

Assessing the Factors Influencing the use of Instructional Materials on Learning of English Language in Secondary Schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State

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Abstract

The study assessed the factors influencing the use of instructional materials on learning of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. The study employed descriptive survey design. The population used for this study comprises of all English Language teachers in 22 public junior secondary school of Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. Fifty (50) teachers were selected as sample. The instrumentation used for the collection of data is a structured questionnaire titled “Factors Influencing the uses of Instructional Material in the teaching of English Language Questionnaire”. The instrument was validated by experts. Four research questions guided the study. The findings showed the available instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State; it revealed how adequate are the instructional materials; also revealed the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in the teaching of English Language and revealed the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language. Based on the findings, it was recommended among others that English Language teachers should endeavour to use and try to improvise instructional materials for effective teaching of English Language in the secondary schools.

Keywords: Instructional Materials, Learning, English Language

Introduction

The influence of instructional materials in promoting students’ teaching and learning in educational development is indisputable. Teaching at any level requires that the students be exposed to some form of simulation. Adekunle (2018) noted that an instructional material means anything that can assist the teacher in promoting teaching and learning. When the students are given the chance to learn through more senses than one, they can learn faster and easier. The use of instructional materials provides the teacher with interesting and compelling platforms for

conveying information since they motivate learners to learn more (Adeyemi, 2020). Furthermore the teacher is assisted in overcoming physical difficulties that could have hindered his effective presentation of a given topic.

English Language plays a very significant role in the educational development of Nigeria as well as the economic development. English language is the language of instruction at all levels of education in Nigeria. The fact that it is the language that is widely used in the propagation of education in Nigeria makes it the most important function of English in Nigeria. National policy on Education (2004) states that the medium of instruction in Primary schools for the first three years shall be the language of the immediate environment. During this period, English shall be taught as a subject. From the fourth year, English shall be progressively used as a medium of instruction and the language of the immediate environment and French shall be taught as a subject. This has been the status of English Language in the Nigerian educational system before and after independence. English is also used for educational evaluation. This means that all subjects apart from the Nigerian and foreign languages are examined in the English. It is an undeniable fact that no nation can rise above its education. This is because without education, a nation cannot get the needed manpower for material advancement and enlightenment of the citizenry (Oladipo, 2020).

The trained engineers, teachers, medical doctors, lawyers etc are all the products of education, this explains why scholars argue also that the quality of a nation's education determines the level of its national development and Nigeria's education is a product of the English Language. This means that language success is generally educational success and by implication the quality of education of a nation is a key factor in national development. English, therefore, becomes indispensable in educational attainment because it is taught as a subject in the curriculum in all levels of education and it is also available as the language of instruction. Furthermore, English is compulsory for all students at the United Tertiary Matriculation Examination conducted by JAMB. In addition, a credit in English is a prerequisite for admission into Nigeria universities and other tertiary institutions (Blankenship, 2019)

Instructional materials are software and hardware that are used to make lessons more meaningful and clearer to learners. They are devised that appeal to multi modal senses which help the learners conceive, perceive, internalize, interpret and transfer the experiences gained to

similar or different learning situations. These materials and equipment could be those that appeal to the sense of hearing-known as audio material/ equipment those of seeing called visual materials/equipment and those that combine the two senses called audio-visual materials (Yusuf, 2018).

The teacher alone cannot provide all the needed condition for an effective teaching and learning process, other supporting materials should be provided. The students learn better when most of the senses are appealed to the instruction and use of instructional materials in English Language education has added a new dimension in the positive promotion of the teaching and learning process. It provides the much need sensory experiences needed by the learners for an effective and meaningful behavioural change. Instructional materials are meant to improve the quality of education for effective learning of students in schools (Bakare, 2016).

In making use of any instructional materials factors that influence it must be considered, such materials must be previewed that is, having full knowledge of the material; prepare the environment where it will be used; prepare audience by means of making sure that the materials to be used will attract attention, arouse, motivate and provide the rationale that could be used in the beginning, middle or end. The effectiveness of utilizing appropriate instructional materials in teaching and learning of English Language is not void of quality instructor (Toluhi, 2021). In order to give quality education to the younger generation, there is need for employment of more competent, experienced and qualified English Language teachers. The need to identify the suitable instructional materials, by which students can be made to comprehend the extent of the subject easily and intelligibly, is the focus of this study. An in depth look at the secondary schools English Language programmes revealed that there is the need for improving all phases of the programmes (Robinson, 2020). For example, there is need for the introduction and use of instructional materials and equipment for use in both the classrooms and English Language Laboratory. The broad aim of any good training materials are to induce and support the learning process that leads to improve on-the-job performance through affecting changes in the knowledge, attitudes, skills and practices of the learners. With the above reasons, it is worth investigating the influence of instructional materials in the teaching and learning of English Language in our Secondary Schools.

