

The Development of Laboratory Safety Questionnaire for Middle School Science Teachers

Simge Akpullukcu1*, Bulent Cavas²

¹Vali Kadir Uysal Middle School, Aydin-Turkey, ²Department of Science Education, Faculty of Education, Dokuz Eylul University, Izmir-Turkey

*Corresponding Author: bulentcavas@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The purpose of this paper is to develop a "valid and reliable laboratory safety questionnaire" which could be used to identify science teachers' understanding about laboratory safety issues during their science laboratory activities. The questionnaire was developed from a literature review and prior instruments developed on laboratory safety issues. To address content validity, the questionnaire was examined by experts from the field of science education. The questionnaire consists of 36 Likert-type items related to chemicals, usage of glassware equipment, fire and electrical control, personal protection, biological hazards, and emergency. The study was carried out with 127 teachers who have experience in science laboratories and work in middle schools in Turkey. The instrument was found to be internally consistent with high reliability scores. Significance value shows that the data come from a multivariate normal distribution and are suitable for factor analysis. The factor analysis indicates that the items in the questionnaire accumulate around a single dimension named as safety issues. The results provide evidence that the instrument is valid for further implementation on a wider scale and in larger samples. The results of this study showed that the questionnaire has an appropriate scale to determine the middle school science teachers' understanding toward laboratory safety issues.

KEY WORDS: laboratory safety questionnaire; validity; reliability; middle school science teachers

INTRODUCTION

Science is a way of discovering and questioning life and how those things work today, how they worked in the past, and how they are likely to work in the future. The teachers of the future will not share with their students just empirical data but their own vision and way to critically understand the facts that are considered (Pavlova and Kouzov, 2016). In the educational area, science lessons provide students with the opportunities to undertake experiments. It is important that they follow the experimental process while engaged in these activities and use cognitive process skills.

A science teacher has to work continuously, be aware of current requirements, and take responsibility for every person in the classroom and laboratory. In this manner, safety issues have to be considered for all parts of each activity. In Turkey, middle school communities have become much more concerned about safety in science education.

Attention should be given to the safety aspects of each experimental design to improve safety factors. In schools, safety is compounded by the age of the students and the materials. Accidents have ranged from simple cuts to severe burns or serious damage. During an experiment in a laboratory, an explosion occurred in a school in Tunceli in 2013 resulting in two students and a teacher being injured¹. Another accident

involved a larger number of people. A primary school organized a spring festival at the end of the year in Kağıthane-İstanbul. As part of the activities, teachers and students collectively demonstrated an experiment in 2012. An explosion occurred injuring six students². At a primary school in Hakkari, three students were injured due to an explosion during laboratory experiments in 2010. The class was working on an activity based on soap making. They used salt, water, oil, and alcohol when their mixture exploded³. Similarly, an explosion occurred during the experiment in the science laboratory of a private school in 2010. The teacher and five students were injured as a fire broke out after the explosion in the laboratory⁴. Finally, at the science laboratory of the Professional and Technical Education Center in Mardin, an explosion occurred at night in 2009. The test tubes exploded due to the effect of extreme heat⁵. Due to accidents like those previously mentioned, it is apparent that there need to be some arrangements and educational interventions that can minimize such accidents.

Aydoğdu and Yardımcı (2013) analyzed the news, which was placed in both local and national newspapers. According to their study, it was seen that the accidents related to the explosions of an experiment involving tubes, spirits, steel tubes

1

² http://www.memurlar.net/haber/239274.

http://www.hakkarihabertv.com/deney-laboratuvarinda-patlama-6514h.htm.
 http://www.turkmedya.com/V1/Pg/detail/NewID/328972.

http://www.sabah.com.tr/Yasam/2013/02/13/okul-laboratuvarindapatlama.

⁵ http://www.ogretmenlersitesi.com/haber/4491.

and bulbs, diffusion of chemicals, gas rising, and breaking of mercury tubes. The reasons of these accidents were as follows: Absence or misconceptions of knowledge of characteristics of chemicals; not knowing how to intervene when chemicals were spilled; carelessness during experiments; students' use of experimental equipment without teachers' control; and not knowing or having a professional response toward experimental hazards.

