

Supporting Wildflower Legal Education Initiative

CLE Foundation works continually to educate women at Wildflower Home, which provides shelter to women from poor or marginalized backgrounds. Due to their situation, they have little to no knowledge of legal matters. CLE Foundation's classes teach basic legal rights and promote access to justice awareness, emphasizing the importance of the assertion of these rights. We would like to express out deep thanks for your support in developing the curriculum to meet the women's needs, and in providing the materials for the interactive teaching methods, which is a highly effective way to teach concepts that are sometimes not straightforward, but are very meaningful for this project.

The project aims to help the women who participate as well as helping their young children to break the cycle of poverty. Furthermore, the women benefit through personal and intellectual development, which allows them to actively participate in Thai society. During the last few months, we developed a Legal Education Curriculum, which we delivered to the women and fostered a multilateral engagement for its ongoing development.

Contact Us



CLE Foundation

17/17 Suandok Soi.6 T.Suthep Chiang Mai, Thailand

Phone: +66855998955

Email: ann.clefellow@babseacle.org

Project Report for March - September 2014

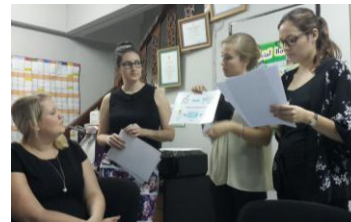


Table of Contents

Supporting Wildflower Legal Education Initiative	1
Our Activities in 2013.....	2
Continue to Develop the Legal Education Curriculum.....	2
Deliver the Legal Education Curriculum	Error! Bookmark not defined.
Public Relation.....	3
Legal Education Initiative.....	4
Overview of Goals	4
Provide a Legal Education	4
Develop the Legal Education Curriculum.....	4
Multilateral Engagement.....	4
Oct 2013 – Feb 2014 in Review	5
Our Achievements	5
Strengthening the project	5
Feedback	5
Educators’ Feedback on the Project.....	6
Community’ Feedback on the Project.....	7
Evaluation from learners	8

Our Activities in 2014

Continue to Develop the Legal Education Curriculum



The curriculum currently taught is constantly in need of updating and further development due to changes in Thai law and topical requests from participants and Wildflower Home. There are several lessons required from the women including, traffic law, labour law, women’s rights, how to obtain identity cards in case of loss, and how to obtain a birth certificate.

Deliver the Legal Education Curriculum



Developed lessons were delivered weekly to the women at Wildflower Home except on religious holidays or due to medical checks and training workshops. The participant group varied from 4-8 people including Thai, Burmese, Shan, and other ethnic groups. The learners range from 15 to 35 years old. The number of educators is between 1-4 for each class; they are from different countries including, Thailand, USA, Singapore, Germany, UK, Australia, Canada, Kenya, and Laos. The lessons taught are based on the women’s needs and requests. Normally the lessons are requested based on real problems that they currently face.

Public Relations

CLE Foundation will continue to advertise the project and its supporters to the public through various regional events including:

- the 3rd Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference which will be held in Singapore on 2-4 October 2014,
- the 6th Trio For Justice; a fundraising and awareness raising event for social justice which will be held on 10 January 2015 in Chiang Mai,
- the Access to Justice Public Interest Fair which will be held on the same day as the 6th Trio For Justice
- the International Legal Studies Clinic

The project will be advertised with the purpose of promoting engagement with Asia-Pacific institutions, human rights/access to justice, promoting educational exchange on access to justice and addressing barriers of accessing justice issues, and the U.S. Embassy's effort to build relationships and celebrate American culture through cultural exchange. These events will gather people from different part in the world. We hope this will also be an opportunity to get more widespread support for the project and have more international involvement and awareness.



Legal Education Initiative

CLE Foundation provides weekly classes for the women at Wildflower Home, who often come from poor or marginalized communities and have little or no knowledge of legal matters. These classes teach basic legal rights and promote human rights awareness, emphasizing the importance of the assertion of these rights. The regular classes raise the young women's awareness of, and knowledge about, their legal and human rights in everyday situations, empowering them to deal confidently with such issues in the future. The lessons focus specifically on subjects that the young women are likely to encounter when they move on from the Wildflower Home and are establishing their own independent lives.

“The goal of this legal education is to provide information about legal options available to marginalized social groups but also to empower them to exercise their rights. This is an integral part of allowing these marginalized individuals to live a dignified life and fully integrate into Thai society.”



Overview of Goals

Provide a Legal Education



To the women who are accessing services at Wildflower Home, this legal education will not only educate women about their legal options but also empower them to exercise their legal rights. This is an integral part of allowing these marginalized women to live a dignified life and fully integrate into Thai society.

Develop the Legal Education Curriculum



The foundation curriculum is set, but is regularly expanded and adapted to include other topics or lessons, according to the women's needs and requests.

Multilateral Engagement

During March - September 2014, CLE Foundation hosted a number of Thai as well as international volunteers, law lecturers and interns from different countries including the USA, Singapore, Germany, UK, Australia, Canada, Kenya, and Laos. Participating interns, volunteers, and visiting law lecturers all have a chance to teach and observe the lessons at Wildflower Home, allowing them to learn about the different cultures of the women (mostly Thai and indigenous) and the other interns (from all over the world). From this, participants can learn about the issues facing these women and take their increased awareness back to their home countries.

March – September 2014 in Review

Our Achievements

The project has enjoyed a positive reception from every group of residents who have participated and has continued to evolve based on their input and feedback (as well as changes in the law). The project is designed to fit in with the women's schedules and cater to their specific needs as they arise. We are most proud of our supervision of the programme in terms of the constant evaluation, which not only tells us how successful it has been, but which areas require repetition or greater focus.

The evaluations and interviews indicate that the lessons are useful for the women and applicable in real life. The women are able to use the knowledge and skills they have learnt when leaving the Wildflower Home. They can also share with family members, friends, and other single mothers. Lessons meet the women's needs and are always modified based on the women's request.

In addition to benefiting the women, the project also allows interns and volunteers from overseas to work together with interns and volunteers from the Southeast Asia region. The volunteer law students and lecturers have the opportunity to do pro bono and help communities.

This project also connects legal aid services, legal education, students, and non-profit organizations with communities. It provides participants a greater understanding of local Thai law, which better prepares students for their legal careers by improving their communication and foreign language skills.

Props and visual aids have been developed to deliver the content developed in the curriculum. Please visit <http://youtu.be/KXPLwSb1MCo> and <http://youtu.be/FOV7iM8Ie-w> to view the video acted by interns from Singapore and legal trainers.