Statement of the Problem

Poor performance of Students in English Language Public Junior Secondary Schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State may partly be attributed to poor usage or lack of sufficient instructional materials to teach English Language. Many of the school authorities have very lukewarm attitudes over the provision of needed tools, equipment or materials required for effective English Language teaching. This non-challant attitude tends to retard genuine efforts of some teachers of English Language in the secondary schools, inspite of the emphasis being placed on English Language as a compulsory subject in secondary schools. Hence, the prosecution of a functional education in relation to English Language in secondary schools still leaves much to be desired. In view of these difficulties, most teachers of English Language still resort to the theoretical method of teaching the subject (i.e explaining without an object to make learning real) which makes learning not interesting to learners. This undoubtedly, is contrary to the improvement of English Language education, which is greatly needed at this period of our development with emphasis on practical oriented learning. It is therefore imperative to carry out a study on the factors influencing the use of instructional materials on learning of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State.

Purpose of the Study

The main purpose of this study is to assess the factors influencing the use of instructional materials on learning of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. The specific objectives are to:

1. Identify the level of availability of instructional materials being used for teaching English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State;
2. Examine the adequacy of the instructional materials used in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State;
3. Determine the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State;
4. Examine the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State;

Research Questions

The following research questions were answered in the course of the study.

1. What are the available instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language in Junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?
2. How adequate are the instructional materials used in teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?
3. What is the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in the teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?
4. What are the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?

Methodology

The study employed descriptive survey design. The target population used for this study comprises of all English Language teachers in all public junior secondary school of Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. Researcher selected ten (10) junior secondary school teachers each from five (5) junior secondary schools chosen from the twenty-two (22) public secondary schools in the Local Government Area under consideration using simple random sampling technique. A total of fifty (50) teachers were selected as sample. The instrumentation used for the collection of data is a structured questionnaire titled “Factors Influencing the uses of Instructional Material in the teaching of English Language Questionnaire”. The questionnaire is divided into two sections. Section A consists of the demographic data of respondents while section B consists of statement to elicit information on the factors influencing the use of instructional material in the teaching of English Language. The response mode is four-likert scale of measurement which consists of strongly agree, agree, disagree, and strongly disagree.

In order to ascertain the content and construct validity of the instrument for the study, the researcher ensured that the questionnaire covered the research questions of the study and then subjected the initial draft to the scrutiny of the experts in the field of measurement and evaluation in University of Ibadan. Some items were modified based on expert advice before the researcher produced the final copy of the instrument which was be used for the study.

The researcher visited the five (5) public junior secondary schools. With the consent of the school authority, the questionnaires were personally administered on the respondents. The researcher was present in the schools and made clarification were necessary. The respondents were given enough time to complete the questionnaires. The numbers of questionnaires administered were fifty questionnaires the researcher's waited and collected them back at the same spot.

The data collected from the study would be analyzed using frequency counts and mean statistics. Any mean that is lower than 2.50 is rejected while any mean of 2.50 and above is accepted

Results

The results are arranged according to the stated research questions as follow;

Research Questions 1: What are the available instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?

Table 1: The available instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language

S/No	Statement	SA	A	D	SD	\bar{x}	Decision
1.	There is availability of printed materials for teaching of English Language	30	20	-	-	3.60	Agree
2.	Teachers use appropriate charts and diagrams for the immediate illustration of English Language lesson.	35	13	2	-	3.66	Agree
3.	Teachers makes use of community resource(market place, Social Centers, Church, Mosque etc) to enhance teaching of English Language	10	10	20	10	2.40	Disagree
4.	Pictures, models, drawings and specimens influence students' academic performance in English Language	18	15	10	7	2.88	Agree
5.	Good relevant textbooks were necessary to influence the academic performance of students in English Language	25	15	8	2	3.26	Agree
	Overall Mean					3.16	Agree

Table 1 above revealed the respondent responses on the available instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language. There is availability of printed materials for teaching of English Language has a mean score of 3.60, Teachers use appropriate charts and diagrams for the immediate illustration of English Language lesson has a mean score of 3.66, Teachers makes use of community resource (market place, Social Centers, Church, Mosque etc) to enhance teaching of English Language has a mean score of 2.40, Pictures, models, drawings and specimens influence students' academic performance in English Language has a mean score of 2.88 while Good relevant textbooks were necessary to influence the academic performance of students in English Language has a mean score of 3.26. The overall mean score of 3.16 signifies the overall acceptance that ICT pose the availability of instructional materials used in the teaching of English Language.

