

Title: The Development of an Instructional Package to Enhance Critical Thinking Skills in Social Study 6 (SOC23103) on Economics for Mattayomsuksa3 Students

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ABSTRACT

The purposes of the study entitled “*The Development of the Instructional Package to Enhance Critical Thinking Skills in Social Study 6 (SOC23103) on Economics for Mattayomsuksa3 Students*” were: 1) to develop the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students to meet the efficiency of 80/80; 2) to study the learning achievement of Mattayomsuksa3 students learning through the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students; 3) to compare the critical thinking skills of Mattayomsuksa3 students before and after learning through the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students; and 4) to study the satisfaction of Mattayomsuksa3 students learning through the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students. The sample group derived from cluster random sampling from classrooms consisted of 38 students learning in Mattayomsuksa3/3 at Buayai school in Buayai district of NakhonRatchasima province in the second semester of the academic year 2013. The study was operated by applying pre-experimental design with the single group, pretest-posttest design. The instruments used in the study consisted of: 1) 5 instructional packages to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students; 2) 40-item learning achievement test on economics with its difficulty of 0.37-0.79, its discrimination of 0.31-0.65, and its reliability of 0.89; 3) 30-item critical thinking

skill test with its difficulty of 0.28-0.78, its discrimination of 0.24-0.74, and its reliability of 0.83; and 4) the satisfaction questionnaire of the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students. The index of consistency examined by the experts was at the highest level ($X=4.50-5.00$). Data were statistically analyzed by applying percentage, mean, standard deviation, and t-test (dependent samples).

The results of the study indicated that:

1. The efficiency of the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students was 84.95/86.05, which was higher than the assigned criteria.

2. The average score of the learning achievement of Mattayomsuksa3 students learning through the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students after learning was 33.71 (84.28%), which was higher than that before learning at the statistically significant level of .01.

3. The average score of the critical thinking skills of Mattayomsuksa3 students learning through the instructional package in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students after learning was 24.71 (82.37 %), which was higher than that before learning at the statistically significant level of .01.

4. The satisfaction of Mattayomsuksa3 students learning through the instructional package in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students was generally at the highest level ($X=4.61$ and $S.D.=0.54$).

In conclusion, the instructional package to enhance critical thinking skills in social study course (SOC23103) on economics for Mattayomsuksa3 students, constructed by the researcher, was effective and appropriate for improving critical thinking skills and learning achievement of the students. The satisfaction of the students toward learning through the instructional package was at the highest level. Therefore, the instructional package should be further applied for developing the instruction and critical thinking skills in an area of content learning on economics.