Abstract

Study undertaken by qualitative research method investigated the frequency of 6-8th grades mathematics teachers’ use of tools in classes and factors affecting frequency of use. 46 mathematics teachers working in centre district schools participated. Data collected through interviews was analyzed by utilizing content and descriptive analysis. Study results show it that teachers frequently use tools such as goniometers, rulers, compasses, rectangular prisms and unit cubes while they less frequently made use of tools such as egg tangrams, sucking discs, clinometers and cube meters. In line with teachers’ views, factors affecting the use of tools were found to be school resources, teacher characteristics, time, features of tools and their contribution to learning environment. It is important in abstract classes such as mathematics to support learning by tools in order to provide permanency in learning, hence it is crucial to develop teachers; lesson implementers, in quantitative and qualitative ways in the area of utilizing these tools.

Key Words: Mathematics, tools, use of frequency, factors that affect use of frequency.