Research Questions 2: How adequate are the instructional materials used in teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?

Table 2: Adequacy of Instructional Materials used in teaching of English Language

S/No	Statement	VA	A	NA	NVA	\bar{x}	Decision
6.	Availability of printed materials for teaching of English Language e.g. Textbooks, Newspaper, Teachers guide etc.	25	16	6	3	3.26	Adequate
7.	Appropriate charts, Pictures, models, and diagrams for the immediate illustration of English Language lesson.	10	15	20	5	2.30	Not Adequate
8.	Electrical Operated Materials like slides, film projector, television, Radio etc.	-	10	25	15	1.90	Not Adequate
9.	Computer and internet facilities for English Language teaching.	11	-	30	9	2.26	Not Adequate
10.	English Language Resource Person	10	9	11	20	2.18	Not Adequate
	Overall Mean					2.38	Not Adequate

The result on table 2 expressed that the mean score of item 7, 8, 9 and 10 were respectively lesser than 2.5. This applied that the respondents did not admit that Appropriate charts, Pictures, models, and diagrams for the immediate illustration of English Language lesson, Electrical

Operated Materials like slides, film projector, television, Radio etc, Computer and internet facilities for English Language teaching and English Language Resource Person Instructional Materials are adequate for teaching of English Language in Gwagwalada Public Junior Secondary School while item 6 is greater than 2.5 which indicates that availability of printed materials for teaching of English Language e.g. Textbooks, Newspaper, Teachers guide etc are instructional material adequate for teaching of English Language. The overall mean score of 2.38 signifies the inadequacy of Instructional Materials used in teaching of English Language.

Research Questions 3: What is the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in the teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?

Table 3: Response to the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in the teaching of English Language

S/No	Statement	SA	A	SD	D	\bar{x}	Decision
11.	English Language Teachers mostly ignore the use of Electrical Operated machine as Instructional Material when teaching	11	-	31	8	2.24	Disagree
12.	Teachers mostly prefer chart and chalkboard as Instructional Material to teach English Language	29	18	-	3	3.02	Agree
13.	Provision of a English Language Resource Person makes Teachers work easier and simpler and this make them happy.	16	15	10	9	2.76	Agree
14.	Teachers see English Language Instructional Material as waste of time as students overcrowd the available Instructional Materials.	17	15	10	8	2.82	Agree
15.	Teachers feel reluctant in using Instruction Material in teaching English Language when salaries are not being paid.	25	15	10	-	3.30	Agree
	Overall Mean					2.83	Agree

The result on table 3 expressed that the mean score of item 12, 13, 14 and 15 were respectively greater than 2.5. This applied that the respondents admitted that Teachers mostly prefer chart and chalkboard as Instructional Material to teach English Language, Provision of a English Language

Resource Person makes Teachers work easier and simpler and this make them happy, Teachers see English Language Instructional Material as waste of time as students overcrowd the available Instructional Materials and Teachers feel reluctant in using Instruction Material in teaching English Language when salaries are not being paid are the positive attitudes teachers expressed towards the use of English Language Instructional Material. While the mean of item 11 which is less than 2.5. This implies that the respondent did not have a positive attitude because English Language Teachers mostly ignore the use of Electrical Operated machine as Instructional Material when teaching. The overall mean score of 2.83 signifies the overall acceptance that the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in the teaching of English Language is positively effective.

Research Questions 4: What are the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in junior secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State?