Strengthening the Project

In strengthening the project, we plan to integrate a new teaching initiative aiming to provide the practical skills on criminal procedure in the investigative police stage to the women, and instilling in them the ability to share, demonstrate, and explain legal knowledge to people in their communities in a simple way when they leave the Wildflower Home. The women will learn to make, write, read, and follow a lesson plan on the documentation and criminal procedure related to the topics they have learnt in the other weeks (please see the attachment). This will instill in them the ability to instruct on the right procedure to others. Difficulties in literacy will be overcome by pairing literate and illiterate participants to share the tasks. The women will develop a lesson plan to present in the fourth week under the supervision of a legal fellow. By teaching their developed lesson plan, the women are practicing legal procedure. The lesson will demonstrate legal procedure, the potential barriers, and tough situations the women may face in real life which will lead to a discussion on possible ways to avoid potential problems, what matter/procedure they can do by themselves and what matter/procedure they would require a lawyer for. The teaching will use interactive teaching methodologies such as role-play, brainstorm, discussion, demonstration, visual aid and teaching others to help the women who cannot read and write to understand the documentation, form, and procedure. As well as empowering the participants, the training will also allow the women to continue the lessons themselves and thereby ensure a strong sustainability component into the project.



Feedback

CLE Foundation implemented an extensive evaluation that measures the lessons’ clarity, relativity, and practicality. On 27 August 2014, the legal trainer from the CLE Foundation and BABSEA CLE conducted an evaluation through private interviews with the residents of Wildflower who willingly gave feedback. The interviews were done in Thai and translated into English. The interviewees were informed and assured that their names would only be disclosed to the funder. Interviewees’ information of those who did not consent will remain confidential.



Exclusive Evaluation Interview Summary:

Below are the results from the interviews and interviewees information:

Interviewee’s Information:			
Name	Age	Nationality	Studying period
Kornkanok Kunprathiptam (Mai)	15 years old	Thai	Two months
Sumalee Chermea	22 years old	Thai	Three months
Chose to not disclose her name	23 years old	Thai (Hmong ethnic)	Ten months
Auma	31 years old	Thai (Shan)	Three weeks
Jar	35 years old	Thai (Hmong ethnic)	Six weeks
Mook	17 years old	Thai Hmong	Six weeks
Une	30 years old	Thai	Six weeks

<p>Teaching Evaluation:</p>
<p>What do you think about this project?</p> <p>The women like the project. They are grateful and appreciate that CLE Foundation goes to teach them. They think it is a good project because;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They have new knowledge that they never knew before as nobody educated them • This is a free education that they would not be able to afford • The class allows them to speak up and share their knowledge, problems, and possible ways to solve these problems • It makes them aware of themselves, their rights, problems, and future plans • What they have learnt is applicable and useable in daily life • The class is fun and interesting
<p>Do you like to have international people involved in the lesson?</p> <p>The women like to have international people involved in the lessons because;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People from different countries have different experiences and culture to share and learn from • Every educator always tries hard to teach and make sure that everyone understands and will explain until everyone understands • It shows that there are so many people from different parts of the world that care about them, come to educate them, and want them to have a better life
<p>What would you like to be improved?</p> <p>The women are happy with the project overall. The women want the lessons to be longer than one hour and want CLE Foundation to teach as long as we can. Some suggestion for improvement are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop more new lessons that are applicable and relatable in real life • Extend lesson duration to have more time to explain and discuss and learn more <p>They feel that Thai language is not a big barrier for them and they do not want an interpreter in their ethnic languages because they would feel uncomfortable having a conversation about the reason why they need help from the Wildflower Home or their life story. They feel that talking to people who speak the same language is more difficult for them.</p>
<p>How have you shared the knowledge and skills from the lessons with others, including your children?</p> <p>Some women have shared their knowledge and taught others when they go visit their family. Some women have not had a chance to go outside because they do not have homes, so they have not had the opportunity to teach anyone else. However, they said that they would like to share knowledge with other people, especially those who do not know the law and cannot afford an education. Some women want to be able to teach others but they do not know how to teach.</p>
<p>Do you see the benefits of this project? Please tell us how it benefits you.</p> <p>The women see this project's benefits in many ways. First, it helps them to have knowledge so they can protect their rights. Secondly, it does not only benefit them individually, but its benefits expand to their family and others. Their knowledge and skills can be shared with new mothers (single mothers)/residents. This project gives them the ability to empower other mothers through sharing knowledge. The women found that the lessons are applicable and useful for daily life. Additionally, it helps with mental health, encouraging them to interact, participate in activities, and discuss in the lessons, which makes them happy.</p>

Have you applied the knowledge and skills from the lessons in real life? Please provide us with examples.

Many lessons are applicable in daily life while staying at Wildflower Home including traffic law, childrens' rights and protection, custody, labour law, identity card and womens' rights. The women usually discuss after class and teach the women who miss the lessons. They feel that the childrens' rights and protection lessons are the most important lessons for them and their children. They are aware of their children's rights. The women were not aware that they, as mothers, cannot abuse their children and they did not know that certain actions were classified as abuse. They thought that hitting, ignoring or any physical abuses were allowed if they were delivered by the mothers. Some women were not aware that yelling, shaking, or negligence are types of emotional abuse. The women also did not know about sexual abuse. After learning the lesson about childrens' rights and protection, they began treating their children better and educated other mothers to do the same.

One woman lost her identity card and was in a tough situation. She did not know the process to get a new identity card and the required documents. It was difficult for her to talk to the authorities because she is Hmong and her Thai is not very strong. An identity card lesson was held, which taught the process of how to get a new ID card in case of loss through role play and demonstrated the situation and problems they may face. After attending the lesson, she used what she had learnt from the role play and was able to get a new identity card.

What are the differences you have seen since taking part in these lessons?

Most women said that before the lessons they did not know about the law. Some women have heard their friends talk about the law, labeling actions illegal or legal, but they did not understand. Since taking part in these lessons, they gained knowledge about the laws, which are important and that they need to know in their own lives. They feel confident and safe to live in society with other people. They feel that this knowledge will help them avoid exploitation. It will help make their life easier especially when they deal with the authorities who normally do not treat these marginalized people well. By knowing and following the laws and rules in society, they will not be discriminated against or criticized.

The women feel empowered to be able to protect themselves and their children. They feel that they will be able to protect their rights and their childrens' rights from abuse.

