

# Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria

Amu, Samuel Iorlumun\*

Department of Vocational and Technical Education, Benue State University, Makurdi, Nigeria  
amusamuel@yahoo.com

Received: 17/03/2023

Accepted: 08/04/2023

Published: 30/06/2023

## Abstract :

This study examined the availability and utilization of tools and equipment for the effective teaching and learning of Business Studies at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State. Three specific objectives with corresponding research questions guided the study. The study adopted descriptive survey research design. The population of the study comprises of 40 teachers and 1,600 students in 20 schools. A sample size of 35 teachers and 130 student with a total of 165 teachers and students were selected from the population using purposive, and convenience sampling technique. Instrument used for data collection was structured questionnaire titled "Questionnaire for Availability and Utilization of tools and equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies (QAUETETLBS)" The Questionnaire was validated by experts and reliability was established using Cranbach Coefficient Alpha Method which yielded a coefficient of 0.79. Data collected were analyzed using simple percentage and mean for answering research questions. The finding of the study revealed that tools and equipment available are grossly inadequate in the teaching and learning of business studies, also there is high use of available equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Studies at junior secondary school and there are strategies for improving the supply, teaching and maintenance of tools and equipment by teachers and students at junior secondary schools for the effective teaching and learning of Business Studies. The study therefore concluded that tools and equipment for the

teaching and learning business studies in Makurdi Local Government are grossly inadequate and unavailable but the few available ones are highly utilized in most schools. The study recommends that Government/school owners should equip secondary schools with modern equipment and tools as recommended for teaching and learning, also schools should organize trainings to update the knowledge of teachers for the effective use of available tools and equipment and consumables in schools and schools should ensure proper monitoring and supervision and maintenance of available tools and equipments.

**Keywords:** Availability, Utilization, Tools and Equipment, Business Studies

\*Corresponding author: Amu, Samuel Iorlumun [amusamuel@yahoo.com](mailto:amusamuel@yahoo.com)

## **Introduction**

Teaching and learning of practical subjects is facilitated by a lot of factor which combine to ensure its success. The availability and utilization of tools and equipment is the pillar of every practical related subject and must be available in schools that can be used to attain its educational heights.

The use of tools and equipment makes teaching and learning more interesting and comprehensible to learners. Tools and equipments for teaching are the educational resources that are needed in school to achieve educational goals and objectives (Uwameiye 2016). Obulile (2020) asserted that tools and equipment resources are people, events, places or materials that are used to enhance learning, usually by simplifying a difficult situation or making uninteresting learning attractive Emeasoba (2018) stated that topics under each subject with the use of such resources are analyzed to enable the learner start from simple to complex and so encompassing and robust in preparing the student better from a reform-driven environment and business world.

Tools and equipment are used for communication and dissemination of information in the teaching environment Obidile (2020). Therefore, the need for tools and equipments utilization in the teaching and learning of business studies is very essential because it will boost student's academic achievement, retention and application of skills.

The availability and utilization of tools and equipment deserve serious attention for effective teaching and learning for effective teaching and learning business studies. Ozoagulu (1999) pointed that to give training that will have impact on students, require an effective utilization of tools and equipment. (NERDC) 2007 stated that the successful implementation of business studies in secondary schools, two basic things must be provided as follows:- qualified teachers and well equip laboratory, these basic requirement must be provided to prepare and produce students in business studies that will be useful to the society.

