

Peer assessment of group work

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Overview

- Peer assessment
- Benefits as a learning/assessment tool
- Peer assessment of group work
- Student data

Peer assessment

- Peer – ‘someone of the same social standing’
(Falchikov 2001)
- Peer assessment – formative or summative feedback
- Assessment of product or process?
- PROCESS is better indicator of group collaborations
- Peer assessment can be one to one or one to many
– such as group work

Benefits (students)

- Supports:
 - Team working
 - Communication skills
 - Shared workloads
 - Other transferable skills...
- Promotes:
 - Learning
 - Social interaction
 - Critical thinking

Benefits (staff)

- Promotes student centred learning (autonomous learners)
- Applications across any discipline
- Supports large class sizes
- Save staff time (both support and marking)
- Additional assessment tool of choice

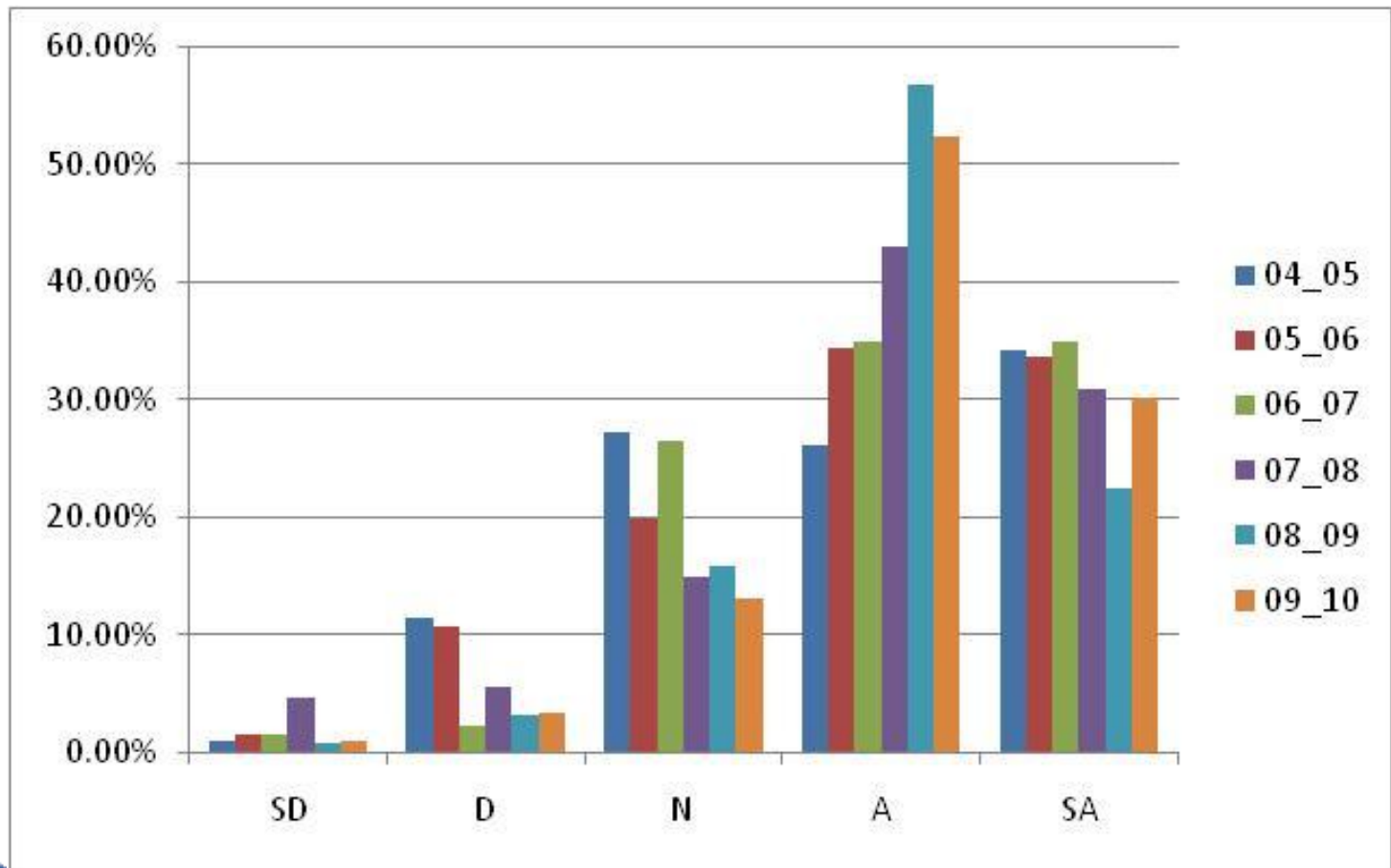
Peer assessment of group work

- Students placed in groups
- Given a topic to research (e.g. biofuels, ageing)
- Have to produce a short report and presentation
- Supported by eBridge – private group areas (but can be face to face if preferred)
- Peer assess collaboration
- Marks submitted anonymously using WebPA peer assessment software

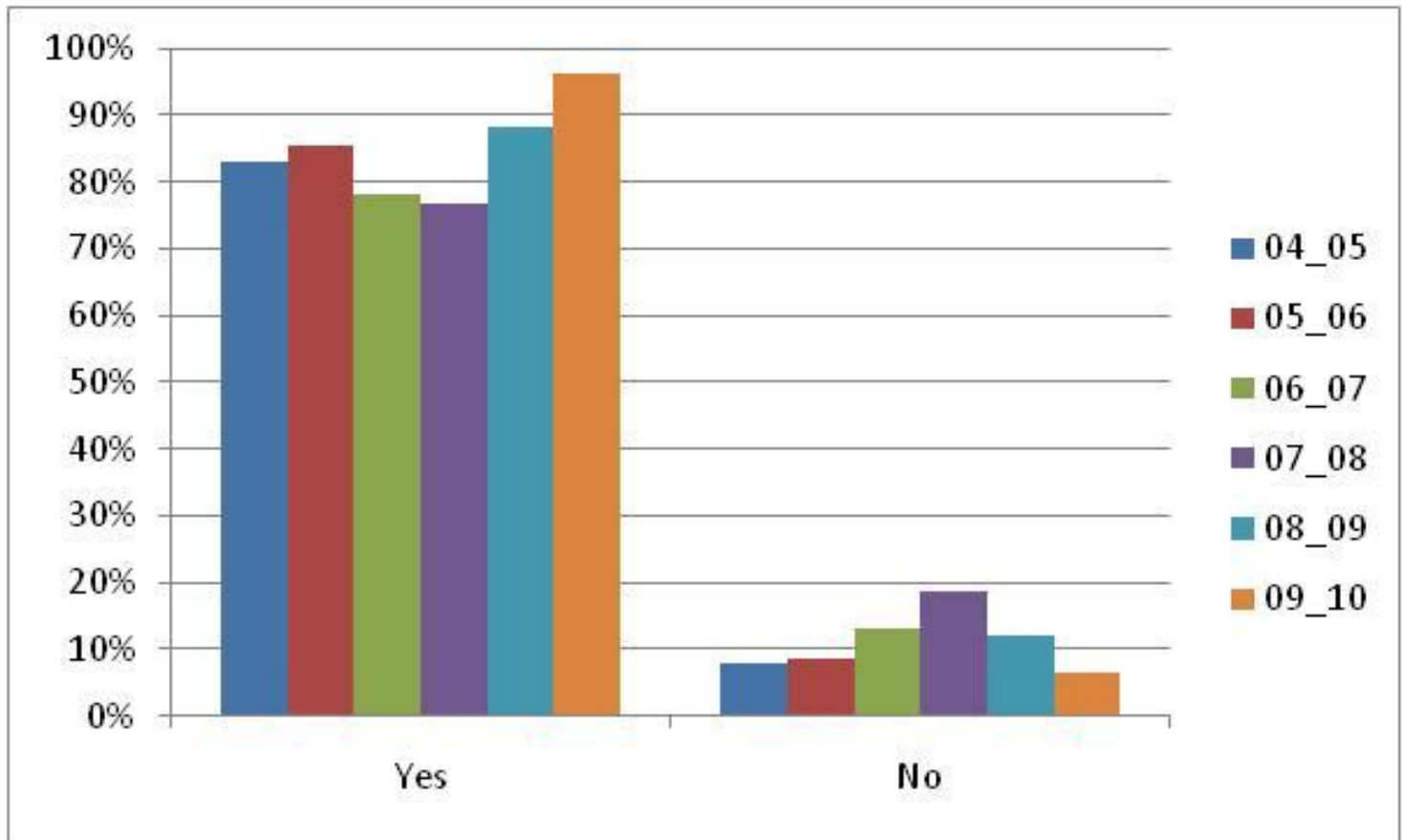
Student data

- The following data is indicative of some student responses to peer learning and assessment from the same class across several years.
- Due to different data collection approaches, year on year comparisons are not always perfectly identical but are for illustrative purposes only.

