

## **An Analysis of the Reading Attitudes of Elementary School Fourth and Fifth Grade Students**

### **Abstract**

The purpose of this study conducted according to the survey model is to utilize the “Scale of Attitudes Towards Reading” developed by Ünal (2006) and thereby assess the reading attitudes of elementary school students based on different variables. The working group consists of 746 students of the fourth and fifth grades of official elementary schools attached to central Niğde province. In the light of the data obtained the results show that while students have a positive attitude to reading, there are meaningful differences in their reading attitudes based on the schools they attend, their gender and their regular reading habits, while their reading attitudes based on grade levels and their parents’ level of education do not show a meaningful difference.

**Key words:** *reading, attitude, reading attitude, school, grade, gender.*

### **Introduction**

Reading is among the most important determinants in developing a person’s vision that shapes his or her personality and that makes him or her become closer to other individuals. Reading makes individuals truly free and protects them from ignorance and false beliefs (Demirel, 2003: 78). There is a strong correlation in raising individuals who can undertake effective communication with written culture, who can convey their sentiments and thoughts correctly and completely and who prefer to resolve problems by using their communication skills with individuals attaining reading skills and habits (Sever, 2004: 20). Reading and skills in drawing