

Influence of Late Resumption on the Academic Performance of English Education Students in Benson Idahosa University, Benin City, Edo State, Nigeria

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Abstract: The purpose of this study was to examine the influence late resumption on the academic performance of English Education students in Benson Idahosa University. To guide the study, two research questions were raised and two hypotheses were formulated. The study employed descriptive survey employing ex-post facto research design and the population of the study comprised of all English Education students in Benson Idahosa University. Total number of 104 Full-time Education students in levels 100 - 400 in the department were used as the sample for the study. The research instrument used for this study was a questionnaire. The analysis of data obtained showed that there is a significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume lately to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University however, there is no significant difference between the academic performance of male and female students that resume lately to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University.

Based on the findings of this study, it was, therefore, recommended that Benson Idahosa University authority and lecturers should emphasize on students' early resumption as late resumption has a negative influence on their students' academic performance.

Keywords: Late resumption, early resumption, academic performance, sex

I. INTRODUCTION

Late resumption to school is one of the major problems that have plagued many schools; there is hardly any school that is spared from this problem. The impact of this great menace cannot be over emphasized, as it has contributed immensely in a negative way to the academic achievement of learners and the functioning of the school (Okpupara and Chuwuone, 2007).

A school is primarily an established institution that aims to educate learners (Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary, 2010). It is designed with the purpose of bringing children from different families together under one roof (the

classroom) for the purpose of teaching and learning under the direction of teachers. One of the important traits entering into a successful person's character is the habit of punctuality (Phurutse, 2005). Effective teaching and learning cannot take place without the coming together of the teacher and the learners (Oghuvbu, 2012). A learner that is not regular in school faces learning problems resulting from late – resumption to school such as truancy, and inability to read and not consulting with the teacher (Onouwodeke, 1995).

Late-resumption can be viewed as an outcome of laxity or system breakdown (Peretemode, 1991). Lateness is a function of time and as such time is usually used as the criteria for determining lateness. Late resumption violates the principle of punctuality and if not checked at the onset, may become a habit with the individual involved and may have negative consequences on such individual's plans including the achievement of educational goals (Breeze, Markey & Woll, 2010).

The importance of education is increasing and is regarded highly. The societies of the past are on the front rank of the world civilization on account of education, this educational system may be seriously hampered as a result of late-resumption especially in high schools. In most developing countries, Late-resumption is a major and a continuous administrative problem among high school learners (Egbule, 2004; Dafiaghor, 2011).

Late resumption as a factor could be responsible for students' poor academic performance in the sense that if any student resumes late for academic work, it is expected that before he or she resumes, especially in Benson Idahosa University, a lot of academic activities must have taken place and his or her absence from these academic engagements could have negative effects on his or her academic performance.

In the same vein, another factor that could be contributing to academic challenge is sex. The report of Okpukpara and

Chukkwuone (2007) identified the role of gender in child schooling. From the study, female headed household have higher attendance in schools whereas educated fathers are more likely to have strong impact in increasing the probability of child school attendance than mothers. Emore (2005) reported that lateness is common among female students than male students. So, it could be believable that male students in the higher institutions tend to resume at the stipulated time and this may not be the same with the female students in the same academic programme in the school. This could also reflect negative results on their academics.

Yearly, the universities and colleges in Nigeria are turning out many graduates. Some of these graduates cannot have a correct spelling of a simple word or speak simple, correct English. There are many who cannot even write a business letter but parading fine certificates in the streets (Abati, 2005). These deficiencies may be traceable to their academic performance while in the colleges and universities

If one of the parameters used to measure the level of prosperity a nation could acquire is by the reason of their educational status which could be measurable only on the academic achievement of the learners and yearly reports of learners' academic performance is showing a decadence even when teachers' and government' efforts had been expended and still the problem continues, then there is a need to look at the factor that one rarely considers to be responsible. On this backdrop, this study seeks to investigate the influence of late resumption on students' academic performance among English education students in Benson Idahosa University.

To guide this study, two research questions are raised and their corresponding hypotheses are formulated. The research questions were answered while the hypotheses were tested at 0.05 alpha level of significance.

Research Questions

1. What is the difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume lately to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University?
2. What is the difference between the academic performance of male and female students that resume lately to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University?

Hypotheses

1. There is no significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University
2. There is no significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex

II. METHODOLOGY

Design of the study

The design for this study was a descriptive survey employing ex-post facto research design. This design is chosen because the researcher needs no manipulation of any variables under study since the information needed is already available.

Population of the Study

The population of this study was all English Education students in Benson Idahosa University. There are about 223 students in the department including both full and part time students.

Sample and Sampling Techniques

The sample for this study was all the one hundred and four (104) Full-time Education students in 100 - 400 levels in the department. This was done because of the fewness of the numbers of English Education Students.

