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Influence of PBL-Based LKPD with Wordwall on Fifth Graders' Critical Thinking in Science

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ABSTRACT

This study examines the influence of a Problem-Based Learning (PBL)-based Student Worksheet (LKPD) assisted by Wordwall media on the critical thinking skills of fifth-grade students in science learning, focusing on the aspects of focus, reason, and inference. Employing a quantitative approach with a quasi-experimental design, the research involved an experimental group using PBL-based LKPD with Wordwall and a control group receiving conventional instruction. Data were collected through tests, observations, interviews, and documentation, while instrument validation included expert judgment, Aiken's V analysis, reliability testing, empirical validation, item difficulty, and discrimination analysis. The prerequisite normality and homogeneity tests indicated non-normal and non-homogeneous data, leading to the use of nonparametric statistical analyses. The Mann-Whitney test results showed significant differences between the experimental and control groups across all three aspects of critical thinking, with $Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) = 0.000 < 0.05$. N-Gain scores demonstrated high effectiveness in the experimental group (Focus = 96.70%, Reason = 87.90%, Inference = 79.30%), whereas the control group showed only moderate improvement. Correlation analysis using Spearman's rank test further revealed very strong correlations among the Focus, Reason, and Inference dimensions. The findings conclude that the PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media is effective in improving students' critical thinking skills and supports more engaging, interactive, and student-centered science learning in elementary classrooms.

INTRODUCTION

Education in the twenty-first century necessitates that students acquire critical thinking competencies (Halim, 2022). The paradigm of 21st-century learning identifies seven core skills required for students' future success, among which critical thinking and problem solving constitute central components (Mesra, 2023, p. 4). As articulated by Winarni (2018a, p. 13), the primary objective of science instruction at the elementary level is to develop learners who are capable of creative thought and critical reasoning.

Critical thinking is an intellectual process involving the formulation of concepts, the application, synthesis, and evaluation of information obtained through observation, experience, reflection, reasoning, or communication, which serves as a basis for forming beliefs and taking action (Lismaya, 2019, p. 8). Consistent with this view, Ariyana et al. (2018, p. 13) state that critical thinking, according to the FRISCO theory, comprises six components: focus, reason, inference, situation, clarity, and overview. Based on the characteristics of elementary school learners and the competency demands for Grade V where learners are situated within the concrete operational stage three components of the FRISCO framework are considered most relevant, namely focus, , and inference. Rachmawati, Ghozali, et al. (2021a, p. 149) explain that the focus element pertains to students' ability to identify known and unknown information; the reason element concerns students' capacity to articulate explanations grounded in observable reality; and the inference element refers to the ability to select reasons that support the conclusions

they construct. Drawing from these perspectives, it can be concluded that these three FRISCO components are appropriate for measuring the critical thinking abilities of elementary school students, as they align with the developmental characteristics of learners in the concrete operational stage.

According to Zakia and Lestari (2019, p. 5), the benefits of critical thinking in educational performance include the ability to assess others' arguments, evaluate information, and develop and defend arguments when completing problem-based tasks. In the learning process, teachers as facilitators of student learning require instructional materials that support instructional effectiveness. Instructional materials may take the form of printed materials such as textbooks and student worksheets (LKPD), as well as electronic materials including educational applications, e-books, and other digital resources accessible via computers or mobile devices (Hayati et al., 2025, p. 2). One type of instructional material that can promote more active learning and enhance students' critical thinking skills is the LKPD (Trirahayu et al., 2024).

Kosasi (2021, p. 33) states that an LKPD contains core content, learning objectives, required tools or materials, and procedural steps. It may also include various practice questions such as objective items, completion tasks, short-answer questions, and other assignments related to the main content presented in accompanying instructional materials. According to Halimah et al. (2023), a learning model that can be utilized to improve students' critical thinking abilities is Problem-Based Learning (PBL), a model grounded in problem-centered instruction. Pamungkas (2020, p. 11) describes the characteristics of PBL as the use of real-life problems as the starting point of instruction, the incorporation of contextual problems from students' surroundings, the presentation of challenges that stimulate student engagement, the utilization of diverse knowledge sources, and the promotion of collaborative, communicative, and cooperative learning. However, PBL also has limitations, including time constraints and insufficient initial student engagement (Siswanti & Indrajit, 2023, p. 77). Therefore, the implementation of PBL can be optimized through the use of appropriate instructional media.

