

## **RESEARCH ARTICLE**

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# Teacher Perceptions of Teaching Students' Thinking Skills and Their Skills in Constructing a HOTS Lesson Plan

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## **A**BSTRACT

This research used a correlational design to describe and test the linear relationship between teachers' perceptions of teaching students' thinking skills and their skills when constructing HOTS lesson plans. The participants were 27 PE teachers undergoing in-service training in the Teacher Professional Education Program. Data on teacher perception variables about teaching thinking skills were collected using the Teachers' Classroom Practices for Teaching Thinking Scale developed by Dilekli & Tezci (2019). Meanwhile, the researcher collected HOTS lesson plan variable data from teacher documentation data, which was then assessed using the HOTS instrument and rubric developed by Suwarma & Apriyani (2022). The two variable data were analyzed descriptively and tested for correlation (Pearson) using the SPSS application. As a result, there is a significant linear correlation between the two research variables. The higher the teacher's perception of teaching students' thinking skills, the better the teacher integrates HOTS into his lesson plan (effective contribution of 15.6%). Schools and the government need to upgrade teachers with information as well as conceptual, procedural and metacognitive experience regarding effective learning, mastery and loyalty to the implementation of the Independent Curriculum so that teachers have the initiative and capacity to design lesson plans based on 21st-century skills credibly and sustainably.

Keywords: Teaching thinking skills, teaching HOTS, HOTS-based physical education, HOTS lesson plan, HOTS lesson

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## Introduction

Public attention has highlighted the study of higher order thinking skills (HOTS) because it has been considered an important determinant of contemporary educational outcomes (Lee & Chae, 2021). HOTS is even believed to be one of the skills students need to face the challenges of the 21stcentury (Hamzah & Wan Yusoff, 2021; Nofrion & Wijayanto, 2018) because it can help students achieve the development of their full potential (Wilson & A/l Narasuman, 2020). Students with HOTS can respond to changes and demands effectively without spending many resource incentives through the thinking processes of analysing, evaluating, and creating (Anderson et al., 2001), critical thinking, and problemsolving (Mitani, 2021). Considering the importance of HOTS, Haryati et al. (2021) underline that professional teachers need to facilitate students in developing these abilities. In short, HOTS is a vital competency attribute in developing a person's life skills (Heffington & Coady, 2023; Sarah et al., 2022).

Teachers need to formulate the direction of critical thinking towards their students' development (including teaching thinking skills) into a lesson plan. Lesson plans are HOTS promotional media that impact student learning processes and outcomes (Ma'muroh et al., 2021). The problem, recorded in research cases, is that PE teachers sometimes need to use lesson plans (Haris & Ghazali, 2016), which results in

students' HOTS integration in learning needing to be more comprehensive and synergistic with educational goals. Apart from that, studies on preparing lesson plans in PE are very limited, one of which was diagnosed in the research of Prastyo & Muhammad (2015). Even though the research results are good (30.24), unfortunately, the lesson plan is not HOTS-based. Meanwhile, other research generalizes that PE teachers are not yet competent in preparing HOTS lesson plans (Cayoto et al., 2022), so the implementation of HOTS in PE is not optimal (Festiawan & Khurrohman, 2021; Suhadi et al., 2023). These problems indicate that PE teachers do not yet

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understand and are serious about preparing student learning devices that accommodate HOTS-based activities.

Responding to the problem of formulating HOTS lessons above, it is vital to investigate the variables that influence teachers in preparing HOTS lesson plans. Research that discusses the contribution of PE teachers' perceptions of teaching students' thinking skills with their skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans is challenging to find. Only a few similar studies on these subjects have been recorded. For example, investigating teacher perceptions and readiness as predictors of the application of critical thinking skills in mathematics learning (Ismail et al., 2019), biology teachers' skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans (Ramdiah et al., 2019) and skills in preparing STEM lesson plans (Altan & Ucuncuoglu, 2019; Sias et al., 2017). These data are concerning because PE can actually contribute to teaching students' HOTS through focus and information gathering (Ennis, 1991), game-based activities (Nopembri et al., 2022), as well as through peer observation and self-assessment activities (Bayu et al., 2022). HOTS-based PE can improve students' skills, fitness and knowledge (Schwager & Labate, 1993).

