs of students with language learning problems, while also promoting their motivation to learn. External Stakeholders could collaborate with schools to organize motivational workshops or events that inspire and engage students in their language learning journey. Parents could organize parent workshops or information sessions to educate them about effective strategies to nurture their child's motivation to learn, irrespective of language learning problems. Future researchers could explore qualitative approaches to gain a deeper understanding of students' intrinsic motivation and resilience in the face of language learning challenges. Lastly, Academic Institutions could establish a collaborative support system within the academic institution, involving counselors, learning specialists, and other professionals to address both language learning problems and motivation-related issues.

The student's motivation to learn influences student engagement. Teachers could regularly assess and monitor students' motivation levels and adjust instruction accordingly to maintain high levels of student engagement. External Stakeholders could collaborate with schools to organize motivational events or workshops that inspire and encourage students to stay engaged in their learning journey. Parents could support and reinforce students' motivation to learn at home by creating a positive and supportive learning environment. Future researchers could conduct further research to explore the specific factors and mechanisms through which motivation influences student engagement, considering both intrinsic and extrinsic motivational factors. Lastly, Academic Institutions could implement school-wide programs and initiatives that foster a positive and motivating learning environment, including recognition systems, student-led activities, and community partnerships.

Motivation to learn partially influences the relationship between Language Learning Problems and Student Engagement. Teachers could foster a positive and motivating classroom environment that encourages students to develop intrinsic motivation for learning. Incorporate engaging teaching methods, relevant and meaningful activities, and opportunities for student autonomy and choice. External Stakeholders could collaborate with schools to organize motivational events or workshops that promote the importance of education and provide role models and mentors who can inspire and motivate students. Parents could foster a supportive and encouraging home environment that emphasizes the value of education and motivates students to engage in their learning. Communicate regularly with teachers to understand and address any language learning problems and motivational issues. Future Researchers could further investigate the specific factors and mechanisms through which motivation influences the relationship between language learning problems and student engagement. Explore potential moderators or mediators that could provide a deeper understanding of this relationship. Lastly, Academic Institutions could implement comprehensive support systems that address both language learning problems and motivation. This can include additional language

support programs, counseling services, and collaborative efforts between teachers, counselors, and support staff.

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