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RESEARCH ARTICLE

UTILIZATION OF ZIPGRADE APP IN CHECKING AND ANALYZING LEARNERS' ASSESSMENT: A BASIS FOR ACTION PLAN

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ABSTRACT

The advent of technology has significantly transformed the educational landscape, providing innovative tools that have the potential to enhance teaching and learning processes. One such tool is the ZipGrade application, a mobile application that allows educators to grade multiple choice tests using their mobile devices. The application not only reduces the time spent on grading but also provides an analysis of the results, thereby assisting educators in identifying students' strengths and weaknesses. To fulfill DepEd's policy in terms of assessment efficiently and effectively, this study aims to explore the use of the ZipGrade app focusing particularly on its effectiveness in streamlining the grading process and evaluating student performance. A descriptive method of research was used. The Application was compared to traditional way of checking of test papers through a survey questionnaire.

The outcome reveals that the respondents strongly disagree in manual checking and analysis. On the other hand, they highly accept the Application of Zipgrade, considering the

fast and convenience in correcting answer sheets. An action plan is on the utilization of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing the learners' assessment for school wide application.

Keywords: Zipgrade App, Assessment, Action Plan

INTRODUCTION

Coherent with the DepEd Order No. 031 s. 2020, Interim Guidelines for Assessment and Grading in Light of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan, it is imperative for schools to take stock of assessment and grading practices that will most meaningfully support learner development and respond to varied contexts at this time. This policy is grounded on the following principles:

a) Assessment should be holistic and authentic in capturing the attainment of the most essential learning competencies.

b) Assessment is integral for understanding student learning and development.

c) A variety of assessment strategies is necessary, with formative assessment taking priority to inform teaching and promote growth and mastery.

d) Assessment and feedback should be shared responsibility among teachers, learners, and their families; and

e) Assessment and grading should have a positive impact on learning.

In support to this, the advent of technology has significantly transformed the educational landscape, providing innovative tools that have the potential to enhance teaching and learning processes. One such tool is the ZipGrade application, a mobile application that allows educators to grade multiple choice tests using their mobile devices (ZipGrade, 2021). The application not only reduces the time spent on grading but also provides an analysis of the results, thereby assisting educators in identifying students' strengths and weaknesses.

However, despite its potential benefits, the utilization of the ZipGrade app in the educational setting remains under-explored. This study, entitled "Utilization of ZipGrade App in Checking and Analysis of Test Papers," is situated in this context. It is conducted at Bilaran National High School, a dynamic educational institution that continually seeks to adopt innovative technologies to enhance its pedagogical practices.

To fulfill DepEd's policy efficiently and effectively, this study aims to explore the use of the ZipGrade app in the context of the school, focusing particularly on its effectiveness in streamlining the grading process and evaluating student performance. The current literature provides evidence that technology integration in the classroom can lead to improved teaching and learning outcomes (Almekhlafi & Almeqdadi, 2010). Moreover, the efficiency of automated grading systems, such as the ZipGrade app, has been emphasized in recent research (Papadopoulos & Agaliotis, 2021). This study hopes to contribute to this growing body of literature by providing an in-depth analysis of the practical application of the ZipGrade app in a real-world educational setting. The findings of this action research will not only be beneficial to the educators at Bilaran National High School but also to other institutions aiming to adopt technology-enhanced assessment tools. By carefully examining the utilization of the ZipGrade app, the study can provide critical insights that can guide future practices and policymaking in the field of educational technology.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

This study aims to utilize Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing learners' assessment. Furthermore, this sought to answer the following:

1. How do the respondents perceive the manual checking and analyzing of their assessment?
2. How do the respondents perceive the use of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing of their assessment?
3. What are the insights of the respondents in using Zipgrade App?

4. What Action plan can be implemented to utilize Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing learners' assessment?

Scope and Limitation of the Study

The general intent of the research was limited in utilizing Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing learners' assessment. The study was restricted to Grade 9 students of Bilaran National High School S. Y. 2022-2023.

METHODOLOGY

This section includes the method of research, respondents of the study, gathering procedure and statistical treatment of data.

Method of Research

The researchers used the descriptive method of research. The Application was compared to traditional way or manual checking of test papers through a survey questionnaire. The respondents' insight and feedback on utilization of Zipgrade was also considered.

