**INFLUENCE OF PRODUCTIVE STRUGGLE IN MATHEMATICS TO THE 21st CENTURY LEARNERS**

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**Abstract**

This study dealt with finding the influence of productive struggle in Mathematics to 21st-century learners. Furthermore, it aimed to determine the problems encountered by the learners when they are exposed to activities that promote productive struggle. This study utilized the quasi-experimental pre-test post-test design. In this design, two groups of learners are involved: the experimental group and the control group.

It has been found out that productive struggle is extremely influential to 21st-century learners for it has helped them to be motivated in managing to improve their skills in mathematics. Furthermore, it was found out in this study that the problem that most of the learners encounter when they are in productive struggle is the fact that they cannot finish the activity within a given amount of time. They often struggle with the idea that they are given a problem to be solved without preview of the lesson.

Findings revealed that there is a significant difference in the achievement test scores of the learners with and without activities that promotes productive struggle. *In addition,* it has also been found out that there is a significant interaction between the achievement test scores of the learners in the experimental group if they will be classified according to their mental capacity. The results only suggested that those subjects who are exposed to activities that promote productive struggle performs better than those who are exposed to the conventional method of teaching even if they are grouped according to their mental capacity.

Therefore, independent learning using activities that promote productive struggle is found to be more effective than the conventional lecture method. Hence, the researcher deemed it necessary for school administrators and Mathematics teachers to implement an independent learning strategy using activities that promote productive struggle to increase the achievement test scores of the learners.

***Keywords:*** 21st-century learners*, influence, productive struggle*