



Studying the Impact of IC on Writing: A Quantitative Analysis

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Aim

To analyze latent topic structures in students' essays by using a statistical based program. The program looks at how often each word is used and computes the proportion of the use of each word relative to all words used by all students. It looks to see which words are used the most.

Students in non-IC trained Classrooms:

- Used more of topic 1 in their essays than students in IC trained classrooms.
- Characterizations of this topics include: repeating/restating the prompt, considering only one perspective, and a lack of expansion or development in essays

Students in IC-trained Classrooms:

- Used more of topic 2 in their essays than students in non-IC trained classrooms.
- Characterizations of this topics include: Using the words "because", "think", and "thought" that indicate deeper thought processes and reasoning, the ability to consider more than one perspective and expand beyond the given prompt.
- There is a statistically significant difference in topic usage between IC and non-IC classrooms.

Topic Model Analysis of 3rd Grade Students' Written Essays from performance on the Georgia Center for Assessment (GCA) Assesslets

Comparing Topic Use between IC and non-IC students