PE is responsible for realizing Indonesia's educational goals through developing students' physical activity (Blegur et al., 2023). In fact, PE teachers do not optimize this opportunity; instead, they often focus on "getting in" with the physical rather than integrating students' HOTS learning experiences "through" physical activities. These conditions indicate that PE teachers are still guided by traditional value orientation, namely movement (66.3%), followed by fitness (52.1%). Even though these two value orientations are the most traditional (Suherman, 2007, 2010), they have been abandoned by prospective teachers and PE teachers in Europe (Behets, 2001; Capel, 2016; Sisman & Ok, 2012). If we look closely at the previous discussion, the teacher's perception of teaching PE determines his orientation in formulating students' learning experiences. Are teachers only limited to formulating mastery of motor skills alone, or do they also need to formulate other skills that students need so that PE can equip students with a set of skills that help them survive in real life?

Until now, the results of previous studies only question the formulation of HOTS (Suhadi et al., 2022, 2023), the implementation of HOTS (Cayoto et al., 2022; Festiawan & Khurrohman, 2021; Solissa et al., 2023; Williyanto et al., 2022), and HOTS development (Nopembri et al., 2022). It means that no research has investigated the variables that underlie teachers' understanding in formulating, implementing and improving HOTS-based PE as an effort to support the implementation of quality PE for students in the 21<sup>st</sup>-century. Finally, this research aims to describe and correlate teachers'

perceptions of teaching students' thinking skills with their skills in constructing HOTS lesson plans in PE.

## **M**ETHOD

## **Research Design and Procedure**

This research used a correlational design. According to Curtis et al. (2016), correlational research is used to determine prevalence and relationships between variables and to predict events, so this research tests the significance of the linear relationship between teacher perception variables teaching thinking skills with the skill variable constructing HOTS lesson plans. The researchers first provided both research instruments to measure teacher perceptions about teaching thinking skills and assess HOTS lesson plans. After that, the Teachers' Classroom Practices for Teaching Thinking Scale was distributed using a Google form to participants so that they responded to 21 statements. At the same time, the researcher collected the lesson plan documents that the participants had prepared to assess HOTS indicators, both in the formulation of goals and objectives, the use of activities and media, as well as determining the assessment using the rubric developed by Suwarma & Apriyani (2022). The two research variable data were tabulated in an Excel document and then analyzed descriptively using the Pearson correlational.

# **Participants**

The participants involved were 27 PE teachers attending in-service training at the Teacher Professional Education Program, Unversitas Pattimura, Ambon, Maluku, Indonesia (see Table 1). Participants were determined using a purposive sampling technique, where they were willing to voluntarily and actively participate during the research process.

 Table 1: Demografi partisipan

Demographic aspec	ts	Descrip	tion
f		%	
Gender	Male	23	85.2
Gender	Female	4	14.8
	25-29	2	7.4
A 000	30-34	8	29.6
Age	35-39	11	40.7
	40-44	6	22.2
Employment	Civil servant	21	77.8
status	Non-civil servant	6	22.2
Level of education	Senior high school	1	3.7
Level of education	Bachelor	26	96.3
	0-4 years	3	11.1
The assignment	5-9 years	11	40.7
period	10-14 years	9	33.3
	15-19 years	4	14.8

		Description	
Demographic aspects f		%	
	Elementary	4	14.8
Assignment level	Junior high school	7	25.9
	Senior high school	16	59.3

#### Instrument

Data on teachers' thoughts/perceptions about teaching thinking skills were collected using the Teachers' Classroom Practices for Teaching Thinking Scale developed by Dilekli & Tezci (2015) using the original Turkish language with an alpha coefficient of 0.84. Four years later, Dilekli & Tezci (2019) again adapted the Teachers' Classroom Practices for Teaching Thinking Scale into English with an alpha coefficient of 0.90. This instrument was developed using four indicators spread into 21 positive statements, namely Effectiveness of teaching thinking (1-9), Loyalty to curriculum (10-14), Teacher dependence (15-18), and Encouraging thinking (19-21). Participants were allowed to express their subjective feelings or views on a five-point Likert scale (always-never). Assessment of HOTS lesson plan construction products adopts instruments and rubrics developed by Suwarma & Apriyani, (2022). These instruments and rubrics used five HOTS lesson plan indicators, including 1) Goal, 2) Objectives, 3) Activities, 4) Media, and 5) Assessment. Each indicator was given a value response, including advanced (3), intermediate (2), or emerging (1).