After leaving Wildflower Home

Interviewee's Information:			
Name	Age	Nationality	Studying period
Nongnatee Pimpirat	45 years old	Thai	Three years
Dao	27 years old	Thai	One year
Pat	18 years old	Thai	Five months
Holly	18 years old	Myanmar	One year
Lissy	18 years old	Thai	Two years
Dear	20 years old	Thai Hmong	One year

Teaching Evaluation:
<p>Please explain how the classes have affected your life.</p> <p>Most women said that the lessons on childrens' rights and protection, domestic violence, and discrimination have changed their life. After learning these lessons, they realized that they cannot just ignore or hit their children. They changed their behavior and now know to take good care of their children, be calm and do not yell at their children.</p> <p>The lesson on labour law made them understand about working legally, employees' rights, and fairness. The women feel empowered and are not afraid to enquire after information or help from the authorities. They know where they can ask for help for different matters such as public health and unfair payment. They did not think that they had choices and thought that society did not give spaces for marginalized people until they learnt about human rights and equality.</p> <p>The women used to think that the best way to deal with domestic violence problems was to allow their husband to abuse them. Some women did not even realize that it was domestic violence. Domestic violence lessons provided them an understanding of the cycle of abuse - abuse, Guilt/Fear --> Acts Normal --> Looks for Reason to Blame Other Person --> abuse, how to recognize this type of behavior and predict when abuse/violence is likely to occur, and what they can do to avoid the domestic violence.</p>
<p>Are the lessons you learnt useful for you after you left the Wildflower Home? Please explain how.</p> <p>Most women said that the lessons are useful. After leaving the Wildflower Home, most women looked for jobs and they knew what was fair for them regarding working hours, minimum wage per day, overtime, holiday, sick leave, etc. One woman could afford to rent a cheap house. This was a big decision for her because it required all of her saved money (2,000 baht). She asked for a contract which ensured the security of her housing right. She had knowledge from the lessons on housing rights and contracts and was able to make a contract considerably.</p>

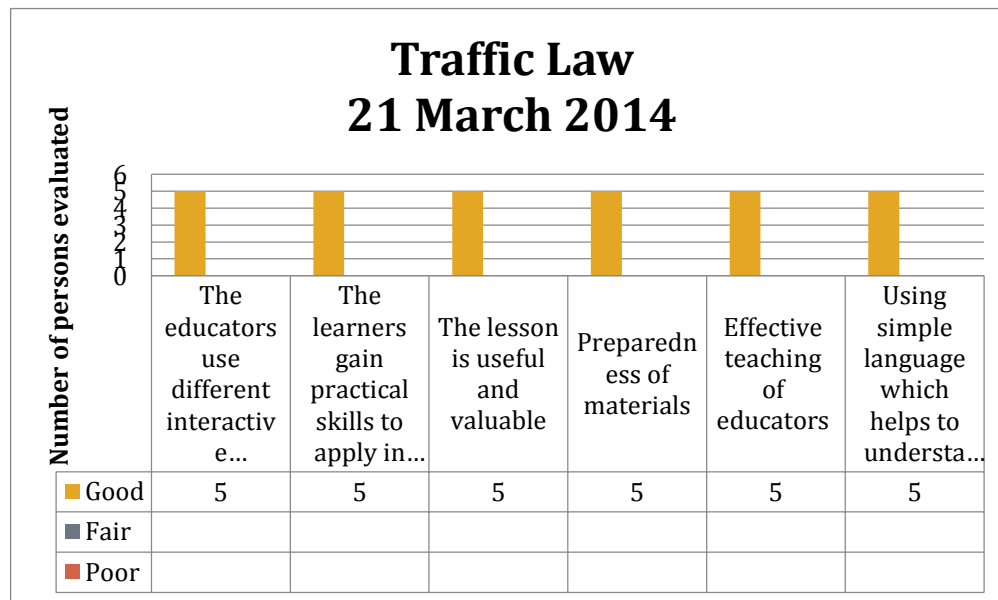
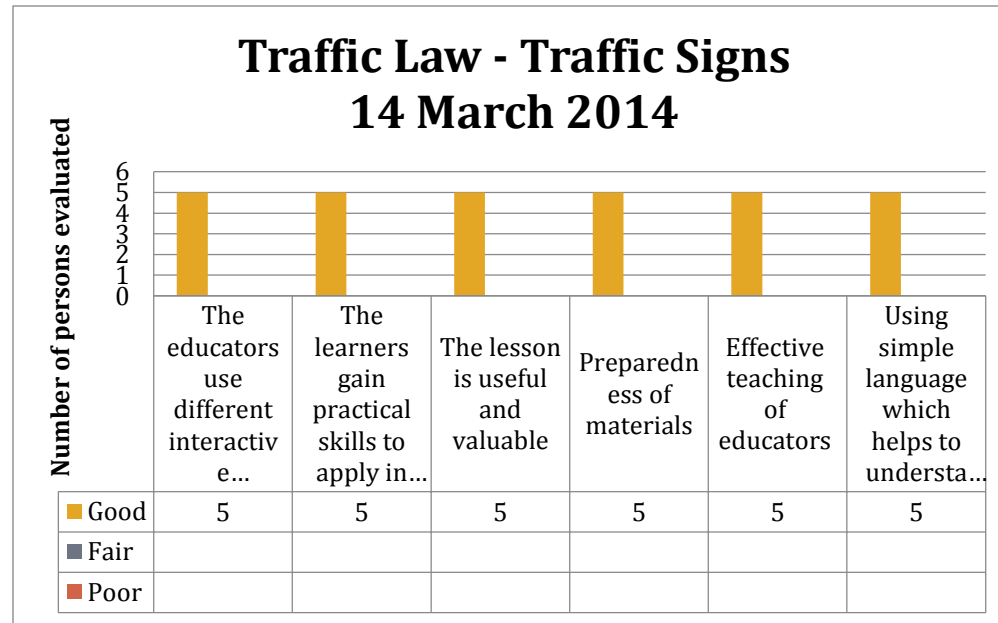
Not many women knew the traffic law or had driving licenses. The traffic law lessons gave them a basic understanding through interactive teaching methods, which helped them to remember when they took their driving license test. Moreover, they are able to read and understand the traffic signs which helps them drive safely and ensure the safety of others.

Have you used and shared what you have learnt with others?

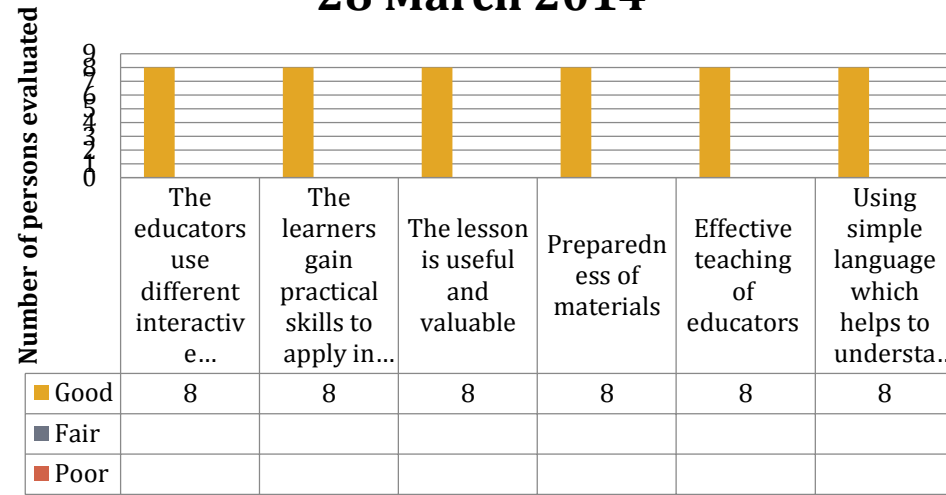
Mostly the women have used what they have learnt in different personal circumstances as mentioned above. Some women used their knowledge on traffic law, labour law, domestic violence, health care, contract, children's rights and protection. Most women did not register a marriage certificate which led to problems with custody of their children after breaking up. After learning about custody laws, they understood that when the child born to an unwed woman, the child is made the legitimate child of the woman, and the biological father has no legal rights over the child. Furthermore, they also have raised awareness about respecting their children's rights and decision. They used to only make decisions based on their personal opinions and comfort. The children's rights lesson made them more aware of their children's happiness and taught them to take their children into account in all decision making.