This perspective is supported by research conducted by Saputra et al. (2023), which found that instructional media can improve students' learning outcomes and foster an enjoyable learning atmosphere. Instructional media play a crucial role in improving learning quality, as they serve as tools for conveying information about learning materials and stimulating students' attention, interest, thinking, and emotions, thereby supporting the achievement of learning objectives (Kristanto, 2016, p. 6). Among the available options, technology-based instructional media such as Wordwall are particularly suitable because they help address several weaknesses inherent in the PBL model. Wordwall media can facilitate two-way interaction between teachers and students (Hamidulloh Ipda et al., 2023, p. 40).

At present, the critical thinking skills of elementary school students remain relatively low (Harahap et al., 2024). Contributing factors include students' limited ability to articulate ideas, reluctance to express opinions, restricted opportunities for exploration, and the persistence of conventional learning methods that reduce student engagement. These issues are evident at SD Negeri 134 Rejang Lebong. Based on observations and interviews conducted with the Grade V-A teacher in August 2025, it was found that students in this class demonstrated low levels of critical thinking. Of the 20 students, only six exhibited good critical thinking ability, while fourteen demonstrated low ability. This low performance was apparent during lessons: students tended to be passive, struggled



to complete problem-based tasks requiring analytical thinking, and were unable to identify and understand the problems presented. They also had difficulty providing evidence-based reasons for decisions and formulating appropriate conclusions. Interview results further indicated that five students struggled with the focus aspect, seven with reason, and four with inference.

Although the teacher had employed various learning models during instruction, their implementation was not yet optimal in supporting students' critical thinking in the focus, reason, and inference components. Additionally, the LKPD used in class did not fully reflect the syntax of the applied learning models. While various instructional media had been utilized, the use of electronic media remained limited.

Given the challenges observed in Grade V-A of SDN 134 Rejang Lebong, an innovative and engaging instructional design aligned with the developmental characteristics of elementary students is needed to enhance critical thinking skills. Such innovation may be achieved through the use of LKPD integrated with a learning model that encourages problem solving. A problem-solving-oriented model can help students strengthen their critical thinking abilities in the focus, reason, and inference aspects. To further support student engagement, the incorporation of digital technology is appropriate, particularly considering students' familiarity with digital tools. The PBL model is suitable for fostering problem-solving skills, while Wordwall media can make learning more enjoyable. Consequently, a PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media has the potential to improve the critical thinking skills of Grade V students.

The instructional material selected for this study aligns with the 2024/2025 IPAS learning outcomes. Based on BSKAP (2024), the relevant learning objective is for students to understand the human organ systems and practices for maintaining health, with a focus on the digestive system. In line with this rationale, the present study is entitled: "Influence of PBL-Based LKPD with Wordwall on Fifth Graders' Critical Thinking in Science."

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RESEARCH METHOD

This study adopted a quantitative approach utilizing a Quasi-Experimental Design. The experimental group received instruction through PBL-based student worksheets (LKPD) integrated with Wordwall media, whereas the control group was taught using conventional methods without any form of intervention. The design implemented in this study was the Matching-Only Pretest-Posttest Control Group Design, which involved the use of an experimental group and a control group to enable comparative analysis.

The population of the study comprised all Grade V students at SD Negeri 134 Rejang Lebong, totaling 60 students distributed across three classes. The data subjected to analysis derived from the treatments administered to the selected sample. To ensure the selection of a representative and homogeneous sample, the researcher examined students' prior science learning outcomes. Cluster Random Sampling was employed as the sampling technique. The homogeneity test yielded an F-value of 0.503, which was lower than the F-table value of 4.41, thereby confirming that the classes were homogeneous. The final determination of sample groups was carried out through a t-test procedure witnessed by the classroom teacher and the school principal.

The data collection techniques employed in this study consisted of tests (pretest and posttest), observation, interviews, and documentation (Winarni, 2018, p. 64). The observation process was conducted on three occasions. First, a preliminary observation



was carried out to obtain baseline data on the learning process prior to the implementation of the treatment. Second, subsequent observations were conducted collaboratively by the researcher and the model teacher, who had previously been briefed regarding the procedures. Third, an implementation observation was administered to measure teacher and student activities during the learning process using PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media, as well as to assess aspects of students' critical thinking skills.

