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Reading the Representation: Using Assessment to Understand Student Knowledge

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ART LIBRARIES SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

38th Annual Conference Boston, MA | April 23-26, 2010

Session/Meeting Name: Reading the Representation: Using Assessment to Understand Student Knowledge

Date, Time: April 25, 2010, 3:30 pm – 4 pm

Moderators: Rebecca Feind

Recorder:

Reading the Representation: Using Assessment to Understand Student Knowledge

Now that competencies for information literacy are widely communicated in higher education, including in Art and Design, assessing student learning of the standards is the next step in fully incorporating information literacy in the discipline. A recent investigation at San Jose State University of students' ability to analyze citations illustrates that students need practice in identifying types of sources, and that this practice can be effectively delivered through brief active learning activities.

Purpose of the investigation:

The locally developed online assessment tool (Web Based Information Literacy Assessment Tool) was initially created to measure the progress of student learning resulting from in-person instruction sessions provided for junior level writing courses, 100W. Across all majors at SJSU, this class is a graduation requirement and often the course in the major that is the site for subject specific library instruction.

Questions at the reference desk and consultations provided anecdotal evidence that students often did not know what citations represented. Therefore, a question on citation identification and an in-class activity were created to specifically address this concept.

The data displayed on the poster represents the pre and post assessment scores for three sections of Art 100W. This data was gathered in Spring 2009. Results from the question (Question One) testing knowledge of citation identification indicate that the in-class activity resulted in a greater number of students being able to correctly identify the type of source represented in a citation.

Current status of the investigation:

The same six question pre- and post-assessment was administered to four sections of Art 100W in Spring 2010. The in-class activity on citation identification was expanded to include practice with identifying items from a bibliography specific to the individual class' topic, i.e. graphic novels, and the Arts and Crafts Movement. In Spring 2010, students again scored higher on the post test of Question One than the pre test. Preliminary analysis of the overall data indicates that students score higher on questions that test their knowledge of resources and services but lower on questions that test their knowledge of how to select a source or refine a search strategy.

Future of the investigation:

One of the drawbacks to the current implementation is that the students who complete the pre test do not always complete the post test, so administration of the test needs to be reconsidered. The results of the study also indicate that students need additional practice over the course of a semester in developing their skills in selecting databases and creating effective searches. The data will be used in conjunction with faculty in the School of Art and Design to identify opportunities across the curriculum for introduction and repetition of information literacy concepts.

Presenter

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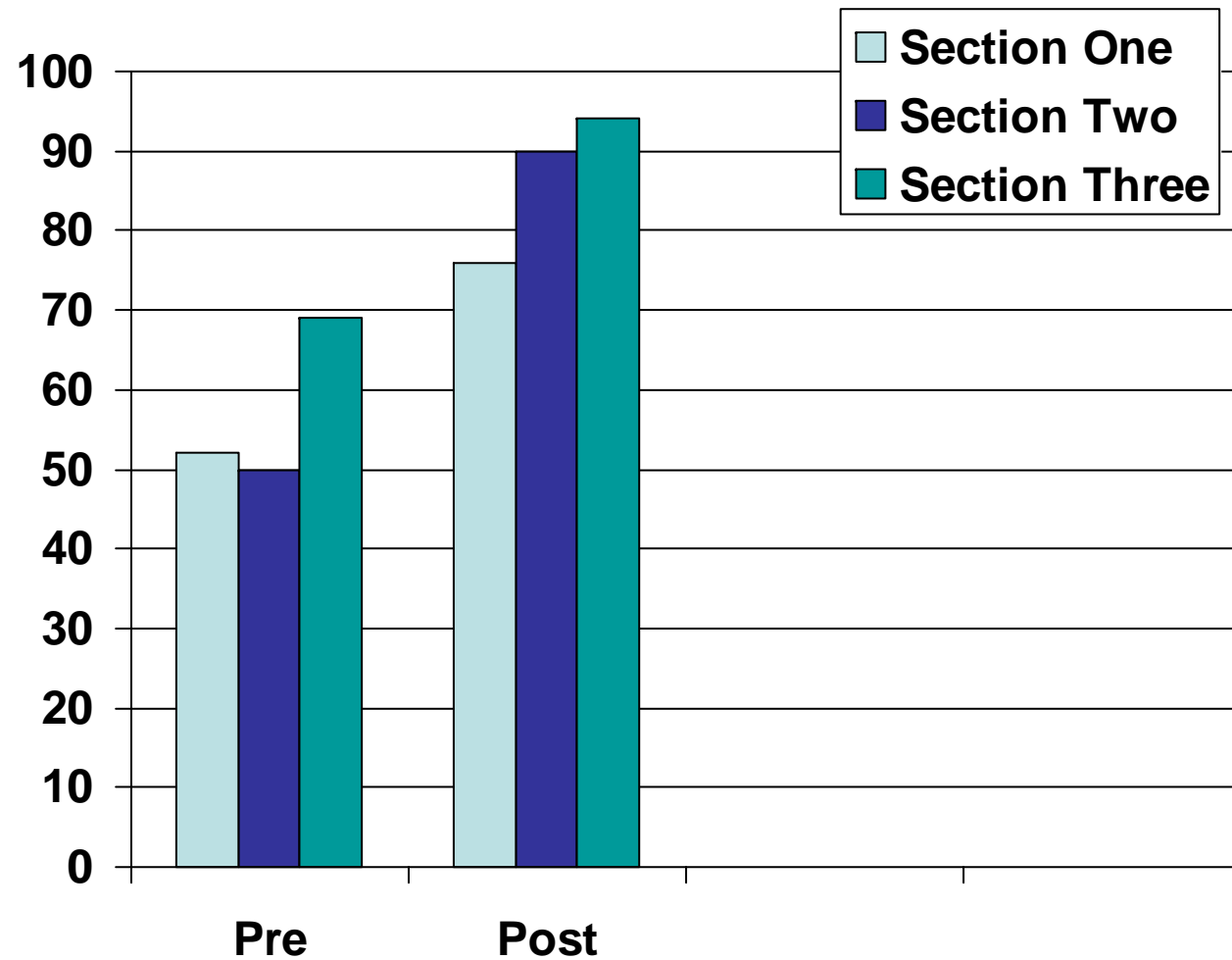
Question One