After leaving the Wildflower Home, the women can share what they have learnt with family members, friends, co-workers, and other single mothers. They said that once their children grow up, they will definitely teach this knowledge to their children.

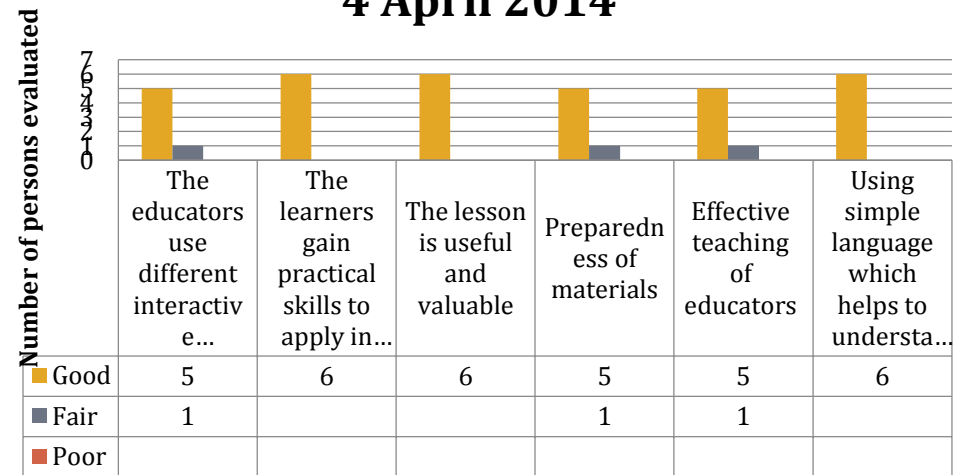
Evaluation From Learners



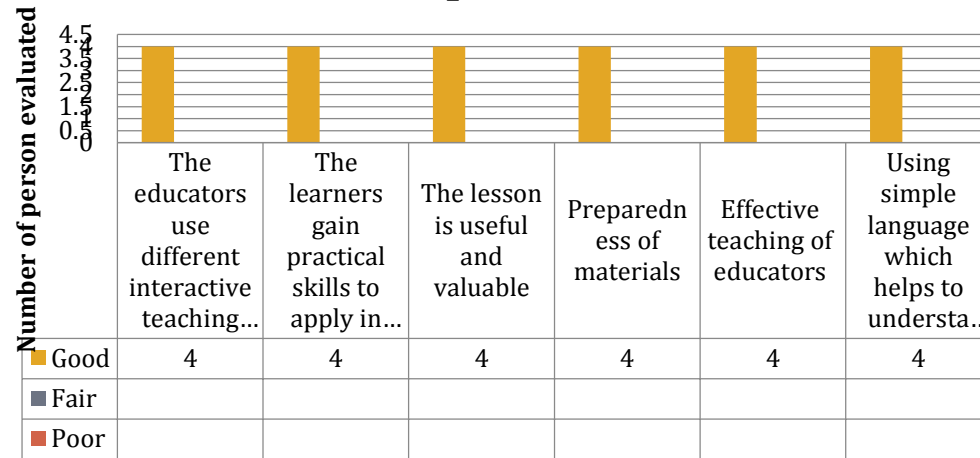
Employment Law 28 March 2014



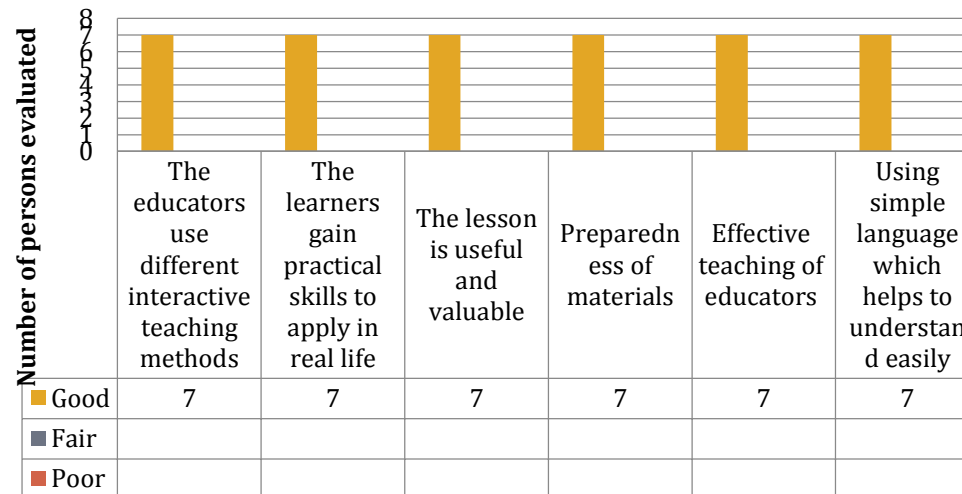
Dismissal and Unfair Dismissal 4 April 2014