Interviews were conducted with the Grade V homeroom teacher of SDN 134 Rejang Lebong to obtain additional qualitative information related to instructional practices and student critical thinking abilities. The study was implemented in the Grade V science subject during the first semester of the 2025/2026 academic year, focusing on the topic of the human digestive system. The learning indicators for this topic included the following: (1) students are able to identify and understand the problems presented in each item concerning the human digestive system; (2) students are able to provide logical reasons to support conclusions about the digestive system; and (3) students are able to formulate accurate conclusions and select appropriate reasons to justify those conclusions.

In preparation for the intervention, the researcher developed PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media. The development stages included designing the LKPD format, creating the template, obtaining relevant images from online sources, and constructing the LKPD through Canva. The LKPD structure followed the guidelines of BSNP (2016), consisting of a cover page, learning objectives, procedural steps, required tools and materials, a brief explanation of the content, discussion questions, and independent exercises. Data analysis was performed using Microsoft Excel and SPSS.

The instruments employed in this study consisted of a document analysis sheet, an expert validation sheet, an implementation-observation sheet, and test items comprising both pretest and posttest questions. The document analysis sheet included curriculum documents, science (IPA) assessment materials, and interview guidelines. This instrument assessed the alignment of learning outcomes with instructional objectives; the alignment of Learning Objectives (TP) with Learning Achievement Targets (ATP) for the aspects of focus, reason, and inference.

The interview component was administered to the classroom teacher and examined indicators related to the instructional model, the science learning process in the classroom, the learning media used during instruction, and students' critical-thinking abilities (focus, reason, and inference). The expert-validation sheet was used to obtain evaluative feedback in the form of ratings, comments, critiques, and suggestions regarding the instructional media employed in this study. A total of six validators assessed three different domains. Two validators, who were practitioners, evaluated the material-related aspects, including content feasibility, presentation feasibility, and material currency. Another two practitioner validators assessed linguistic aspects, including clarity, communicativeness, appropriateness for students, and adherence to linguistic conventions. The remaining two validators assessed graphical aspects, including LKPD components, presentation feasibility, and the visual appearance of the LKPD. The expert validators for material, language, and presentation were specialists in science education or elementary-school education practitioners with a minimum of ten years of professional experience.

The implementation-observation sheet was designed to evaluate the extent to which PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media facilitated students' critical-thinking



abilities specifically the aspects of focus, reason, and inference. The observed components included: orienting students to the problem, organizing students for learning, guiding individual and group investigations, developing and presenting student work, and analyzing and evaluating the problem-solving process.

Instrument standardization was conducted through logical validation, reliability testing, empirical validity testing, item difficulty analysis, and item discrimination analysis. For the logical validation phase, the validation sheet consisted of a test-item specification grid, test items, a scoring rubric, and a list of instructional module employing the Problem-Based Learning (PBL) model. The validity instrument utilized a five-point rating scale: very poor, poor, fair, good, and very good. To determine the degree of expert agreement, Aiken's V coefficient was calculated following Wasidi (2020) using the formula:

$$V = \frac{\sum s}{n(c-1)}$$

$s = r - l_o$

r = score assigned by an expert

l_o = lowest validity rating

c = highest validity rating

n = number of experts

The validity of the instrument was interpreted based on the Aiken's V coefficient:

$V > 0.80$ = very valid; $0.40 \leq V < 0.80$ = moderately valid; $0 \leq V < 0.40$ = low validity (Wasidi, 2020, p. 61).

To examine inter-rater consistency—defined as the degree of agreement between two raters assessing the same research instrument—an inter-rater reliability test was conducted. Inter-rater reliability was calculated using the formula proposed by McHugh (2012, p. 279):

$$\text{inter-rater reliability} = \frac{\text{number of agreements between raters}}{\text{total number of items}} \times 100\%$$

Interpretation criteria were as follows: 0–4% = no agreement; 5–16% = slight agreement; 17–35% = weak agreement; 36–64% = moderate agreement; 65–81% = strong agreement; and 82–100% = almost perfect agreement (McHugh, 2012).

In this study, item validity was evaluated through an instrument try-out. Students' responses on the pilot test were analyzed to determine item validity, instrument reliability, item difficulty, and item discrimination. The Pearson Product-Moment correlation coefficient was applied to determine the validity of each test item (Winarni, 2018b, p. 116), using the formula:

$$r_{xy} = \frac{N \sum XY - (\sum X)(\sum Y)}{\sqrt{[\sum X^2 - (\sum X)^2][\sum Y^2 - (\sum Y)^2]}}$$

r_{xy} = item validity coefficient

$\sum XY$ = sum of cross-products of X and Y

$\sum X$ = total item scores

$\sum Y$ = total test scores

N = sample size

Validity interpretation followed Winarni (2018):

0.80–1.00 = very high; 0.60–0.79 = high; 0.40–0.59 = moderate; 0.20–0.39 = low; 0.00–0.19 = invalid.

