

A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF OPEN BOOK EXAM AND CLOSED BOOK EXAM

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The present time is accepted as the era of knowledge, science and technology. Consequently there have been many changes in life skills and life styles of people. The ancient "Gurukul" tradition of receiving education has developed amidst the forests of concrete in the form of schools and colleges. Earlier the student use to go to the place of Guru, reside there and was supposed to learn there. As an Enovation open book exam is to be considered. The factors damaging the validity of evaluation process might be considered it reason. The well known test of "Guru Dronacharya" and the contemporary three hours written test have wide difference. Hence educationalists are inspired for the innovation. With regard to present research researcher has decided to compare the Open Book Exam with Closed Book Exam. i.e. the traditional exam. The findings will help to study the effects of these two patterns of exams not only on the achievement of the students but also their anxiety at the time of examination.

Definition of Key Terms

Open Book Exam :-An "open book examination" is one in which examinees are allowed to consult their class notes, textbooks, and other approved material while answering questions. This practice is not uncommon in law examinations, but in other subjects, it is mostly unheard of. Radical and puzzling though the idea may sound to those who are used to conventional examinations, it is ideally suited to teaching programmes that especially aim at developing the skills of critical and creative thinking.

Closed book Exam-A "Closed book examination" is one in which examinees are not allowed to consult any of the material while answering questions.

Objectives of the Study-Main objectives of the present study were as follows:

1. To study the effect of examination anxiety on trainee's achievement for first year trainees of P.T.C. College who gave their exam via Open Book and Closed Book examination Pattern.
2. To compare the effectiveness of Open Book Exam and Closed Book

- Exam with reference to Examination Achievement for first year trainees of P.T.C. College.
3. To compare the effectiveness of Open Book Exam and Closed Book Exam with reference to Examination Anxiety for first year trainees of P.T.C. College.

Hypothesis of the Study- 1. There is no significant difference of mean achievement of trainees who gave their exam via Open Book Exam and Closed Book Exam Pattern. 2. There is no significant difference of mean achievement of examination anxiety who gave their exam via Open Book Exam and Closed Book Exam Pattern.

Delimitation of the Study- 1. This study was delimited to only P.T.C. colleges of Sabarkantha District. 2. For present study data was collected from one self finance P.T.C. college of Himatnagar City.

Design of the study

Methodology- The present study is a quantitative research. The Experimental Design was adopted for the present study. "Equivalent Group only Post Test Design" was adopted for the present study.

Sample- The purposive cluster sampling technique has been employed to choose the first year trainees of P.T.C. College. The sample comprised of 110 trainees from one self finance P.T.C. college of Himatnagar city. Out of 110 trainees total 76 trainees were present in the examination.

Tools- Researcher had utilized two self made tools for the purpose.

- 1) Achievement Test. Researcher had made Achievement Test on the subject Evaluation and Measurement which is Paper-II of first year P.T.C. syllabus. The achievement test was about 50 Marks and it is teacher made test. So no standardization was done for the achievement test.

- 2) Examination Anxiety Test- Researcher had gone through various Anxiety Test for reviewing purpose and also visited several experts in the field of psychology for preparing an examination anxiety test. An examination anxiety test was prepared after close consultation with experts of relevant field. The item

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analysis procedure has been introduced and the split half co-efficient of reliability measures is 0.73. There were 40 items in the final form of Anxiety test.

Data collection- After getting prior permission of principal of P.T.C. College, researcher had collected trainees' first test examination scores. Researcher had divided the trainees of first year in to two equivalent groups on the basis of mean and standard deviation of first test's score. One group was assigned as an Experimental group which went through Open Book examination while another group was assigned as a control group which went through closed book examination. Trainees of First year were informed about the examination pattern before one month.

Analysis of Data- For the present study co-relation and 't' test was used to carry out inferential analysis. The details of co-relation is presented in

Table : 1 Co-relation between Achievement and Examination anxiety

	N	Co-relation
Experimental Group	36	0.153
Control Group	40	0.089

The co-relation between examination achievement and examination anxiety showed positive co-relation. It was concluded that the examination pattern whether it is Open Book Exam or Closed book Exam does affect on anxiety of trainees.

Hypothesis : 1

Table : 2 Relevant statistics of scores of achievement with reference to examination pattern

Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t-value	LOS
Open Book Exam	36	31.06	12.15	0.650	NS
Closed Book Exam	40	29.03	14.79		

From Table : 2, it can be seen that the t-value was not significant. Hence, the null hypothesis is not rejected. Therefore, there is no significant difference between mean achievements of examination of trainees' who gave their examination with different patterns. So, it was concluded that, the examination pattern whether it is Open Book Exam or closed book Exam does not affect trainees' achievement.

Hypothesis : 2

Table : 3 Relevant statistics of scores of Examination Anxiety with reference to examination pattern

Group	N	Mean	S.D.	t-value	LOS
Open Book Exam	36	26.81	3.01	2.803	0.01
Closed Book Exam	40	29.30	4.51		

From Table : 3, it can be seen that the t-value was significant at 0.01 level. Hence, the null hypothesis is

rejected. Therefore, there is significant difference between mean scores of anxiety of examination of trainees who gave their examination with different patterns. So, it was concluded that, the examination pattern whether it is Open Book Exam or closed book Exam does affect on examination anxiety. It was also concluded that trainees who gave their exam through closed book examination pattern showed higher anxiety then the trainees' who gave their exam through open book examination pattern.

Major Findings - 1. On the basis of co-relation it was concluded that the examination pattern whether it is Open Book Exam or Closed book Exam does affect anxiety of trainees. 2. The examination pattern whether it is Open Book Exam or closed book Exam does not affect trainees achievement. 3. The closed book examination pattern (traditional examination pattern) showed higher examination anxiety on the trainees, while the open book exam pattern showed lower anxiety level compared to the closed book exam pattern.

Suggestions- 1. The finding of the present research shows that there was no significant difference on the scores of examination achievement with respect to the examination pattern. To quote in other words both the groups obtained equal achievement. Thus, if the question paper is drawn carefully, the benefits of exam pattern can not serve as responsible factor for high results. 2. The finding shows that there was a considerable difference on the anxiety scores. The finding shows that those who appeared in the exam without book showed more anxiety than those who appeared in the exam with books. It can be concluded that the exam pattern (Open Book Exam) is useful for reducing the anxiety of the students regarding exam.

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