It is important to create an environment in which appropriate laboratory behavior is maintained. An accident happens suddenly, and the teacher should be well prepared for such cases. Planning the activities carefully, providing careful directions before allowing students to attempt independent projects, protecting the health welfare and safety of their students, reporting all hazardous conditions, and being present in the laboratory to ensure adequate safety supervision are some of the necessities during the lessons.

Interestingly, it has been found that studies that focus on science laboratories in the educational area mainly deal with the materials, methods, and technics. Unfortunately, there has been limited attention to safety issues. Therefore, it is important to have an understanding about science teachers' knowledge and understanding about laboratory safety responsibilities. As teachers responsibilities include not only safety related with the science laboratories but also for every chemical or material they bring into or accept in their classroom. They must know what each is, what it can do, and how it should be stored. Teachers should be informed about all safety issues which include biological and animal hazards, blood-borne pathogens, chemicals, electrical safety, handling glassware, fire control, labelling, and eye and face protection.

It is important to make teachers of science more aware of potential dangers in the teaching of science and the responsibilities in maintaining classroom safety. The reasonable teacher must be able to anticipate the common ordinary events and even the extraordinary ones, in some cases (Downs and Gerlovich, 1983).

The aim of this study was to develop a laboratory safety questionnaire to evaluate science teachers' understanding about laboratory safety issues.

METHODOLOGY

A Likert-type scale was used to develop this study's questionnaire to identify science teachers' understanding of laboratory safety issues. There are many advantages of using questionnaires for research. A large amount of information can be collected from a large number of people in a short period of time and in a relatively cost-effective way. Furthermore, questionnaires are important in terms of ensuring standardization for the answers (Balc1, 2007).

The object of the questionnaire was ascertaining the participating teachers' agreement with the scale items (Appendix Table 1). The questionnaire used a 4-point scale

Table 1: Pilot study	distribution by	gender w	vith frequency
and percentage			

Gender	Frequency n (%)
Female	81 (63.7)
Male	46 (36.3)
Total	127 (100)

ranging from "strongly agree" to "strongly disagree." Each response on the questionnaire was assigned with a numeric value between 4 and 1. A "neutral" answer was not included to have an exact and clear understanding (positive or negative) about their decisions.

Items of the questionnaire: Project reports, researches, and studies conducted on laboratory safety issues were examined. After generating a number of questions about safety procedures, the most representative of them have been compiled into a list of 37.

Content validity: Content validity addresses the match between test questions and the content or individual area, which they are intended to assess. With regard to the validity of the questionnaire, five experts from the field of science education examined the questionnaire items. According to the suggestions and criticisms of the experts, the questionnaire items were edited. The pilot version of questionnaire was created.

Sample: Tabachnick and Fidell (2001) suggest that a smaller sample size should be sufficient if solutions have several high loading marker variables (above 0.80). According to Johanson and Brooks (2009), there is little discussion in the literature of how to determine appropriate sample sizes for these types of pilot studies. Treece and Treece (1982), referring to piloting an instrument, noted that, for a project with "100 people as the sample, a pilot study participation of 10 individuals should be a reasonable number" (p. 176). For the process of developing the questionnaire, 127 participants were chosen from the middle school science teachers working in Aydın, Turkey.

Demographic Characteristics of Sample *Gender*

The pilot study was carried out with 127 participants. According to Table 1, 81 of the participants were female (63.7%), and 46 of them were male (36.3%). The distribution of gender is similar to the distribution of Turkish teachers as the gender of teachers during the 2013-2014 years were 64.8% of female and 35.2% of male (TÜİK, 2014).

Age

The distribution by age range with frequency and percentage is shown in Table 2. The age range of 20-29 has the highest number with 57 participants (44.8%), and the age range of 60 and over has the lowest number with only two participants (1.6%).

Graduation

Table 3 shows the distribution by graduation degree with frequency and percentage. There were 111 (87.4%) participants

with an undergraduate degree, 11 (8.7%) participants with a graduate degree, and 5 (3.9%) with a postgraduate degree.