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

---

Business studies are offered at the junior and senior secondary levels where pre-vocational and vocational subjects are offered respectively. At the junior level, students offer business studies as an integrated subject, while at the senior secondary level, subjects such as Bookkeeping/Accounting, Economics, Store Keeping, Commerce, Typewriting/Keyboarding, Computer Studies, Shorthand, Office Practice and Marketing are offered as Business Education. According to Obidile & Eze (2018), business studies are subjects designed to equip the learners with the necessary competencies needed for exposure into the world of business. The authors maintained that the subject exposes the students to business practices so that they could respond positively to economic realities. It equips the students with the administrative and managerial competencies needed to adapt to the economic situations. If the objectives of business studies are to be maximally achieved, the school system should integrate instructional materials in the teaching and learning of business studies. Factors such as adequacy, availability and utilization of instructional materials should be properly addressed. It is expected that students who had offered business studies should be able to demonstrate to a reasonable degree the skills needed for self-employment. It is worrisome that some of the graduates of business studies could not demonstrate the required skills needed for self-employment. This could mean that the teachers' roles in the classroom might have failed to equip the learners with the expected skills. This could be probably due to non-use of tools and equipments in the teaching of business studies. Tools and equipments, no matter their nature and composition, constitute important and relevant components of successful teaching and learning (Uwameiye 2016). This position was supported by Amuzu (2018) when the author affirmed that the inability of the teacher to utilize appropriate instructional resources to teach certain concepts would affect the student negatively in the subject. Utilization of tools and equipments in education sector could be influenced by their availability. However, Odo & Ezeudu (2018) noted that the functionality of an tools and equipments is the proper indication of its availability. Although availability of tools and equipments is critical in the teaching and learning, utilization of these resources is fundamental in ensuring quality-learning outcomes Uwameiye 2016. This entails that for instructional materials to serve their purpose in enhancing students' academic performance, knowledge retention and application of skills, they should be functional, adequate, available, easily accessible and properly utilized. Adequacy specifies the required number an instructional material should be for teaching and learning to effectively take place.

However, Nigerian secondary school teachers operate from a deficient environment where instructional materials are lacking Usman (2016). Also, Muhammed (2017) reviewed that the provision of tools and equipments for teaching and learning in

secondary schools has received little attention. Furthermore, Anyakaorah, (2020), revealed that students are learning business studies without the required resources and facilities and this may have affected their performance over the years.

### **Statement of Problem**

Previous study have revealed that there is poor performance of students in business studies in the study area, this may be as a result of inadequate teaching tool and equipment such as laboratories, libraries, workshop and class rooms and also unavailability of qualified business studies teachers due to lack of training of business studies teachers. Teachers find it difficult to carry out effective instruction in schools; they also encounter difficulties in the implementation of practical topics which may be as a result of unavailable facilities in the schools. The administrators on their part encounter a lot of difficulties in the administration of such school due to lack of teaching facilities and poor condition of the available ones. However, the study is therefore faced with the problem of availability and utilization of tools and equipment in the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.

### **Purpose of the Study**

The main purpose of this study was to find out the level of availability and utilization of tools and equipment for the effective teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.

Specifically, this study seeks to find out:

- i. The level of availability of tools and equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State
- ii. The rate of the use of available equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State
- iii. Strategies for minimizing the challenges encountered by teachers and students in utilizing facilities for effective teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State

### **Research Questions**

The study seek to answers to the following questions

- i. What is the level of availability of tools and equipment in the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State?

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

---

- ii. What is the rate the use of available equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State?
- iii. What are the suggested strategies for improving the rate at which government supply tools and equipment to schools for effective teaching of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State

### **Methodology**

The design for this study was descriptive survey. The population of the study comprises of selected business studies teachers and students at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area. The respondents for the study were purposefully drawn from 20 junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government in the study area. The student and teachers were considered because they are in the better position to provide the researcher with the required data. The population of the study comprises of 40 teachers and 1,600 students. A sample size of 35 teachers and 130 student with a total of 165 teachers and students were selected using purposive, and convenience sampling technique were duly responded to and retrieved for analysis. However, the questionnaires were given to 3 specialists from the Department of Vocational and Technical Education two experts from Measurement and Evaluation Unit, all in Benue State University, Makurdi for face and content validity. The items on the instrument were adjudged suitable for the study. It was also piloted tested on 30 business studies teachers and students who were not part of the population. A reliability coefficient of 0.79 was established using Cronbach Alpa's method. The instrument for this study was researchers designed questionnaire tagged "Questionnaire for Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies (QAUETETLBS)". The instrument for data collection was divided into 2 sections. Section "A", elicited information on the demographic data of the respondent, while section "B", elicited information on the various variables of the study. All questionnaire distributed were retrieved this gave a 100 percent return rate. Simple percentage was used in answering research question 1 and 2, a percentage below 50% was regarded as less available while the mean statistic was used in answering research questions 2 and 3. A mean of 2.5 was considered as the cut off point for decision such that a mean that falls below 2.5 was regarded as less utilized while a mean response equal to or above 2.5 was regarded as highly utilized.

