The Correlation of Assignment with Student's Learning Readiness in the New Normal Time of the Covid-19 Pandemic

Elisabeth Irma Novianti Davidi[1],Yuliana Wahyu[2]
Email: { irmadavidiparta@gmail.com[1] , yulianawahyu76@gmail.com[2] }

[1,2]Universitas Katolik Indonesia Santu Paulus Ruteng, Indonesia

Abstract. Learning in the New Normal period of the Covid-19 pandemic takes work. Students must adapt to various technical matters of learning. In addition, mature learning readiness is needed to allow learning to run effectively. Giving homework is an alternative strategy that bridges the problem of student learning readiness in the New Normal period. This study aims to determine the correlation between giving homework with students' readiness to learn. The samples of this study were three public junior high schools (SMP Negeri 2 Ruteng, SMP Negeri 4 Ruteng, and SMP Negeri 6 Ruteng) and five private junior high schools (SMPK Imaculata Ruteng; SMPK Fransiskus Ruteng; SMPK Karya Ruteng; SMPK Recognized Bina Kusuma Ruteng; and MTS Amanah Ruteng). The results showed that the homework assignment was positively and significantly correlated with student learning readiness. This is indicated by a significance value of 0.000 p 0.05 and a correlation coefficient (rxy2) of 0.427 and fulfils the regression equation Y'= 10,626 + 0.420X [IL1].

Keywords: homework, study readiness, covid-19 pandemic, junior high school students

1 Introduction

The Covid-19 pandemic has undoubtedly significantly impacted the world of education in general and learning activities in particular. From March 17, 2020, to April 2, 2021, the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 worldwide was 128,540,982, and 2,808,308 people died from data from 223 countries [1] Since then, Covid-19 has been in the realm of a pandemic. The Covid-19 pandemic is still haunting humankind even today. It is noted these various variants of Covid-19 have emerged with various congenital symptoms that are very varied and disrupt the health of human beings around the world. Initially, it was indicated that the Alpha variant with the code B117 was found in the UK in September 2020. Then, followed by the Beta, Delta, Lambda, Kappa, Eta, Lota, and Mu variants, the currently developing variant is Omricon, which was discovered for the first time. In November 2021, in South Africa.

The pandemic conditions up to the New Normal period also affected the education sector in general and learning in particular. The design and form of learning must be adaptive to maximize the quality of quality learning. The transformation of learning from offline to online is also part of the learning adaptation that allows students to continue learning even amid a pandemic [2-3]. However, it is undeniable that this adaptation provides a significant plus and minus effect on the quality of learning. Research by [4] shows that during the New Normal period, various learning problems occurred in Madrasah Ibtidaiyah, Ngadiluwih district,

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Kediri district, such as quite several students who had difficulty completing homework; more dominant online learning allows students to get bored quickly and very high dependence on parents when studying which allows students to be less ready to take part in learning.

Ideally, the readiness of students to carry out learning will be directly proportional to the effectiveness of learning [5]. Effective learning allows students to participate actively in activities such as observing, asking questions, discussing, practising, etc. Learning centred on student activities requires mature and optimal student readiness. Many factors, such as psychological and physical factors, will affect students' readiness to face the new normal. Physical means the health and functioning of the student's body parts.

In contrast, psychological factors can be internal and external factors. Internal factors are students' ability to control their learning desires, namely self-termination, and external factors, one of which is family [6]. Good self-preparation will make it easier for students to adapt optimally during the New Normal period. Self-readiness is a change in circumstances in a person that makes him ready to give answers or responses to achieve specific learning objectives [7-9].

Giving homework is an alternative strategy that bridges the problem of lack of learning time by utilizing the environment outside the classroom as an optimal learning environment and learning resource. The involvement of various parties outside the classroom will enable this strategy to be implemented properly. Students will feel they can continue learning even though they are not in class. Students will become more motivated to learn because they can complete the tasks given and get support from the environment.

Readiness to learn that is well conditioned will allow students to be better prepared to follow the subsequent learning, generally done by completing tasks or activities that have been started in the previous lesson and need to be completed as a basis for learning the next learning activity [10].

In addition, by completing homework assignments, students will indirectly be more participative in learning activities and more responsible in completing the assigned tasks. Homework should be interrelated with class lessons and according to students' abilities, both academically and non-academically. The procedure for the work is straightforward, and the teacher must also provide the time or work limits so that students remain conducive and disciplined to do the task [11].

The right homework given to students will allow students to be ready to learn because they have more time beforehand. This will also allow students' prior knowledge to be formed to be more prepared to take part in learning [12]. Good initial knowledge will make it easier for students to elaborate on new knowledge gained during learning activities. This will allow students' understanding of the material and information they get in learning activities to be strengthened and optimized.

Giving the correct homework also stimulates students' desire to learn, develop their creativity, and strengthen their learning independence and responsibility. Students stimulated early to learn will undoubtedly be more ready to accept learning. In addition, when students do homework first, it will be possible to build creative thinking from an early age because they do the tasks given previously. Students' readiness to learn and be responsible will also be possible to form when students are given homework.

This study aimed to determine the positive and significant correlation between giving homework (PR) and the learning readiness of junior high school students in the Langke Rembong sub-district.

2 Method and Materials

This research is included in the survey research. Based on the level of explanation, this research is a type of correlational research. The approach used is quantitative. The statistics used are inferential because they are used to analyze sample data, and the results are applied to the population. The research was carried out in junior high schools throughout the Langke Rembong sub-district with details of 3 public junior high schools (SMP Negeri 2 Ruteng; SMP Negeri 4 Ruteng, SMP Negeri 6 Ruteng) and five private junior high schools (SMPK Imaculata Ruteng; SMPK Fransiskus Ruteng; SMPK Karya Ruteng; Private Junior High School). Recognized by Bina Kusuma Ruteng; and MTS Amanah Ruteng). The time of study was carried out from January to July 2022.

