

Creativity of Upper Primary School Students

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Abstract

The main objective of the study was to study the creativity of students at upper primary level. The study consisted of 64 upper primary school students from Coimbatore district of Tamil Nadu State as the sample. Passi test of Creativity was used as the research tool of the study. Statistical techniques - mean, SD and 't' test were used for analyzing the collected data. The main finding of the study shows that the creativity of the selected upper primary school students is in average level.

Key words: Creativity, Seeing Problem, Unusual Use, Consequence and Upper Primary school

Introduction

Creativity is a unique gift of nature, a highly valued human quality which has been known for a long time to have its influence on scientific, technological and artistic spheres of human activity. The rapidly changing demands and challenges existing in the world today have almost necessarily been accompanied by creative expression and contributions from talented persons. When we look critically at the present day educational practice, one of the lacunae is a lack of importance given to creativity. Teachers with initiative and optimistic tendencies promote a lot of life skills among the students. Especially, at primary school level, it can provide a lot of opportunities to develop and enforce creativity among the children. Children at this level want free and secure atmosphere to venture with creativity. They are enthusiastic and energetic. They require little guidance and prompting. With this background, the present study is undertaken to study the level of creativity of students at upper primary level.

Objectives of the Study

The following are the objectives of the study.

- To investigate the creativity of the upper primary school students, and
- To know whether there is any significant difference between the creativity of male and female students.

Methodology

Sample

The study consisted of samples from Coimbatore area. A total of 64 upper primary students were selected randomly. Among them, 32 students were boys and the remaining were girls.

Tool Used

The investigator used the Verbal Creativity Test developed by Passi (1979). Actually, the battery consists of six sub-tests (both verbal:1-3, and non-verbal:4-6), namely, The Seeing Problem Test, The Unusual Uses Test, The Consequences Test, The Test of Inquisitiveness, The Square Puzzle Test and The Blocks Test of Creativity.

In this study, the investigators used only the first three tests to know the verbal creativity of the selected samples.

The scoring procedure is given as follows.

In 'Seeing Problem Test' the scores between

- 0-10 indicates low creativity
- 11-20 indicates average creativity, and
- 21-30 indicates high creativity

In 'Unusual Use Test' the scores between

- 0-15 indicates low creativity
- 16-30 indicates average creativity, and
- 31-45 indicates high creativity

In 'Consequence Test' the scores between

- 0-20 indicates low creativity
- 21-40 indicates average creativity, and
- 41- 60 indicates high creativity

In general, verbal creativity test score between

- 0-40 indicates low creativity
- 41-80 indicates average creativity, and
- 81-120 indicates high creativity

Findings**Verbal Creativity of the Students at Upper Primary School Level**

The mean and standard deviation scores of the students in creativity test are 60.11 and 17.823.

Seeing Problem Test

- 18% of the selected upper primary school students possess low creativity in Seeing Problem test,
- 76% of the selected upper primary students have average creativity in Seeing Problem test,
- 6% of the selected upper primary students have high creativity in Seeing Problem test.

- That is, most of the selected upper primary students have average creativity in Seeing Problem Test.

Unusual Use Test

- 31% of the selected upper primary students hold low creativity in Unusual use test,
- 57% of the selected upper primary students are having average creativity in Unusual use test,
- 12% of the selected upper primary students have high creativity in Unusual use test.
- That is, most of the selected upper primary students have average creativity in Unusual use test.

Consequence Test

- 26% of the selected upper primary students have low creativity in Consequence test,
- 61% of the selected upper primary students have average creativity in Consequence test,
- 13% of the selected upper primary students possess high creativity in Consequence test.
- That is, most of the selected upper primary students are under average creativity in Consequence Test.

Verbal Creativity Test in General

- 10% of the selected upper primary students have low creativity,
- 81% of the selected upper primary students have average creativity,
- 9% of the selected upper primary students have high creativity.
- That is, most of the selected upper primary students are having average creativity in verbal test.

Comparison of Creativity of Male and Female Students

The following table shows the mean and standard deviation (SD) score of the boys and girls students and it also shows the comparison of their mean scores in Verbal Creativity test.

Table 1 Comparison of Mean Creativity Scores - Gender wise

Scores in	Gender	N	Mean	SD	t
Seeing Problem Test	Male	50	12.34	3.549	3.07
	Female	50	14.64	3.932	
Unusual Use Test	Male	50	19.02	8.918	0.78
	Female	50	20.28	7.126	
Consequence Test	Male	50	25.9	9.861	1.03
	Female	50	28.04	10.889	
Verbal Creativity	Male	50	57.26	18.096	1.612
	Female	50	62.96	17.255	

The table indicates that

- The calculated 't' value in 'seeing problem test' is 3.07 which is greater than the table 't' value at 0.05 level. It shows that there is a significant difference between the creativity in 'seeing problem test' of male and female students.
- The calculated 't' value in 'unusual use test' is 0.78 which is less than the table 't' value at 0.05 level. It shows that there is no significant difference between the creativity in 'unusual use test' of male and female students.
- The calculated 't' value in 'consequence test' is 1.03 which is less than the table 't' value at 0.05 level. It shows that there is no significant difference between the creativity in 'consequence test' of male and female students.
- In general, the calculated 't' value in 'verbal creativity test' is 1.612 which is less than the table 't' value at 0.05 level. It shows that there is no significant difference in creativity in 'verbal creativity test' of male and female students.

Conclusion

The main finding of the study shows that the creativity of the selected upper primary school students is in average level. So, the teachers of primary section should take necessary steps to improve students' creative thinking. The teachers and parents should encourage the students to participate in all kinds of school academic activities. They also encourage the reading habits among the primary school students regularly. Teachers should help their students to ask doubts in curricular and co-curricular activities without fear.

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