

CHAPTER 4

RESULTS

Results of the pre- and posttests conducted with a hundred and thirty-three Form One students are presented in this chapter. The results are presented in three sections. The first section deals with the comparisons of scores obtained by the students in the experimental and the control groups as well as the scores obtained by boys and girls on the MVQ and the SAT in the pretests. The second section deals with a similar discussion but for the posttests. The third section describes the levels of moral reasoning in the five areas of moral values obtained by the students in the experimental group based on the pretest and posttest.

Scores on the Pretests

The pretests were conducted one week prior to the beginning of the first science lesson. When the pretests were conducted, it was found that only Sekolah Menengah Bukit Bandaraya had started some lessons on laboratory rules and regulations ; other schools had not begun any lessons.

The pretests were conducted to determine whether initial differences existed between students in the experimental and control groups as well as between boys and girls with regards to their moral values and academic performance.

MVQ and SAT scores for the experimental and control groups

The results on the MVQ and SAT are shown in Table 4. T-tests were used to test for significant difference between the mean score of the experimental group and the mean score of the control group on both the MVQ and the SAT.

TABLE 4

T-test comparisons between
the experimental and control groups on the
MVQ and SAT pretests

	Group		t-test	
	Expt	Control	t	p
MVQ				
Mean	105.63	105.15	0.22	0.83
SD	13.52	11.68		
SAT				
Mean	10.18	9.38	1.32	0.19
SD	3.58	3.41		

As shown in Table 4, the experimental group has a mean MVQ score of 105.63 and a standard deviation of 13.52 whereas the control group has a mean MVQ score of 105.15 and a standard deviation of 11.68. The standard error of the difference between the two means was calculated and found to be 2.16. The pooled-variance estimate was used because the F-test shows that the population from which the two groups

were selected have the same variances. The t-value of 0.22 was not significant at $p < .05$. This shows that there was no significant difference between the mean score of the experimental and that of the control group on the MVQ.

As shown in the same table, the experimental group has a mean SAT score of 10.18 and a standard deviation of 3.58 whereas the control group has a mean SAT score of 9.38 with a standard deviation of 3.41. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 0.61. The t value of 1.32 taken from the pooled variance estimate is not significant at $p < .05$ level of significance. This shows that there was no significant difference between the mean score of the experimental and that of the control group on the SAT. Based on the two results above, it can be assumed that there were no initial differences between the students in the experimental and those in the control group with regards to their moral values and academic performances.

MVQ and SAT scores among students in the Four Schools

Results on the MVQ and SAT in the pretests were also compared among the students in the four schools. Table 5 shows the analysis of variance among the four schools on the MVQ scores with the pretests.

TABLE 5

Analysis of variance among
schools on the MVQ pretest scores

Source	D.F.	Sum of Squares	Mean Squares	F ratio	F prob
Between groups	3	5148.30	1716.10	14.01	.0000
Within groups	129	15797.36	122.46		
Total	132	20945.67			

Significant Mean Difference

Mean	Group	School 1	School 3	School 4
97.00	School 1			*
104.90	School 3			
105.35	School 4			
114.51	School 2	*	*	*

* denotes the school which has significant mean difference
at the .05 level.

Note

- School 1 = Sekolah Menengah Petaling
- School 2 = Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa
- School 3 = Sekolah Menengah Bukit Bandaraya
- School 4 = Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai

Table 5 shows the one way analysis of variance using SAT scores as the dependent variable and the four schools as the independent variable has a F-ratio of 14.01 which is significant at the $p < .05$ level. A post hoc Scheffe multiple comparison procedure was then applied. The results show that there was a significant difference in the moral scores of students studying in Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa and students studying in the other three schools. There was also a significant difference between students studying in Sekolah Menengah Petaling and students studying in Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai.

Table 6 shows the analysis of variance among the four schools on the SAT scores in the pretests. The one-way analysis of variance using SAT scores as the dependent variable and the four schools as the independent variable has a F-ratio of 12.28 which is significant at $p < .05$ level. A post hoc Scheffe multiple comparison procedure was then applied. The results show that there was no significant difference between students from Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai and Sekolah Menengah Petaling with regards to their academic performance. However, there was a significant difference between students from the squatter or low cost flats (SAS) compared to those from the housing estates (HES).

