

## Dear IJONTE Readers,

IJONTE appears on your screen now as Volume 3, Number: 2. In this issue it publishes 14 articles. And this time, 26 authors from 7 different countries are placed. These are India, Iran, Nigeria, Taiwan, Turkey, USA and Zimbabwe.

The first article is from USA and TURKEY on "THE EFFECTS OF COOPERATIVE LEARNING ON TURKISH STUDENTS' READING FLUENCY" written by Kasim YILDIRIM, Timothy RASINSKI and Hayati AKYOL. Kasim YILDIRIM from Ahi Evran University, Timothy RASINSKI from Kent State University and Hayati AKYOL from Gazi University. A quasi-experimental design was employed to evaluate the effectiveness of cooperative learning intervention. An experimental group and two control groups participated in the study. The cooperative learning fluency instruction was used in the experimental group while the traditional fluency instruction was used in the control groups. The author analyzed the data by using a one way analysis of covariance to test the differences between the experimental and control groups on post-test scores.

The second article came from Mehmet Akif Ersoy University, TURKEY. Article is titled as "EVALUATION OF BEGINNING READING AND WRITING SOFTWARES", written by Derya ARSLAN and Abdullah ATIS. The purpose of this study is to evaluate the beginning reading and writing software. In the study, document review which is one of the qualitative research techniques was used. Nine beginning reading-writing softwares randomly selected from the education software CD's used in teaching of reading-writing in primary education of first grade students constituted the study group of the research.

The third article is from INDIA. It is on "ENHANCING SPIRITUALISM IN VIRTUAL WORLD", conducted by Kiran Lata DANGWAL, Shireesh Pal SINGH. Kiran Lata DANGWAL from University of Lucknow and Shireesh Pal SINGH from Indira Gandhi National Open University. Spiritualism is one word which puts man on the highest plinth of life. Spirituality is the way we find meaning, hope, comfort and inner peace in life. Spirituality in the virtual World is generally known as Virtual Spirituality. A goldmine of wisdom from all kinds of religious and spiritual philosophies, traditions and practices can be found in virtual World now. Technology and Spirituality together forms the material to which man can incline on to and work for the development of a globe in which war will be considered a taboo and violence a rejected dogma. Therefore there is an urgent need to make the world a safe place to live in and the spiritual reconstruction can help us in achieving this.

The fourth article which is entitled as "READING ATTITUDES OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: AN ANALYSIS FROM DIFFERENT VARIABLES" written by Gokhan BAS from Selçuk University, Education Faculty, Konya, TURKEY. The purpose of this research is to determine the reading attitudes of high school ninth and twelfth grade students based on some variables. The researcher used 'general survey method' in the study. Totally 426 students from six public high schools, chosen according to random sampling method participated in the research. In order to answer the research questions in the study, "the Attitude Scale Towards Reading" was used.

The fifth article which is entitled as "OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING STUDENTS' VIEWS ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF WEEKEND SCHOOL TUTORIALS" written by Augustine Kudakwashe MUBIKA and Richard BUKALIYA from Zimbabwe Open University ZIMBABWE. The present study was a descriptive survey carried out at the ZOU to establish the students' views on the effectiveness of weekend school tutorials. The study adopted the descriptive survey design which is essentially appropriate on areas where human perceptions are required. Due to its ability to solicit information deeply buried in the minds and attitudes of people, and its ability to reveal the true present state of affairs in a given set up, the design was seen to be the most

appropriate one. Three instruments used in data collection were the questionnaire, interview schedule and documentary evidence to enable triangulation in order to enhance validity and reliability of data. A total of 982 students from all the four faculties of the Zimbabwe Open University,

The sixth article arrived from ZIMBABWE, which is prepared on “DISTANCE EDUCATION AND THE RURAL-URBAN PROFESSIONAL MIGRATION: IMPLICATIONS FOR EFFICIENCY” written by Richard BUKALIYA from Zimbabwe Open University. This present study sought to establish the reasons as to why teachers studying through the Zimbabwe Open University were in droves, forwarding applications for transfer to go and teach in peri or urban schools in the guise of distance education. The study sought to establish which aspects of the ZOU ODL mode gave rise to rural-urban teacher migration, what the perceived gains of urban residence by the migrating teachers were, what present and existing characteristics at the present school/station inhibited successful continuous development through open and distance learning and how best the problem of teacher migration due to wanting to study through open and distance learning could be solved. Since the current study was all about teachers` perceptions, the major research design adopted was the cross sectional survey which entailed obtaining data at a single point in time and using just one questionnaire and an in-depth/ethnographic interview schedule as data collection instruments.