## **Data Analysis**

Research data were collected from questionnaires and HOTS lesson plan products were analyzed descriptively using the Pearson test. Descriptive analysis was used to find the value of frequency, percentage, mean, and standard deviation of the two research variables. Furthermore, to fulfill the Pearson test assumption test, the research data passed the normality and linearity tests. The Pearson test concluded that if the significance value is less than 0.05, there is a correlation between teachers' perceptions of teaching thinking skills and their skills in constructing HOTS lesson plans, and vice versa.

# **FINDINGS**

The descriptive analysis shows the distribution of participants' responses to the teacher's perception variable questionnaire about teaching thinking skills. In detail, of the five scale answers, the highest score is in the Often (273), Always (130), Sometimes (111), and Rarely (37) options, and the lowest is in the Never (16) option. Whereas if it is based on indicators, the mean score of Effectiveness of teaching thinking is  $3.5\pm0.9$ , Loyalty to curriculum is  $4.2\pm0.8$ , Teacher dependence is  $4.3\pm0.8$ , and Encouraging thinking is  $3.5\pm1.1$ . The teacher's perception variable score about teaching thinking skills is not <63 and <98 (Table 2).

Table 2: Description of teacher perceptions about teaching thinking skills

			Frequency				
No	Statement	Nev	Rar	Som	Oft	Alw	$M\pm SD$
1	I arrange activities for students to make them find what real problem or problems of a story or an event are.	0	1	8	16	2	3.7 <u>±</u> 0.7
2	I get tables created as similarities and differences for two different events even if it takes time.	0	5	13	9	0	3.2 <u>+</u> 0.7
3	I want students to classify same notions or objects according to different criteria. (e.g., classifying same shapes according to their vertices, colours or sizes).	0	2	8	15	2	3.6 <u>+</u> 0.7
4	I prefer issues which are current and discussed in society as topics of composition.	1	4	5	14	3	3.5 <u>+</u> 1.0
5	I give home works to students which make them prepare speeches/presentations for the purpose of convincing another person.	3	2	14	7	1	3.0 <u>±</u> 1.0
6	I give home works to students which make them prepare speeches/presentations for the purpose of convincing another person.	0	0	0	15	12	4.4 <u>+</u> 0.5
7	I perform studies for making the whole event to be comprehended rather than details such as meronymies.	2	0	12	11	2	3.4 <u>+</u> 0.9
8	I want to students to analyze the given solution of a problem from a critical viewpoint.	1	1	5	16	4	3.8 <u>+</u> 0.9
9	I arrange activities to encourage to use some objects in unusual ways.	3	1	11	12	0	3.2 <u>+</u> 1.0

			Frequency				
No	Statement	Nev	Rar	Som	Oft	Alw	M + SD
10	Reaching general aims of the curriculum is my main object.	0	1	3	10	13	4.3 <u>+</u> 0.8
11	As a teacher, to be more systematic, primarily I prefer abiding by the course books.	0	1	4	15	7	4.0 <u>+</u> 0.8
12	Completing the curriculum ineducation period is the most important thing to me.	0	1	3	12	11	4.2 <u>+</u> 0.8
13	Abiding by educational attainments during lesson is my primary priority.	0	0	1	16	10	4.3 <u>+</u> 0.6
14	Because knowledge is the most important point for me, during the classroom activities I mainly care attainments of knowledge.	0	2	4	15	6	3.9 <u>±</u> 0.8
15	I give students most of the necessary information myself, during the class.	1	1	1	12	12	4.2 <u>±</u> 1.0
16	During classroom activities, I firstly explain the results of an event or a phenomenon.	0	0	2	17	8	4.2 <u>+</u> 0.6
17	When I give research homework, I remark trustworthy sources and want students to use them.	0	4	1	12	10	4.0 <u>+</u> 1.0
18	I answer the questions of students accurately and clearly.	0	0	0	9	18	4.7 <u>+</u> 0.5
19	I want students to make predictions even though they have no idea/assumptions.	1	3	9	14	0	3.3 <u>+</u> 0.8
20	Even if they are not true, I mind/allow expressing different ideas.	4	7	5	10	1	2.9 <u>+</u> 1.2
21	Having performed a study, I give activities to students including wh-questions.	0	1	2	16	8	4.2 <u>+</u> 0.7

Furthermore, the descriptive analysis of the teacher's skill variable in constructing the HOTS lesson plan shows the highest scores for the distribution of assessment results, namely Goals (59), 2) Objectives (55), Activities (63), Media (72), and Assessment (58), so that the highest score is on the Media indicator because the teacher optimizes using visual-auditory technology such as pictures, videos, and others to support students' HOTS development concepts. Whereas when using the mean score, the highest scores are in the Media indicator  $(2.7\pm0.5)$ , Activities  $(2.3\pm0.7)$ , Goals  $(2.2\pm0.7)$ , Assessment  $(2.1\pm0.7)$ , and finally, Objectives  $(2.0\pm0.6)$ . The teacher's skill variable score in constructing the HOTS lesson plan is 6-15 (Table 3).

