

Questioning in the Classroom

Aim

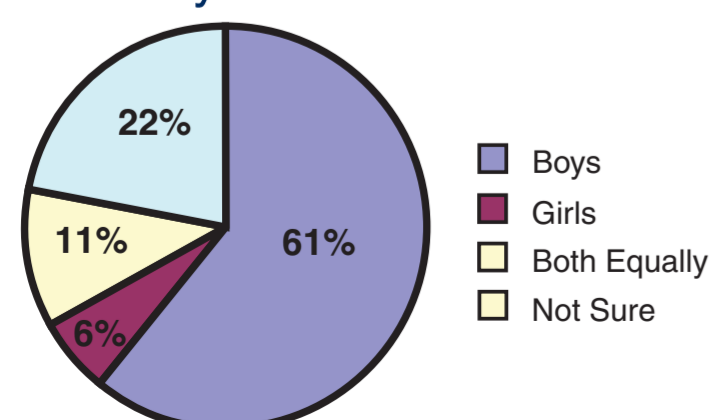
- Are my questions gender directed?

Method

- A class of 27 pupils were surveyed, of which there were 11 girls and 16 boys.
- Before surveying I gave a questionnaire to the pupils to see if they thought there was a pattern to how I questioned them during a lesson
- Then, during the first 10 minutes of the lesson, a student from another class sat in as observer and kept an exact record of which pupils were asked questions.

Results of Questionnaire

Question :
In your opinion, does the teacher ask questions mostly to ...



Results of Observation

Number of questions asked in each lesson to:		
	Girl	Boy
Lesson 1	10	9
Lesson 2	11	9
Lesson 3	6	11
Lesson 4	9	13
Lesson 5	9	16
Lesson 6	8	23
Lesson 7	5	11
Lesson 8	8	19
Lesson 9	8	10
Lesson 10	10	14

Conclusion

- The majority of students (61%) felt that boys were asked more questions than girls in the class.
- The results of the observation initially showed that questions were directed more at boys than at girls during 8 of the 10 lessons.
- However when the girl: boy ratio in the class was taken into account, it showed that boys were only marginally asked more questions than girls and sometimes not at all.
- A more accurate representation could be got by video recording each lesson and noting the questioning during the entire lesson instead of just the first ten minutes of the lesson.
- More than ten lessons should be observed.