- What does the following citation represent:

Erzen, J. N. (2007). *Islamic aesthetics: An alternative way to knowledge*. *Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 65(1), 69-75.

- Book review
- Journal article
- Literature review
- Periodical
- Not Sure

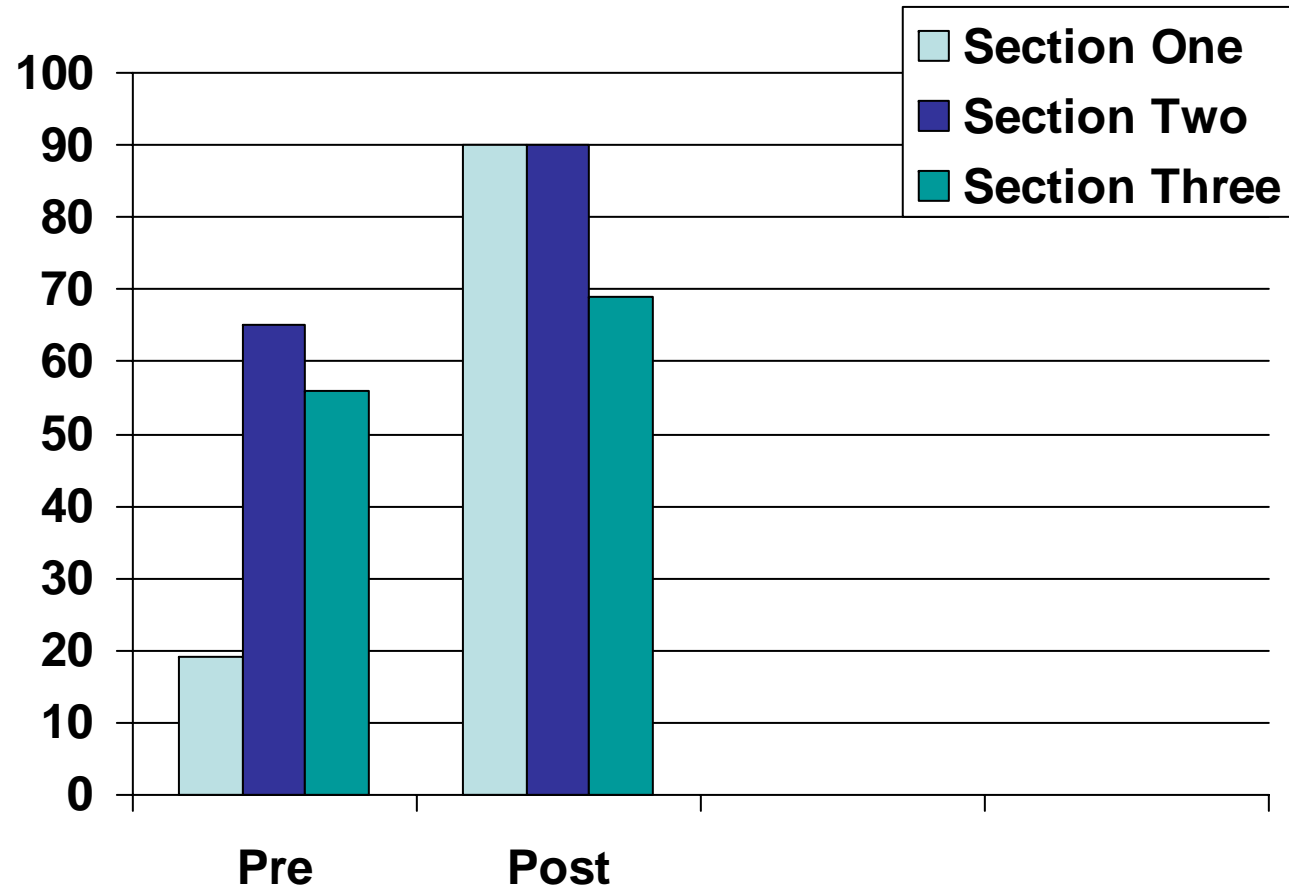
Question One Scores



Question Two

- **If you are searching for a book or article your library does not own, you can get a free copy through:**
 - Google Scholar
 - Article Express
 - Interlibrary Services (ILLiad)
 - Webloan
 - Not Sure