**Research Questions**

1. What is the level of availability of tools and equipment for teaching and learning garment teaching Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State?

**Table 1: Level of availability of tools and equipment for teaching and learning Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State.**

S/No	Tools And Equipment	Available		Less Available		Decision
		Frequency	Percentage (%)	Frequency	Percentage (%)	
1	Computer	60	36.36	105	63.64	Less available
2	Manual typewriter	35	21.21	130	78.78	Less available
3	Drop desk/typist desk	66	40	99	60	Less available
4	Swivel typing chairs	67	40.60	98	59.39	Less available
5	Instructor's chair	56	39.93	109	66.06	Less Available
6	Instructor's table	134	82.21	31	18.78	Available
7	wall projectors	143	86.66	22	13.33	Available
8	Stapling machine	148	89.69	17	10.30	Available
9	Stapling remover	32	19.39	133	80.60	Less available
10	Perforator	39	23.64	126	76.36	Less available
11	Wall clock	157	95.15	8	4.84	Available
12	Stop watch	33	20	132	80	Less Available
13	Demonstration stand	26	15.76	139	84.24	Less available
14	English dictionary	156	94.54	9	5.45	Available

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

---

15	Shorthand dictionary	24	14.55	141	86.45	Less available
16	Filing Cabinet	45	27.27	120	72.72	Less available
17	Filing trays	96	58.18	69	41.82	Less available
18	Adding machine	59	35.76	106	64.24	Less available
19	Listing machine	66	40	99	60	Less available
20	Tape recorder	36	21.82	129	76.18	Less available
21	Headphones	76	40.06	89	53.94	Less available
22	Punching machine	59	35.76	106	63.64	Not available
23	Photocopier	17	10.30	148	89.70	Less available
24	stationary for lesson aids	23	13.94	142	86.06	Less available
25	Recommended textbooks used in teaching business studies	54	32.73	111	69.27	Less available
26	Ruled spread sheet	56	33.94	109	66.06	Less available
27	Booklets of ruled ledger sheet	45	27.27	120	72.72	Less available
28	Analysis sheets for trial balancing	32	19.39	133	80.60	Less available
29	chalk board	157	95.15	8	4.85	Available
30	Any other latest office equipment in the market	65	39.39	100	60.60	Less available

Data in Table 1 shows that few of the tools and equipments are available for teaching and learning business studies with percentage scores ranging from 50% and above they include Instructor’s table, wall projectors, Stapling machine, Wall clock, English dictionary, and chalk board while percentage scores ranging from 49 below is considered less available.

2. The rate of the use of available equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State

**Table 2. Mean Ratings of the Responses of Teachers and Students on the rate of Utilization of available tools and equipment**

S/No	Tools/Equipment	Teacher		Student		Average Mean	Remarks
		X <sub>1</sub>	SD <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	SD <sub>2</sub>		
1	Computer	2.57	.65	2.51	.81	2.54	HU
2	Manual typewriter	1.91	.79	2.11	.95	2.01	L
	Drop desk/typist desk	1.66	.97	2.18	1.16	1.92	L
4	Swivel typing chairs	1.89	.72	2.05	.81	1.97	L
5	Instructor’s chair	2.45	.98	2.78	.81	2.62	HU
6	Instructor’s table	2.60	1.29	2.73	1.15	2.67	HU
7	wall projectors	3.63	1.26	2.78	1.09	2.71	HU
8	Stapling machine	3.60	.60	2.99	.99	3.30	HU
9	Stapling remover	1.66	.97	2.25	1.14	1.96	L
10	Perforator	1.86	.69	1.94	.79	1.87	L
11	Wall clock	2.51	.83	2.56	.95	2.54	HU
12	Stop watch	1.66	.97	2.17	1.16	1.92	L
13	Demonstration stand	3.26	.82	2.96	.86	3.11	HU
14	English dictionary	2.63	1.37	2.72	1.19	2.68	HU
15	Shorthand dictionary	2.03	1.01	2.12	.99	2.08	L
16	Filing Cabinet	2.51	.68	2.48	.92	2.50	HU
17	Filing trays	1.66	.97	2.16	1.06	1.91	L
18	Adding machine	2.51	.87	2.58	.83	2.55	HU
19	Listing machine	2.29	.75	2.22	.94	2.26	HU
20	Tape recorder	1.66	.97	2.15	1.08	1.90	L
21	Headphones	2.03	.75	2.48	.89	2.26	L
22	Punching machine	2.00	1.06	2.27	1.15	2.14	L