The seventh article came from IRAN. Article is titled as “THE EFFECTS OF PUPPOSIVE DRAWING ON DYSGRAPHIC DISORDER”, written by Zahra NIKMANESH, Yahya KAZEMI, and Zahra KHERADMAND. Learning Disability (L.D) may be a neurobehavioral disorder that causes defects in speaking, writing, listening, thinking, reading, spelling, or mathematical calculation. Handwriting is an important skill, related to school performance and the child's self-esteem. The present study explores the effectiveness of the Purposive Drawing Program (PDP) to treatment dysgraphia disorder. The population of this research includes 493 girl students in first grad of primary schools with dysgraphic disorder.

The eighth article arrived again from ZIMBABWE and was written on “ZIMBABWE OPEN UNIVERSITY'S BACHELOR OF EDUCATION STUDENTS' ATTITUDES ON THE USE OF ICT IN THEIR STUDIES” by Tichaona MAPOLISA and Chipso CHIRIMUUTA in Zimbabwe Open University. This case study called for a high level of commitment with research participants whose experiences researchers were trying to investigate. The study could bring to the fore the new knowledge about ODL students' attitudes towards the use of ICT in their studies so that ODL policy makers could take the necessary courses of action to correct situations that let down the quality of education their universities offer. In terms of theory, this study was guided by the critical theory.

Article nine is on IS E-LEARNING NECESSARY FOR UNIVERSITY STUDENTS? (A CASE FROM IRAN) ” which is written by Faranak OMIDIAN and Fatemeh KEYVANIFARD, Islamic Azad University. This study was conducted to investigate these questions should e-learning be used to reduce travel related stress? should e-learning be offered fully online to reach students living in remote areas? should e-learning be adopted to allow working students to study from home? Pressure to use e-learning was developed as a factor to answer above questions. Data was collected through a survey of 400 post graduate students at Tehran University.

The tenth article is titled as “ASSESSING THE INFLUENCE OF UNIVERSAL BASIC EDUCATION (UBE) FACILITIES ON PUPIL ENROLMENT, TEACHER POPULATION AND TEACHER - PUPIL RATIO IN OGUN STATE PUBLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS OF NIGERIA” from NIGERIA and was written Muiyiwa ADEYEMI. This current study is with the specific objective of assessing the influence of Universal Basic Education (UBE) Facilities on pupil enrolment, teacher population and their classroom ratio in the teaching and learning process in Ogun State public primary schools of Nigeria. This was achieved by comparing schools with the UBE facilities and those without these facilities.

The eleventh article is titled as “COMPARATIVE INVESTIGATION OF ORGANIZATIONAL FACTORS CREATING OCCUPATIONAL STRESS AMONG HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS IN ZAHEDAN” from IRAN and was written Abdulwahab POURGHAZ. Present research aims to determine the amount of occupational stress and to identify

organizational factors creating occupational stress among high school Principals in Zahedan. Research used was a descriptive-surveying method. Statistical population of research involved all high school principals of Zahedan city. The sample contained 150 principals (78 female, 72 male) who had been selected by stratified-random sampling. Data-collecting tool consisted of :William Dyer's" questionnaire of occupational stress and researcher made questionnaire of effective organizational factors in creating stress with 29 questions on "Lickert's" five-optional scale.

Article twelve arrived from TURKEY. The subject of the article is "DEMOCRATIC PRACTICES IN SCHOOL MANAGEMENT AND CEOCRACY" and written by Ramazan YIRCI from Sütçü Imam University, Kahramanmaraş. The purpose of this study is to give a general framework about ceocracy as a management approach that is based on people's actively participation in the decision making process, and to discuss on how to use ceocracy in educational organizations. In the light of the reviewed literature, it is clear that ceocracy can be used in the management of educational organizations.

The thirteen article is titled as "HEDGING DEVICES BY NATIVE ANF NON-NATIVE PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCHERS" from IRAN and was written Sina NASIRI. The purpose of the present study was to examine the frequency and different types of hedging devices in Discussion sections of Research Articles (RAs) in the area of Psychology. To this end, 20 RAs in English were selected form the leading journal; 10 by native English speaker researchers and 10 by Iranian researchers. After categorizing hedging devices based on Salager-Meyer's (1994) taxonomy, chi-square procedure utilized and it was found that there was no significant difference between native and non-native writers in terms of utilizing hedging devices in their Discussion sections.

The last article is from ZIMBABWE. It is entitled as "A FACTOR ANALYSIS STUDY ON TEAM COOPERATION QUALITY OF UNIVERSITY FACULTIES IN TAIWAN – DARK SIDE EFFECTS OF RELATIONSHIPS ON TEAM COHESION-" and written by Mingchang WU, Shi-Chang TSENG, Chiu-Hsiung CHUANG and Chun-Shuo HSU from TAIWAN. This study was conducted to identify the factors inspiring team cooperation among universities in pursuit of teaching quality improvement. Data were collected from 146 faculty members belonging to 18 universities in Taiwan, who participated in inter-instituted cooperative projects for teaching quality improvement.

Cordially,

Editors

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