Normality and linearity tests are carried out to fulfill the Pearson correlation test requirements. The results of the Shapiro-Wilk normality test proved that both data were normally distributed (<0.05); namely, the significance of the teacher's perception variable teaching students' thinking skills was 0.851, and the HOTS lesson plan constructing skills variable was 0.296. Meanwhile, the linearity test results also prove a relationship between the two variables because the significance deviation from the linearity value is more significant than 0.05 (0.655<0.05).

The Pearson tester proved a significant linear correlation between the two research variables, where the significant

**Table 3:** Description of the teacher's skills in constructing a HOTS lesson plan

			Freque	псу	
No	Indicator	Em	Int	Adv	M+SD
1	Goal (the verb that write in goals consist of HOTS keyword such as analysing, evaluate; and creating)	5	12	10	2.2+0.7
2	Objectives (all 'Audience, Behavior, Condition and Degree' aspect wrote in Objectives, and 'Behavior' aspect show HOTS keywords)	4	18	5	2.0+0.6
3	Activities (the teacher stimulates a lot of questions to encourage students' original thoughts, such as question to identify, analyse, clarify, create ideas and solution, and develop argumentation)	3	12	12	2.3+0.7
4	Media (media represent concept)	0	9	18	2.7+0.5
5	Assessment (the problems consider HOTS key word such as analysing; evaluate; and creating).	5	13	9	2.1+0.7

Table 4: Pearson analysis

	Skills in constructing HOTS lesson plans					
Teaches students thinking skills	Goal	Object.	Activities	Media	Assess.	Total
Effectiveness of teaching thinking	-0.003	0.079	0.403*	0.398*	0.209	0.278
Loyalty to curriculum	0.233*	0.225	0.374	0.339	0.315	0.402*
Teacher dependence	0.007	0.066	0.360	0.320	0.421*	0.316
Encouraging thinking	-0.152	-0.054	0.226	0.208	0.145	0.091
Total	0.048*	0.128	0.496**	0.462*	0.362	0.395*

<sup>\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

value was less than 0.05 (0.042). Therefore, the higher the teacher's perception of teaching students' thinking skills, the better the teacher's skills in constructing HOTS-based PE lesson plans (Table 4).

To find the coefficient of determination of the variable (R Square), the Model Summary and Parameter Estimates curve (see Figure 1) shows three models (Linear, Quadratic, and S) in analyzing data. As a result, the Linear model provides an effective contribution of 15.6% (F = 4.614; Sig. 0.042), using the Quadratic model provides an effective contribution of 16.1% (F = 2.295; Sig. 0.122), and the S model provides an effective contribution of 12.2% (F = 3.463; Sig. 0.075) (Figure 5).

## **Discussion**

This research found that teachers have the perception of teaching students good thinking skills and their skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans. However, teachers need to improve the "Effectiveness of teaching thinking" and "Encouraging thinking" indicators. Meanwhile, for skills in preparing lesson plans, teachers need ongoing assistance

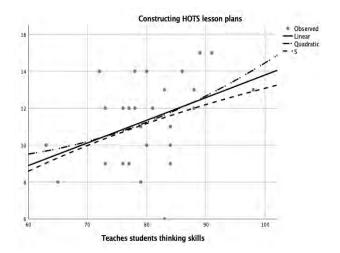


Fig. 1: Summary model curves and parameter estimates

in formulating HOTS-based "Objective" and "Assessment" indicators. Hypothesis testing also proves a significant positive correlation between the two research variables (r = 0.395; Sig. = 0.042), with the effective contribution of teachers' perceptions of teaching students' thinking skills to HOTS lesson plan construction skills of 15.6%.