TABLE 6

Analysis of variance among
schools on the SAT pretest scores

Source	D.F.	Sum of Squares	Mean Squares	F ratio	F prob
Between groups	3	460.03	120.01	12.28	.0000
Within groups	129	1260.64	9.77		
Total	132	1620.68			

Significant Mean Difference

Mean	Group	School 4	School 1
1.14	School 4		
1.44	School 1		
1.97	School 3	*	*
1.97	School 2	*	*

* denotes the school which has a significant mean
difference at the .05 level

Note

- School 1 = Sekolah Menengah Petaling
 School 2 = Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa
 School 3 = Sekolah Menengah Bukit Bandaraya
 School 4 = Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai

MVQ and SAT scores between the sexes

The MVQ and SAT mean scores were also compared between sexes. Table 7 shows the t-test comparisons between boys and girls on the pretests for both the MVQ and SAT.

TABLE 7

T-test comparisons between boys and girls on the MVQ and SAT pretests

	Group		t-test	
	Boys	Girls	t	p
MVQ				
Mean	103.64	107.52	- 1.78	0.08
SD	12.78	12.14		
SAT				
Mean	9.95	9.58	0.61	0.54
SD	3.98	2.84		

As shown in Table 7, the girls have a mean MVQ score of 107.52 and a standard deviation of 12.14 whereas the boys have a mean MVQ score of 103.64 with a standard deviation of 12.78. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 2.18. The variance of the two samples is the same and the t-value of - 1.78 from the pooled variance estimate is not significant at $p < .05$ level. It shows that there was no significant difference between boys and girls in their moral values. The mean SAT

for the boys is 9.95 with a standard deviation of 3.98 whereas the girls obtained a mean SAT score of 9.58 with a standard deviation of 2.84. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 0.59. The t-value of 0.41 is not significant at $p < .05$ level. The results also indicate that there was no significant difference between the sexes on their academic performance.

Table 8 shows the t-test comparisons between boys and girls in the experimental group on the MVQ pretest scores.

TABLE 8

T-test comparisons between boys
and girls in the experimental
group on the MVQ pretests

	Group		t-test	
	Boys	Girls	t	p
Mean	103.03	109.48	- 1.96	0.06
SD	14.53	11.03		

As shown in Table 8, the boys in the experimental group obtained a mean MVQ score of 103.03 with a standard deviation of 14.53 whereas the girls obtained a mean score of 109.48 with a standard deviation of 11.03 on the MVQ pretests. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 3.29. A t-value of - 1.96 is not significant at the .05 level. The results show that there

no significant difference between boys and girls in the experimental group with regards to their moral values.

Scores on the Posttests

Since the four teachers from the different schools managed to finish the first topic at different times, the posttests were conducted within a range of one month from the first school to the last.

MVQ and SAT scores for the experimental and control groups

T-tests were used to test for significant difference in the mean scores for the MVQ and SAT obtained by the two different groups. The results are shown in Table 9.

TABLE 9

T-test comparisons between the experimental and control groups on the MVQ and SAT posttests

	Group		t-test	
	Experimental	Control	t	p
MVQ				
Mean	111.58	106.71	2.17	0.03
SD	13.47	12.34		
SAT				
Mean	13.52	12.18	1.90	0.06
SD	4.82	3.17		

As shown in Table 9, the experimental group has a mean MVQ score of 111.58 and a standard deviation of 13.47 whereas the control group has a mean MVQ score of 106.71 and a standard deviation of 12.34. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 2.24. The t-value of 2.24 is significant at $p < .05$. Hence, the results show that there was a significant difference between students in the experimental and control groups with regards to their level of moral reasoning after being exposed to the moral dilemma episodes.

As for the SAT scores, the experimental group has a mean SAT score of 13.52 and a standard deviation of 4.82 whereas the control group has a mean SAT score of 12.18 and a standard deviation of 3.17. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 0.71. The t-value of 1.90 is not significant at $p < .05$. The results show that there was no significant difference between the experimental and control groups with regards to their academic performance.

MVQ and SAT scores among students in the Four Schools

The posttest results were also compared for the four different schools. Table 10 shows the analysis of variance among the four schools for the MVQ scores on the posttests.

