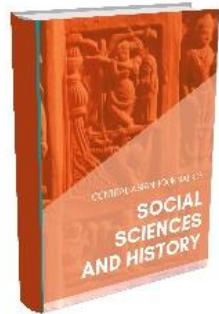




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## Individual Differences in Learning Process

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### Abstract:

This research is a mini-research study, which aims to find out the point of view of educators on the differences of students in the learning process. Understanding the point of view of students becomes a comparison and evaluation material for educators. This study uses a qualitative method, with an interview technique. The research was carried out under additional tutoring or daily courses with the XII class students who came from different schools. Based on the results of the study, it was found that every student has differences, both physically and non-physically, these differences are motivated by various factors, namely heredity, environment, independence, and interests or talents. In the learning process, the dominant difference is in intelligence. Individual intelligence from point of view of students can be assessed by educators based on aspects of their knowledge, attitudes, and skills. Individual intelligence can be also influenced by the factors of interest and learning styles. Every child has its advantages and disadvantages, children with low levels of intelligence need to be a concern for educators by recognizing differences in other individual intelligence.

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## INTRODUCTION

Individual differences are seen in personality and cognitive abilities. The behavior, in general, has largely ignored individual differences, focusing on individual behavior rather than group averages. The differences between individuals that distinguish themselves are different from the average state. The environment has a very significant influence on these differences. It can be seen from how profound the individual understanding of the learning material is from complex to relatively easy. Educators must be able to understand and provide action against these differences at every level of education (Williams et al, 2008).

The difference between each child is something special. Every child has differences in each of them, especially individuals who are not blood-related. This thing of course differs from one child to another. Talking about the development of students, each child can have individual characteristics that are different from other children. Every child is unique, although were born from the same womb, raised in the same environment, each child may grow and develop into a different person, both physically and psychologically, socially and spiritually. The difference between children's characters is a special trait in them. These differences usually make children diverse, even from these differences, they can be used as a lesson for children. Individual differences or differences in children can be seen from the level of intelligence, talent, learning style, and level of creativity.

Differences in children should not be used as one of the inequalities in accepting new things. In this case, we can relate it between individual differences in children in the education world. Every child has a high level of knowledge and intelligence, but the level of intelligence is always measured by knowledge and academic grades. Many children have shortcomings and have limitations in capturing knowledge in the academic field, but these children can have advantages and disadvantages in the non-academic world, for example in the world of music, drawing, sports, and others.

Lately, a lot has happened in schools, that many teachers think that children who are not able to answer and work on questions, have low test scores, and are sometimes lazy to listen to teacher explanations are often said to be less intelligent (obtuse) and are often called a lazy kid. Sometimes children like this do not get the attention of the teacher, on the contrary, the ones who are the center of attention are those who excel and are diligent, even though all children are the same. In a case like this, the author is interested in bringing up an article title regarding the views of students about individual differences in the learning process (intelligence), therefore educators can see individual differences, especially in students. When we know these differences, this can be a consideration and evaluation for us as educators.

## METHODS

In this study, researchers used the qualitative research method. With interview data collection techniques, namely giving questions to informants directly, and the results of these interviews will be the data in this study. The informants in this study are people who will provide research information related to the questions that will be asked by researchers (Sugiyoni, 2012). In this study, the researcher took the informants from XII graders, because the researchers considered that this class was full of informants who already had an understanding of the title of this research taken. The data analysis in this research is using interactive analysis techniques, namely data collection, data reduction, data presentation, and verification or drawing conclusions.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Students are people who are trying to develop the potential that exists in themselves, through the learning process, both formal education and non-formal education. Each student has advantages and disadvantages because each student is different. Differences from students can be seen from the physical and non-physical. These differences are the potentials that will lead to various types of student behavior. Physically, they are different based on their skin color, hair type, body posture, and other physical features (Dimyati, 1989). From the differences, we can see that God's creations are very beautiful and each one has its characteristics, has its advantages, and has its drawbacks.

Suralaga (2021) suggests that the individual views of students are also influenced by psychological factors, such as intelligence, emotions, motivations, interests, and learning styles. Intellectual intelligence is the mental ability to think rationally. Individuals behave intelligently if they can do something effectively and rationally. In line with what was stated by Santrock (2008), intelligence is the ability to solve problems and adapt and learn from life experiences. This explanation shows that intelligence is the potential ability of individuals to adapt and solve problems they faced in daily life according to their developmental tasks.

