

# CREATIVE EXPRESSION AND WRITING PROFICIENCY OF JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN SPECIAL PROGRAM IN THE ARTS CLASS

This study, titled “Creative Expression and Writing Proficiency of Junior High School Students in Special Program in the Arts Class,” aimed to determine the relationship between creative expression and writing proficiency in terms of writing. The primary research questions addressed in this study are as follows: Firstly, the extent of respondents’ awareness regarding their creative expression in writing, specifically in prose and poetry. Secondly, the level of their writing proficiency, focusing on grammar and syntax, organization of ideas, and content development. Lastly, the study evaluated the significant relationship between creative expression in writing and writing proficiency. The respondents were grade 9 students enrolled in the Special Program in the Arts (SPA) class. The researcher employed a descriptive correlational design with a test questionnaire consisting of a closed-ended questionnaire for part one and an open-ended questionnaire for part two. Statistical tools such as frequency count, weighted mean, and Pearson correlation were used to collect and analyze numerical data. Results indicated that respondents had a moderate awareness of their creative expression in terms of writing. Their writing proficiency was rated as good in grammar and syntax, fair in the organization of ideas, and good in content development. The study revealed a strong relationship between writing proficiency and creative expression, with significant associations found in grammar and syntax, organization of ideas, and content development. A positive correlation was observed between higher writing skills and higher levels of creative expression, suggesting that enhanced creative expression in writing is linked with improved writing proficiency. The findings underscore the importance of fostering both artistic expression and writing skills. The strong relationships between various writing proficiency criteria and creative expression highlight the interaction between creativity and effective writing. Educational settings should implement integrated techniques to develop writing abilities and creativity simultaneously. This approach would provide a comprehensive strategy for improving writing proficiency. It is recommended that schools incorporate creative activities such as storytelling and poetry into the curriculum and that teachers should encourage creative exploration while providing constructive feedback on both content and creativity. Further research is needed to explore how creative expression impacts writing proficiency, leading to more effective strategies for enhancing writing skills.

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