

COMPUTER BASED STUDY PACKAGE FOR ENHANCING PERFORMANCE OF GRADE 10 STUDENTS IN UNIT 4 (MAIN SYSTEMS OF HUMAN BODY AND PREVENTION OF DISEASES ASSOCIATED WITH THEM)

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Sri Lankan education system is highly examination oriented and based on conventional classroom instructions. Rapid developments in education technology have provided educators and students new options in a constantly changing, competitive teaching and learning environment. Although the educational technology develops, the overall science performances of students are not developed in national examinations. It indicates the need of changing the method of science teaching in classrooms. Thus, the aim of this study is to develop a computer based active learning study pack in teaching grade ten science unit and makes recommendations based on use of computer assisted learning in science.

My study examined effectiveness of the computer assisted instruction on students' achievement in Grade 10 secondary level general science curriculum in Biology as compared with the traditional method of instruction.

This study employed a mix model of qualitative and quantitative research methods. An instructional unit was selected from the grade 10 science curriculums "The Main systems of human body and prevention of diseases associated with them". Two groups (experimental and control) of tenth graders from three schools (Boys', girls', mixed) in Jaffna district were selected. A Pre-test was administered to both groups to identify the achievement levels of students. Then the control group class was conducted with a conventional teaching method and the experimental group was given computer assisted active learning instruction. After the learning, posttest was administered to both groups. Both conventional and computer based learning classrooms were observed by the researcher. According to the results computer assisted learning was significantly effective than traditional method. Further classroom observations revealed that students learnt through CAL methods gained other advantages and improved their soft skills. Computer assisted learning increased students' self learning ability, collaborative learning and also created an interest on studying science.