

THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN EDUCATIONAL UNIT IN LIGHT OF MARZANO'S MODEL FOR DIMENSIONS OF LEARNING AND ITS INFLUENCE ON THE CREATIVE THINKING SKILLS OF THE PREPARATORY YEAR PROGRAM STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT: _ *The dimensions of learning model is considered to be as a basis for the planning and development of educational units through the interaction between its five dimensions that represent the application process of the latest educational theories. The main objective of the present study is to develop an educational unit in light of Marzano's model for the dimensions of learning and to investigate its influence on the creative thinking skills of the Preparatory Year Program students at Prince Sattam bin Abdul-Aziz University. To achieve that objective, the problem of the study was identified in the following main question: (What is the effectiveness of the development of an educational unit in light of Marzano's model for the dimensions of learning on the creative thinking skills of The Preparatory Year Program students?). The present study employed the descriptive method to develop an educational unit in light of Marzano's model for the dimensions of learning, and the quasi-experimental method to measure the effectiveness of the independent variable (developed unit) and its impact on the dependent variable (creative thinking skills). The study sample composed of students who represent the Preparatory Year Program at Prince Sattam bin Abdul-Aziz University, and were selected randomly. The study tools included the scale of creative thinking skills that was pre-post-administered to measure the students' skills and gather the data. Statistical procedures were applied on the data obtained and the results were discussed. The study showed that there was a positive effect of using the developed educational unit in light of Marzano's model for the dimensions of learning on the students' creative thinking skills.*

KEYWORDS: *Curriculum Development, Models, university teaching, Higher- order thinking skills.*