Teaching experience

Table 4 represents the distribution range of years of teaching experience with frequency and percentage. 49 participants have been working for 1-5 years; 23 for 6-10 years; 23 for 11-15 years; 12 for 16-20 years; and 20 for over 21 years.

Field

Table 5 shows the distribution field of study with frequency and percentage. 75 (59.1%) of the participants studied general science; 15 (11.8%) biology; 12 (9.4%) chemistry; 6 (4.7%) physics; and while 19 (15%) of them studied mathematics, these teachers were still responsible for some laboratory activities.

RESULTS

Exploratory Factor Analyses

Factor analyses take a large set of variables and look for a way that the data may be "reduced" or summarized using a smaller set of factors or components. Exploratory factor analysis is often used in the early stages of research to gather information about (explore) the interrelationships among a set of variables (Pallant, 2005).

Table 2: Pilot study distribution by range of age with frequency and percentage

Age range	Frequency n (%)
20-29	57 (44.8)
30-39	42 (33.1)
40-49	17 (13.4)
50-59	9 (7.1)
60-+	2 (1.6)
Total	127 (100.0)

Table 3: Pilot study distribution by graduation v	with
frequency and percentage	

Graduation degree	Frequency n (%)
Undergraduate	111 (87.4)
Graduate	11 (8.7)
Postgraduate	5 (3.9)
Total	127 (100.0)

Table 4: Pilot study distribution by years of teaching experience with frequency and percentage

Years of teaching experience	Frequency n (%)		
1-5	49 (38.6)		
6-10	23 (18.1)		
11-15	23 (18.1)		
16-20	12 (9.4)		
21	20 (15.7)		
Total	127 (100.0)		

Construct validity refers to the degree to which a test or other measure assesses the underlying theoretical construct it is supposed to measure. To determine the validity of the questionnaire, exploratory factor analysis was used on the data. Factor analysis attempts to bring intercorrelated variables together under more general, underlying variables. Factor analysis offers not only the possibility of gaining a clear view of the data but also the possibility of using the output in subsequent analyses (Field, 2000). In this process, descriptive statistics and the correlation matrix (with the coefficients, significance levels, determinant, Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO), and Bartlett's test of sphericity, inverse, reproduced matrix, and anti-image matrix) were obtained.

In SPSS, a convenient option is offered to check whether the sample is big enough: The KMO measure of sampling adequacy (KMO-test). The sample is adequate if the value of KMO is >0.5 (Field, 2000). The KMO index ranges from 0 to 1, with 0.6 suggested as the minimum value for a good factor analysis (Tabachnick and Fidell, 2001). The value of KMO was calculated as 0.937 (Table 6). This value shows that the sample with 127 participants was adequate for the level of representation.

The intercorrelation can be checked using Bartlett's test of sphericity, which "tests the null hypothesis that the original correlation matrix is an identity matrix" (Field, 2000. p. 457).

The Bartlett's test of sphericity should be significant (p<0.05) for the factor analysis to be considered appropriate (Pallant, 2005). Significance value is calculated 0.00 which is a >0.05 (p<0.05). The value shows that the data come from a multivariate normal distribution and are suitable for factor analysis.

Determining the Factor Number

It is needed to look in the total variance explained table (Table 7) and scree plot (Graph 1) to determine how many components meet this criterion.

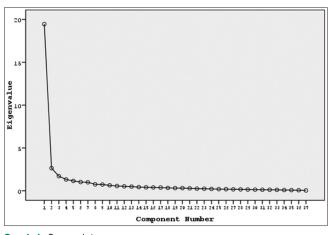
Table 5: Pilot study distribution by field with frequency and percentage

Field	Frequency n (%)
Science	75 (59.1)
Biology	15 (11.8)
Chemistry	12 (9.4)
Physics	6 (4.7)
Other (mathematics)	19 (15.0)
Total	127 (100.00)

Table 6: KMO and Bartlett's test	
KMO measure of sampling adequacy	0.937
Bartlett's test of sphericity	
Approximate Chi-square	4490.397
df	666
Significant	0.000
VMO: Kaisar Mayar Olkin	