Research Instrument

The research instrument for this study was a questionnaire titled "Influence of late resumption on Academic Performance (ILRAPQ) The questionnaire was designed by the researcher to generate data from the respondents in the eight options in the department. The instrument was divided into three sections. Section A requested for the students' demographic data while section B requested responses on the influence of late resumption on students' academic performance and finally section C is designed to elicit student's GPA in their last examination.

1. Validity

The instrument was validated by two other experts in the field of education. Corrections suggested were effected in the final copy of the instrument and hence, the instrument's face and content validity was ascertained.

2. Reliability

In establishing the reliability of the instrument, 30 copies of the questionnaire were administered to 30 students who were not part of the study and the data obtained were analyzed using split-half statistical procedures. The instrument obtained the reliability index of 0.72 which showed the instrument is dependable enough for use.

Method of Data Collection

The instrument was administered to the proposed sample after obtaining permission from the school authority and all the administered questionnaires were collected immediately after completion for analysis.

III. METHOD OF DATA ANALYSIS

In analyzing the data, all research questions were answered using descriptive statistics of mean and standard deviation

while the hypotheses were tested using the students' independent sample t-test statistics.

IV. ANALYSIS OF DATA

Research Question One: What is the difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University?

To answer this research question, the data in table 1 were used.

Table 1: Descriptive statistics showing the difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University.

Resumption	N	Std. Deviation	Mean	Mean Diff.
Early Resumption	74	0.76	3.06	1.30
Late Resumption	30	0.74	1.76	

The data in table 1 showed that the students that resumed early to academic activities in Benson Idahosa University had the mean score of 3.06 with standard deviation of 0.76 while those who resumed lately to academic activities had the mean score of 1.76 with the standard deviation of 0.74 with a mean difference of 1.30 in favour of the students that resumed early to academic activities. It can be concluded therefore, from the data in the table that, there is a difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University.

Research Question Two: What is the difference between the academic performance of male and female students that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University?

To answer this research question, the data in table 2 were used.

Table 2: Descriptive statistics showing the difference between the academic performance of male and female students that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University

Late Resumption/Gender	N	Std. Deviation	Mean	Mean Diff.
Male	9	0.94	1.79	0.41
Female	21	0.67	1.75	

The data in table 2 showed that male students that resumed lately to academic activities in Benson Idahosa University had the mean score of 1.79 with standard deviation of 0.94 while the female students that resumed lately to academic activities had the mean score of 1.75 with the standard deviation of 0.67 with a mean difference of 0.41 in favour of the male students that resumed lately to academic activities. It can be concluded therefore, from the data in the table that, there is a difference between the academic performance of male and female

students that resume lately to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University.

Testing of Hypotheses

Hypothesis One: There is no significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University

To test hypothesis one, the independent t-test statistics was used as shown in table 3.

Table 3: t-test statistics showing the difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University

Resumption	N	Mean	Mean diff.	df	tcal	Sig. (2-tailed)	Decision
Early Resumption	74	3.06	1.30	102	7.89	0.00	Significant
Late resumption	30	1.76					

The data in table 3 showed that the observed difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University is significant at 0.00 ($t = 7.89$; $df = 102$). Since 0.00 is less than 0.05 the alpha level of significance, the observed difference is significant. With this, the null hypothesis which says there is no significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University is not accepted. This implies that there is a significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University in favour of those who resumed early to school.

Hypothesis Two: There is no significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex

To test hypothesis two, the independent t-test statistics was used as shown in table 4.

Table 4: t-test statistics showing the difference between the academic performance of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex

Late Resumption/Gender	N	Mean	Mean diff.	df	tcal	Sig. (2-tailed)	Decision
Male	9	1.79	0.41	28	0.13	0.89	Not significant
Female	21	1.75					

The data in table 4 showed that the observed difference between the academic performance of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex is not significant at

0.89 ($t = 0.13$; $df = 28$). Since 0.89 is higher than 0.05 the alpha level of significance, the observed difference is not significant. With this, the null hypothesis which says there is no significant difference between the academic performances of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex is accepted. This implies that there is no significant difference between the academic performances of students that resume late to academic activities based on sex.

V. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

The first finding in this study showed that there is a significant difference between the academic performance of students that resume early and those that resume late to academic activities among the Education Students in Benson Idahosa University in favour of those who resumed early to school.

Second finding indicated that there is no significant difference between the academic performance of male and female students that resume lately to academic activities among Education Students in Benson Idahosa University.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the findings of this study, the following recommendations were made:

- Benson Idahosa University lecturers should emphasize on students' early resumption as late

resumption has a negative influence on their students' academic performance.

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