USE OF COMPUTERS IN TEACHING AND LEARNING GRADE 10 MATHEMATICS AMONG THE SCHOOLS IN KANDY DISTRICT

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A remarkable trend in the field of education during the past few decades has been tremendous use of computer technology. It makes overall education more productive. While in the developed countries computer is a house hold word among children, only very few school children have the opportunity to access a computer in Sri Lanka. Since the task at hand is to prepare the youth to represent themselves as world of citizens, education has to be world centered. This could be achieved only by introduction of a global education system through computer technology.

Mathematics is one of the main subjects to use the computer as the interactive instructional media. But with the lack of facilities in the schools teachers face difficulties in implementing lessons using the computer. Both teachers and students face difficulties in teaching and learning geometry, out of all the Mathematics topics in school. In solving this problem, connecting Van hille model together with the computer technology effective software for geometry has been designed for the effective geometry teaching and learning method for tenth graders.

Data were collected using interviews, questionnaires, and informal discussions, and also direct and indirect observations. First phase of this study was carried out in ten 1AB schools in Kandy district with 831 students in grade ten and ten teachers who teach mathematics for grade ten. Another 20 teachers were selected from different provinces to gather data for the second phase of the study and after designing software to teach geometry for grade ten students, another group of 20 teachers was used to collect data for the third phase of the study.

Finally the results were analyzed using the SPSS package.