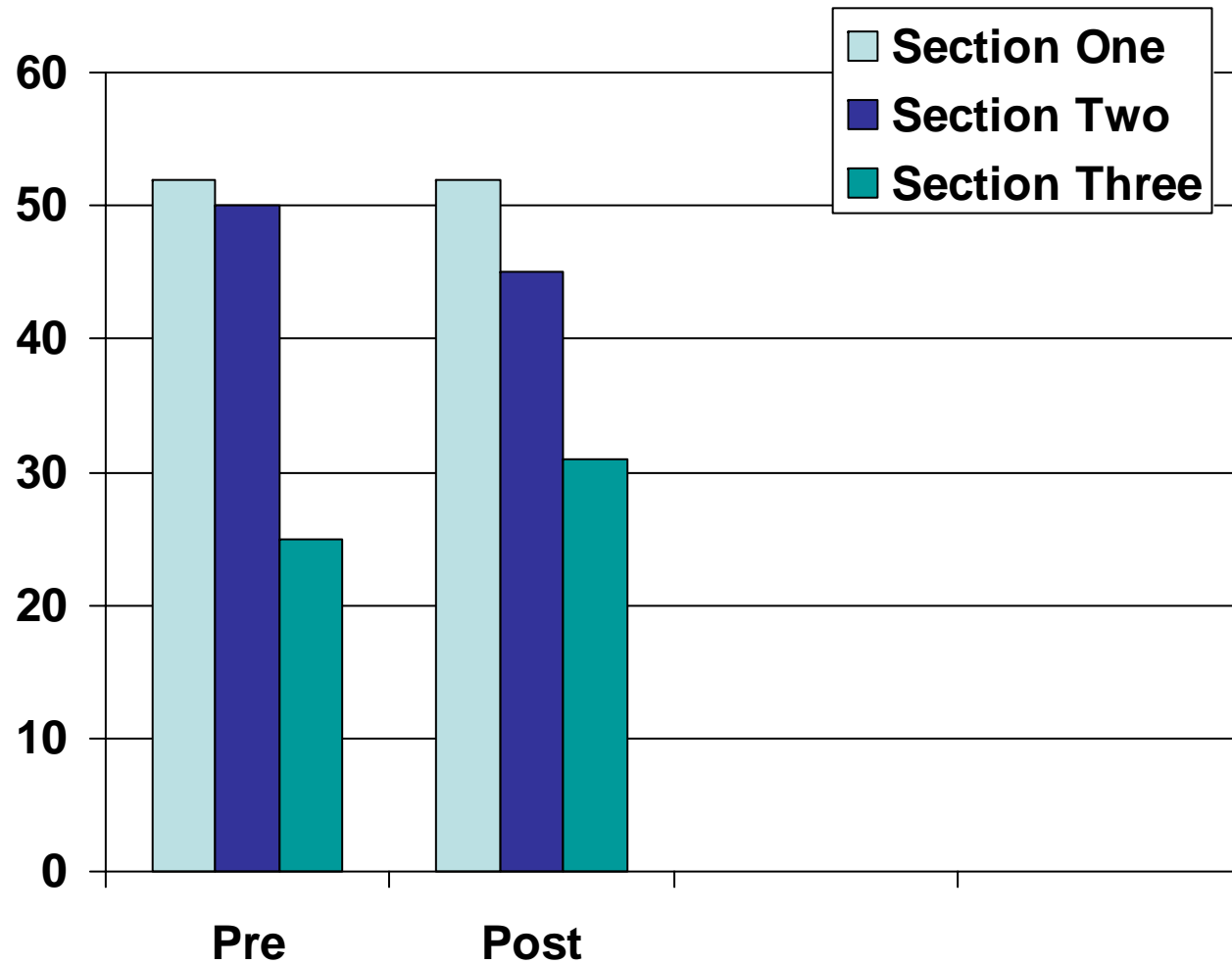
Question Two Scores



Question Three

- **3. If you were looking for journal articles on an art history topic, which set of databases would be the best choices?**
- WorldCAT, ArtBibliographies Modern, ARTstor
- ARTstor, Jstor, Academic Search Premiere
- Project Muse, Academic Search Premiere, ARTstor
- Art Full Text, Bibliography of the History of Art, Academic Search Premier
- Not Sure

