

Thinking Strategies Used by 7th-Grade Students in Solving Number Sense Problems

Palanisamy Veloo

SEGi University, Malaysia

<pkveloo@segi.edu.my>

Parmjit Singh

University of Technology MARA, Malaysia

<parmj378@salam.uitm.edu.my>

Forty-five Grade 7 students from a larger sample of 118 were interviewed on the thinking strategies they used in solving number sense problems. Students were categorised into high, middle and low ability groups. Students were asked a series of questions designed to assess the thinking strategies they used in solving number sense questions. The study also investigated the extent to which misconceptions and learned rules were sufficiently fixed that they continue to influence students' responses despite having been given lessons on number sense. Results show that many students continued to apply rule-based methods in attempting to solve number sense questions.