

STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF INSTRUCTORS' PERSONALITY AND THEIR PERFORMANCE IN AUTOMOBILE TRADE IN FEDERAL SCIENCE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, AHOADA, RIVERS STATE.

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ABSTRACT

The research understudies students' perception of instructors' personality and their performance in automobile trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State. Survey research was used for the study and the researcher structured two research questions. All the populations of 64 students were used as samples in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State. Two experts from Rivers State University of Science and Technology Validated the research questions and five-point likert scale were used to calculate the mean and standard deviation. The reliability of the instrument as calculated to be 0.78 using Cronbach alpha (α). Results from items number 1 to 10 of research questions one and two were all accepted to the various responses. Finally it was recommended that teachers should attend seminar training programmed on students'–teachers' relationship. Also, the school should put in place check and balance systems to monitor academic activities in the school.

Keywords: Students' Perception, Instructors' Personality, Instructors' Performance, Automobile Trade.

INTRODUCTION

Automobile is a self-propelled vehicle that travels on land and usually has four wheels. The automobile has been around for more than 100 years. The first automobiles were basically horse-drawn buggies and carriages powered by gasoline – fuelled instead of horses (Crouse, 2004). Two brothers, Charles and Frank Durgéa, built the first automobile in the United State in 1893. By 1895, Henry Ford, Ransom Olds and others were building cars in this country. By 1900, several factories in Detroit and elsewhere were making automobiles. Today, the automobile industry is one of the biggest in the world.

The history of automobile in Nigeria started earlier before Nigeria as a country had her independence in 1960. The Western world introduced the use of automobile in Nigeria when oil was booming in the 70's. Developed countries like America, Germany, France and Britain etc.

through partnership with Nigerian Government and issuing of license of operation and policy, established six automobile assembly plants in Nigeria (Ohwojero and Ede, 2013). The establishment of the six automobile assembly plants in Nigeria brought quick development to the country (Ohwojero & Ede, 2013).

Technical institutions in Nigeria offer courses in Automobile Technology. Such courses include, Motor vehicle electricians, fitter/mechanics, instrument mechanics, and motor body builders. Most of these courses offered in these technical schools are practical-based subjects. Most times students are faced with learning difficulties in leaning these subjects in the classes. Raymond and Hassan (2007) stated that the declining performance of students in Technical Education courses has been a matter of great concern.

Public attitude towards technical education and Automobile Technology in particular is seen as a profession for drop out for those who are unable to cope with academic schools (Segun and Josephine, 2004). Most of our training institutions lack qualified manpower that can impact the skills needed for entrepreneurship development (Segun and Josephine, 2004). At such, a large number of students may be subjected to few instructors in these Technical Institutions. Observation shows that Nigeria has no enough manpower expertise to handle machines, service and maintain them well. This may likely affect the quality of graduates in these technical schools. Yakubu (2001) stated that technical and Vocational Education in the secondary school programmes has not been implemented because of descent in TEV teachers. Odu (2007) also stated that the benefits of quality technical education programme are based on inculcating skills to the students for self-employment and self-reliance. Therefore, this paper will look into students' perception on teachers' personality/attitude and their performance in automobile trade in Federal Science Technical- College, Ahoada, Rivers State.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The aim of this study is to;

- 1) Find out students' perception on instructors' personality in teaching Automobile trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State.
- 2) Find out students' perception of instructors' attitude to work in teaching automobile trade and their performance in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions guide the study:

- 1) To what extent does instructors' personality affects students' attitude in learning automobile trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State?
- 2) To what extent does instructors' attitude to work affects students' performance in automobile trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State.

METHODOLOGY

The survey research design was used for the study. The area of the study was Ahoada local government, Rivers State. All the populations of 64 students were used as sample for the study in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State. The students offer automobile trade in

the institution. A five point Likert scale containing ten items was used to collect data for the study.

The categories include strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly Disagree, and undecided. The numerical values of 5,4,3,2,1 were given to the responses respectively. The questionnaires were validated by two experts from technical education in Rivers State University of Science and Technology, Port Harcourt. The study was conducted in government technical college, Port Harcourt, Rivers State. The reliability coefficient of the instrument was calculated to be 0.78 using cronbach alpha (α); which was considered adequate for the study.

The questionnaires were distributed to the students, through the head of departments.

The data was analyzed using mean and standard deviation, 2.50 and above was considered as agree, while below 2.50 was considered as disagree.

RESULTS

Research Question 1

Table 1: To what extent does instructors' personality affect students' attitude in learning automobile trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State?

S/NO	QUESTIONNAIRE	SA	A	D	SD	UN	NS	NR	\bar{x}	RESULT
1.	Automobile instructors lack confidence when teaching in the classroom.	20	20	10	14	0	64	238	3.72	Accept
2.	Motivation is low when instructors do not come to class.	30	10	8	10	6	64	240	3.75	Accept
3.	Instructor inability to solve problems creates poor response to classroom activities.	26	28	7	3	0	64	269	4.20	Accept
4.	Instructors countenance affects attitude in learning	34	10	10	10	0	64	260	4.06	Accept
5.	Improper exposure to practical session by instructors affect academic performance.	40	20	4	0	0	64	292	4.56	Accept

The result from table above showed that the responses from the respondent on items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 where all accepted to the various questions.

Table 2: Instructors' Personality Affecting Students Performance in Automobile Exams in Automobile Trade in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada, Rivers State.

S/NO	QUESTIONNAIRE	SA	A	D	SD	UN	NS	NR	\bar{x}	RESULT
6.	Instructors do not give adequate assignments.	15	15	20	8	6	64	217	3.39	Accept
7.	Instructors' method of teaching are boring.	25	10	10	5	10	64	214	3.35	Accept
8.	Instructors do not attend classes regularly.	4	10	25	5	20	64	165	2.58	Accept
9.	I stay at home when instructors do not come to class.	15	5	30	10	4	64	209	3.27	Accept
10.	Instructors do not attend to students' academic needs in automobile class.	26	24	5	5	4	64	255	3.98	Accept

The result from table 2 above showed that the responses from respondent on items 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 were all accepted to the various questions.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

The findings of the study have indicated that teachers' attitude and personality affects the way students see them. This attitude presented by the teachers may affect students' performance in automobile exams in Federal Science Technical College, Ahoada Rivers State. Odu (2007) stated that technical teachers who impart technical concepts, skills, knowledge and attitude should be qualified experienced and proficient in their areas of specialization.

Students also desire for the establishment of a healthy learning and friendly environment to encourage teaching and learning. A successful programme, according to Nwaokolo (2003), will enable a student to either get a job or create a job and employ others; thus reducing unemployment and enhancing the per-capital money of Nigerians.

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendations were made;

1. The school management should place a check system that will monitor teaching and learning activities in federal technical college, Ahoada Rivers State.
2. Constant training and retraining seminar programmes should be given to teachers to improve teachers-students relation.

CONCLUSION

Automobile trade like any other trade in vocational education is a very sensitive course that needs a lot of attention and concentration by technical teachers. And at such students need to find such learning environment interesting and friendly. It has been observed that students learning these subjects are finding it boring and less interesting due to teachers' attitude and personality. The study also discussed on how student responded to teachers' personality and attitude in

leaning automobile trade. Their responses revealed that teachers' personality and attitude affects the learning of automobile trade in federal technical college, Ahoada, Rivers State.

Finally it was recommended that school management should place a check system that will monitor teaching and learning activities in federal technical college, Ahoada, Rivers State. Also, teachers should attend seminars on students–teachers relationship to understand student better during teaching process.

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