Reliability refers to the consistency of an instrument in producing stable results and its appropriateness as a data-collection tool (Winarni, 2018b, p. 137). Instrument reliability was measured using **Cronbach's Alpha**, calculated with:

$$r_{11} = \frac{k}{k-1} \left[1 - \frac{\sum \sigma_b^2}{\sigma_t^2} \right]$$

r_{11} = reliability coefficient

k = number of items

$\sum \sigma_b^2$ = total item variance

σ_t^2 = total test variance

The instrument was considered reliable if $r_{11} > r\text{-table}$, and unreliable if $r_{11} < r\text{-table}$.

Item difficulty measures the proportion of test-takers who answer an item correctly (Winarni, 2018b, p. 137). The index of difficulty (P) was computed using:

$$p = \frac{B}{JS}$$

P = difficulty index

B = number of students answering correctly

JS = total number of test-takers

Interpretation criteria were:

0.00–0.30 = difficult; 0.31–0.70 = moderate; 0.71–1.00 = easy (Winarni, 2018, p. 137).

Item discrimination indicates the ability of an item to distinguish high-performing students from low-performing students. The discrimination index (DP) was computed following Winarni (2018, p. 137):

$$DP = \frac{JB_A}{J_A} - \frac{JB_B}{J_B}$$

J = total test-takers

J_A = number in upper group

J_B = number in lower group

JB_A = number of upper-group students answering correctly

JB_B = number of lower-group students answering correctly

Interpretation criteria were:

0.00–0.20 = poor; 0.21–0.40 = fair; 0.41–0.70 = good; 0.71–1.00 = excellent (Winarni, 2018, p. 138).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

In this study, the independent variable was required to meet established validity criteria based on expert evaluations. To ensure such validity, the PBL-based student worksheet (LKPD) supported by Wordwall media was subjected to expert validation, which included assessments of content quality, linguistic appropriateness, and graphical design. Following the validation process, instrument reliability was examined using an



inter-rater reliability approach. The results of the validity and reliability analyses are presented as follows:

Table 1. Expert Validation Analysis of the PBL-Based LKPD Result

Aspect	Item Nu.	Aiken's V	Interpretation
Content	25	0.67	Moderate
	2	1.00	Very Valid
	3	1.00	Very Valid
	1	1.00	Very Valid
Language	2	0.83	Very Valid
	3	0.67	Moderate
	4	1.00	Very Valid
	1	0.83	Very Valid
Graphics	2	0.67	Moderate
	3	0.67	Moderate

Table 2. Reliability Analysis of the PBL-Based LKPD Result

Aspect	Item Nu.	Validator 1 Score	Validator 2 Score	Score Difference	No. of Agreement	No. of Statements	Agreement (%)	Agreement Level
Content	1	3	3	0	3	3	100	Very Strong
	2	4	4	0				
	3	4	4	0				
Language	1	4	4	0	3	4	75	Strong
	2	4	3	1				
	3	3	3	0				
	4	4	4	0				
Graphics	1	3	4	1	2	3	67	Strong
	2	3	3	0				
	3	3	3	0				

Based on the results of the validity and reliability assessments conducted by expert validators across the 55 evaluation aspects (content, language, and graphical design), it can be concluded that the LKPD is suitable for use in science learning research. To further examine the effect of the PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking skills (Focus, Reason, and Inference), logical validity testing, empirical validation, prerequisite testing, and hypothesis testing were carried out.

The validity testing procedure involved expert judgment analysis and reliability measurement. The expert ratings were compiled and analyzed using the Aiken's V formula. Subsequently, reliability was evaluated using interrater reliability analysis. The results of the validity test are presented in the following section

Table 3. Expert Validation Analysis of The Critical Thinking Aspect Result

Aspect	Item No.	Critical Thinking Aspect	Rated Aspect	V Scor	Interpretation
Content	1	Focus	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
	2	Focus	1	1.00	Very Valid
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
	3	Reason	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.83	Moderate
	4	Reason	1	0.83	Very valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate