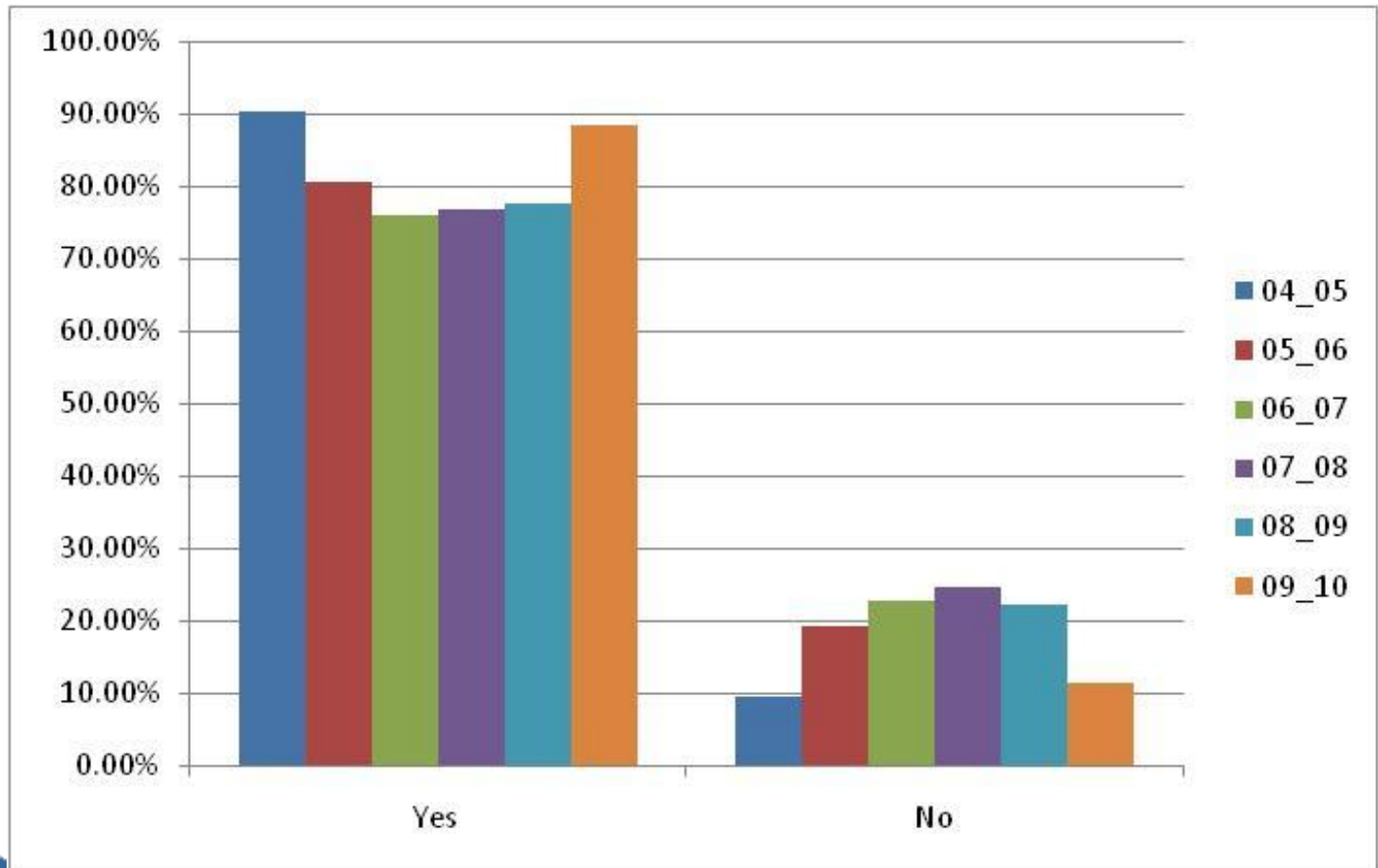
Confidence working/learning online



