

**ABSTRACT**

English also stands as the vehicular language for the Military, in an international geo-political scenario marked by the globalization of conflicts. The Sri Lanka Army has taken steps to enhance English language competency of its members to be compatible to this scenario. As a part of Sri Lanka Army, junior officers of Vijayabahu Infantry Regiment (VIR) need to enhance their English language competency. Therefore the current research aimed to find out the impact of English language competency of junior officers in the VIR on their professionalism and find out ways to enhance their English language competency. The main objective of this research was to find out whether English language competency of junior officers in the VIR is adequate to achieve success in their future promotions and appointments and to find out the ways to enhance English language competency of junior officers in the VIR. A non-experimental approach will be used in this study to examine the relationship between English language proficiency and professionalism of junior officers in VIR. The primary data were collected by using a standardized self-reported questionnaire administered to a randomly selected 100 junior officers from all the battalions in VIR. Other than that five senior officers in VIR, five English instructors in Army and five officers from Asian region were interviewed orally. According to the findings of the research, the negative attitudes, poor English background before joining to the Army and unavailability of effective English language training courses are effect negatively to English language competency to the junior officers in VIR. According to the findings, researcher was given recommendations. Main recommendations are increase the level of English language competency before joining to the Army, conduct of pre English training prior to enlistment to the Army and Increase the individual commitment and interest.