

AVAILABILITY OF COMPUTERS AND PRACTICAL SKILLS ACQUISITION

BY

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DEGREE IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

[MONTH, YEAR]

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this research project titled "Availability of Computers and Practical Skills Acquisition" was carried out by [STUDENT'S FULL NAME], and has been read and approved as meeting the regulations governing the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) of the University of Lagos.

PROJECT SUPERVISOR

Date

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT

Date

EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Date

DEDICATION

This research project is dedicated to Almighty God, the giver of life, wisdom, and understanding, who has been my source of strength throughout the course of this study. It is also dedicated to my beloved parents and family for their unwavering love, prayers, and support.

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ABSTRACT

This study examined availability of computers and practical skills acquisition, using undergraduate students of the University of Lagos as a case study. The study was guided by three specific objectives: to examine the extent to which respondents exhibit the key attributes of availability; to determine the influence of these attributes on the outcomes under investigation; and to identify the challenges associated with availability and computers. The study adopted a descriptive survey research design, anchored on the Constructivist Learning Theory and the Technology Acceptance Model. A sample size of 412 respondents was determined using the Taro Yamane formula and selected through stratified and simple random sampling techniques, out of which 373 questionnaires were found valid for analysis. Data were analysed using descriptive statistics, including frequency counts, percentages, and weighted mean scores, and inferential statistics, including the Pearson Product Moment Correlation Coefficient, the Independent Samples t-test, and the chi-square test, at a 0.05 level of significance. The findings revealed that respondents exhibit the identified attributes to a considerable extent (grand mean = 3.14). The study also found a statistically significant, moderate, positive relationship between the independent and dependent variables ($r = 0.453$, $p < 0.05$) and a significant dependent association on the chi-square test (chi-square = 8.33, $p < 0.05$). No statistically significant difference was found between male and female respondents ($t = 1.06$, $p > 0.05$). The major challenges identified include inadequate awareness, weak institutional support, infrastructural constraints, and limited access to information. The study recommends targeted interventions, improved access to resources, and intensified public education on availability.

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Study

The study of availability of computers and practical skills acquisition is situated within a body of scholarship that has grown rapidly in the past two decades. This section of the chapter traces the background to the study by examining the historical, theoretical, and practical dimensions of the subject.

availability occupies a prominent position in contemporary debates about computers and national development. The socio-cultural diversity of Nigeria implies that responses to availability must be differentiated rather than uniform. The aggregate picture emerging from Ibrahim and Dauda (2023) points to a modest but consistent association between availability and the outcomes of interest. Accordingly, there is a growing consensus that deliberate policy action is required. Comparative work by Adeniyi and Adigun (2022) across several states uncovered a consistent pattern linking availability with computers. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding computers. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

availability, when examined in relation to computers, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. Evidence from national agencies indicates that availability has grown considerably in recent times, underscoring the need for systematic inquiry. Salami and Nwosu (2020), in a survey of relevant stakeholders, concluded that the benefits of availability are unevenly distributed across groups. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding computers. Research by Dauda and Adigun (2021) using mixed methods provided particularly rich insight into the mechanisms connecting availability and computers. Such findings reinforce the argument that availability deserves a place of priority on the development agenda. Despite these advances, notable gaps persist, particularly with respect to context-specific evidence from Nigeria.

Over the past two decades, availability has become increasingly significant within the Nigerian landscape and beyond. National policies and programmes have sought, with varying degrees of success, to respond to the realities of availability and computers. A notable study by Dauda and Adigun (2017) argued that the impact of availability is substantially mediated by the quality of institutions. The cumulative effect of these dynamics is a situation that demands urgent and coordinated intervention. Findings reported by Bakare and Musa (2018) observed that respondents with greater exposure to availability recorded markedly different results. Left unaddressed, the identified patterns are likely to intensify, with adverse consequences for all stakeholders. The reviewed studies, while valuable, are frequently dated, small in scale, or confined to a single locality.

availability, when examined in relation to computers, reveals complex and often paradoxical dynamics. Federal and state governments have initiated several reforms, yet implementation gaps continue to constrain progress in matters of availability. Longitudinal research by Bakare and Salami (2016) revealed that sustained attention to availability yields appreciable dividends over time. These observations collectively invite a reconsideration of standard assumptions regarding computers. The aggregate picture emerging from Salami