

Investigating the relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance in adolescents' writing, thinking and lifestyle lessons

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Abstract

The present study investigates the relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance of adolescents in writing, thinking and lifestyle in the statistical population of all first grade high school students in Babolsar in the academic year of 2017-2018. The sample is selected by one-stage cluster sampling method and then simple random selection of 60 students, the data are obtained through the implementation of the Averill(1999) Emotional Creation Inventory (ECI) and the teacher-made test in writing, thinking, and lifestyle. Research method is descriptive-correlational. The general finding shows that there is a significant positive relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance in writing lesson, thinking and lifestyle respectively $R =$

0.199 at the level of $P = 0.127$ and $R = 0.315$ and $P = 0.014$.

Keywords: emotional creativity, academic performance, writing lesson, thinking and lifestyle. scientists and researchers in the educational sciences. Since the beginning of the twentieth century many researchers such as Moman and Lai, then Clapard, Maria Montessori, John Dewey, Herbert, Thorndike and his colleagues and in many countries have conducted extensive researches on the effectiveness of the teaching methods in all lessons for 40 years (Afshar 2011 P. 183)

Today, teaching approaches are focused on novelty, creativity, and knowledge production, and this should be one of the characteristics of the teaching method so that the teaching process is based on the principle of learners' interaction with the environment and discovering facts (FazliKhani, 2013).

One of the main goals in any society is the development of logical and

creative thinking in students, which has long been of interest to professors and experts in the education system. The result of this development mainly depends on the quality and methods of teaching. Because wherever there is talk of education, willingly or unwillingly, the category of teaching and its methods appear. Research on teaching methods shows that many teachers still spend a significant portion of their class time lecturing or asking questions that require nothing more than collecting simple scientific facts. They allocate just 1 Percent of class time to questions that require thoughtful answers (Najafi Hezar Jaribi, 2014).

Explaining a lesson is not just called teaching, and listening alone does not mean learning. The purpose of learning is not remembering and passive learning, but also actively and creatively engaging students and teamwork (Tick, 2007). Learning should be done step-by-step from simple to complex and from easy to difficult. Therefore, first a simple and general design should be created, such as the sketch that an illustrator draws of a face, and then he should complete the sketch by giving details (Naghizadeh, 2015).

A good teacher is not someone who learns the most in the shortest amount

of time, but someone who inspires the student to learn and understand. Because the goal of education is not to gather and accumulate information, but to use the ability to think and understand, and the best way to understand is to do, we understand and remember a thing better when we have learned it ourselves (Naqibzadeh, 2015).

Whenever a person wants to do something but fails to achieve his goal, a problem arises for him. In other words, any ambiguous situation creates a problem. Most problem-solving researchers agree that a problem occurs only when a person encounters a problem because there is no immediate answer for it (Gök & Silay, 2010). Downing believes that the best teaching method is that the students themselves use the method of scientific research like a researcher or scientist to achieve the answer for a problem. After encountering an ambiguous situation, a researcher asks a precise question, searches and collects information to find the answer, achieve the answer or answers about the information he has provided, and finally evaluates and tests the answers to make sure of his correctness or incorrectness. Teacher should avoid assertive comments as much as possible because it causes that students

think all important problems are pre-solved. Even giving information is useful when it is needed to solve a problem, because information can only be identified when it is used (Naghizadeh, 2015).

In contrast to this method, there is a traditional teaching method, the most important thing in this method is what the teacher says during his speech in class, all the students look at the speaker and everyone pays attention to him. There may also be a tendency in the instructor to speak alone in class and even discourage or dissuade students from asking questions or commenting.

Creativity in the field of emotions began with the activity of Averill since 1980 and emotional creativity is defined as the ability to experience and express a combination of emotions in an innovative and effective way (Hashemi, 2009). Emotional creativity includes four criteria that are expressed as follows: 1) *honesty*; honest expression of our experiences and values, 2) *novelty*; change in common emotions or create new emotional states, 3) *effectiveness*; emotion coordination with a position so that it is ultimately beneficial to the individual or group, 4) *Preparedness*; the ability to understand emotion and

the desire to recognize it (Averill and Knowles, 1991).

Given the mentioned, this question arises as to whether there is a relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance in adolescents' writing lesson, thinking, and lifestyle?

Research Methodology

The research method is descriptive-correlation.

Statistical population and sample of research

The statistical population of the present study included all first grade high school students in Babolsar in the academic year of 2017-2018.

Statistical sample and sampling method

First, one-stage cluster sampling method is selected, then simple random sampling is used. (Sample size is 60 people.)

Data Collection Instruments

Averill Emotional Creativity Inventory (ECI)

The Averill Emotional Creativity Inventory is used to measure the emotional creativity variable of the

Averill Emotional Creativity Scale (1999). This scale has 30 items and four dimensions (components) including Novelty, Effectiveness, Authenticity and Preparedness. Among them, 7 items measure emotional preparedness, 14 items of novelty, 5 items of effectiveness and 4 items of authenticity. In front of each item is a range from 1 (strongly low) to 5 (strongly high). It should be noted that questions 11 and 29 are scored in reverse. Averill (1999) reported the

items. Hashemi (2009) confirmed the three-factor structure of this scale on a sample of Iranian students and reported its validity as favorable. He obtained the reliability coefficient of this scale using Cronbach's alpha coefficient. He calculated the alpha coefficient for the subscales of novelty, authenticity and preparedness to be 0.85, 0.71 and 0.64, respectively.