Wechsler in Suralaga (2021), states that the qualifications of children's intelligence levels can be distinguished between children who have normal (average), above normal and below-normal intelligence. Children who have intelligence above the average are called intellectually gifted children (gifted), while children who have intelligence below the average are called mentally retarded. Both intellectually gifted and mentally retarded children are still children with special needs so that they require special education services.

Based on the results of observations and interviews with the students who take additional tutoring or it can be said that additional daily course at the XII grade of education level from different schools in Padang City is one of the tutoring sessions, it was found:

### **1. Point of Views About Differences Between Individuals**

Students understand that each individual is different, the differences within a person or the individual are also diverse, it can be seen from the physical, attitude, aptitude (intelligence), talent, creativity, interest, learning style, and other things. Differences in individuals are motivated by several factors, such as heredity, environment, interests, independence, and even these factors are also found in the individuals themselves. These factors will make each different. The differences that exist are not something that should be a problem, but the differences can also be used as an advantage or can be said to be a gift, as is the case in this additional tutoring class. In the class itself, there are already pupils from various schools from Padang city, the differences that happen can be used as the strengths and advantages plus it can add some more insights and knowledge between them. Differences in individuals can be used as something that complements each other if we associate it with the learning process. In the learning process, some students have such a low level of certain subject understanding, some students have a high level of understanding. When a student has a low understanding ability, students who have a high understanding can share their comprehension by teaching it. Differences within the individual must be used as a medium to complement and understand each other. Individual differences also being able to cause some problems due to the lack of understanding in responding to things around them, especially to themselves. Based on the obtained data, the differences in individuals that appear to be the most different and the most dominant are differences in aptitude (intelligence). Aptitude or intelligence is a person's mental ability that involves such as a rational

thinking ability. Intelligence cannot be seen directly but must be concluded from various real actions.

## 2. Individual Differences in Learning Process

Based on the results from the informant interviews, in the world of education especially in schools, individual differences tend to be seen from the level of intelligence. A person's level of intelligence can be seen in various ways, including; how are they answer questions, what about test scores, how active they are in the classroom, and sometimes can be seen from the teacher's response to students who have high intelligence. The response of education staff/teachers to students can be seen based on how they respond and deal with students, from things like that, other students can assess and see the advantages and differences in students, especially in terms of their aptitude/intelligence. Each student is the same, the difference is that they have their respective advantages and disadvantages, and each student is smart and intelligent in their own space. See aptitude and intelligence, it is not always measured from the academic field, but can be measured from other aspects, such as in the world of sports, drawing, dancing, and so on.

It's just that in the learning process teachers are more likely to judge students based on three aspects; knowledge, skills, and attitudes. Sometimes the teacher's response to students seems to have a clear difference. The differences made by the teacher can affect the student's aptitude or intelligence, this is because students think they are not appreciated by the teacher, on the other hand, who is used to be the center of attention are people who have such high intelligence, so that it can affect students' interest in learning. Interest is one of the factors that affect a person's level of intelligence because interest will direct actions to something that will be addressed, interest can be used as an impetus to do something.

The results of the research above towards students regarding individual differences can be described as following points; 1) First, students know that they have differences between themselves and their friends around them, both physically and non-physically; 2) Secondly, the dominant difference in learning is the level of intelligence, because the level of individual intelligence can be directly assessed from various aspects, such as their responses on how to answer questions, activity, test scores, and teacher responses to students or the teacher assessments; 3) Thirdly: the level of intelligence of each individual is different, some are intelligent in the academic world and some are intelligent and superior in non-academic fields because a child's intelligence cannot be measured only by test scores, the ability to answer questions, and other things, but intelligence children can be measured in terms of where they are good at and more; and 4) Fourthly: a child's intelligence can be influenced by learning styles, each child has a different learning style, some prefer to write, some prefer to memorize, some prefer to move and walk (visual/audio/kinesthetic). All of that can be one of the factors that affect the intelligence of children.

Gohm (2003), suggests the importance of the special assessment for the type of individual (the hot type) who is more reactive to emotional situations than others. Other types of individuals (the overwhelmed type), set the moods differently from one another which causes these individuals to make a different assessment. Other types of individuals are unable or unwilling to utilize critical effective information.

## CONCLUSIONS

Each individual has their characteristics and they are very different. In general, individual characteristics can be distinguished into physical, psychological, and social characters, from the aspects of learning style, personality, and safety. The different comprehension between concepts and

factors understood by students, individual differences between themselves and their friends around them are important. In the learning process, the most dominant difference is the ability in aptitude/intelligence, which is influenced by interest factors and learning styles. Educators need to understand that each student is different and excels in on their way.

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