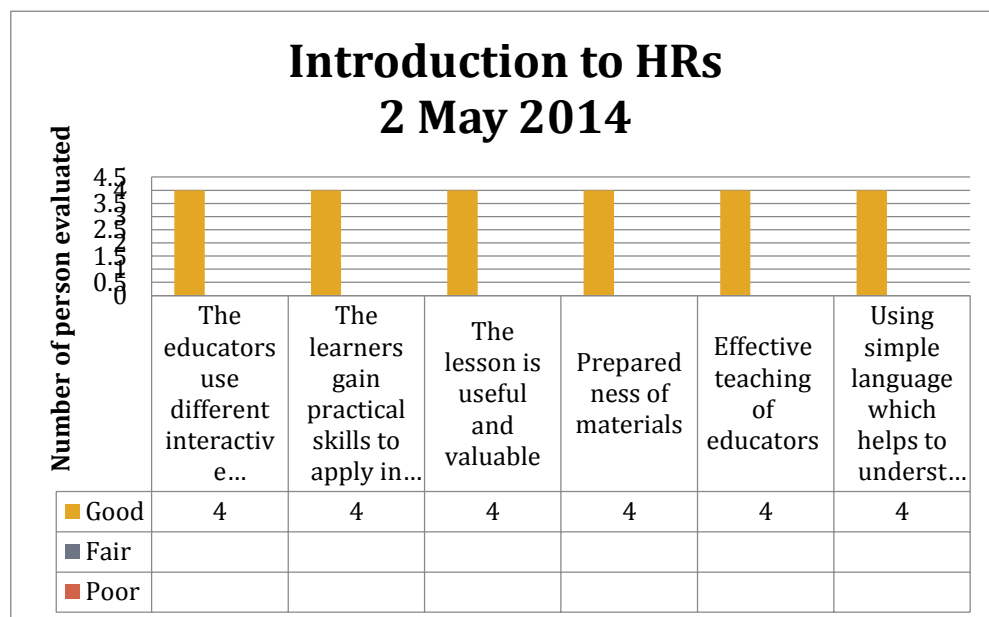
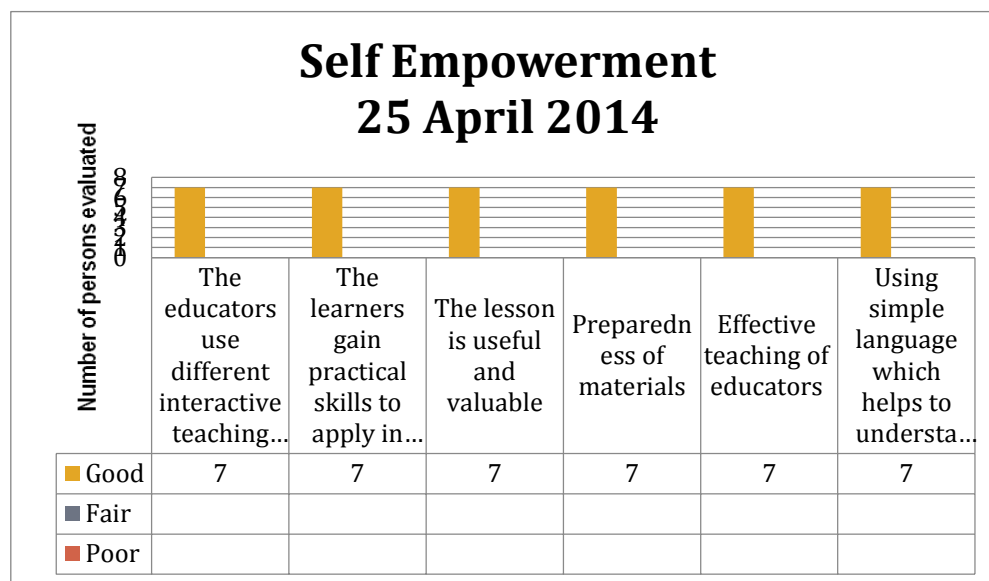