2- The teacher-made test is in the writing lesson, thinking and lifestyle.

| thinking and lifestyle lesson | writing lesson | Indicator | variable |
|----------------------------------|----------------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 0/315 | 0/1990 | r | Emotional creativity |
| 0/014 | 0/127 | p | |
| 60 | 60 | n | |

reliability of the total score of emotional creativity using Cronbach's alpha coefficient of 0.91. Averill (1999) used factor analysis and correlation with similar tests to evaluate the validity of the scale, which based on factor analysis obtained three dimensions instead of four; and the dimensions of effectiveness and authenticity together formed a factor. The first dimension is novelty, which includes 14 items, and the dimension of authenticity includes 9 items and preparedness includes 7

Results and findings

Hypothesis: There is a significant relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance in writing lesson, thinking and lifestyle.

Table: Investigating the relationship between emotional creativity variable and academic performance in adolescent writing lessons in the sample

According to the results of Pearson correlation coefficient, the table shows that there is a statistically significant positive relationship between the variables of emotional creativity and academic performance in writing, thinking and lifestyle lessons.

Discussion and conclusion

The analysis of the findings show that there is a statistically significant relationship between emotional creativity and academic performance in students' writing, thinking and lifestyle lessons. This finding is consistent with a study entitled "Investigating the relationship between creativity and emotional sensitivity in First and Second Grade Male and Female Students of Birjand Talented High School" which is conducted in 2013 by Ahadi, Mazaheri and Fakhri. Its results show that in more creative people, there is more emotionally sensitivity. In terms of characteristics, more creative girls tend to dominate and less creative boys tend to be more adventurous. And Bambuti (2008) in a study showed that many students who can adjust the cognitive, motivational and behavioral aspects of their academic performance have been strongly successful as learners. These findings show that Self-Regulated Learning is a predictor of academic performance, and learners

should learn how to regulate their performance and maintain their goals despite difficult assignments in order to achieve academic success.

In addition, this findings are consistent with the research findings of KamianKhazaei (2010), FazliKhan Ali (2004), Ali Hosseini (2010), Gauguin (1983), Madon and Leighton (1968), Milgram (1990), Torrance (1987), Remy and Piper (1974); Sullivan (1974); Chambers (2009), Romero Gonzalez (2009), Kleanes (2009), Peng (2010), Kansting (2010), Klavern(2010), Michel François (2010), Mari Klean(2009), KatamiEckles (1995), Beach Hooda et al. (1994). Gauguin (1983) conducted a study by using the Torrance Creativity Test on a sample of 225 students in school and found that active methods on developing the creativity of students are more especially in girls, and in contrast, students in the traditional methods have shown the least increase in creativity. After a year, even their creativity is shown to be lower than the baseline compared to the opposite group (active method). In another study, Haddon and Leighton (1968) compare dynamic and traditional classes and find that students show a more consistent superiority in divergent thinking after 4 years of

elementary class than students of traditional classes.

Milgram (1990) also believes that the reason for school failure in the growth of creativity is largely related to uniform education. However, each of the students is completely different from each other. Torrance (1987) by comparing the results of 308 studies show that appropriate teaching methods have a positive effect on the growth of students' creativity and in 70% of cases, these methods are successful. A study by Remy and Piper (1974) and Sullivan (1974) focuses on comparing dynamic or open classes with traditional classes. The open or dynamic classroom space is appropriate for the development of research condition, curiosity, manipulation, self-regulation, and learning.

In a study on 671 teachers, Chambers (1973) examine their negative and positive effects on students' creativity. Examination of the answers show that teachers who promote students' creativity tend to use informal methods in managing and guiding the class. They allow students to choose the topics they want. They welcome their unusual perspectives, reward their creativity, interact with students outside the classroom, and consider the encouragement of students'

independence and positive performance as an effective pattern of creativity.

Romero Gonzalez et al. (2009) show that exploratory learning method affects on the speed of understanding and improves the information retrieval. Climes (2009) during his research tries to update the teaching methods and develop it to create the best educational conditions. Cheng (2010) believes that the emergence of creativity in the classroom forms in students by using new and changed methods and provides the best facilities for educational conditions. Claverne (2010) finds that teachers should use different and more diverse methods in the classroom until the end of the school year for students to have better learning and education, and to create the context for different aspects of creativity. Michel François (2010) considers a more advanced way of creating and teaching creativity to affect teachers' knowledge, attitude and skills. Marie Klein (2009) concludes that on the method of teaching lectures and its effect on the initial activation of students' minds, if the method of lecturing is complementary, it will affect creativity.

Katami Eckles (1995) examines the relationship between creativity and

academic achievement and cultural, social, and economic variables. He shows that there is a significant difference between creative and non-creative individuals in terms of their scores. Beach Hooda et al. (1994) studies the effect of exploration training in biochemistry lesson and concludes that exploration has a positive effect. In a study conducted by Fazli and Khanali in 2004 entitled *comparing the effectiveness of active and traditional teaching methods on the creativity of middle school students in Farbodan city*, they concluded that active teaching methods have a greater role. In a study conducted by Ali Hosseini in (2010) entitled *The effect of active and passive teaching method on the creativity of high school students in Tehran Region 1*, they concluded that teaching methods have a greater impact on creativity. Therefore, we conclude that creativity-based teaching methods affect students' creativity.

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