Question Three Scores



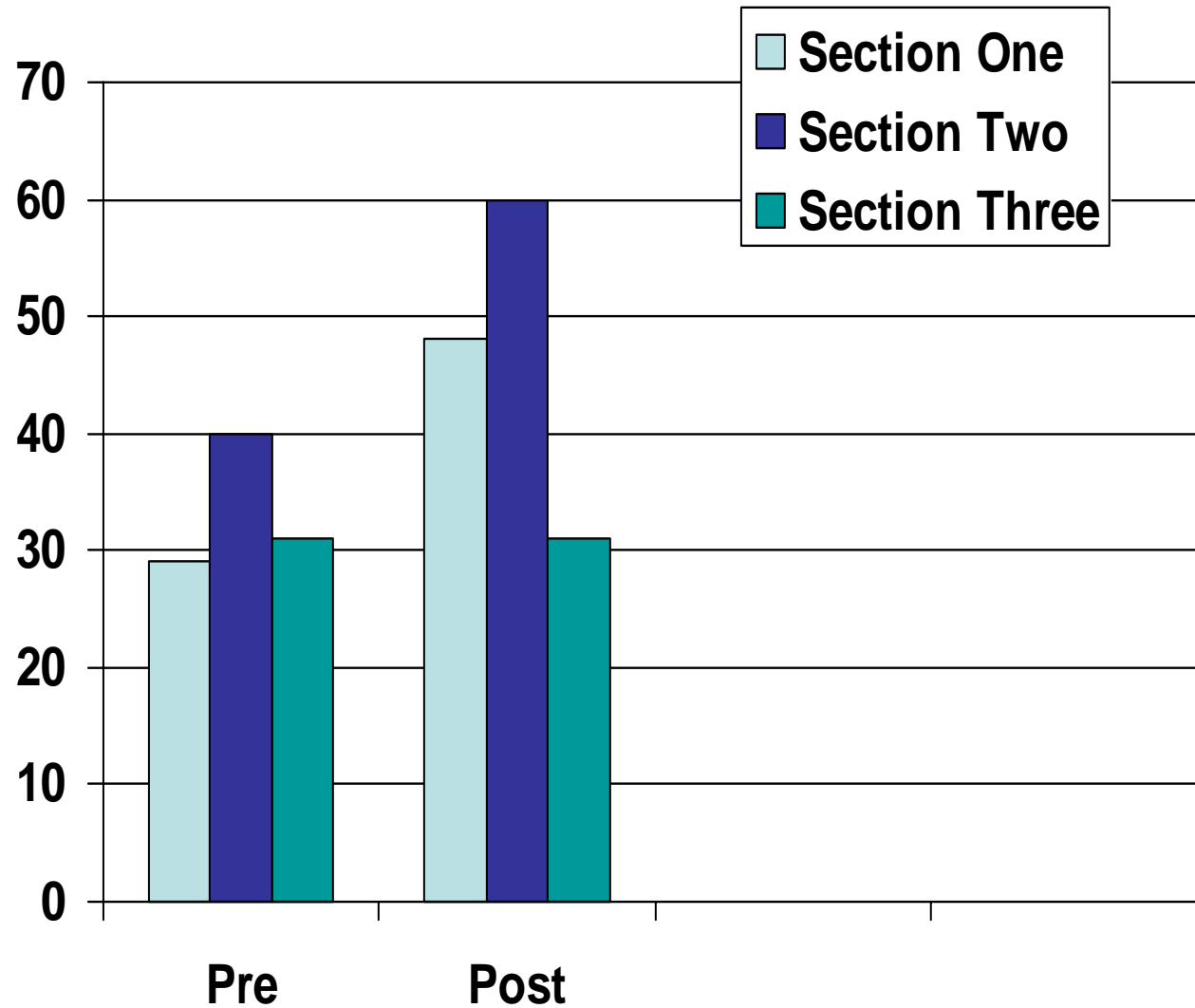
Question Four

- How would you locate the hard-copy material for this citation?

Erzen, J. N. (2007). Islamic aesthetics: An alternative way to knowledge. *Aesthetics and Art Criticism*, 65(1), 69-75.

- Search the library catalog for the name of the journal
- search the library catalog for the author of the article
- Search Academic Search Premier
- Search RefWorks
- Not sure

