

Being Scientific of Information on the Web about Physics Concepts: Document Analysis of Turkish Content in Wikipedia

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was investigating the being scientific of information on the web used by students, teachers and researchers. The most frequently used source by students doing a project or homework expect for textbooks and teachers is internet. The reason for this is accessibility and substantiality of internet. At this point reliability and being scientific of information on the web gain importance. To assess the reliability and being scientific of information on the web Turkish content of Wikipedia was chosen. And also concepts in physics' curriculum of ninth grade were chosen from Turkish content. Physics concepts in Wikipedia were investigated and their being scientific was discussed. Because of Wikipedia is a kind of document, while being scientific of information was being investigated qualitative document analysis was used. While making document analysis concepts were assessed based on source related to concepts is given or not and also true or not. Hereby Turkish content investigated in Wikipedia contains lots of wrong information. Also most of wrong information in Wikipedia can lead to misconceptions. If students think information in Wikipedia is absolutely scientific, probability of having misconception of students could increase. Therefore raise the awareness of students about being scientific of sources on the web become important.

Keywords: Web, being scientific, concept, curriculum