

# Comparing Chinese Teaching Style and Western Teaching Style: The Preference of Students to Indoctrination Teaching Style and Questioning Teaching Style

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## ABSTRACT

The paper is mainly discussing the preference of students' to indoctrination teaching style or questioning teaching style. The essay is discussing which of these two different teaching styles is students and how can teachers use these teaching styles to teach students better. The essay is discussing the question from three different dimensions: 1) the preference to indoctrination teaching style or questioning teaching style. 2) the atmosphere of indoctrination or questioning styles in class. 3) the popularity of questioning teaching style in recent 5 years. The research is mainly use the method of quantitative researching method. The paper make a survey of students' education background and the their tendency to different teaching styles. In the research, there are totally have 74 participants. The research shows that most of the students are preferring to questioning teaching style. The search shows that most of participants are Chinese education background. In these 74 participants, most of them are believing that questioning teaching style is better than indoctrination teaching style. At the same time, there are some people who believe that the indoctrination teaching style is effective than questioning style. However, this only occupy little in total proportion. There are 50% of participants think that questioning teaching style is more popular in five years. Teachers need to use different teaching styles to teach different levels of students. Meanwhile, teachers, especially in secondary or primary school need to focus on the creativity of students. Teachers need to use a questioning teaching style to help students build confidence to the crate, which means teachers have to encourage students to create things instead of just instill knowledge to them. However, in some ways, teachers are able to use indoctrination teaching styles to instill students' basic knowledge. Therefore, teachers can use questioning teaching style more effective.

**Keywords:** *Indoctrination teaching style, Questioning teaching style, Students' preference to teaching style*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Because there are numerous of students are competing for opportunities of university. Therefore, in order to have less competitive, there are more and more students enter international school. In China, the students' acceptance to questioning teaching style and indoctrination teaching style is lacking data. Indoctrination teaching style is defined as a teacher centered teaching model [1]. in this paper, whereas questioning teaching style is a method of instruction that provide learning opportunities for students think critically and deliberate with their groups [2]. Many studies are discussing the impact of these two different teaching styles to students' academic performance, but

few of them are researching the tendency of preference of the teaching style. There is a common situation is that when teacher use questioning teaching style, they do not want to participant the class activity and discussion [3]. This research explores the importance of the tendency of students' love to one of the teaching style and help teachers to find the most suitable method to motivate students' learning interest and better to absorb knowledge. The research can help teachers know the advantage and disadvantage of both two teaching styles and choose the suitable one. The students are preferring the questioning teaching style, and they believe that it is a benefit for interactions between teachers and students. Therefore, the teachers can combine both two teaching styles in terms to help students master knowledge.

## 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Since there are a lot of students in China, most of them are attending big class. Thus, it is important to choose teaching styles. However, because the teaching style in these nations is mainly questioning teaching style. The students in China are mainly experience indoctrination teaching style. The paper mainly focus on the preference of students to indoctrination and questioning styles. The paper mainly discuss into three different dimensions: 1) the tendency of students to indoctrination or questioning teaching style 2) the atmosphere of indoctrination or questioning styles in class. 3) the popularity of questioning teaching style in recent 5 years.

The indoctrination is benefits for students [2]. Some students' learning ability is weak, so the indoctrination teaching style is the most suitable [3]. One of the benefits of indoctrination teaching style is that it can help students gain basic knowledge quickly [4]. Also, the teachers can easier manage the class, so that the teachers can talk more knowledge. This is the reason that many researchers support indoctrination teaching style in China. One of the reasons is that in China, teachers have to teach knowledge according to the teaching outline. And since Gao Kao is the most important thing, so the indoctrination teaching style is the most effective way.

However, many researchers are supporting that the indoctrination teaching style is not a good style. The remarkable reason is that indoctrination teaching is not a good method since it not only bring pressure to students but also prevent students have critical thinking [4]. Therefore, the researchers believe that questioning teaching style is better as it can give students a more open atmosphere to express themselves and improve their critical thinking skills. Also, another benefit of questioning style is that students will remember the knowledge [3]. The questioning teaching style is easier to attract students' attention and make the student not feel boring. As a result, the students are more willing to attend the class.

The previous literature is mainly focus on the benefits of indoctrination teaching style and questioning teaching style. However, this question need to be considered deeper. It is true that questioning teaching style benefits students' critically thinking style. However, this should base on students know basic knowledge. If students do not know basic knowledge, they can hardly realize the extent of teachers' [5]. In this case, the indoctrination teaching style have more benefits since it can make students know elementary knowledge quickly [4]. Thus, students can follow teachers' thinking to consider things by themselves. In this way, students can practice their critical thinking skills in a more effective way and to teachers, it is a better way to save time. On the other hand,

students will satisfy to the teaching style and students remember knowledge forever.