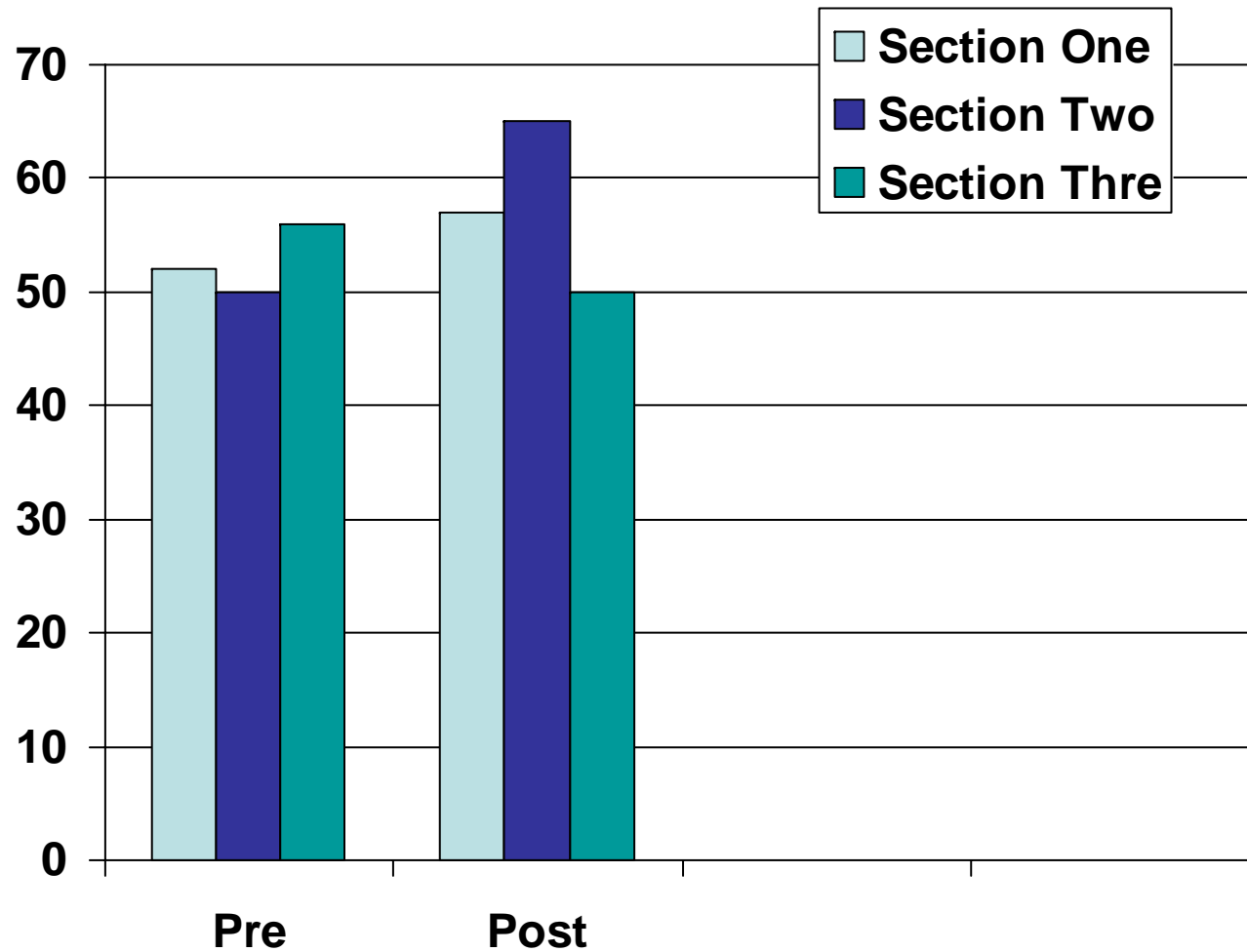
Question Four Scores



Question Five

- **Your first search in the library catalog retrieves just a few results. Which strategy would be the most effective for identifying additional relevant search terms to improve your results?**
- Browse retrieved citations for additional keywords
- Change databases
- Limit results to full text
