Abstract

The main focus of this study was to investigate whether encouraging primary students to create pictures of Mathematical Word Problems (MWP) facilitate their problem-solving performance. Self-created picture method meant that the students were asked to generate pictures for the MWP according to their own interpretation of it. The MWP trained in this study included both arithmetic word problems and geometrical word problems. Seventy-two Primary 5 students were selected for further assessment. Training in self-created picture method was given to 24 children with poor performance in MWP. Pre-training assessment and post-training assessment were given to the students to evaluate the effectiveness of the training. The result showed that there was significant improvement for the training group in the posttest in word problem tasks. The findings implied that improvement in students’ performance in MWP need specific training and self-created picture method could effectively enhancing the students’ skill in interpreting and solving MWP.