

MY RESEARCH FOCUS

My research works focus on literacy, language and communication development in promoting reading and writing skills of in-school adolescents and adult learners. Some of my research works on literacy have advocated multicultural literacy and meta-language approach for promoting unity in a multicultural country like Nigeria; the adoption of political literacy education as a developmental approach for ensuring sustainable democracy, as well as the understanding and utilisation of T. S. Elliot's 'Murder in the Cathedral' work for building a violence-free world. I have also carried out researches on indices of teaching effectiveness for enhancing reading and writing skills of primary school pupils, in-school adolescents and adult learners.

At the primary school level, I have advocated the adoption of visual literacy and whole language principles for improving reading efficiency of primary school pupils. At the secondary school level, I have advocated the adoption of the literature-based and skill-based approaches for enhancing reading comprehension of expository texts of in-school adolescents and the imbibing of textual schema for improving secondary school students' performance in continuous writing. For adult literacy programmes, I have advocated the effective use of phonics approach for improving adult learners' achievement in reading at basic literacy level; multi-literacies for facilitating English language learning among adult learners in literacy classes; the establishment of reading clubs for neo-literate adult learners; the retelling approach for improving the literal and interpretive comprehension levels of adult learners in extramural literacy centres; the understanding of the predictors that help ensure adult learners' knowledge expansion at literacy centres; the adoption of family literacy for ensuring good governance at the grassroot level in Nigeria; the development of alternative literacy teaching approach for adult learners in order to avoid possible relapse into non-literacy as well as the development, utilisation of primers for functional literacy skills acquisition among adult learners.

Based on these various outcomes on the researches for improving adult learners' learning efficiency, I have strongly advocated the need for the repositioning of tertiary adult education curriculum to meet the growing needs of adult learners in a globalised world. I have also carried out researches on language and communication development in relation to Adult Education as a field of study. These research works include the understanding of the importance of language consideration in public participation in governance; the understanding of the inter-language features of adult learners for improving their continuous writing; the adoption of Language Experience Approach (LEA) for generating learners' content and for ensuring adult learners' motivation, retention and persistence in learning programmes; the in-depth analysis of the tremendous roles the media have played in the development of Adult Education as a field of study; the psycho-social factors that help improve women's productivity and performance in the print media; the utilisation of indigenous communication for integrating outcaste victims with special reference to widows and Osu Caste in South-East Nigeria; the understanding of the correlates of marital stability among Igbo couples in Nigeria and the understanding of the roles of language educators in the management of language disorders among adult learners. Similarly, my research works have also covered the area of information and communication technology (ICT) and I have advocated the need for facilitators in adult learning programmes to possess the basic knowledge of ICT and be able to utilise same for promoting effective and permanent learning among adult learners.

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