



Peer-Review Report Form

Manuscript Title:	Punctuality and Academic Performance of Junior High School Students in Sulu, Philippines.
Type of Article:	Original Article

FIRST ROUND

Editor

<u>General Comments and Recommendations</u>
The reviewers acknowledge the significance of your manuscript and recommend several revisions to further improve its clarity, coherence, organization, and overall scholarly quality. In addition, you are advised to thoroughly review and validate all references included in the manuscript. Please ensure that all cited sources are accurate, accessible, and retrievable through Google Scholar to uphold the credibility and reliability of the study. Additionally, make sure to include the DOI or website link for every reference to facilitate verification and accessibility of sources. Furthermore, only sources that are cited within the manuscript should appear in the References section, and all entries listed in the References section must also be cited in the text. For example, if 20 unique sources are cited in the manuscript, then only those 20 sources should be included in the References section. Please note that repeated citations of the same source within the text are counted as a single reference entry; therefore, the total number of references may be lower than the total number of in-text citations.

Reviewer 1

<u>General Comments and Recommendations</u>
The manuscript addresses a unique localized problem in Sulu. However, the paper contains multiple grammatical errors and unclear sentences. You need to rewrite many sections so the global audience can understand your points. Furthermore, your theoretical basis contradicts your final results. You stated that punctuality dictates academic success, but your data showed zero correlation. You must expand your discussion to explain this discrepancy. The statistical analysis is also very basic and requires deeper interpretation.

<u>Specific Comments and Recommendations</u>
Title The title is clear but a bit too localized. Consider a revision to make it appeal to a broader international audience.
Abstract The abstract lacks a clear problem statement. You mentioned that one hundred students served as respondents. Please specify the exact population size. You also wrote that students are never late in Science. This claim feels absolute and needs justification.



Introduction

Your introduction provides a good background. You cited Deivasigamani, but you did not provide a publication year. Every citation needs a year. You claimed that punctuality helps establish an organized environment. While this is true, you need a smooth transition to explain why you expect a correlation with grades in your specific locale.

Methodology

You claimed to use purposive selection for one hundred percent of the learners. If you included everyone, this is a census, not a purposive sample. Please correct this terminology. You also set your significance level at 0.05. It is standard, but you must explain why you chose a four point Likert scale instead of a five point scale. Furthermore, you stated that you utilized a causal comparative method. However, your analysis only explores correlations. A causal comparative design requires an independent variable that you cannot manipulate, but you must still compare groups based on that variable. Your data mostly relies on Pearson correlation. Please revise your design description to match your actual statistical tests.

Results

In Table 4.1, you showed means for different subjects. The overall mean is 3.405. Your interpretation states they are seldom late. However, you need to explain why Science is the only subject where students are never late. Is the teacher very strict? Does the class happen early in the day?

In Table 4.2.1, you presented ANOVA results for age. You wrote that the p value is .127. Please ensure all tables follow the journal format exactly. Table 4.3.1 displays a correlation coefficient of negative .029 between punctuality and personal factors. This negative value suggests an inverse relationship, albeit a very weak one. You must discuss what this negative number implies in reality, even if the result is not statistically significant.

Discussion

This section is quite weak. You stated that punctuality is not an indicator of performance. This is a massive claim that goes against established literature. You must cite more recent studies to back up why your specific group of junior high students showed no correlation. You recommended that regular communication between the school and parents is vital. While this is a sound idea, it does not directly stem from your data since you found no correlation between punctuality and social factors. Ensure all your recommendations connect directly to your actual statistical discoveries.

Conclusion and References

The conclusion merely repeats the results. A good conclusion must synthesize the data and state the broader implications. Your reference list is also incomplete. You omitted dates and left journal names incomplete. Please verify all citations.

Please indicate your recommendation by checking the appropriate box below.

<u>Decision</u>	
✓	Accept the manuscript for publication.
	Reconsider the manuscript after the authors have satisfactorily addressed and complied with the reviewers' comments and recommendations.
	Reject the manuscript, as it is not suitable for publication.



Reviewer 2

<u>General Comments and Recommendations</u>
The topic is relevant to school practice, and the manuscript may provide useful local information. However, I have one major concern regarding how the two main variables were measured. This concern directly affects the validity of the findings and conclusion.
<u>Specific Comments and Recommendations</u>
Punctuality was measured through students' own recall of how often they were late in each subject for the whole school year. The instrument received content checking from only two specialists, but no pilot testing, reliability result, or evidence that the responses agree with actual attendance records was reported. Academic performance is also not clearly sourced. The manuscript refers to grade average, but it also states that students received a questionnaire for determining academic performance. Therefore, it is uncertain whether the grades came from official school records or from student reporting. This is important because most punctuality scores are already concentrated under "seldom late" and "never late." Such limited variation, together with possible recall and self-report bias, can make a real relationship appear statistically non-significant. The conclusion that punctuality has nothing to do with academic performance is therefore not sufficiently supported. The authors need to use verified tardiness or attendance records and official grades covering the same period, clearly describe the instrument items, and provide reliability and validity evidence before repeating the analysis.

Please indicate your recommendation by checking the appropriate box below.

<u>Decision</u>	
	Accept the manuscript for publication.
/	Reconsider the manuscript after the authors have satisfactorily addressed and complied with the reviewers' comments and recommendations.
	Reject the manuscript, as it is not suitable for publication.

SECOND ROUND

<u>Decision</u>	<u>Editor</u>	<u>Reviewer 1</u>	<u>Reviewer 2</u>
Accept the manuscript for publication.	/	/	/
Reconsider the manuscript after the authors have satisfactorily addressed and complied with the reviewers' comments and recommendations.			
Reject the manuscript, as it is not suitable for publication.			