KMO: Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin

	Table 7: Total variance explained					
Component		Initial eigenvalue			traction sums of square	
	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of variance	Cumulative %
1	19.460	52.594	52.594	19.460	52.594	52.594
2	2.642	7.139	59.733	2.642	7.139	59.733
3	1.706	4.611	64.344	1.706	4.611	64.344
4	1.313	3.550	67.894	1.313	3.550	67.894
5	1.146	3.097	70.991	1.146	3.097	70.991
6	1.015	2.744	73.734	1.015	2.744	73.734
7	0.989	2.672	76.406			
8	0.746	2.017	78.423			
9	0.728	1.968	80.391			
10	0.629	1.701	82.092			
11	0.556	1.504	83.596			
12	0.511	1.381	84.976			
13	0.483	1.306	86.282			
14	0.425	1.149	87.432			
15	0.400	1.081	88.512			
16	0.388	1.048	89.561			
17	0.375	1.015	90.575			
18	0.334	0.902	91.477			
19	0.313	0.845	92.323			
20	0.308	0.833	93.156			
21	0.282	0.762	93.918			
22	0.247	0.667	94.585			
23	0.239	0.645	95.230			
24	0.212	0.574	95.804			
25	0.188	0.508	96.312			
26	0.185	0.500	96.812			
27	0.165	0.447	97.258			
28	0.159	0.429	97.687			
29	0.141	0.381	98.069			
30	0.129	0.349	98.418			
31	0.117	0.317	98.735			
32	0.114	0.309	99.044			
33	0.104	0.281	99.325			
34	0.080	0.216	99.541			
35	0.072	0.195	99.736			
36	0.061	0.166	99.902			
37	0.036	0.098	100.000			



Graph 1: Scree plot

The eigenvalue of a factor represents the amount of the total variance explained by that factor which is called the Kaiser's criterion. Only the factors with an eigenvalue of 1.0 or more are retained for further investigation (Pallant, 2005).

In Table 7, the eigenvalues for each component are listed in the first set of columns. Only the first six components recorded eigenvalues above 1 (19.460, 2.642, 1.706, 1.313, 1.146, and 1.015). These six components explain a total of 73.734% of the variance. The total variance of the first component is 52.594% while the other five components have a smaller percentage of variance with contiguous values to each other. The questionnaire with single dimension is considered if the percentage of variance equals or is above 0.30 (Büyüköztürk, 2003). Therefore, it can be thought that the questionnaire has a

227

single dimension. To strengthen the data, it is important to look at the scree plot. The scree test is one of the techniques that can be used to assist in the decision concerning the number of factors to retain. This involves plotting each of the eigenvalues of the factors and inspecting the plot to find a point at which the shape of the curve changes direction and becomes horizontal (Pallant, 2005).

According to Graph 1, there is quite a clear break between the first and second components. Component 1 explains or captures much more of the variance than the remaining components. From this plot, it is recommended to retain only one component. This relationship enabled the collapse of the 37 items into one factor. It indicates that the items in the questionnaire accumulate around a single dimension. After determining the number of factors, the analyses have to be repeated.

It is understood from Table 8 in component matrix^a that most of the items load quite strongly above 0.4 on the one component except item S24. The item 24 has a value of 0.316, which is smaller than the criterion value. This supports the conclusion from the scree plot to retain only one factor for investigation. As a result, item S24 was removed and the analyses repeated. The component matrix^b shows the results after removing S24. According to Table 8, it can be shown that there are not any other items with a value of less than the criterion value (0.4). Moreover, all the remaining items have a similar meaning which we called "safety issues" for this single dimension. The analysis process is complete. The latest analysis is taken into consideration with new values of