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

23	Photocopier	2.48	1.08	2.55	1.23	2.52	HU
24	Stationary for lesson aids	2.50	1.08	2.58	.92	2.54	HU
25	Recommended textbooks used in teaching business studies	2.51	.68	2.83	1.21	2.67	HU
26	Ruled spread sheet	2.11	1.21	1.94	.79	2.03	L
27	Booklets of ruled ledger sheet	2.29	.83	2.22	.94	2.26	L
28	Analysis sheets for trial balancing	2.94	1.21	3.00	1.26	2.97	HU
29	Chalk board	3.74	.85	2.87	1.16	3.31	HU
30	Any other latest office equipment in the market	2.17	.79	2.15	.96	2.16	L

Data in Table 2 revealed that students and teachers agreed that they highly utilize the following equipment and tools for teaching and learning with average mean of 2.50 above are: Computer (2.54), Instructor’s chair (2.62), Instructor’s table (2.67), wall projectors (2.71), Stapling machine (3.30), Wall clock (2.54), Demonstration stand (3.11), English dictionary (2.68), Filing Cabinet (2.50), Adding machine (2.55), Listing machine (2.26), Photocopier (2.52), Stationary for lesson aids (2.54), Recommended textbooks used in teaching business studies (2.67), Analysis sheets for trial balancing (2.97) and Chalk board (3.31) and items with average mean of 2.40 below are lowly utilize.

3. Strategies for minimizing the challenges encountered by teachers and students in utilizing facilities for effective teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State

**Table 3. Strategies for improving the rate at which government supply tools and equipment to junior secondary schools for effective teaching of Business studies.**

S/No	Strategies	Teacher		Student		Average Mean	Remarks
		X <sub>1</sub>	SD <sub>1</sub>	X <sub>2</sub>	SD <sub>2</sub>		
1	Government/school owners should equip secondary schools with modern tools and equipment as recommended for effective teaching and learning	2.53	.97	2.57	.99	2.55	HU
2	Recommended textbooks used in teaching business studies should be made available in schools	2.61	.69	2.71	1.14	2.66	L
	School management should be enlighten to know the dangers of teaching business studies without the use of recommended tools and equipment	2.56	.83	2.68	.79	2.62	L
4	Teachers of business studies should be encouraged by promotion and awarded based on performance	2.59	.97	3.25	.95	2.92	L
5	Awards should be given to best performing students in the subject.	2.54	.82	3.28	1.16	2.91	HU
6	Government/school owners should ensure that teachers of business	2.66	1.37	2.63	.86	2.65	HU

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

	education are sent on regular courses so as to be aware update basis and ensure						
7	Tools and equipments should properly maintained by teachers and students	3.53	1.01	2.81	1.19	3.17	HU

Data in Table 3 shows the respondents accepted all the items as strategies the government/schools owners can adopt for the purpose of improving the supply of tools and equipment for effective teaching and learning business studies at junior secondary schools in Makurdi Local Government of Benue State.

**Discussion of Findings**

The findings in table 1 revealed that the tools and equipment available are grossly inadequate in the teaching and learning of business studies. This entails that teaching vocational subject in schools required tools and equipments as business studies required them for practical application for student’s academic achievement, retention and application of skills Obidile (2020) support this with his view that skills can only be learnt in vocational subjects when all requisite tools, equipment and materials are available for the teaching and learning process. The findings agree with that of Miler and Akume (2009) which revealed that business studies equipment needed for effective teaching and learning of business studies at the junior secondary school are grossly inadequate and most cases unavailable in most school the findings also is line with Owuor (2010) who stated that inadequate staff to carry out the implementation of curriculum planned, lack of instructional materials and overcrowded classrooms are some of the administrative challenges to business studies teaching and learning at junior secondary schools.

