

P - 705 Second Language Learners' Expectations Of Classroom Communication

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Effective classroom teaching is more often than not aided by effective classroom communication of the teachers or instructors. Teaching behaviours have been studied in various arenas in higher education. Many studies have found that while most universities offer a traditional face-to-face communication format to deliver their courses, few offer them in online communication format. Since communication in the classroom is mostly oral rather than written, many students equate being able to learn in the classroom with the effective communication of the instructor. That is, the appropriate use of the instructional language by the lecturer. This study, therefore, investigated the perceptions and expectations of students from two faculties in TWINTECH (Faculty of Business and Faculty of Music) of classroom communication. This research was conducted using a quantitative research approach; 150 students both local and international participated in the study; the data were gathered via a self-administered questionnaire. Principal component analysis (PCA) was used to validate both the questionnaire items and item construct (latent variables). The Pearson product moment correlation coefficient was used to examine the relationship between the age of the respondents and the learners' perception of classroom communication score, the independent t-test was used to investigate the differences in students' perceptions with regard to their gender. The findings show that most students in this study have a positive perception towards classroom communication and that of those who have a negative perception, it is as a result of their lack of communication ability in the class, and that the better students have a higher positive perception towards classroom communication than the weak ones.

P - 706 Economic Literacy Among Malaysian Students

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Economic literacy, economic awareness, and economic understanding, are terms which are synonymously, interchangeably and regularly used in the literature. Economic literacy demonstrated specified performance standards and is acquired under conditions of mastery learning and teachings about the economy, economic awareness connote "the raising of consciousness on economic affairs." The inundate Report of HMI on Economic Understanding in the School Curriculum in 1987 called for the need for pupils to have an insight into the cumulative economic wisdom of society and a sufficient understanding to apply it successfully to practical situations. This study ascertains the level of economic literacy among Malaysia students. In this study, the economic literacy was measured by using the America Test for Economic Literacy (TEL). The findings revealed that Malaysia students were lacking in overall economic literacy as measured by the TEL. Furthermore, the teaching of economic helps students to understand economic concepts; students with economic background scored significantly than those without economics background. The findings also led to some revealing conclusion: larger percentage of Malaysian students lacked knowledge of economics and that exposure to an economics course had positive effect on the students' performance on the TEL. Findings also showed that there is low emphasis on economic education in Malaysia schools.