Table 8: Component matrixes of items					
Item No.	Item	Component matrix ^b	Component matrixª		
S27	I know how to respond in case of a burn which occurs with contact to hot objects	0.843	0.841		
S17	I know how to use first aid kits in laboratory	0.830	0.830		
S10	I know how to use water system in laboratory	0.823	0.823		
S23	I work with an inventory which has the identifications of all chemicals in the laboratory	0.820	0.819		
S9	I know how to use electrical and lighting in laboratory	0.818	0.817		
S2	I know precautions to be taken in case of a fire in laboratory	0.817	0.816		
S28	I know what should be done if any chemicals splash to the eyes	0.814	0.813		
S26	I know what should be done in case of bleeding	0.807	0.804		
S3	I know precautions to be taken in case of spills and splashes of chemicals	0.788	0.788		
S1	I always take care the laboratory is clean and tidy	0.786	0.785		
S21	I know how to store and keep the liquid chemicals	0.778	0.776		
S22	I know how to store chemicals which need to have special conditions	0.775	0.774		
S36	I always take care about to put laboratory materials to the right places after using	0.775	0.773		
S33	I never leave the laboratory before checking all electrical devices	0.774	0.771		
S34	I never leave the laboratory before checking water system	0.766	0.765		
S35	I labeled the remaining material and get stored in an appropriate manner after the activities	0.761	0.761		
S5	I know the phone numbers to call in an emergency situation	0.752	0.750		
S15	I know how to design the desks for the students in the laboratory	0.747	0.746		
S4	I know which emergency kits have to be in a laboratory for using in case of an emergency situation	0.746	0.745		
S31	I know how to intervene in the accident that occurred as a result of electric current	0.726	0.725		
S32	I never leave the laboratory before checking the gas installations	0.718	0.719		
S37	I get students to wash their hands and face with water after the activities	0.716	0.715		
S13	I know how to use bucket of sand in case of a fire	0.705	0.706		
S14	I know how to use fire blanket in case of a fire	0.698	0.699		
S12	I know how to use fire extinguisher in case of a fire	0.694	0.696		
S19	I always take care about the shelves are firmly attached to the wall	0.691	0.695		
S16	I know the needs and uses of an emergency exit plan	0.688	0.689		
S8	I know how to use the ventilation system	0.676	0.677		
S20	I always take care all shelves have the protection sets in front sides	0.661	0.664		
S30	I know how to intervene if need occurs with inhalation of chemicals	0.641	0.643		
S11	I know how to use gas installations	0.623	0.626		
S18	I know how to store and keep solid chemicals	0.613	0.612		
S6	I have information about the health status of my students	0.612	0.611		
S29	I know how to intervene if need occurs in case of ingestion of any chemicals	0.602	0.603		
S25	I always wear apron during the activities in laboratory	0.597	0.598		
S7	I know how should be the standards of an ideal laboratory for schools	0.584	0.586		
S24	Removing item	-	0.316		

KMO and Bartlett's test and the total variance explained as shown in Table 9.

After the 1 item was removed, the value of KMO was calculated as 0.94 (Table 9). This value shows that the sample with 127 participants is still adequate for the level of representation. Significance value was calculated at 0.00 which is >0.05 (p<0.05). The value shows that the data come

Table 9: KMO and Bartlett's test	
KMO measure of sampling adequacy	0.940
Bartlett's test of Sphericity	
Approximate Chi-square	4413.359
df	630
Significant	0.000
KMO: Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin	

Table 10: Total variance explained

from a multivariate normal distribution and are suitable for factor analysis.

Table 10 lists the eigenvalues for each component. As shown, one component explains a total of 53.79% of the variance.

Reliability

To test the reliability of the questionnaire, Cronbach's alpha reliability coefficient value and item-total correlation of test score were examined. Cronbach's alpha is the most common measure of internal consistency. It is most commonly used when you have multiple Likert-type questions in a questionnaire that forms a scale, and you wish to determine if the scale is reliable.

Cronbach's alpha was 0.975, which is good considering that 0.70 is the cutoff value for being acceptable (Kurnaz and