The findings in table 2 revealed that there is high rate use of available equipment for the teaching and learning of Business Education at junior secondary schools. The findings agree with that of Duunbari and Amaewhule (2019) who’s finding revealed that resources (tools and equipments) were highly utilized. It was stated that 58% of the equipments like projectors, computers, chalk board, wall projectors, Stapling machine, Wall clock, and English dictionary are used. However, this implies that the available tools and equipment are used for teaching and learning by

teachers and students in schools for effective teaching and learning of business studies at junior secondary schools.

Findings as of table 3 as well indicates that there are strategies for improving the supply, teaching and maintenance of tools and equipment by teachers and students at junior secondary schools for the effective teaching and learning of Business Studies. This findings is in line with that of (Uwameiye, 2016) who pointed out that, most educators use diversity of instructional material which augment the prospect that students who study more to produce better effective skills.

## **Conclusion and Recommendation**

### **Conclusion**

Based on the findings of the study it is concluded that tools and equipment for the teaching and learning business studies in Makurdi Local Government are grossly inadequate and unavailable but the few available ones are highly utilized in most schools.

### **Recommendation**

Based on the findings from the study, the following recommendations were made:

1. Government/school owners should equip secondary schools with modern tools and equipment as recommended for effective teaching and learning.
2. Schools should organize trainings to update the knowledge of teachers for the effective use of available tools and equipment and consumables in schools.
3. Schools should ensure proper monitoring and supervision and maintenance of available tools and equipments.

## **References**

- Anyakaorah, D.C. (2020). Availability of Teaching Facilities for Teaching and Learning business studies in junior Senior Secondary Schools in Enugu North of L.G.A Enugu State, *African Journal of Educational Management, Teaching and Entrepreneurship Studies*, Vol.3.
- Duunebayi, V.D., & Amaewhule, W. (2019). Availability and Adequacy of Resources for Teaching Business Studies in Junior Secondary School in South East Senatorial District, Rivers State. *A Journal of School Innovative Social & Science Education Research*, 7(4):64-70.
- Eneasoba, N.C. (2019). an evaluation of equipment for teaching and learning of business studies in public Junior Secondary Schools in Enugu State. *international Journal of Vocational and Technical Education*, Vol. 10(7), pp. 54-60.

***Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for the Effective Teaching and Learning of Business Studies at Junior Secondary Schools in Makurdi Local Government Area of Benue State, Nigeria***

---

- Eze, I.T. (2005). Analysis and Criticism of Models of Teacher Education. A paper presented at the National Conference on Teacher Education, Kaduna, held at the National Teachers Institute, Kaduna 25th – 29th September.
- Federal Republic of Nigeria, (2007). National Policy of Education Lagos: NERDC Press.
- Miller, O, Akume B.C. (2020). The State of Equipment Provision and Maintenance for the Teaching of Business Studies at The Junior Secondary School Level in Delta State. *Business Education Journal*, 7(1): 175-182.
- Nwogu, B.G, (2006). *Educational Research: Basic Issues and Methodology*. Ibadan: Wisdom Wisdom Publishers.
- Owuorm, M.I. (2010). Administration Challenges Faced by Secondary Schools and Head Teachers in Starche Division Nairobi Kenya University.
- Ubulom, W.J. (1999). *Pedagogy of Business Education*. Port Harcourt: Minson Publishers.
- Usman, M.A. (2016). Assessment of Availability and Utilization of International Materials in Wamakko Local Government Primary Schools Unpublished B.Ed. Project Usman Danfodiyo University, Sokoto. Sokoto.
- Uwameiye, B.E (2016). Availability and Utilization of Tools and Equipment for Teaching and Learning Garment Making Trade in the Senior Secondary Schools in Edo State *International Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences and Education (IJHSSE)*, Vol. 3(3), pp. 12-18.