TABLE 10

Analysis of variance among
schools on the MVQ posttest scores

Source	D.F.	Sum of Squares	Mean Squares	F ratio	F prob
Between groups	3	4083.14	1361.05	9.45	.0000
within groups	129	18579.22	144.03		
Total	132	22662.36			

Significant Mean Difference

Mean	Group	School 1	School 3	School 4
104.68	School 1			
106.48	School 3			
106.89	School 4			
118.70	School 2	*	*	*

* denotes the school which has a significant
mean difference at the .05 level

le

- School 1 = Sekolah Menengah Petaling
 School 2 = Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa
 School 3 = Sekolah Menengah Bukit Bandaraya
 School 4 = Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai

Table 10 shows the one-way analysis of variance using scores as the dependent variable and the four schools as independent variable has a F-ratio of 9.45 which is significant at $p < .05$ level. The post hoc Scheffe multiple comparison procedure shows that there was a significant difference in the moral values of students studying in Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa and students studying in the other three schools. No significant difference was found among the students in the three other schools with regards to their moral values.

A comparison made between students from both experimental schools revealed that students studying in Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa had a mean MVQ score which is higher than the mean MVQ score of students studying in Sekolah Menengah Petaling. However, the results show that students from Sekolah Menengah Petaling managed to increase their scores by a larger margin (from 97.0 to 104.68) than students from Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa (from 114.51 to 118.70). Looking at the mean scores of students from Sekolah Menengah Petaling, a score of 97.0 places them at a Stage three moral reasoning level but a score of 104.68 places them at a Stage Four level. However, students from Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa did not increase that much and remained in the same moral reasoning stage after the treatment.

The posttest scores on the SAT were also compared among four different schools. Table 11 shows the results of variance among the four schools on the SAT scores in the posttests. The one-way analysis of variance with SAT scores as the dependent variable and the four schools as the independent variable has a F-ratio of 36.68 which is significant at the $p < .05$ level. A post hoc multiple comparison procedure was then applied. The results show that there was a significant difference in the SAT performance of students studying in Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa and students studying in the other three schools. Significant differences were also found between students studying in Sekolah Menengah Petaling and students studying in the other three schools with regards to their SAT performance.

TABLE 11

Analysis of variance among
schools on the SAT posttest scores

Source	D.F.	Sum of Squares	Mean Squares	F ratio	F prob
Between groups	3	1033.17	344.39	36.68	.0000
Within groups	129	1211.11	9.39		
Total	132	2244.29			

Significant Mean Difference

Mean	Group	School 1	School 4	School 3
11.85	School 1		*	*
11.46	School 4	*		
13.10	School 3	*		
17.30	School 2	*	*	*

* denotes the school which has a significant
mean difference at the .05 level

School 1 = Sekolah Menengah Petaling
 School 2 = Sekolah Menengah Taman Desa
 School 3 = Sekolah Menengah Bukit Bandaraya
 School 4 = Sekolah Menengah Sri Pantai

MVQ and SAT scores between the sexes

T-tests were also used to compare the mean scores on the MVQ and SAT for boys and girls on the posttests. Table 12 presents the t-test comparisons between the sexes on the posttests for the MVQ and SAT mean scores.

TABLE 12

T-test comparisons between boys and girls on the MVQ and SAT posttests scores

	Group		t-test	
	Boys	Girls	t	p
Mean	107.82	110.80	- 1.31	0.19
SD	13.99	11.84		
Mean	12.48	13.32	- 1.17	0.25
SD	4.54	3.54		

As shown in Table 12, the boys obtained a mean MVQ score of 107.82 and a standard deviation of 13.99 whereas girls have a mean MVQ score of 110.80 with a standard deviation of 11.84. The standard error of the difference between the two means is 2.27. The t-value of - 1.31 is not significant at $p < .05$. Hence, the results show that there is no significant difference between the boys and girls in their moral values after being exposed to the moral dilemma

ides.

Table 12 also shows that the boys have a mean SAT score of 12.48 and a standard deviation of 4.54 whereas the girls obtained a mean SAT score of 13.32 with a standard deviation of 4.94. The standard error of the difference between two means is 0.72. The t-value of - 1.17 is not significant at p = 0.05. This implies that there was no significant difference between the sexes in their academic performance after being exposed to the moral dilemma episodes.

Table 13 shows the t-test comparisons between boys and girls in the experimental group on the MVQ posttest scores.

TABLE 13

T-test comparisons between boys
and girls in the experimental
group on the MVQ posttests

	Group		t-test	
	Boys	Girls	t	p
Mean	110.03	113.89	-1.15	0.25
SD	14.38	11.89		

As shown in Table 13, the boys in the experimental group obtained a mean MVQ score of 110.03 with a standard deviation of 14.38 whereas the girls obtained a mean score of 113.89 with a standard deviation of 11.89 for the MVQ posttests. The standard error of the difference between the

means is 3.36. A t-value of - 1.15 is not significant at the .05 level. The results show that there was no significant difference between boys and girls in the experimental group with regards to their moral values.