- Limit results by format

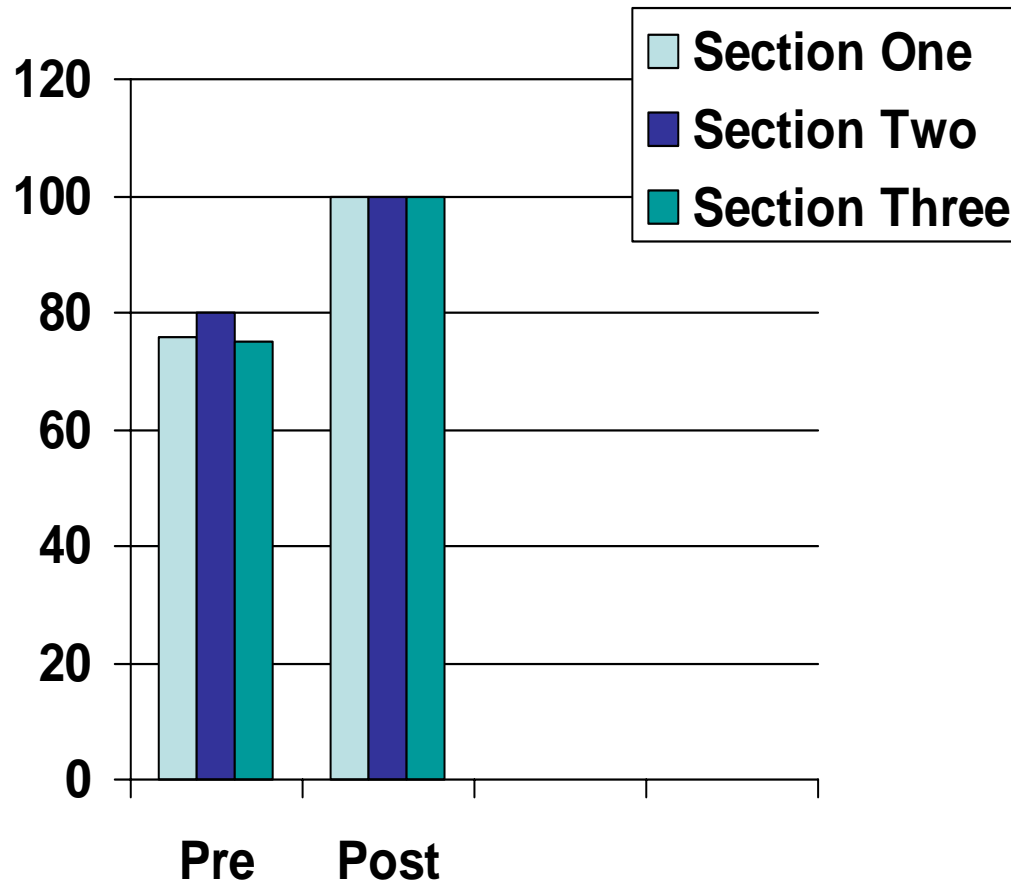
Question Five Scores



Question Six

- **What is the name of the online software program the university library subscribes to that you can use to manage your citations?**
- Cite N Go
- InNote
- Refworks
- Get Text
- Not sure

Question Six Scores



Spring 2010 results of Question One “What does the following citation represent?”

