



METAPHORS ABOUT MATHEMATICS OF INDUSTRIAL VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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Abstract

In recent years, industrial vocational high school students are located on the last steps in high school entrance exam. Hence, vocational high school students' entrance exam mathematics results are very low. Because of that, this research is aimed to reveal metaphorical thoughts of vocational high school students about "mathematics" through metaphors. A total of 160 students who were studying in a industrial vocational school in 2014-2015 academic year are asked to complete the phrase of "mathematical is like..... because....." with this aim. Students were given sheets and asked to write their thoughts by focusing on one metaphor. The data of the research was analyzed through content analysis method. The metaphors developed by these students were determined, classified and categorized at this stage. At the end of the study, a total of 36 valid metaphors were identified and they were classified under 9 different categories. Besides, according to the meaning expressed, these metaphors are grouped under the headings of positive, negative and both positive and negative by students. The results of the research indicated that more than half of the students think mathematics as a negative issue.

Keywords: Mathematics; Industrial vocational high school students; Metaphor.