Levels of Moral Reasoning

MVQ scores in the moral areas

Increases in the student's level of moral reasoning in the areas of moral values after being exposed to the moral dilemma episodes were also investigated in this study. The five areas of moral values were honesty, cleanliness, responsibility, cooperation and compassion. There were six items in the MVQ. Each area of moral value is represented by six items. The total score for each area of moral value was obtained by adding the scores on each item in the area. Table 14 shows the t-test comparisons between the scores in the pretests and posttests in the five areas of moral values.

As shown in Table 14, there were significant increases in the mean scores for three areas of moral value, namely cleanliness, responsibility and cooperation.

TABLE 14

T-test comparisons between scores
in the pretests and posttests on
the five areas of moral values

Areas of Moral Values	Pretests		Posttests		t-test	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	t	p
Honesty	22.39	3.72	23.34	3.98	- 1.92	0.06
Kindness	18.66	3.03	19.75	3.63	- 2.12	0.04
Responsibility	21.69	4.88	22.84	4.15	- 2.16	0.03
Cooperation	21.49	4.69	23.40	3.77	- 3.55	0.00
Compassion	21.40	3.31	22.31	3.86	- 1.83	0.07

MVQ scores and stages of moral reasoning

Table 15 shows the percentage of students belonging to different stages of moral reasoning for both the experimental and control groups based on their performance in the pre-and posttests. None of the students were found to be in Stage One. On the pretests, only 1.5 % (n=2) were found to be in Stage Two and 0.8 % (n=1) in Stage Five. Majority of the students, 52.6 % (n=70) were found to have reached Stage Four while 45.1 % (n=60) were in Stage Three. According to Kohlberg (1975), children at age thirteen (most of the Form One students) should have reached Stage Four. The above results seemed to support Kohlberg's theory.

TABLE 15

Percentage of students in each moral reasoning stage based on their pre- and posttests

Reasoning Stage	Pretests		Posttests	
	No of students	Percent	No of students	Percent
Stage One	-	-	-	-
Stage Two	2	1.5	-	-
Stage Three	60	45.1	39	29.3
Stage Four	70	52.6	93	69.9
Stage Five	1	0.8	1	0.8
Total	133	100.0	133	100.0

Results on the posttests show that the two students who were in Stage Two during the pretests had already increased their level of moral reasoning after the treatment.

Similarly, 15.8 % (n=21) of the students in Stage Three has already increased their level of moral reasoning to Stage Four. This shows that almost half of the students who were in Stage Three on the pretests had increased their level of moral reasoning to Stage Four after the treatment.

Table 16 shows the percentage of students in the experimental group belonging in each moral reasoning stage at the pretests and posttests.

TABLE 16

Percentage of students in the experimental group belonging in each reasoning stage based on the pretests and posttests

Moral Reasoning Stage	Pretests		Posttests	
	No of students	Percent	No of students	Percent
Stage One	-	-	-	-
Stage Two	1	1.5	-	-
Stage Three	30	44.8	13	19.4
Stage Four	36	53.7	53	79.1
Stage Five	-	-	1	1.5
Total	67	100.0	67	100.0

As shown in Table 16, out of 67 students in the experimental group, only 1.5 % (n=1) was in Stage Two during the pretest, 44.8 % (n=30) were in Stage Three and 53.7 % (n=36) in Stage Four. On the posttest, there were 19.4 % (n=13) of the students in Stage Three and 79.11 % (n=53) in Stage Four. Only one student reached Stage Five on the posttest.

Table 17 shows the percentage of students at different stages of moral reasoning after the posttests.

TABLE 17

Percentage of students
at different stages of moral
reasoning after the post-tests

moral reasoning stage	No of students	Percent
Stage Two to Four	1	1.5
Remained in Stage Three	13	19.4
Stage Three to Four	17	25.4
Remained in Stage Four	35	52.2
Stage Four to Five	1	1.5
Total	67	100.0

As shown in Table 17, one student (1.5%) from the experimental group jumped two stages above, from Stage Two to Stage Four. Seventeen students (25.4 %) managed to increase their moral reasoning stage from Stage Three to Four and only one student (1.5 %) reached Stage Five. The rest of the students remained at their respective stage levels, 13 (19.4 %) at Stage Three and 35 (52.2 %) at Stage Four.

The interpretations of the above mentioned results will be discussed in the following chapter.