Aspect	Item No.	Critical Thinking Aspect	Rated Aspect	V Scor	Interpretation
Language	5	Inference	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid
	6	Inference	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid
	1	Focus	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
	2	Focus	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
	3	Reason	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid
	4	Reason	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.67	Moderate
			3	0.83	Very Valid
	5	Inference	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
Construction	6	Inference	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.83	Very Valid
	1	Focus	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid
	2	Focus	1	1.00	Very Valid
			2	0.67	Moderate
			3	0.83	Very Valid
	3	Reason	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	0.67	Moderate
			3	0.67	Moderate
	4	Reason	1	0.83	Very Valid
			2	1.00	Very Valid
			3	0.67	Moderate
	5	Inference	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid
	6	Inference	1	0.67	Moderate
			2	0.83	Very Valid
			3	1.00	Very Valid

Based on the validity test results for the three critical thinking aspects, it can be seen that the six items representing these aspects are valid.

Tabel 4. Reliability Analysis of Critical Thinking Aspect Result

Aspect	Item No.	Critical thinking Aspect	Σ Agreement	Σ Aspect	Agreement (%)	Agreement Level
Content	1	Focus	2	3	67	Strong
	2		2	3	67	Strong
	3	Reason	2	3	67	Strong
	4		2	3	67	Strong
	5	Inference	3	3	100	Strong



Aspect	Item No.	Critical thinking Aspect	Σ Agreement	Σ Aspect	Agreement (%)	Agreement Level
Language	6		3	3	100	Strong
	1	Focus	2	3	67	Strong
	2		2	3	67	Strong
	3	Reason	2	3	67	Strong
	4		2	3	67	Strong
	5	Inference	2	3	67	Strong
Construction	6		2	3	67	Strong
	1	Focus	2	3	67	Strong
	2		2	3	67	Strong
	3	Reason	2	3	67	Strong
	4		2	3	67	Strong
	5	Inference	2	3	67	Strong
	6		2	3	67	Strong

Based on reliability analysis for all the critical thinking aspect which was tested, it can be seen that the six items representing these aspects have strong agreement level.

Subsequently, an empirical validation procedure was conducted to evaluate the three dimensions of critical thinking. The empirical validation included an item validity analysis performed using SPSS version 25, followed by a reliability assessment based on the Cronbach's alpha (R11) coefficient of the instrument. SPSS version 25 was also employed to determine item difficulty levels, categorized into difficult, moderate, and easy. Furthermore, item discrimination indices were examined using the Corrected Item-Total Correlation values generated through SPSS. The results of the empirical validation of critical thinking skills are presented in the subsequent section.

Table 5. Item validity Test Result

Aspect	Item No.	r-count	Criteria	Remark
Focus	1	0.947**	Very High	Valid
	2	0.851**	Very High	Valid
Reason	3	0.923**	Very High	Valid
	4	0.935**	Very High	Valid
Inference	5	0.762**	Adequate	Valid
	6	0.839**	Very High	Valid

Table 6. Reliability Test Result

Aspect	Cronbach's Alpha	N of Item	Criteria
Focus	0.709	2	High
Reason	0.850	2	High
Inference	0.440	2	Low

Table 7. Item Difficulty Item Test Result

Aspect	Item No.	Average	Difficulty Level	Criteria
Focus	1	5.75	0.575	Moderate
	2	5.75	0.575	Moderate
Reason	3	8.50	0.567	Moderate
	4	8.75	0.583	Moderate
Inference	5	16.75	0.670	Moderate
	6	15.75	0.630	Moderate

Table 8. Discrimination Index Result

Aspect	Item No.	Corrected Item Total Correlation	Criteria
Focus	1	0.571	Good
	2	0.571	Good
Reason	3	0.727	Very Good
	4	0.727	Very Good
Inference	5	0.286	Adequate
	6	0.286	Adequate

Subsequently, prerequisite tests for critical thinking ability were conducted, beginning with a normality test applied to students' critical thinking scores in both the control and experimental classes. Normality was assessed using the Shapiro-Wilk test, with data considered normally distributed when the significance value exceeded 0.05. In addition to the normality test, a homogeneity test was performed to determine whether the critical thinking data were homogeneous across groups. This analysis employed Levene's statistic, with interpretation based on the resulting significance value. The results of the prerequisite tests are presented in the following section.

