

ABSTRACT

The Predictive Validity of C X C Chemistry
for G C E Advanced Level Chemistry

Susan Mary Martina Herbert

This study determined the predictive validity of C X C chemistry for performance at G C E A-level chemistry for students who attended seven-year, single sex, traditional schools in Port of Spain, Trinidad, by the use of correlation coefficients. The data which were available from both examinations consisted of grades which were converted to numbers as ranks. The most appropriate correlation coefficient for this ordinal data was Kendall's tau (τ). The correlation which was obtained in this study was .43. This means that there was a modest relationship between the performance in the predictor measure (C X C chemistry) and the criterion measure (G C E A-level chemistry). It was also found through multiple regression that enquiry skills at C X C, accounted for most of the variance (27%) in the grade at G C E A-level chemistry. About 67% of the variance in performance at G C E A-level chemistry was not accounted for by past C X C chemistry performance. The data also produced

results which suggest that the males in the seven-year, traditional schools in Port of Spain perform significantly better than their female peers at C X C chemistry, but not at G C E A-level chemistry in which there was no significant difference between the groups. There was no significant difference in the performance of boys and girls at C X C chemistry practical examinations, but the females performed significantly better than the males at G C E A-level chemistry practicals.

Paterson College.

Holy Name Convent, Port of Spain.

Queen's Royal College.

St. Joseph's Convent, Port of Spain.

St. Mary's College.

Trinity College.

Mrs. Perry and Mrs. Xosha-Pett of the Examinations Section,
Ministry of Education.

Special thanks to the chemistry teachers who so willingly gave of their time to assist in the correlative validation of the C X C examinations (1985-1987).

Mrs. E. Charles

Mrs. J. Colasopoli-Berry

Mrs. E. A. Chung

Mrs. G. Dorong

Mrs. H. Haynes

Mrs. J. Harrell

Mrs. F. Khan