Statistical treatment of data

The following statistical treatments were used to facilitate the analysis of data:

Problem 1. Perception of respondents in manual checking and analyzing of their assessment.

Problem 2. Perception of respondents on the use of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing of their assessment.

For problems 1 and 2, the data analysis made use of mean. Weighted mean and ranking were used to describe how the respondents assess the App through Five-point Likert scale as follows: 1.00 – 1.80 (strongly disagree), 1.81 – 2.60 (disagree), 2.61 – 3.40 (fairly agree), 3.41 – 4.20 (agree) and 4.21 – 5.00 (strongly agree).

Problem 3. Insights of the respondents while using Zipgrade App.

This is a written descriptive evaluation of the respondents after using Zipgrade App.

Problem 4. Action Plan on utilizing Zipgrade App in Checking and analyzing learners' assessments.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

After the administration of the data gathering procedures, the following data was obtained:

Table 1

The perception of respondents in the manual checking and analyzing of assessment

	MANUAL CHECKING OF ANSWER SHEETS	Mean	Interpretation
1	Fast and easy checking of answer sheets.	1.84	Disagree
2	Free from cheating of checking of answer sheets.	1.61	Strongly disagree
3	Fast Item analysis of correct responses.	1.58	Strongly disagree
	Grand Mean	**1.68**	**Strongly disagree**

Table 1 presents the perception of respondents in the manual checking and analyzing of their assessment. With mean of 1.84, respondents disagree of fast and easy checking of answer sheets. Secondly, respondents also strongly disagree that checking is free from cheating with mean average of 1.61. Lastly, respondents still strongly disagree the fast item analysis of correct responses with mean average of 1.58. Over-all, with the general mean of 1.68, respondents strongly disagree in manual checking and analyzing of their answer sheets.

Table 2

The perception of respondents in the use of Zipgrade App

in checking and analyzing of their assessment

	ZIPGRADE APP IN CHECKING OF ANSWER SHEETS	Mean	Interpretation
1	Fast and easy checking of answer sheets.	4.72	Strongly agree

2	Free from cheating of checking of answer sheets.	4.53	Strongly agree
3	Fast Item analysis of correct responses.	4.66	Strongly agree
	Grand Mean	**4.64**	**Strongly agree**

Table 2 shows the perception of respondents in the use of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing of their assessment. Respondents strongly agree to the fast and easy checking of answer sheets, fast item analysis of correct responses and free from cheating using Zipgrade App with the mean of 4.72, 4.66 and 4.53 consecutively.

3. Insights of the respondents while using Zipgrade App.

"I highly recommend this type of answer sheet because it is more easy to use, just shading your chosen answer / letter and done. I hope the future answer sheets for test are always like this because for me it is one of the best types of answering method."

"It's ok for me because it's easy to use and I can know my score immediately."

"Upon using Zipgrade, I've notice that it's easy to use with just one scan and it's done. I highly suggest using using this App during periodic test., summative test, and other. This is the best way of answering with one shade and it's done. It also lessens the students' cheating."

It's nice, it's easier than writing in the intermediate paper. I really recommend this to other subjects."

"After using the answer sheet, I can say that it is much easier to use, more convenient and hassle free as it saved us the effort in writing the numbers. It is much easier for teachers to record our grade, instead of checking our papers one by one, the only thing that they going to do is to scan it using cellphone and it's much easier to do the item analysis."

4. Action Plan on the utilization of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing learners' assessment

Objective / Activities / Strategies	Person Responsible	Timeline	Resources	Success Indicator
1.Orientation on the use of Zipgrade App thru a School Learning Action Cell	Researchers	Before quarterly test	Laptop Zipgrade App Cellphone	All subject teachers will use the Zipgrade Application in their Periodical Assessment for checking of answer sheets and analysis of correct responses.
2. Utilization of Zipgrade in checking and analyzing learners' assessment	All Subject Teachers	Every quarterly test		
3. Monitoring and evaluation on the effectiveness of the Zipgrade App	Department Head All Subject Teachers	Every quarterly test		

CONCLUSION

Based on the findings of this study, the researchers arrived at the following conclusions:

1. The respondents strongly disagree in manual checking and in analyzing of their assessment.
2. The respondents strongly agree with the use of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing their assessment, considering the fast and convenience of its application.
3. The respondents express their positive insights and appreciation in the modern way of taking exam, amaze in the speedy result and analysis of their assessment.
4. The action plan is on the utilization of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing the learners' assessment for school wide application.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on conclusions of the study, the researcher recommends the following:

1. The teachers should make sure of the accuracy of manual checking of students' paper and truthfulness of the item analysis results.
2. The teachers should maximize the utilization of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing of students' assessment.
3. The teachers should take in consideration the feedback of students in terms of how their papers were assessed, particularly timeliness of checking and the one who corrected their answer sheets.
4. The teachers should consider the utilization of Zipgrade App in checking and analyzing students' test papers. Furthermore, could be shared to other teachers District wide.

Work Plan

Activities	Date
Formulating objectives of the research	January 15, 2023
Gathering Data Literature Materials	February 10, 2023
Identifying research design methodology	March 01, 2023
Drafting result and discussion	March 15, 2023
Drawing conclusion and writing the recommendation	April 15,2023

Cost Estimates

ITEM	PRICE
Zipgrade App	450.00
Ink	50.00
Bond Paper	100.00
Photocopy	50.00
Long Folder	45.00
Total	**Php 695 .00**

References:

DepEd Order No. 031 s. 2020, Interim Guidelines for Assessment and Grading in Light of the Basic Education Learning Continuity Plan.

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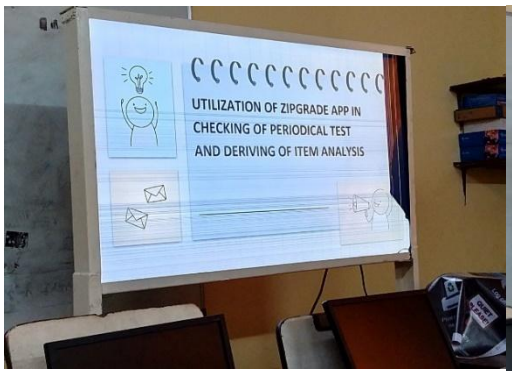
PHOTODOCUMENTATION OF LEARNING ACTION CELL

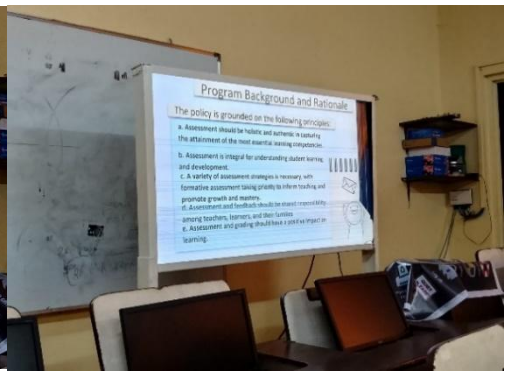
ABOUT ZIPGRADE APPLICATION

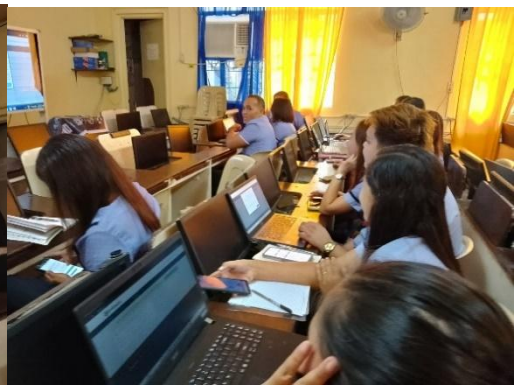




The morning session, composed of Grade 9 and 10 teachers, was started thru an opening prayer led by Ms. Lourdes A. Tenorio, Teacher III. A Welcome remark was rendered by Dr. Marcelo B. Ularte, Head Teacher III of Science. School-Learning Action Cell's statement of purpose was delivered by The Principal III, Mrs. Marilyn B. Penaflor.









In the session proper, Dr. Alvin B. Punongbayan, Master Teacher I of English explained in detailed 1. What is Zipgrade? 2. How to create an account? 3. How to create an answer sheet?













For the continuation of discussion, Mrs. Anabelle U. Loquias, Master Teacher II of Science explained further 4. How to set up the Key on mobile device? and 5. How to check / scan answer sheets?

ANNEX C

The Zipgrade Answer Sheet