Table 9. Normality Test Result

Aspect	Test Type	Group	Mean	Std. Deviation	Shapiro - Wilk Sig. Value
Focus	Pretest	Experimental	33.12	9.31	0.000
		Control	32.50	9.42	0.000
	Posttest	Experimental	97.50	11.18	0.000
		Control	60.00	20.51	0.000
Reason	Pretest	Experimental	34.97	5.14	0.000
		Control	46.66	16.75	0.000
	Posttest	Experimental	92.50	12.64	0.000
		Control	70.83	14.17	0.004
Inference	Pretest	Experimental	42.00	4.10	0.000
		Control	42.00	4.10	0.000
	Posttest	Experimental	88.00	17.35	0.000
		Control	63.00	17.19	0.006

Table 10. Homogeneity Test Result

Aspect	Average	Shapiro - Wilk Sig. Value
Focus	6.232	0.001
Reason	78.697	0.000
Inference	65.387	0.000

Table 9 presents the results of the normality test, which indicate the following: (1) The Shapiro-Wilk significance values for all pretest and posttest scores in both the experimental and control classes for the Focus aspect were 0.000. Since all significance values were below 0.05, it can be concluded that the Focus aspect data were not normally distributed. Accordingly, subsequent analyses were conducted using nonparametric statistics. (2) The Shapiro-Wilk significance values for the Reason aspect in the experimental class were also 0.000 for both pretest and posttest scores. In the control class, the pretest yielded a value of 0.000, while the posttest produced 0.004. Because all significance values were below the threshold of 0.05, the Reason aspect data were likewise determined to be non-normally distributed, and thus analyzed using nonparametric methods. (3) The Shapiro-Wilk significance values for the Inference aspect in the experimental class were 0.000 for both pretest and posttest. In the control class, the pretest value could not be computed by SPSS due to a standard deviation of

0.00, while the posttest produced a value of 0.006. As all computable significance values remained below 0.05, the Inference aspect data were concluded to be non-normally distributed. Consequently, nonparametric statistical analyses were applied.

The results of the homogeneity test are presented in Table 10 and show the following: (1) The Focus aspect yielded a Levene statistic of 6.232 with a significance value of 0.001, indicating that the data were not homogeneous ($\text{sig} < 0.05$) and must therefore be analyzed using nonparametric methods. (2) The Reason aspect produced a Levene statistic of 78.697 with a significance value of 0.000, also indicating non-homogeneous data. (3) The Inference aspect produced a Levene statistic of 65.387 with a significance value of 0.000, confirming that the data were not homogeneous and must be analyzed nonparametrically.

Based on the results of the prerequisite tests, it is concluded that the data do not meet the assumptions for parametric testing; therefore, the study proceeds with nonparametric hypothesis testing. The hypotheses tested were: H_{a1} = There is an effect of PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking ability in the Focus aspect in Grade V Science learning; H_{a2} = There is an effect of PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking ability in the Reason aspect in Grade V Science learning; and H_{a3} = There is an effect of PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking ability in the Inference aspect in Grade V Science learning.

Hypothesis testing was conducted using the Mann-Whitney test, followed by an N-Gain analysis to determine the effectiveness of the PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media in improving students' critical thinking ability in the experimental and control classes. The results of the hypothesis testing are presented in the following section.

Table 11. Mann Whitney Test Result

Aspect	Class	N	Mean Rank	Mann Whitney U	Asymp sig 2 Tailed
Focus	Experiment	20	28.00	50.00	0.000
	Control	20	13.00		
Reason	Experiment	20	28.00	50.00	0.000
	Control	20	13.00		
Inference	Experiment	20	28.00	70.00	0.000
	Control	29	13.00		

Table 12. N-Gain Test Result

Aspect	Class	N	N-Gain Score	% N-Gain	Interpretation
Focus	Experiment	20	1.00	96.70	High
	Control	20	0.39	39.33	Moderate
Reason	Experiment	20	0.90	87.90	High
	Control	20	0.40	40.00	Moderate
Inference	Experiment	20	0.80	79.30	High
	Control	29	0.37	37.00	Moderate

