

## Relationship between College Entrance Test Scores and Grade XI Science Students' Performance

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### Abstract

*An increasing trend of testing candidates before giving admissions in an educational institute is commonly observed in Pakistan. This trend can be particularly seen in the private educational institutions in the name of quality induction. The purpose of this study is threefold. First purpose was to find out the appropriateness of College Entrance Test (CET) model used in the private higher secondary school in Karachi, Pakistan for the predictability of students' performance in Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) I annual board examinations. Second purpose was to examine the correlation between students' performance in college entrance test and in annual examinations with special focus on science subjects. Four hypotheses guided the study significantly in this direction.*

*The mixed method study was conducted in two phases. Students' scores in the college entrance test and annual board's result 2017 were correlated through regression analysis at  $\alpha = 0.05$  level of significance by using Statistical Package of Social Sciences (SPSS) version 22. The finding of first hypothesis revealed highly significant correlation between students' performance in CBT and HSSC I in Biology ( $r = 0.35$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ), Chemistry ( $r = 0.37$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ), Physics ( $r = 0.50$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Findings also suggested CET as a good model for the predictability of students' performance in annual board examinations for Grade 11 pre-medical group ( $R^2 = 0.43$ ,  $F = 50.0$ ,  $p = 0.00$ ). Several recommendations are made for various stakeholders on the policies and practices related to school admissions and science education at higher secondary level.*

**Key words:** College entrance test, computer based test, science subjects, students' performance, annual board exams