If the research results are reported based on indicators of skills in teaching thinking skills, then the Loyalty to curriculum indicator has the strongest correlation with PE teachers' skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans (r = 0.402), followed by the Teacher dependence indicator (r = 0.316), the Effectiveness of teaching indicator thinking (r = 0.278), and finally the Encouraging thinking indicator (r = 0.091)(see Table 4). It means that the teacher's orientation in teaching students' thinking skills in preparing lesson plans is determined by the mandate of the national education curriculum (including the implementation of HOTS-based learning). For example, the item "Reaching general aims of the curriculum is my main object," and the item "Abiding by educational attainments during lessons is my primary priority" got an average teacher response of 4.3. At least the two items above can profile readers regarding how teachers provide a high focus on achieving curriculum goals. Thus, this study confirms the findings of Chen et al. (2017), who previously stated that the impact of teacher value orientation may be mediated by the impact of the curriculum so that a welldesigned PE curriculum can direct teachers to focus value orientation following national curriculum mandates (for example integrating HOTS-based learning).

The Pearson intercorrelation results also confirm that the Effectiveness of teaching thinking indicator correlates most strongly with the Activities indicator (r=0.403) and the Media indicator (r=0.398). The Loyalty to curriculum indicator strongly correlates with the Goal (r=0.233) and Objectives indicators (r=0.225). The Teacher dependence indicator is strongly associated with the Assessment indicator (r=0.421). Meanwhile, the Encouraging thinking indicator is the weakest contribution to the five indicators for preparing

<sup>\*\*.</sup> Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

the HOTS lesson plan. Thus, for the government that wants to improve teachers' abilities in preparing HOTS lesson plans, it is necessary to strengthen teachers' capacity to understand the Independent Curriculum's objectives so that they can formulate HOTS goals and objectives correctly. Increase teachers' understanding and skills about various current learning models so that they are able to develop activities and use HOTS-based learning media. Lastly, they are increasing teachers' knowledge and skills about teacher dependence to implement credible HOTS assessments.

This research provides the latest views on the development of science in PE regarding the factors that motivate teachers when preparing HOTS lesson plans. Previous research discusses teachers' perceptions of teacher readiness or unpreparedness in implementing HOTS (Altan & Ucuncuoglu, 2019; Festiawan & Khurrohman, 2021; Ismail et al., 2019; Ramdiah et al., 2019; Sias et al., 2017). The development of teachers' professional competence is not limited to their teaching skills (Padillo et al., 2021), but includes how teachers formulate quality and adapted lesson plans to 21st-century skills (HOTS) (Astutik & Roesminingsih, 2021; Faridah et al., 2021; Haryati et al., 2021). When teachers construct HOTS lesson plans, they need information, knowledge, and skills about HOTS itself (Hashim et al., 2022) so that they can be easily internalized when formulating Goals, Objectives, Activities, Media, and Assessment, for example, planning for students to find problems from data or demonstrations, presenting data or information and then asking students to look for similarities and differences, or facilitating students to classify the same object with different criteria.

HOTS is one of the segments highlighted in producing quality human capital (Misrom et al., 2020), such as decisionmaking (Pacheco-Montoya & Murphy-Graham, 2022). Blegur et al., (2021) once reported that individuals with HOTS attributes are more selective in managing information and independent in developing learning strategies to achieve goals. The current flow of information tends to overlap and be uncontrolled, so students need analytical and critical thinking to decide their future, and teachers are responsible for facilitating the demands of these students' needs. Teachers must encourage student involvement in the experience of analyzing the solution to a problem from a critical perspective and stimulate students to use objects in unusual ways. These "unusual" views help teachers project their HOTS lessons. It means that to construct a HOTS lesson plan, teachers must have a comprehensive perspective on teaching HOTS to their students during class.

Research on preparing teacher lesson plans has received less attention in measuring relevant competencies (König et al., 2021), so some teachers have not optimally integrated HOTS into their learning (Hemas et al., 2021; Suwarma & Apriyani, 2022). The proof is that if the reader traces the research topic regarding the development of HOTS PE lesson plans in Indonesia, it is still limited to the study of Cayoto et al. (2022). Generally, research only reports analysis of the preparation, implementation, and improvement of students' HOTS in PE (Bayu et al., 2022; Dewanti et al., 2021; Festiawan & Khurrohman, 2021; Nopembri et al., 2022; Suhadi et al., 2022, 2023; Waffak et al., 2022). It means that they only question the values, implementation, and improvement of HOTS-based learning but ignore what is behind teachers integrating HOTS in formulating their lesson plans. Then the question is, how can HOTS activities be internalized and even increased if the teacher's perception of HOTS itself is not yet comprehensive?