The population in this study were several students spread across six junior high schools in the Langke Rembong sub-district. The sample was obtained by two (2) sampling techniques (cluster sampling and stratified random sampling) as many as 351 students. There are four variables in this study, with the independent variable being homework and the dependent variable being learning motivation, learning readiness, learning engagement and learning achievement. The independent variable data and three (3) dependent variables, except achievement, were taken using a questionnaire instrument. Learning achievement data is taken from the science learning outcomes portfolio of the junior high school students for Science subjects.

They are testing the validity and reliability to find the discriminatory item index using SPSS statistical analysis. The function of this calculation is to select items that are suitable for use. The limit of the correlation coefficient between items and the total score is usually used as 0.30. Reliability testing was carried out using Cronbach's Alpha method. The rule is that if the reliability value is less than 0.6 is not good, while 0.7 is acceptable and above 0.8 is good. From the results of these variables' validity and reliability tests, 60 items were valid statements from the 70 statement items tested.

Data processing in this study was carried out through a quantitative approach using inferential statistical methods. This inferential statistical technique is carried out to analyze sample data whose results will be generalized to the population. This method is used to interpret the normality, linearity, and hypothesis testing at a certain significance level.

The correlation between X and Y is obtained by using a simple correlation formula as follows:

$$rxy = \frac{n\sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{\{n\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2\}\{n\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2\}}}$$

Description:
rxy = correlation coefficient
X = data variable X
Y = data variable Y
n = number of samples

Meanwhile, simple regression analysis is used to see how significant the influence between independent and dependent variables is. The simple regression formula used is as follows,

Y= a + bX
Y = Dependent variable
X = Independent variable
a = Constant (Y value if X = 0)
b = Regression coefficient

3 Results and Discussion

Data processing begins with scale scoring and data tabulation using SPSS software. However, the data must pass prerequisite tests before starting hypothesis testing. The data has met the normal aspects (with a significance value of $p > 0.05$) and linear (with a significance value of $a < 0.05$).

3.1 Research Results

Data analysis in this study uses a simple correlation analysis technique which aims to determine whether there is a relationship between the independent variable and the dependent variable, and simple regression analysis to determine the contribution of the independent variable to the dependent variable. These hypotheses were tested with parametric statistics, namely the correlation of "Product Moment" and Regression.

To find out the testing results, it is possible to test the results of the hypothesis by comparing the significance level (p-value) with the error. If the significance value is $p> 0.05$, Ho is accepted, and Ha is rejected. The results of consecutively testing the hypothesis are as follows: there is a positive and significant relationship between giving homework and learning readiness for junior high school students in the Langke Rembong sub-district. The numbers in the R Square column evidence this. In the R Square column, there is the number 0.182.

Table 1. Table Correlation

Correlations

		Y	X
Pearson Correlation	Y	1.000	.427
	X	.427	1.000
Sig. (1-tailed)	Y	.	.000
	X	.000	.
N	Y	351	351
	X	351	351

From the Correlations table above, it can be seen that the magnitude of the relationship between the homework variable and learning readiness is 0.427. This shows a positive relationship: the higher the value of the homework, the greater the readiness to learn. So, H_o is accepted, and H_a is rejected.

In addition, Because of Sig. 0.000 is less than 0.05, then it is proven to be significant, which means that there is an influence between the Homework variable on Learning Readiness.

The regression equation:

$Y = a + bX$

$Y' = 10{,}626 + 0.420X$

The figures above can be interpreted as follows:

- A constant of 10,626 meaning that Homework (X) has a value of 0, then Learning Readiness (Y') has a positive value of 10,626.
- The homework variable regression coefficient (X) is 0.420; This means that if the Homework score increases by one score, then the Learning Readiness Score will also increase by 0.420. The positive coefficient means that there is a positive relationship between Homework and Learning Readiness. The higher the Homework score, the higher the Learning Readiness score.

3.2 Discussion

The results of hypothesis testing indicate that homework assignment positively and significantly correlates with the learning readiness of junior high school students in the Langke Rembong sub-district and has a positive influence. The higher the homework score obtained by the students, will significantly increase the students' learning readiness.

Readiness to learn is a mental/psychic condition that allows students to be more established and ready to carry out learning activities optimally. Student learning readiness is essential so that students can do it optimally at the time of learning. One way that teachers can do to encourage students' readiness to learn is by giving homework. With homework, it is hoped that students will be better prepared to carry out learning activities at school the next day, making learning activities more optimal. This is by the law of readiness to learn, which according to Thorndike law of readiness (Law of readiness) is one of the essential prerequisites for someone to learn.

Students who get homework assignments mean that they have to read earlier before they take lessons in class. From this, homework prepares students to participate in class in a meaningful way, thus enabling students to be able to participate actively. Early reading activities and also doing homework are cognitive readiness that students can do before learning activities at school. Research [13-14] shows that readiness needs to be considered in the learning process because when students already have preparation for learning, the learning outcomes will be better. Readiness is needed in the teaching and learning process because students will find it easier to follow the lesson in a ready condition. Giving homework will facilitate students to get optimal learning readiness.

4 Conclusion

This study concluded that the assignment of homework was positively and significantly correlated with the learning readiness of junior high school students in the Langke Rembong sub-district. This is indicated by a significance value of 0.000 $p < 0.05$ and a correlation

coefficient (rxy2) of 0.427 and fulfils the regression equation Y'= 10.626 + 0.420X; This means that H_a is accepted and H_0 is rejected.

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