Children Rights and Protection 11 April 2014

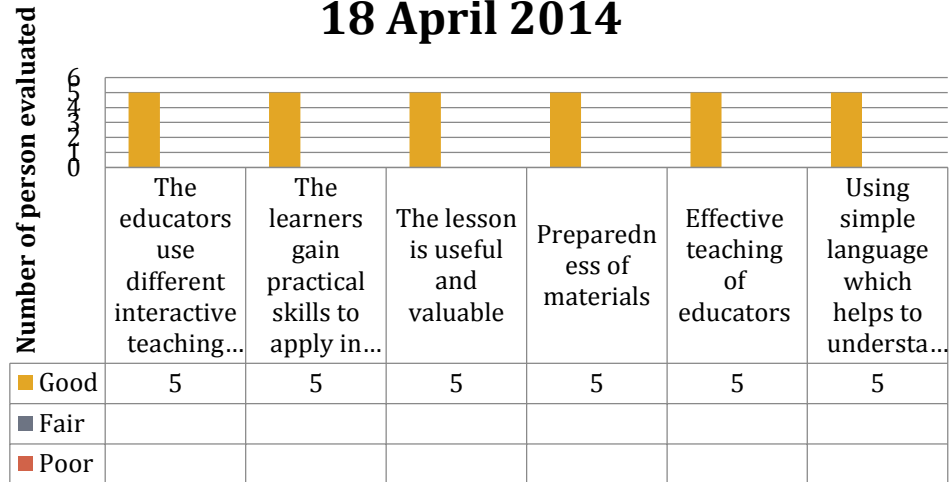


Children Rights and Protection 18 April 2014

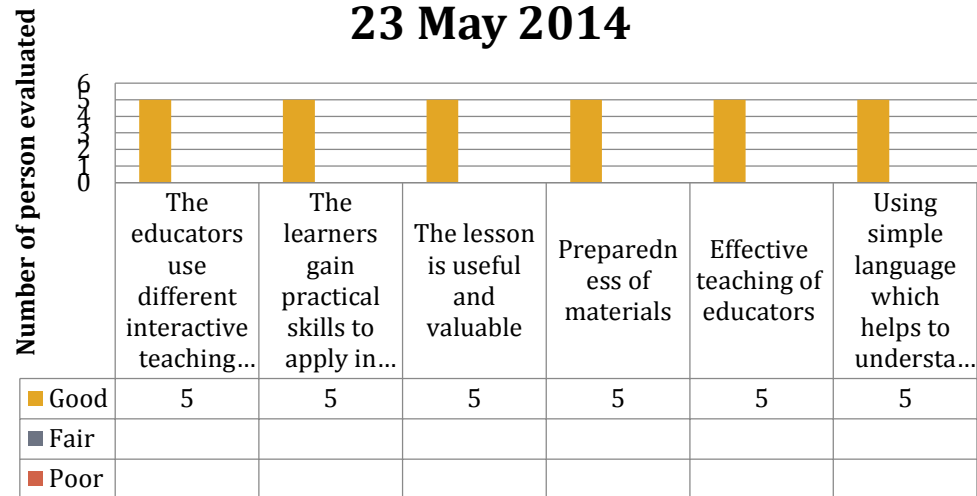


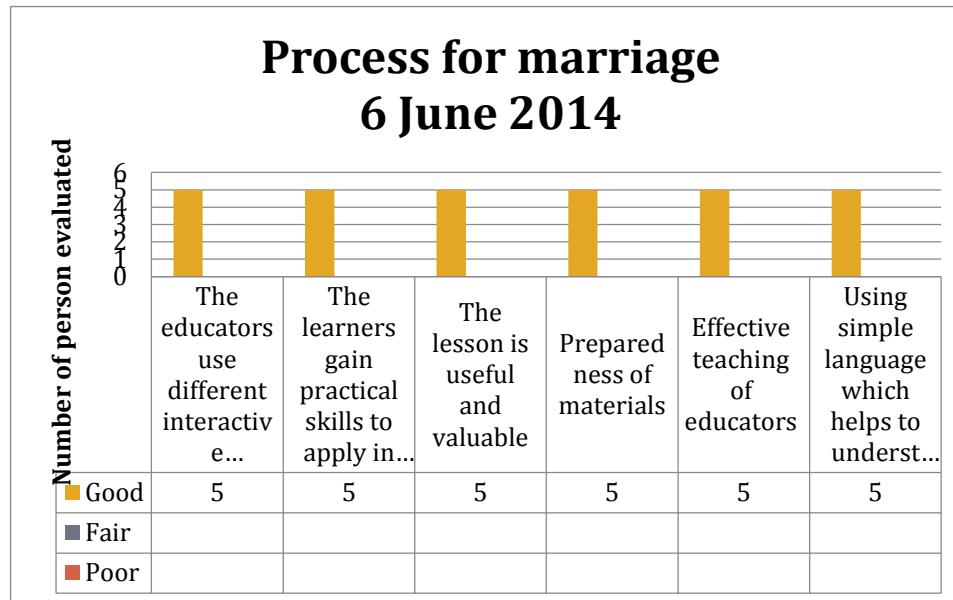
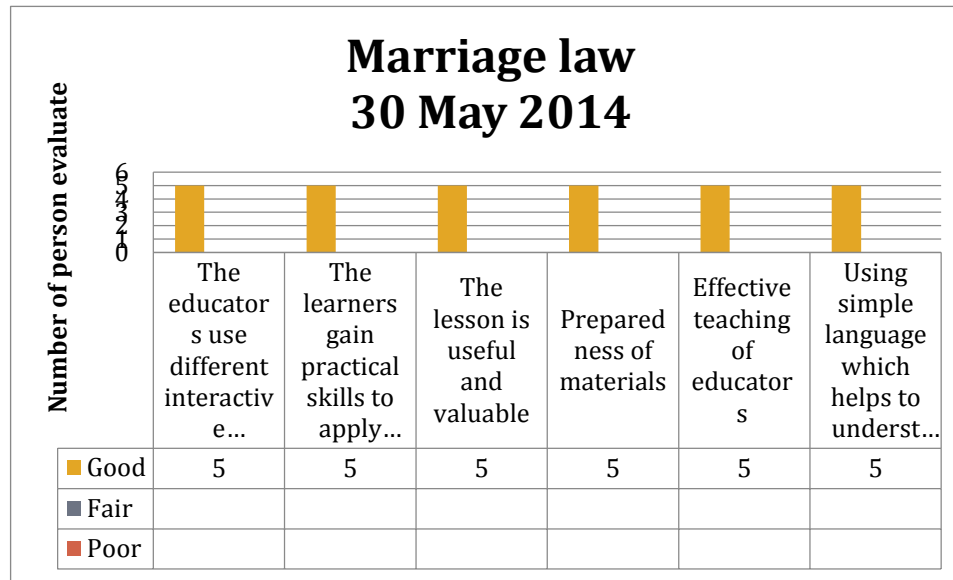