In other subjects, there are several differences in teacher perceptions when implementing HOTS. For example, teachers are of the view that HOTS only applies to gifted students (Tanudjaya & Doorman, 2020), students have limited basic knowledge, different approaches and access to material, and limited curriculum development and time for developing HOTS for students (Acharya, 2021). It was even found that teachers explained their limitations due to the preparation of very detailed lesson plans (Capel et al., 2019). These constraints imply that teachers' knowledge in preparing HOTS lesson plans must be more comprehensive, from conceptual to methodological, to accommodate students' various basic potential backgrounds with a more operational, participatory, and holistic HOTS learning model. In Indonesia, HOTS has become a government recommendation in the Independent Curriculum, so teachers must follow it in formulating and implementing their learning.

Mastery of subject discipline is crucial for a PE teacher (Mesias, 2022), so teachers' knowledge of the HOTS concept and how to apply strategies is important when they prepare their lesson plans. At least teachers know the verbs for preparing HOTS, formulating HOTS-based learning behavior, ensuring the implementation of learning models that accommodate HOTS characteristics, and optimizing credible media and instruments in assessing student HOTS. Several practical models have been developed to improve teachers' skills in formulating HOTS lesson plans. For example, the CODE-PLAN ("co" cognitive" de" mands of lesson "planning" model) (König et al., 2021), integrating the HOTS-Link mobile learning application (Susantini et al., 2022) or using research empirical from Derri et al. (2014). These three models have been proven to increase teacher competence in formulating HOTS lesson plans by setting appropriate instructional goals and targets in planning and evaluating student learning experiences. Apart from that, according to Nofrion & Wijayanto (2018), teachers must also integrate more questions/activities/tasks/problems at a high cognitive level (analyzing, evaluating, and creating) in each lesson.

The practical application of the results of this research teaches teachers to reflect on themselves to analyze conceptual weaknesses in implementing HOTS to improve the learning process (Aprilya & Saifuddin, 2021). Encouraging the HOTS learning experience is to reduce the "authority" of the teacher in the classroom as the primary learning source. Teachers must have the courage to provide opportunities for students to express various views in unusual ways. For example, allowing students to predict an idea/assumption, expressing opinions and/or demonstrations even though they are different from their peers and/or teachers, and convincing others of the ideas or demonstrations they have developed. These processes are not instantaneous for teachers because they are against general "routines," but Blegur et al. (2017) once underlined that as competent individuals, teachers are responsible for making effective and efficient learning approaches, methods and strategies with expertise, personality, and social relationships to explore participants' potential to survive in real life.

## Conclusion

This study provides empirical evidence that teachers' perceptions of teaching students' thinking skills have a linear and significant correlation with their skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans. Schools and the government need to upgrade teachers with information and data. Also, factual, conceptual, procedural, and metacognitive experiences regarding the implementation of effective learning, mastering, and loyal to the implementation of the Independent Curriculum, having the initiative and capacity to motivate, moderate, clarify and evaluate students' learning experiences on an ongoing basis based on 21st-century skills. Finally, the most important thing is that the teacher prepares various "learning stages" so that students channel their potential and critical thoughts, even those that are different from the usual. This basic capital helps teachers promote HOTS-based student learning experiences when preparing their lesson plans while simultaneously stimulating quality student self-actualization experiences in PE.

# LIMITATION

Participants are teachers participating in the in-service training program, so their population is limited. They have received various intervention materials and skills about HOTS learning (concept and implementation) while participating in the training program. Further research needs to conduct a comparative study with regular teachers (non-in-service

training) to find similarities and differences between teachers' perceptions of fostering students' thinking skills and their skills in preparing HOTS lesson plans. Investigation of HOTS lesson plan preparation skills is also still essential for certified teachers, given that the Indonesian government pays them a certain amount of budget. Therefore, PE teachers must guarantee their commitment and consistency in preparing and implementing high-quality learning in support of Indonesia's national education goals agenda.

# SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE STUDIES

Further research prospects need to compare the perceptions and teaching practices of young teachers and senior teachers in preparing HOTS lesson plans, considering the many government programs to support the continuous development of teacher competence. Second, it is necessary to reveal differences in teachers' abilities in preparing HOTS lesson plans based on gender with the broader population. Third, follow up on the research results by examining strategies for teaching thinking skills in preparing lesson plans with teacher skills in teaching HOTS to students to look for conceptual and contextual consistency of HOTS orientation in PE. Fourth, adopt action research to test the effectiveness of implementing the HOTS lesson plan on the teaching performance of teachers and HOTS students. Finally, some development research is needed to innovate learning models that promote students' HOTS in PE, considering the characteristics of physical activity-based learning and how teachers can improvise students' HOTS-based learning experiences.

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