Therefore, in teaching, teachers should combine two different teaching styles since they have their own advantages, and this can help teachers teach students in a more effective way than before.

## 3. RESEARCH QUESTION

The research proposes three questions:

Hypothesis1: Chinese students are more used to like indoctrination style

Hypothesis2: international students are more likely to accept questioning style

Hypothesis3: students transfer from normal public school in China to international school are more likely to accept questioning style.

## 4. METHODS

The aim of the paper is to discover the tendency of student's love to indoctrination teaching style or questioning teaching style. The paper adapts quantitative research method as the mainly research method. There are 50 people who participant in this research. The first part is an anonymous questionnaire. This questionnaire is distributed through questionnaire website. This questionnaire is focusing on the education background of the students. The other questionnaire also distribute trough questionnaire website. The whole questionnaire need 20 minutes to complete. The questionnaire investigate through three aspects include class atmosphere; teacher's feed back and subject to detect the love tendency of different education background. The question require students to do a satisfy scale and briefly demonstrate the reason to the question. According to the result of the questionnaire, the analyses of the data will use the rate analyse and tendency analyse to analyse the data. Some similar experience students will be chosen and make further explanation and analyse.

## 5. RESULTS

Hypothesis 1 states that Chinese students prefer indoctrination. However, he descriptive data analysis shows that many participants in this survey are Chinese students, and the other big part is Chinese international education background. During the satisfying to indoctrination and questioning teaching style, among total 74 participants, 45.95% of students feel to questioning styles and few people feel not satisfy to this kind of teaching style. The reason that they prefer questioning teaching style is because it not only can increase attention, but also can learn more things. In terms of the Figure1, 2.06% of students are not satisfy to

questioning teaching style. The average satisfy to questioning teaching style is 4.05.

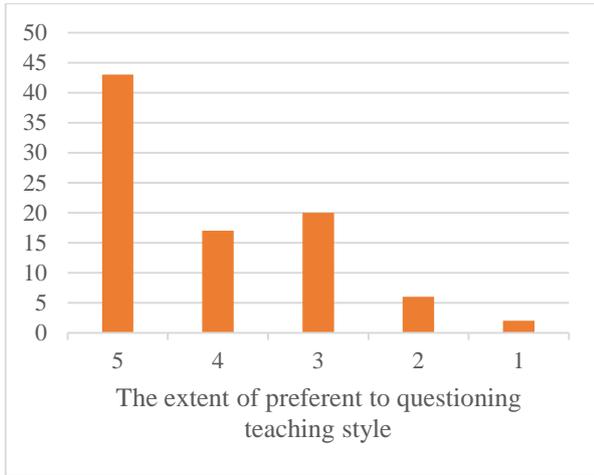


Figure 1 The preference of questionig teaching style

Research hypothesis 2 claims that international students are more likely to like questioning teaching styles. In terms of the result, 29.9% of participants prefer to indoctrination teaching style. The reason why they prefer indoctrination teaching style is that it has high efficiency, and can make students who do not like to ask questions learn more. Also the student who like this kind of teaching style believes that it is able to help students to memory knowledge. However, some international students prefer to indoctrination teaching style because it can save time. According to figure2, 30.93 believe that the indoctrination teaching style is commonly, and half of the people believe that the indoctrination teaching style benefits them much. According to figure2, there is only 1.03% of students are not satisfying to indoctrination teaching style. The average satisfy to indoctrination teaching style is 3.72.

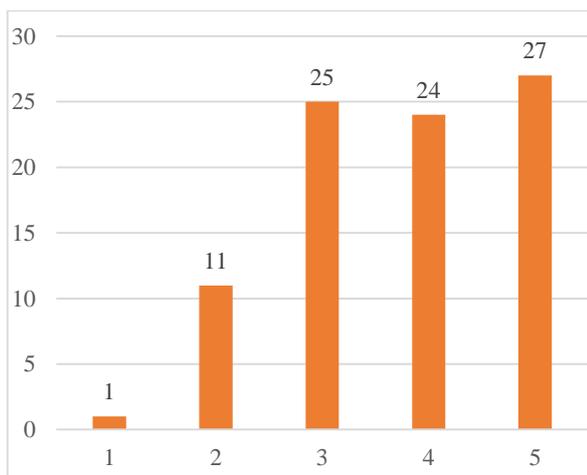


Figure 2 Do you like questionig teaching style is better

Research hypothesis 3 declares that the the students who transfer from normal public school in China to international school will be more likely to accept questioning teaching style. According to the result,

36.08% of students prefer questioning and 30.93% of students feel commonly about indoctrination teaching style. Also, when the students be asked if questioning teaching style or indoctrination style help them more, 35.05% of students think the questioning teaching style help them a lot, however, most people think that the benefit of indoctrination is just commonly. Only 25.77% of students believe that indoctrination benefits them lot. One of the questions in the questionnaire is if they think some subjects are suitable for different kind of teaching styles. The reaction of students to this question is supporting because they think that the subjects like psychology and philosophy are more suitable for questioning, but for some subjects like physics or maths are more suitable for indoctrination.