Component		Initial eigenvalues			Extraction sums of squared loadings		
	Total	% of variance	% of variance Cumulative %		% of variance	Cumulative %	
1	19.365	53.791	53.791	19.365	53.791	53.791	
2	2.604	7.234	61.025				
3	1.586	4.405	65.430				
4	1.304	3.621	69.052				
5	1.029	2.858	71.910				
6	1.005	2.790	74.700				
7	0.813	2.260	76.960				
8	0.741	2.059	79.019				
9	0.721	2.003	81.022				
10	0.603	1.675	82.697				
11	0.533	1.480	84.177				
12	0.484	1.344	85.521				
13	0.428	1.190	86.711				
14	0.410	1.140	87.851				
15	0.393	1.091	88.942				
16	0.385	1.068	90.010				
17	0.338	0.939	90.948				
18	0.328	0.910	91.858				
19	0.313	0.869	92.727				
20	0.285	0.792	93.518				
21	0.272	0.756	94.275				
22	0.243	0.675	94.950				
23	0.213	0.591	95.541				
24	0.203	0.564	96.105				
25	0.188	0.522	96.627				
26	0.180	0.500	97.127				
27	0.159	0.441	97.568				
28	0.148	0.411	97.979				
29	0.132	0.368	98.347				
30	0.120	0.333	98.680				
31	0.114	0.317	98.997				
32	0.105	0.291	99.288				
33	0.083	0.229	99.518				
34	0.076	0.210	99.728				
35	0.061	0.170	99.898				
36	0.037	0.102	100.000				

0.975
36

Table 12: Values for the last version of	of the questionnaire
Total number of items	37
Number of deleted items	1
KMO test	0.940
Bartlett's test	0.000
Cronbach's alpha	0.975
KMO: Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin	

Yiğit, 2010). The value shows that the data indicate a high level of internal consistency. Item-total correlation of test scores explains the relationship between item scores and the total score of the test substances. High and positive correlation of item-total test score indicates internal consistency. The study's questionnaire has a good internal consistency, with a Cronbach's alpha coefficient reported of 0.975 (Table 11).

To have confidence in the results of a study, one must be assured that the questionnaire consistently measures what it purports to measure when properly administered. The questionnaire must be both valid and reliable (Greco et al., 1987). According to Table 12, the Cronbach's alpha coefficient, which in this case is 0.975, can be considered reliable with our sample. 1 item was removed with an absolute value lower than 0.4 (which explain around 16% of variance) in the last version of the questionnaire. In its final form, the questionnaire has 36 items which collapse into one factor. The underlying structure identified as "safety issues." In this study, it can be understood that all items can be grouped in one single dimension. There are some other similar studies of questionnaires results with single dimension (Engs, 1996; Turanli et al., 2008; Doğan, 2010).

CONCLUSION

The study's laboratory safety questionnaire can be helpful for preparing safer science lessons. Being prepared means planning, the science activities carefully and providing complete directions before allowing students to attempt independent projects. It means protecting the health welfare and safety of the students and reporting all hazardous conditions. Moreover, it means being present in the laboratory to ensure adequate safety supervision.

The questionnaire can be used for improving awareness about accidents at schools. Unfortunately, accidents have been reported to be occurring too frequently in Turkish middle school science laboratories. In addition, it is likely that there are other accidents that are not reported. Faced with these accidents, it is important to know whether or not the laboratory safety precautions and practices in Turkish schools are adequate. It is critical to make science teachers more aware of both the potential dangers in science education and their responsibilities in maintaining classroom safety. Using the questionnaire, it can be understood the needs of safety courses at schools. Making an effective safety course for science teachers can help to create a safer and healthier environment not only inside the laboratories and classrooms but also in the rest of the students' and teachers' lives. Safety is a key to ensuring the success of our next generation of innovators in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. It is a key to having citizens and parents who care about health, safety, and the environment. Moreover, it is a key to living safer, healthier, and longer lives.

The questionnaire provides science teachers with the ability to question themselves about safety issues in their laboratory/ science classrooms. The objective is for teachers to learn to better care about students' health and safety, recognize hazards, protect students, and create a safer and healthier learning and working environment. The questions can be effective to make a significant contribution to achieving these goals and objectives. The outcomes of the study can be helpful to redesign the educational materials, modules, and policies for improving new and update laboratory conditions at schools.