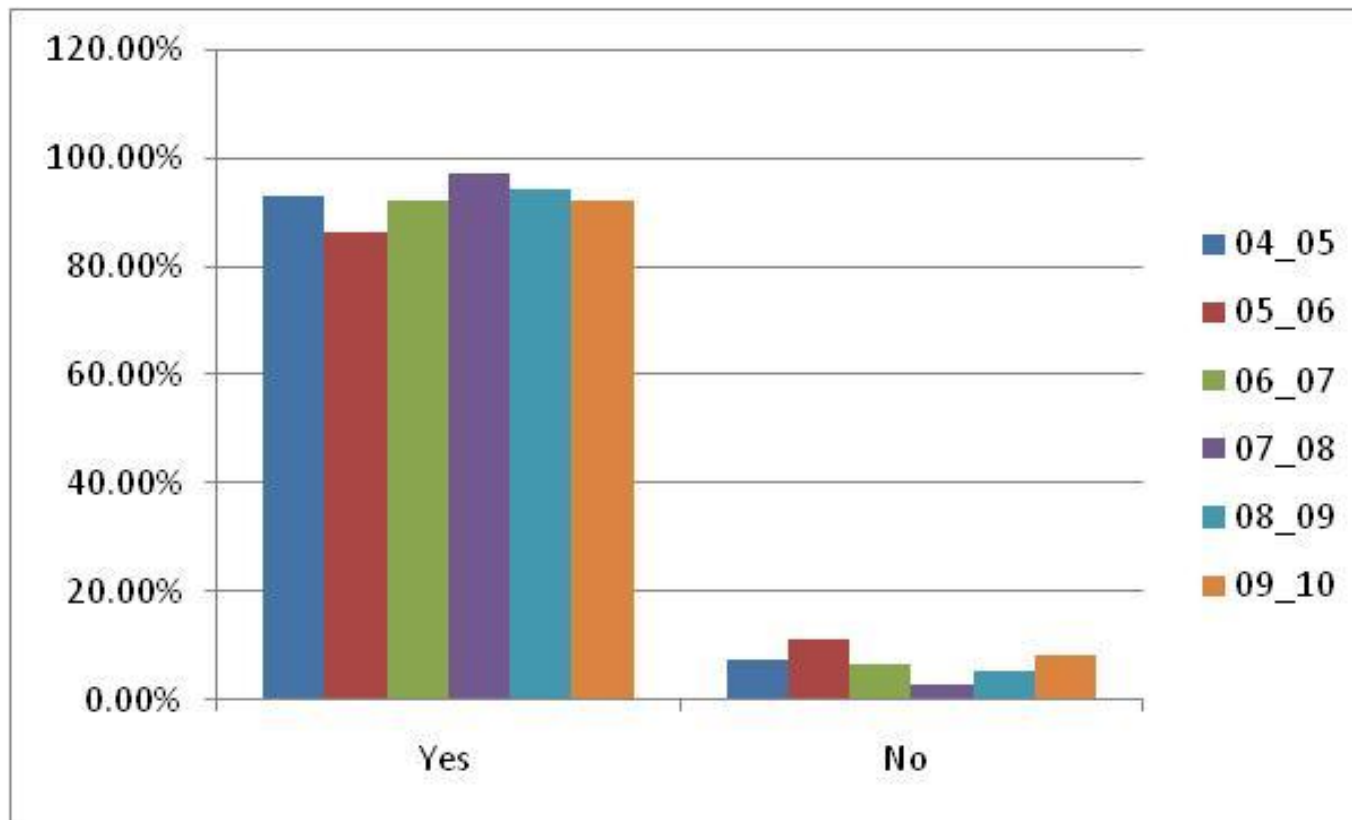
Did you enjoy working in groups (prior)