Tables 11 and 12 show the following results: (1) For the Focus aspect, the Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) value was 0.000, which is below 0.05. Therefore, H_{a1} is accepted. The N-Gain score in the experimental class was 1.00, categorized as high, indicating an effective improvement, while the control class obtained an N-Gain score of 0.39, categorized as moderate and thus considered ineffective. Given the significant difference between the two groups, it can be concluded that PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media has

a significant effect on students' critical thinking skills in the Focus aspect in Grade V Science learning. Hence, the use of PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media is effective in enhancing students' Focus-related critical thinking skills. (2) For the Reason aspect, the Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) value was $0.000 < 0.05$, indicating acceptance of Ha2. The experimental class achieved an N-Gain score of 0.90 (high), categorized as effective, whereas the control class obtained a score of 0.40 (moderate), categorized as ineffective. Because a significant difference was found, it can be concluded that PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media significantly influences students' critical thinking ability in Reason aspect. Thus, the implementation of PBL-based LKPD with Wordwall media is effective in improving students' Reason-related critical thinking skills in Grade V Science learning. (3) For the Inference aspect, the Asymp. Sig. (2-tailed) value was 0.000, which is below 0.05; therefore, Ha3 is accepted. The N-Gain score for the experimental class was 0.80 (high), categorized as effective, while the control class achieved a score of 0.36 (moderate), categorized as ineffective. Because the observed differences were significant, it can be concluded that PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media has a significant effect on students' critical thinking skills in the Inference aspect. Accordingly, the use of PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media is effective in enhancing students' Inference-related critical thinking skills in Grade V Science learning.

The qualitative descriptive analysis further supports these findings. Based on the results obtained, students demonstrated measurable improvement in critical thinking skills across the Focus, Reason, and Inference aspects. This improvement is presented in the table below.

Table 13. Measurement of The Focus, Reason, and Inference Aspects

Aspect	Pretest Average	Posttest Average	N-Gain
Focus	33,12	97.50	1.00
Reason	34,97	92.50	0.90
Inference	42,00	88.00	0.79

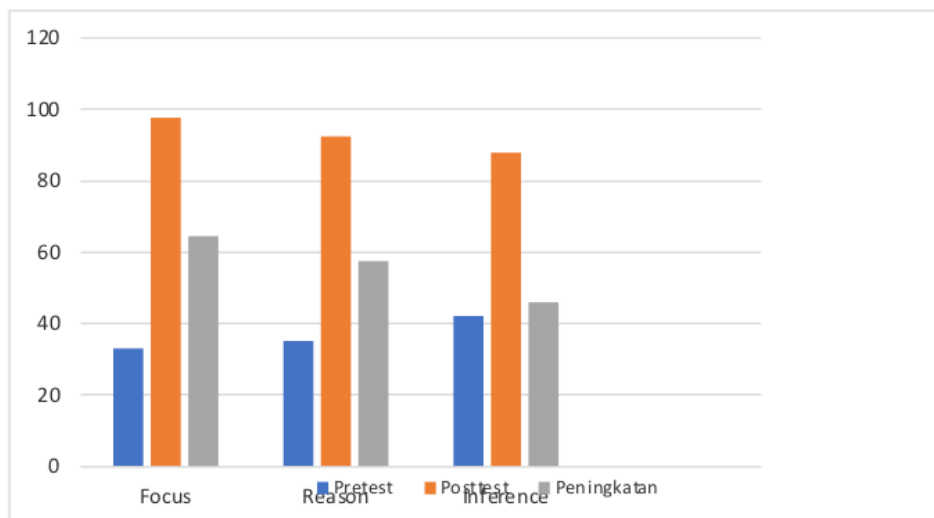


Figure 1. Measurement of The Focus, Reason, and Inference Aspects Graph

Based on the data presented above, it can be concluded that students demonstrated improvement in the Focus aspect of critical thinking. The pretest mean score of 33,12 increased to 97.50 in the posttest, with an N-Gain value of 1.00. In the Reason aspect,

students obtained an average pretest score of 34,97, which increased to 92.50 in the posttest, yielding an N-Gain value of 0.90. Further improvement²⁷ was observed in the Inference aspect, where the pretest mean score of 42,00 increased to 88.00 in the posttest, with an N-Gain value of 0.79.

Subsequently, a correlation analysis was conducted, beginning with a normality test using the MANOVA method, followed by a homogeneity assessment based on⁴¹ Levene's test for each aspect, and a hypothesis test using the Spearman rank method. The results of these analyses are presented in Table 14.

Table 14. Normality Test for Corelation Aspects

Aspect	Dd	Sig
Focus	20	0.000
Reason	20	0.000
Inference	20	0.000

Based on the results of the normality test, the significance value obtained was $0.000 < 0.05$, indicating that the data are not normally distributed.