Human Rights 18 April 2014

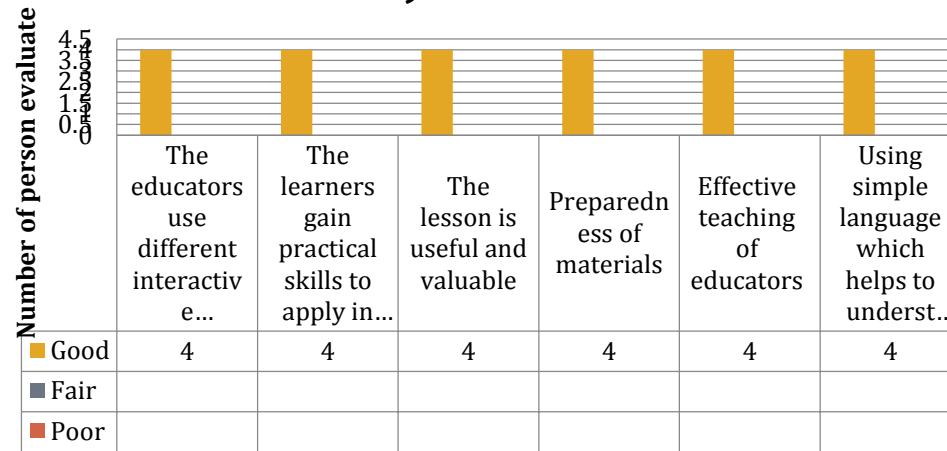


Domestic Violence 23 May 2014

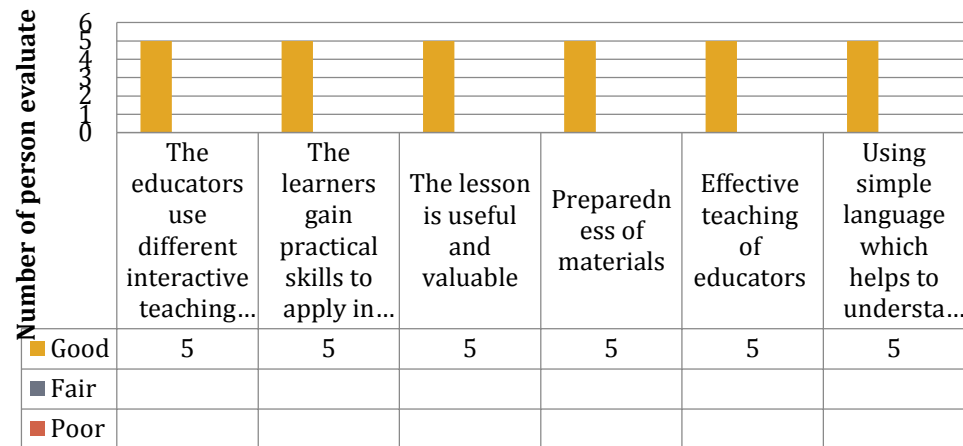




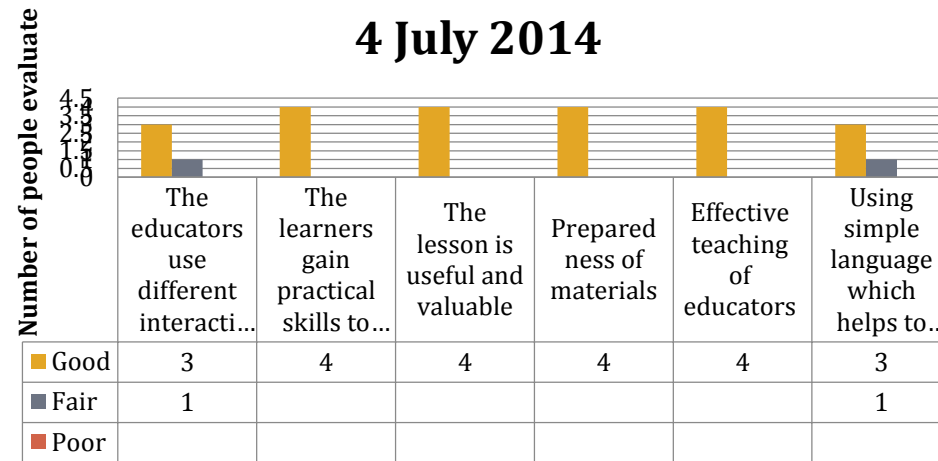
Citizenship 13 June 2014



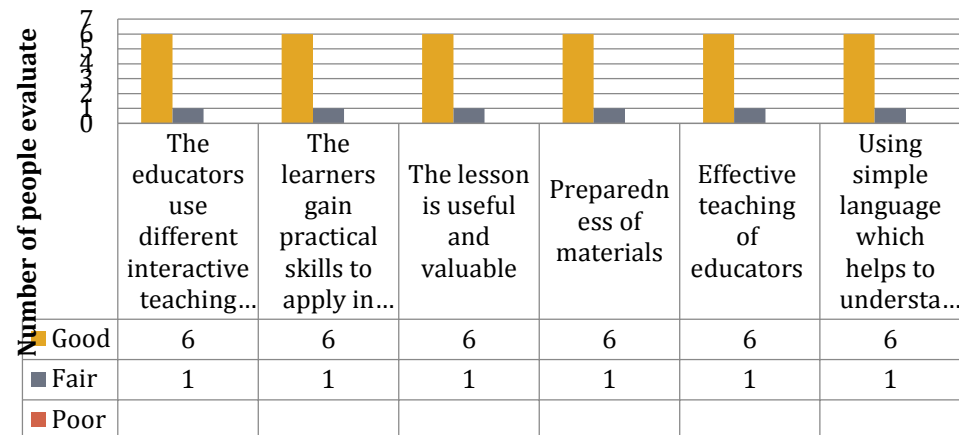
Obtaining indentity card 27 June 2014



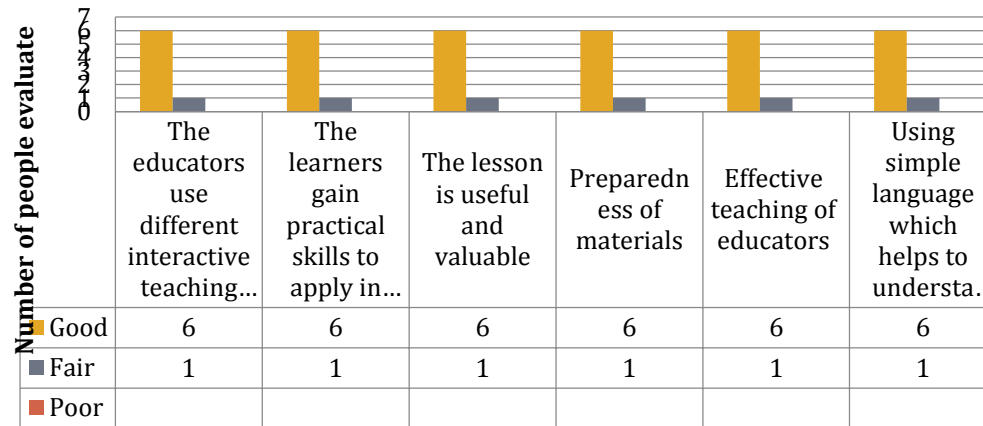
Application due to lost Citizen Identification Card 4 July 2014



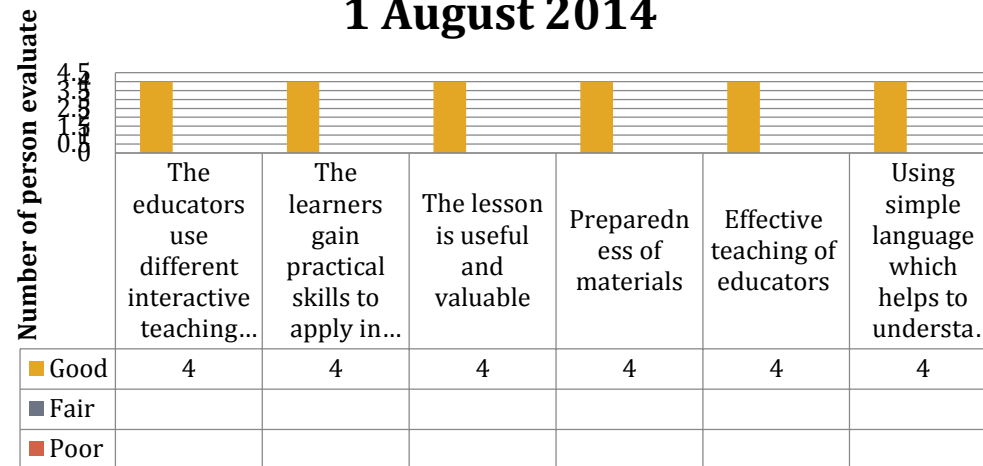
Obtaining birth certificate 18 July 2014



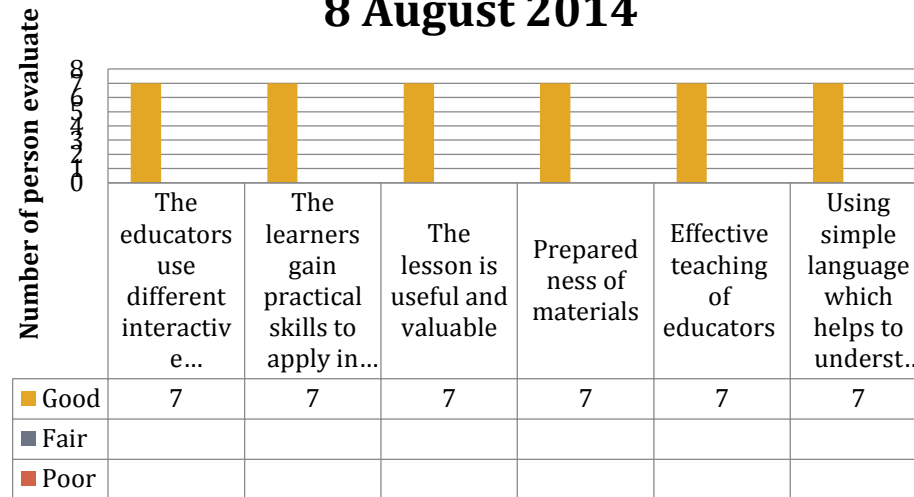
Children Right and Protection 25 July 2014



