PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF A THINKING SKILL TRAINING IN INDONESIA: “THINKING SKILLS TRAINING WITH DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY”

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Abstract
One main problem in Indonesia such as low educational achievement of school students was thought to be due to a general lack of thinking skills. As an attempt in addressing this problem, the present study aims to develop a thinking skill training with digital technology. The training covers materials on critical thinking principles, Socrates reasoning method, experiential learning, and experimental method. This is a quasi-experimental study with pretest and posttest and a passive control group. The outcome measures were verbal intelligence and non-verbal intelligence tests. The data were analyzed with analysis of covariance. There were forty participants in this study. The participants’ age ranged from 13 to 19 years old with an average of 14.5 years old (SD=1.34). A significant difference was found between the experimental and control group for the verbal intelligence test, but not for the non-verbal intelligence tests. Thinking skills training with digital technology successfully improved the thinking skills of the participants as indicated by the significant improvement of verbal intelligence. Although the results seem promising, further investigation with randomized controlled trial, different measurements, and more training sessions are required before drawing any definitive conclusions.

Keywords: critical thinking; thinking skill training; verbal intelligence; non-verbal intelligence; digital technology

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