When students make a predict about popularity of questioning teaching style and indoctrination teaching style, 53.84% of students believe that questioning teaching style is more popular after 5 years and 46.16% of students believe that the indoctrination teaching style is more popular. The last question is to ask which of the teaching style have more benefits for students to improve their knowledge. In this question, 55.36% of students believe the questioning teaching style are more better, and 44.64% of students think that the indoctrination have more benefits for them. During the questionnaire, 4.12% of people.

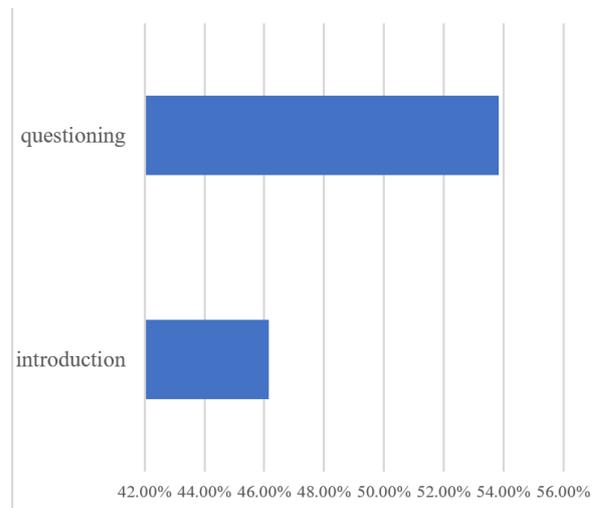


Figure 3 The percentage of popularity of questioning and indoctrination teaching style

## 6. DISCUSSION & IMPLICATIONS

In the students' satisfy to questioning teaching style or indoctrination teaching style, there are there demonstrates to see the satisfy to students about these two kinds of teaching styles 1) the atmosphere of class; 2) the helping extend to students on academic performance; 3) if some subjects are more suitable for one of the teaching styles. The questioning teaching style is the teacher help students learn through propose questions. The experience

of students' learning style coordinate the teaching style, the students will have more satisfaction [2]. The study reveals that the students that have Chinese education background are more likely to be satisfied to questioning style. Also, students think questioning teaching style can help them to think questions by themselves. The other reason that students prefer questioning is because this kind of teaching style can help them to express themselves. They believe that this is able to help them memory knowledge. However, one of the disadvantages of questioning teaching style is that the students will propose some opinions that is not related to the class and students are hardly to answer some questions by themselves. Because of this, some students feel that the questioning style is not good for them. However, this view is a basis. Admittedly, the questioning teaching style will produce problems like this, but it can help students to feel confidence. The most common way for teachers teaching students is through indoctrination. According to the research of indoctrination teaching style, it is a method that is paying attention to transformation of knowledge to students, and ignore the development of students' ability. According to the study, the students do not like indoctrination teaching style is because it is boring. One of the most remarkably character of indoctrination teaching style is that teachers talk about knowledge and students listen. The students are receiving knowledge.[3]. So, the students are lacking for critical thinking. One professor illustrates that when he ask his Chinese students to raising their hands if they agree. There is no students who raise hands, and he ask other questions. Unfortunately, the result is same. This shows that as students receive higher education, their confidences become lower [4].

Traditionally, in indoctrination teaching styles, the students do not participate, they only listen to teachers and make notes. However, in the questioning teaching styles, it is vital that students need to participate into the discussion. The students will listen to teachers and proposes questions that confusing them. Therefore, the creative thinking of students can be practised and students will memorize the knowledge. And the students can have critical thinking. Both the indoctrination and questioning teaching style can help students learn knowledge, however, to different level students, the effect is not the same. To those who have weak basic knowledge students, the indoctrination can help them grasp knowledge quickly, and to those who have better basic knowledge, the questioning teaching style is able to help them [5]. Hence, different levels of students are preferring to different kinds of teaching styles. However, for some science subjects such as Chemistry and Physics, the teacher should use questioning teaching styles in order to let students understand the phenomena instead of just memorize the knowledge. To students, the better way to absorb knowledge is through questioning teaching style instead of indoctrination teaching style. In China,

the indoctrination teaching style is used to prepare for exams, so it is easy to forget after they work, however, the knowledge that proposed by questioning style can help them have the knowledge forever since students learn knowledge by themselves so it leave profound effect. The questioning teaching style can help teachers check process of knowledge and decide the suitable knowledge. As a result, students not need to have much pressure and they can consolidate knowledge by practicing [2].