Table 4: Response to the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language

S/No	Statement	SA	A	D	SD	\bar{x}	Decision
16.	Stable electricity to make use of Electrical Operated Materials when needed to be use influences English Language Instructional material.	20	15	10	5	2.70	Agree
17.	Educational Standard or level of the Country influences English Language Instructional material.	25	20	5	-	3.40	Agree
18.	The population of students in the community has influence on the use of English Language instructional materials.	19	17	3	1	2.68	Agree
19.	The physical facilities and community resources available influence English Language Instructional material.	22	18	5	5	3.14	Agree
20.	Physical Ability of student (Disability or Handicapped) influence English Language Instructional material.	20	16	8	6	3.00	Agree
	Overall Mean					2.98	Agree

The result on table 4 expressed that the mean score of item 16-20 were respectively greater than 2.5. This implied that the respondents totally admitted that Stable electricity to make use of

Electrical Operated Materials when needed to be use influences English Language Instructional material, Educational Standard or level of the Country influences English Language Instructional material, The population of students in the community has influence on the use of English Language instructional materials, The physical facilities and community resources available influence English Language Instructional material and Physical Ability of student (Disability or Handicapped) influence English Language Instructional material. The overall mean score of 2.98 signifies the overall acceptance that the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language is effective.

Discussions of Findings

In the research questions above, the researcher seeks to determine the factors influencing the use of instructional materials in School in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. From the response, Table 1 above which deals with identifying the level of availability of instructional materials being used for teaching English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State., it has an overall mean of 3.16, this revealed that printed materials for teaching of English Language and appropriate charts and diagrams for the immediate illustration of English Language lesson were the major instructional materials being used to influence student's academic performance in English Language, this was because it was rated high by the respondents. These findings coincided with Anyawu and Anyawu (2017) who stated that printed material like textbooks and Charts were the most common instructional materials available that teachers used to disseminate knowledge.

Table 2 seeks to examine the adequacy of the instructional materials used in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State. It has an overall mean of 2.38. It was found out based on the analysis of the data collected from the respondents that printed materials for teaching of English Language e.g. Textbooks, Newspaper, Teachers guide etc were the most adequate English Language Instructional Material available out of other English Language Instructional Materials. This finding is in line with Bello (2020) who stated that printed materials are generally cheap to be afforded which constitute it generous availability and adequacy is Teaching and learning.

Table 3 above, which determine the attitude of teachers towards the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State, has an overall mean of 2.83, it was reveal that teachers mostly prefer chart and

chalkboard as Instructional Material to teach English Language, it was also revealed that Teachers feel reluctant in using Instruction Material in teaching English Language when salaries are not being paid. This finding was buttressed by Adeyemo (2015) who stated that teachers attitude should be positive towards the use instructional materials should.

Table 4 above examine the environmental factors influencing the use of instructional materials in teaching of English Language in secondary schools in Afijio Local Government Area, Oyo State, has an overall mean of 2.98, The items were rated and it was observed that Educational Standard or level of the Country influences English Language Instructional material was the major environmental factors affecting effective use of instructional materials to influence students' academic performance in English Language. Also it was found out that the physical facilities and community resources available influence English Language Instructional material were environmental factors that can affect the effective use of instructional materials. This finding agreed with Femi (2016) who listed environmental factors affecting the use of instructional materials to include; Physical ability of learners, Educational Standard of the country, stable electricity nature of the subject matter and so on.

Conclusion

Based on the findings in this study, the following conclusions were drawn:

1. The failure rate of students will be curtailed if English Language teachers were made to utilize appropriate and relevant instructional materials adequately while teaching English Language in junior secondary schools.
2. Students will perform better in English Language when the instructional materials possess the characteristics of appropriateness, relevancy, visibility, sufficiency; simplicity and attraction, hence improve students' academic performance in English Language.
3. Instructional materials were very important to influence students' academic performances in English Language as they can simplify and clarify what is complex and difficult to express in words.
4. The English Language knowledge and subsequent performance of students in junior secondary schools and English Language as a subject becomes more interesting to learn when it was taught by experienced, well committed, dedicated and qualified English Language teachers.

Recommendations

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of the study.

- The English Language teachers should endeavour to use and try to improvise instructional materials for effective teaching of English Language in the secondary schools.
- Government should ensure the adequate employment of dedicated and qualified English Language teachers to teach the subject in all secondary schools in the study area and in the state.
- Suitable and adequate textbooks on utilization of English Language materials should be made available to all secondary schools.
- Government should make available funds and sponsor the teachers' attendance at conferences, seminars and workshops on utilization of English Language instructional materials.
- The government through the Ministry of Education(MOE), should make available English Language instructional materials for use by teachers to enhance students' academic performance in English Language.
- Parents should not be left out in the drive to provide and encourage the effective utilization of English Language instructional materials by their children in secondary schools. Once parents and guardians realize the importance of instructional materials in the education of their children and wards, they will not hesitate to give moral, material and financial support for the use of English Language instructional materials.

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