REFERENCES

- Aydoğdu, C., & Yardımcı, E. (2013). Accidents occured in elementary science laboratories and teachers' behaviour manners toward these accidents. *Hacettepe University Journal of Education*, 44, 52-60.
- Balcı, A. (2007). Sosyal Bilimlerde Araştırma Yöntem, Teknik ve İlkeler. Ankara: Pegem Yayıncılık.
- Büyüköztürk, Ş. (2003). Veri Analizi el Kitabı. (2. bs). Ankara: Pegem a Yayıncılık.
- Doğan, T. (2010). Adaptation of the social appearance anxiety scale (saas) to Turkish: A valid and reliability study. *Hacettepe University Journal of Education*, 39, 151-159.
- Downs, G.E., & Gerlovich, J.L. (1983). Science Safety for Elementary Teachers. Ames, Iowa: The Iowa State University Press.
- Engs, R.C. (1996). Construct validity and re-assessment of the reliability of the health concern questionnaire. In: Feldman, R.H.L., Humphrey, J.H., (Eds.), *Advances in Health Education/Current Research*. Vol. 4. New York: AMS, Press, Inc. pp. 303-313.
- Field, A. (2000). *Discovering Statistics Using SPSS for Windows*. London: Thousand Oaks.
- Greco, L.D., Walop, W., McCarthy, R.H. (1987). Questionnaire development: 2. Validity and reliability. *Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 136, 699-700.
- Johanson, G.A., & Brooks G.P. (2009). Initial scale development: Sample size for pilot studies. *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, 70(3), 394-400.
- Pallant, J. (2005). SPSS Survival Manuel: A Step by Step Guide to Data. Australia: Ligare.
- Pavlova, D., & Kouzov, O. (2016). Unchain the Education Through Mobility, UNESCO International Workshop: QED'16: Technology Advanced Quality Learning for ALL, Za Bukvite, O'Pismeneh Sofia.
- Tabachnick, B.G., & Fidell, L.S. (2001). Using Multivariate Statistics. New York: Harper Collins.
- Treece, E.W., & Treece, J.W. (1982). *Elements of Research in Nursing*. 3rd ed. St. Louis, MO: Mosby.
- Turanli, N.N., Turker, K., & Keceli, V. (2008). Developing an attitude scale for courses in mathematics. *Hacettepe University Journal of Education*, 34, 254-262.
- Yükseköğretim Kurulu and Bilgi Yönetimi Sistemi (TÜİK). (2014). Yükseköğretim İstatistikleri. Available from: https://www.istatistik.yok. gov.tr/yuksekogretimIstatistikleri/2014/2014_3.pdf. [Last accessed on 2017 Sep 19].

APPENDIX

Appendix Table 1: Laboratory safety questionnaire					
Item	SD	D	Α	SA	
	1	2	3	4	
I always take care the laboratory is clean and tidy					
I know precautions to be taken in case of a fire in laboratory					
I know precautions to be taken in case of spills and splashes of chemicals					
I know which emergency kits have to be in a laboratory for using in case of an emergency situation					
I know the phone numbers to call in an emergency situation					
I have information about the health status of my students					
I know how should be the standards of an ideal laboratory for schools					
I know how to use the ventilation system					
I know how to use electrical and lighting in laboratory					
I know how to use water system in laboratory					
I know how to use gas installations					
I know how to use fire extinguisher in case of a fire					
I know how to use bucket of sand in case of a fire					
I know how to use fire blanket in case of a fire					
I know how to design the desks for the students in the laboratory					
I know the needs and uses of an emergency exit plan					
I know how to use first aid kits in laboratory					
I know how to store and keep solid chemicals					
I always take care about the shelves are firmly attached to the wall					
I always take care all shelves have the protection sets in front sides					
I know how to store and keep the liquid chemicals					
I know how to store chemicals which need to have special conditions					
I work with an inventory which has the identifications of all chemicals in the laboratory					
Removed item					
I always wear apron during the activities in laboratory					
I know what should be done in case of bleeding					
I know how to respond in case of a burn, which occurs with contact to hot objects					
I know what should be done if any chemicals splash to the eyes					
I know how to intervene if need occurs in case of ingestion of any chemicals					
I know how to intervene if need occurs with inhalation of chemicals					
I know how to intervene in the accident that occurred as a result of electric current					
I never leave the laboratory before checking the gas installations					
I never leave the laboratory before checking all electrical devices					
I never leave the laboratory before checking water system					
I labeled the remaining material and get stored in an appropriate manner after the activities					
I always take care about to put laboratory materials to the right places after using					
I get students to wash their hands and face with water after the activities					