The Relationship Between The Performance Of Students In The Teachers Grade II Certificate In English And Use Of English At The University Of Maiduguri

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Abstract

This is a study of relationship between the performance of 34 students in use of English and their performance in the Teachers Grade II certificate Examination. The subjects were selected from a total of 43 year. II of Diploma in primary school supervision in the department of Continuing Education and extension services of university of Maiduguri. Pearson product moment correlation coefficient was used to analyse the data. The result was converted to t for the test significance. A t-test was used to compare the performance of the students in the use of English a long year of experience. The result shows that there is no significant correlation between the students performance in the use of English and their performance in the Teachers Grade II certificate in English (r=0.098 t=.557 at p<.05). there was also no significant difference between the performance of those with 10 years and below and those with more than 10 years teaching experience<.05 (t=.74). The results were discussed and implications for further study indicated.

Keywords: Relationship, Performance, Students, Teacher Grade II Certificate, English

1.0 Introduction

The English language is the language of instruction in Nigeria school and higher institutions of learning. Although the National Policy on Education encourages the use of the mother tongue in the first years of primary school, the English language practically remains the key successful teaching learning (Shettima 1995). English language in compulsory for the Grade II Teachers certificate. It is also compulsory for students of Diploma in primary school supervision of the University of Maiduguri. Apart from its importance in the academic scheme of things, English language is also very important as a lingua franca and official language in Nigeria it is also an important international language.

The performance of candidates in English language examinations at the secondary level of education is generally poor (Balami 1992). A compulsory course in the use of English language at the University for More Categories of students is intended to remedy previous deficiencies, reinforce already acquired communication skills in English, and enable students to learn better and teachers to teach more effectively.

Ordinarily, one would have thought that pre-university training which admissions into universities are based would be significantly related to performance at the university. Olatunji (1976) however found that there is significant relationship between highest level of pre-university training and practice teaching performance. The question then is: what is the relationship between the performances of students of Diploma in primary school supervision in the Teachers' Grade II certificate and their performance in the use of English which is compulsory course at the University of Maiduguri. The researcher also compared the performance of the students in the use of English along two categories; those with 10 years and below and those with more than 10 years post qualification experience.

2. Methodology

Examination scores of 34 students on the use of English and their performances in English language in the teachers Grade II Certificate were use in the study. The two data were obtained from the students records with the Department of Continuing Education and Extension Services University of Maiduguri. The 34 subjects were selected out of a total of 43 year 2 students of Diploma in primary school supervision. Only those whose records were complete were selected for the study. The subjects had taught for between 5 and 20 years in the primary school.

The raw scores of the students in the use of English examination were used as they were while the letter grades for English in their certificates were assigned scores (A=4 B=3, C=2 P=1 and D=0). The data were subjected to a product moment correlation coefficient analysis. The value of r was converted to t-test of significance.

Also, the subjects were divided into two groups. One group was made up of subjects with 10 years and below, while the second group comprised of the subjects with more than 10 years, of experience. A total of 14 subjects were randomly assigned to each group and their scores in the use of English were subjected to a t-test for comparison. The results of the analysis were decided at the $p < .05$ confidence level.

3. Results

Table one provides the result of the product moment correlation coefficient analysis. It indicates that there is no relationship between the performance of the students in the use of English and in the Grade II teacher's certificate English language. The value or r =0.098 transform into t is not significant at $p < .05$ which is however rendered redundant by the no correlation finding.

Table 2 gives the result of the t-test to compare the performance of the student in use of English on the basis of learnt of experience. It shows that there is no significance difference between the performance of subject who were 10 years and below, and those who are above 10 years in experience.

4. Discussion

The study reveals and appalling performance of students in English language examination. There is no relationship between the performances of the students in the teachers Grade II English examination and in the use of English not withstanding, the means of 40.65 for use of English and 1.35 for teachers Grade II English examination and indicative of some problem of teaching and learning English in Nigeria. The low means scores imply that the average performance of the students is a marginal pass. The mean score of 1.35 is only little more than the value assigned to letter Grade P which is 1 point, and therefore equivalent to the 41.85 means score for the group of more than 10 years experience as well as the 40.65 mean is score for all subjects in the use of English. Both mean score fall within the E grade which is the lowest pass mark obtainable at the University, while the 39.42 means score of the group of under 10 years experience attracts a resist.

The results imply that low achievement in English language may not improve with more years of experience. It should also be noted that university teaching has not resulted in an improved performance among the students even though the use of English is remedial in content and objective. Further investigations are needed on this subject to establish a trend and what explanations of such a trend there are to make.

References

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Appendix 1

Table 1: performances of students in Teachers Grade II English Language and in the use of English

Course	Mean	sd	r	df	t
T.C II English	1.35	0.20	0.098	33	0.557
Use of English	40.63	9.08			

Not significant at p<.05

Table 2: Comparison of the performance of the student in the use of English on the basis of length of experience

Experience	Mean	Sd	Df	t
10 years and below	39.42	8.67	26	0.74
Above 10 years	41.85			