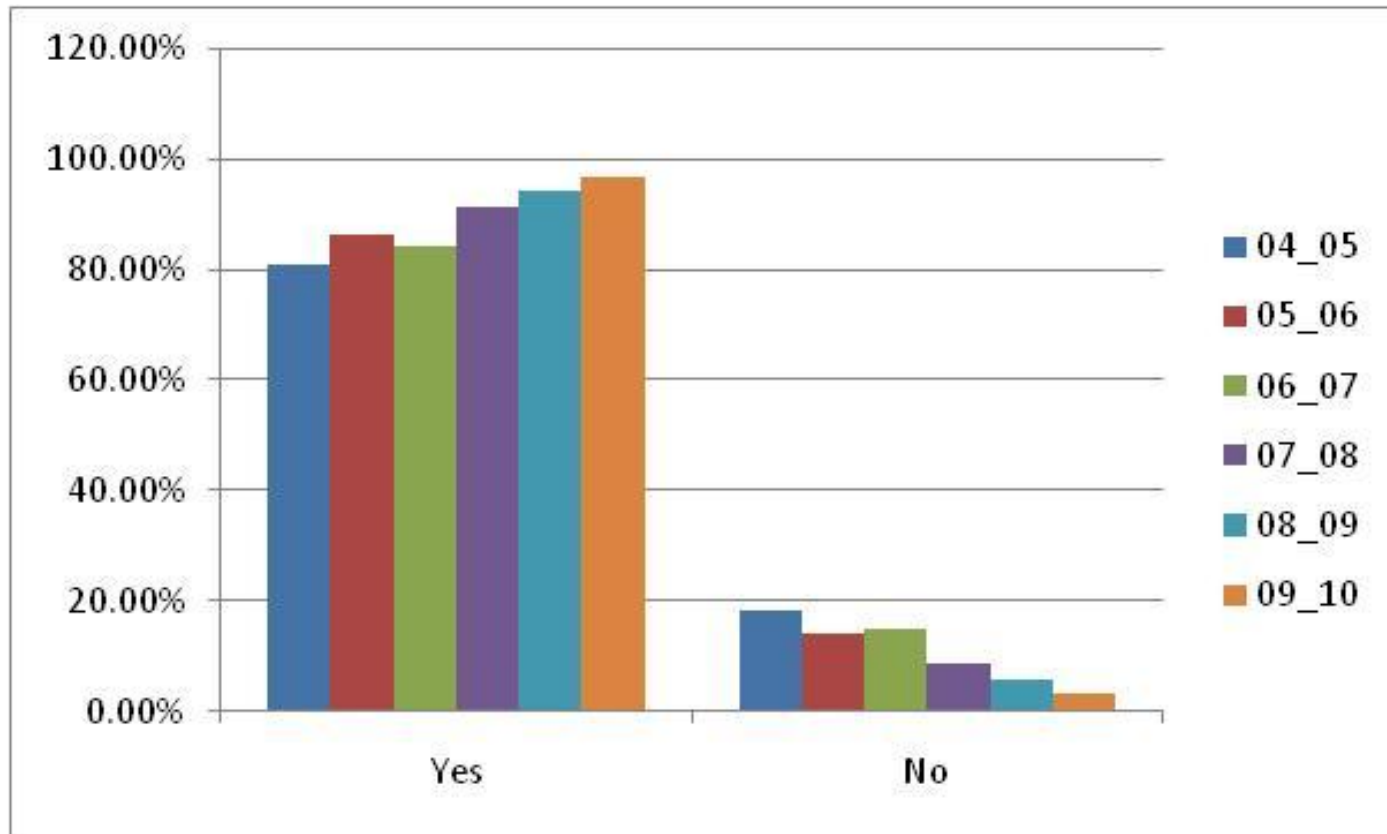
Did you enjoy working in groups (post)



Was the (peer) marking scheme easy to understand?



Was the marking scheme fair?



Comments

Dislikes

“Nothing really. It went well, but a lot depends on the individuals' in each group putting equal amounts of effort into the work”

(student 09/10)

Likes

“I met new people and had fun completing the task in hand with those people”

(student 09/10)

Soundbites...

“the fact that i could submit files and discuss aspects of the work whilst still in my pyjamas, at three in the morning.”

“Some times files were added at two or three am but they were their ready for anyone to look at the early the next morning.”

Summary

- Peer assessment is a valuable assessment tool
- Provides a range of benefits for group working
- Can be used for any discipline/class size
- Students enjoy and engage with the process