P-25

Development of Web Based Instruction Program for Middle Schoolers' Clothing Construction Education

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Ⅰ. Introduction

Contemporary society is an information oriented society where quality of life depends on the speed and quality of the information one owns. Contemporary education, which has always been reflecting and leading the society, is also trying to provide the learners with ways and means of acquiring and utilizing informations. The so-called method WBI, the Web Based Instruction method, which enables the students to approach boundless information on the internet, to individualize the speed and substance of learning, and to communicate with the instructor and colleagues, is widely used in various educational fields.

Nevertheless, the WBI method in teachings on Home Economics, especially on clothing construction, is not as quite popular as on other subjects due to various reasons.

Ⅱ. Purpose & Method

This study aimed to develop a web based instruction(WBI) content for clothing construction class of middle school students. The program focused on "Pajama Construction" section in Home Economics education curriculum and followed the basic procedure given in the textbook. This study comprised of two parts: Construction of WBI Website for pajama-construction education and assessment of the new system via questionnaire after experimental lecturing.

The website homepage consisted of Home, Profile, Board, Notice, Main menu, Search, and Hyperlink. The sub-lists of the Main menu followed the procedure of the textbook content implementing it with various additional information and animation files of step-by-step pajama pants construction pictures. Editors as Namo 5.0, Photoshop 6.0, Image Ready 3.0, premiere 6.0, image Mixer, and flash 6.0 was utilized.

For the assessment of the developed content, experimental lectures were given to two classes; The lecture utilizing the WBI content to the experimental group and the traditional offline lecture to the control group. Homework, the drafting and hand-sewing of 1/2 scale pants, was given out to each class respectively and the result was evaluated according to the predefined standards.

Scaring of the homework and questionnaire about satisfaction, interest, preference for the WBI class and the quality of the WBI content was administered

Ⅲ. Result

The result of the assessment showed that lecture with WBI is more efficient than traditional lecture as the experimental group lectured with WBI content showed higher achievement score on the understanding of the pants drafting and construction procedure than the group lectured with traditional method.

The result of the questionnaire on the evaluation of the WBI content showed higher-than-median degree satisfaction, interest and preference for WBI lecture. The content of the WBI was generally evaluated satisfactory.

Overall, lecture utilizing WBI besides textbook improved students' understanding of pajama construction procedure and heightened their satisfaction in the lecture and their interest in the subject. The researcher is planning to refine the content and expects various WBI materials to be developed for other clothing related subjects too, to stimulate young students' ambition in this field.

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