Table 15. Lavene Test

Aspect	Lavene Statistic	Sig
Focus	1.92	0.174
Reason	18.48	0.000
Inference	60.36	0.000

Based on the data presented in the table above, the significance value for the Focus aspect was 0.174, while the Reason and Inference aspects showed significance values of 0.000. Thus, it can be concluded that only the Focus aspect has a significance value greater than 0.05 and is therefore homogeneous, whereas the Reason and Inference aspects, with significance values below 0.05, are classified as non-homogeneous.

Table 16. Nonparametric Test Used Spearman Rank

	Result (N=20)	Focus Aspect	Reason Aspect	Inference Aspect
Focus	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	0.865	0.854
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.854
Reason	Correlation Coefficient	0.865	1.000	0.911
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Inference	Correlation Coefficient	0.854	0.911	1.000
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000	0.000	0.000

Based on the data presented above, the total number of observations (N) is 20. The table also shows that the Sig. (2-tailed) values for the critical thinking aspects of Focus, Reason, and Inference are all 0.000. According to the decision criteria described earlier, these results indicate a statistically significant correlation among the Focus, Reason, and Inference dimensions of critical thinking. The output further demonstrates that the correlation coefficient for the Focus aspect is 1.000, which is interpreted as *very strong*. The Reason aspect has a correlation coefficient of 0.865, also categorized as *very strong*, while the Inference aspect yields a coefficient of 0.854, likewise classified as *very strong*. These findings indicate that the relationships among the Focus, Reason, and Inference aspects of critical thinking are consistently very strong.

Discussion

Learning Activity Sheets (LKPD) function as instructional materials that assist students in understanding learning concepts while simultaneously supporting their development of autonomy (Muktadir, 2023). Through the use of PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media on the topic of the human digestive system, students are encouraged to engage actively in the learning process, which enhances overall learning engagement. Students' positive responses to the PBL-based LKPD are evident in their interaction with the guiding questions delivered through Wordwall, which promote their *focus* in understanding the human digestive system and enable them to articulate appropriate responses.

The Focus aspect of critical thinking is characterized by students' ability to identify the problem presented in the task. Once students demonstrate proficiency in the Focus aspect, the next dimension examined is the Reason aspect, which is reflected in students' ability to make decisions based on logical reasoning and the information they have gathered. After students meet the requirements of the Reason aspect, assessment proceeds to the Inference aspect. At this stage, students are expected to draw conclusions using appropriate and relevant reasoning aligned with the questions provided.

CONCLUSION

After completing all phases of the research activities—from the preparation stage, implementation, and data analysis related to the hypotheses—the following conclusions were obtained: (1) The nonparametric test results indicate a significant effect of the PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking skills in the **Focus** aspect. This is reflected in the Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) value of $0.000 < 0.05$ based on the Mann-Whitney decision criteria. Furthermore, the N-Gain score in the experimental class was 96.70%, interpreted as *high* and categorized as *effective*. Meanwhile, the control class obtained an N-Gain score of 39.33%, interpreted as *moderate* and categorized as *not effective*. Thus, it can be concluded that the PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media effectively enhances students' critical thinking skills in the Focus aspect in Grade V science learning. (2) The nonparametric test results also show a significant effect of the PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking skills in the **Reason** aspect. This is demonstrated by the Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) value of $0.000 < 0.05$ in accordance with the Mann-Whitney decision rule. In addition, the experimental class achieved an N-Gain score of 87.90%, classified as *high* and *effective*, whereas the control class obtained an N-Gain score of 40.00%, classified as *moderate* and *not effective*. Therefore, the PBL-based LKPD assisted by Wordwall media can be concluded to significantly improve students' critical thinking skills in the Reason aspect in Grade V science learning. (3) The nonparametric test results further indicate a significant effect of the PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media on students' critical thinking skills in the **Inference** aspect. This is evidenced by the Asymp. Sig (2-tailed) value of $0.000 < 0.05$ based on the Mann-Whitney decision criteria. The experimental class obtained an N-Gain score of 79.30%, falling into the *high* interpretation and *effective* category, while the control class achieved an N-Gain score of 37.00%, interpreted as *moderate* and *not effective*. Hence, it can be concluded that the PBL-based LKPD supported by Wordwall media effectively enhances students' critical thinking skills in the Inference aspect in Grade V science learning. (4) Based on the results of the nonparametric correlation test,



the sample size (N) was 20. The Sig. values for the Focus, Reason, and Inference aspects were all 0.000. These results indicate the presence of a statistically significant correlation among the Focus, Reason, and Inference dimensions of students' critical thinking skills.

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