The teachers need to use different kinds of teaching style to varies of levels of students. Both the questioning and indoctrination teaching styles can benefit students. However, different levels of students have different receiving ability to understand what the teacher's instruction [6]. According to the study, the questioning can stimulate students' interest in the subject and practice students' organizing ability [2]. But to some students, since their ability to absorb knowledge is weak, it is hard for them to think the answer by themselves. Therefore, the advantage of indoctrination teaching style can make them grab the basic knowledge [5]. Indoctrination teaching style has three basic characters: monotonic, mandatory, and closeness. It is mainly pay attention to effect of class. The indoctrination teaching style is able to improve students absorb knowledge in a systematical way [7]. To students, if the level of teachers is lower, Indoctrination is based on the hypothesis that the students are not worth respecting, and focusing on teachers' authority. However, this method will prevent students' critically thinking, but questioning teaching style is able to make students learn knowledge by themselves instead of receiving knowledge [8]. According to the study, 72% of students believe that they can preview and understand before class, 83% of students think that the knowledge can be learn, but they can hardly use it flexible [9]. However, questioning teaching style is appreciating students, which means students and teachers are communicate about one question [10]. Hence, the teacher should use different kinds of teaching styles in order to make students have more chances to use their knowledge. Thus, teachers have to use teaching styles to lead students learn knowledge in an effective way, so that all students can absorb knowledge and know how to use it.

According to the research, 36.08% of students are preferring the class atmosphere of questioning style since they think they are freer. In the indoctrination teaching style, teachers are authority, so, the class is very quiet and students just receive the knowledge. However, this kind of class atmosphere is easier for students feel boring and is not good for them to develop critical thinking. Thus, it is better for teachers using questioning teaching styles so that students will not feel bored and they can practice their critical thinking skills. Comparing to indoctrination teaching style and questioning style, the requirement to students is different. The indoctrination teaching style requires students self-control, but it also bring barriers

that students do not want to innovate as they are afraid of failure [10]. In the study, many students are never thought to innovate, they believe that it is enough if the academic performance is good [11]. Indoctrination teaching style is hard to form an atmosphere of respecting innovate, but questioning teaching style can guide students try new things. At the same time, the school need to construct a tolerant atmosphere for students. In China, thousands of students are paying to Gaokao because it can help students change their life. One of the crucial thing for teachers is that the students should be independent. Teachers should make students develop by themselves. In this way, students are able to try different kinds of ideas and innovate [12].

The research shows that students in the questionnaire are preferring to questioning teaching style, the reason mainly because it can give students more freedom to consider. However, questioning teaching style has a problem: The students may think too diffuse [6]. In this case, the teacher is very important, they have to make the discussion in a right direction. However, indoctrination teaching style is able to control the class and guide students have a direction to consider. Since questioning and indoctrination teaching styles both have advantages and disadvantages. Therefore, in practice, the teachers should combine two different kinds of teaching styles, students need absorb knowledge and use it in a practical situation. According to the study, the questioning teaching style help students practice different skills. The purpose of learning is not only to grab knowledge, the experience and feeling is more important [10]. Questioning style requires students develop varies of abilities and establish students' enthusiasm and initiative so that they are more likely to explore something by themselves. However, before they explore, teachers should use indoctrination teaching to hive them the basic knowledge. The students not only can consolidate knowledge, but also make them explore in a more scientific way. At the same time, the teachers should focus on feedback from students. These feedback is able to help teachers to get experience and teach students better [10]. Since the difference between individuals is, the teachers need to pay attention to effect of difference teaching styles. Every student should adapt to the most efficient method, instead of using one method to all people [13]. By questioning teaching style, it can help students establish confidence and improve their academic ability.

## 7. CONCLUSION

The paper mainly discuss the preference of students to different kinds of teaching styles. The research shows that the most popular teaching style among students is questioning teaching style. However, it is difficult for teachers to hold the extent. The indoctrination teaching style can solve this problem. There are a lot of researchers

who hold the opinion that indoctrination teaching style is not good since it prevents students' creating skills. It cannot deny that indoctrination make students afraid of creating. However, this situation can be reversed. If teachers encourage students to think, no matter it is right or wrong, the students will have confidence to do and they are more likely to create things. Teachers should combine indoctrination teaching styles and questioning teaching styles and use them according to students' level and content.

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