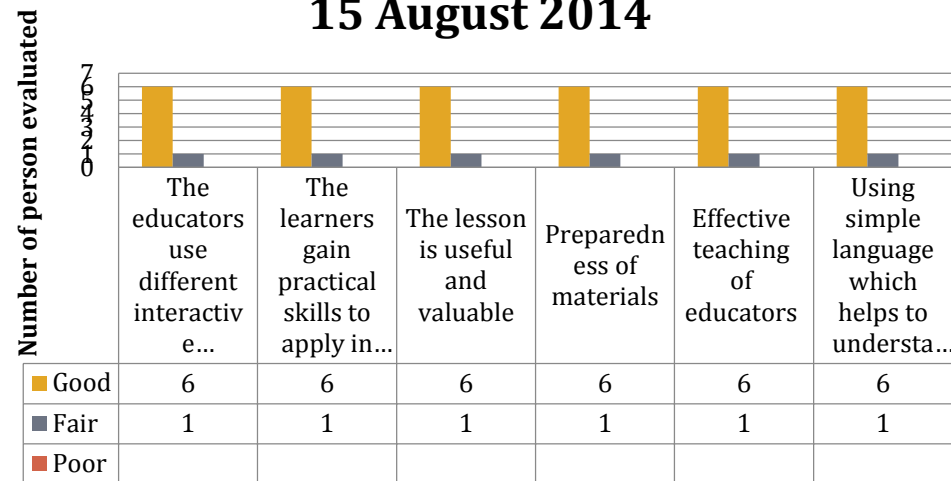
Women Rights 1 August 2014

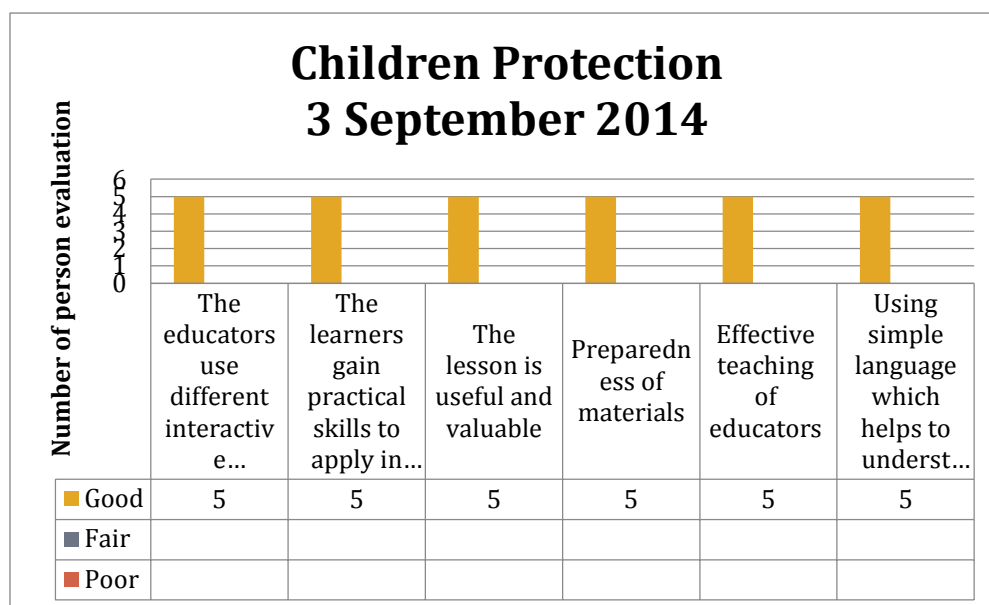
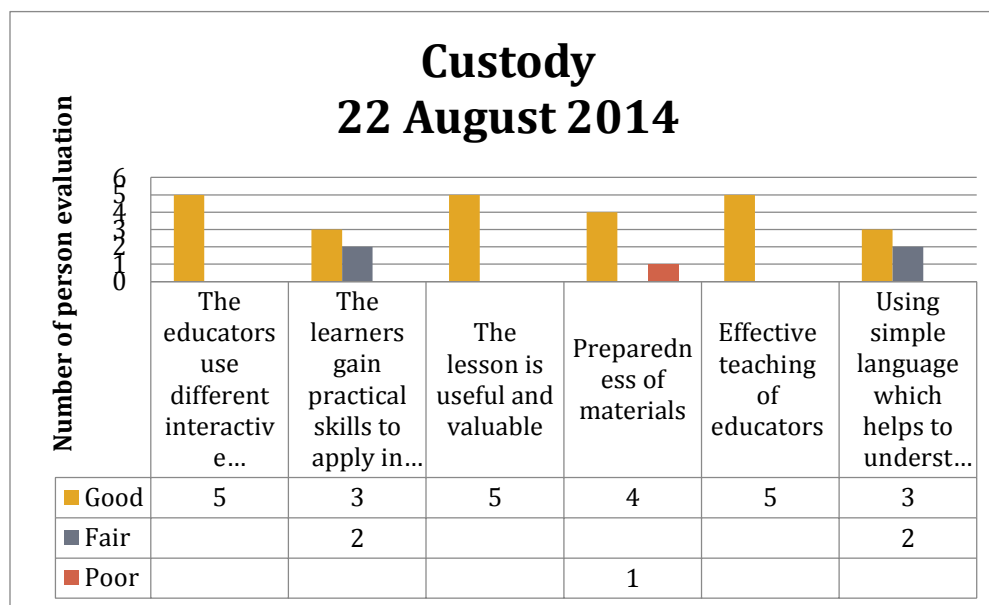


Women rights on labour law 8 August 2014

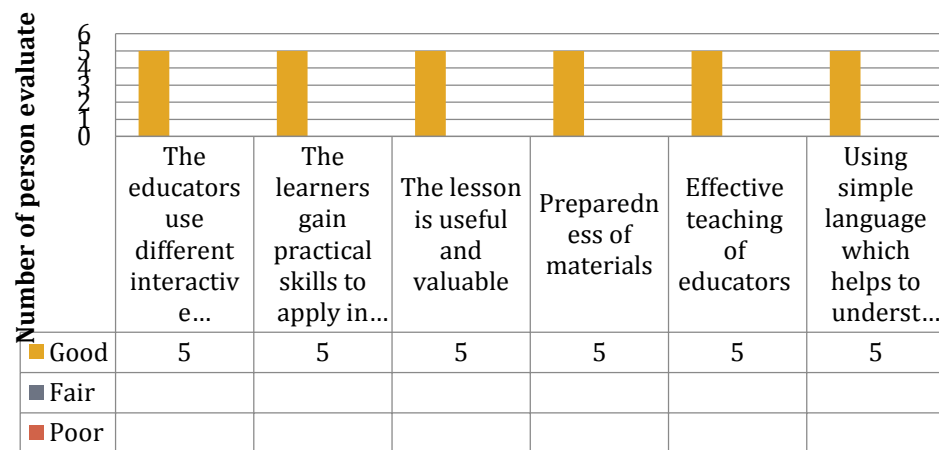


Traffic Law 15 August 2014





Asian 10 September 2014



Asian Economic Communit 17 September 2014

