

**Research Article**

**DOI:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.22192/ijamr.2025.12.08.005>

# **Ineffective use of Personalized Study Time Table: Existential Wastage of Earned Resources among Students in Public Higher Educational Institutions in Nigeria**

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## **Abstract**

This paper is investigated ineffective use of personalized study time table: Existential wastage of earned resources among students in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria. Descriptive research survey design was adopted for this study. Imo State University Owerri is among the universities Nigeria meanwhile, Imo State University is chosen to represent entire universities in Nigeria. Two research questions and two hypotheses guided this study. Population of this study is 7,000 which comprised 4,500 males and 2,500 female students of Imo State University Owerri.. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select 34 male students each in life science education and business administration. In the same vein, 23 female students were selected each in department of health science and economics, which gave a total sample size of 114 students selected as sample size. Researcher developed questionnaire titled “ineffective use of

### Keywords

Meaning of Education, Cost of Education, Meaning of Wastage, Meaning of Educational Wastage, Students with Learning Difficulties, Drop outs from Schools, Repeaters.

personalized time table: Existential wastage of earned resources among students in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria” was used, with four rating scales of strongly agree, agree, disagree and strongly disagree. The instrument was validated by two specialists in Business Education, Madonna University Nigeria, Okija campus, Anambra State. Cronbach alpha statistics was used to determine the reliability coefficient of this study at 0.78 and 0.97, which shows that the instrument was reliable for use on this study. The instrument was administered to students with the help of two research assistants. Student’s responses were collected and analyzed using mean and standard deviation. Chi Square -test of independent was used to test the hypotheses. The findings from this study revealed that inadequate use of personalized time table for effective preparations during examinations causes students failures. The findings revealed that student’s failures are imminent in public higher educational institutions. This is because, students waste more of their times on films and games with ICT facilities instead of using the ICT facilities for their studies. It was recommended from this study that public higher educational institutions in Nigeria, should organize seminar on effective study habits in school and at home. This would enable students make use of their self-study time table to engage in personalized studies to overcome their learning difficulties in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria. It was also, recommended on this study that government should provide scholarships to students. This would reduce the sufferings of students and their well-wishers on high cost of paying tuition fees in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria.

## Introduction

Nigeria is a country where people have held education to a high esteem. There is astronomical increase on students’ enrollment in private and public higher educational institutions in Nigeria.

### Meaning of Education

Education is a pivot in which the economy of nations revolves. Any nation that pays lip service to education will inadvertently wallows in a state of colossal loss because, the geniuses that supposed to control or man that countries health sector, power, engineering sector, legal education sectors will not be trained. Lack of those sectors will cause confusion, devastations or chaos in that country’s economy. When education is dispossessed from a child, that child is in a great loss. Education is the eye and the way people of different cultures uses to see and obtain the gains of the future (Anyagwu, 2016). It is the process whereby the needed technological skills, expertise, acceptable attitudes and cultures are permanently imparted in the lives of students thus, modifying student’s behavior in a positive way. Education is imperative for human

development. It started from the day a person is born and continues till the day the person will die (Ukrebor, 2005). No country, state or local government can say no to education because it is a strong pillar of positive economic development. Education provides both social and private good to those that have acquired it. Private good from education comprised resources like money, self -prestige people earns from being educated. In the same vein, social good from education comprised those respects, regards and respected positions people gives to the educated.

### Students Self- Study Time Table

Multitudes of learning or instructions being delivered to students suggests that students should have personalized time table to conceptualize, chronicle and internalize what they are thought in the classroom in bits and in holistic way. Self-study time table is suitable for students varied learning needs. Effective self-study time table and students devotedness to learn are panaceas for gathering excellent academic feats by students. Self-study time table cannot be over-emphasized on students preparations during examinations. Times students allocated to a course in their

personal study time table determine the learning experiences students will gain or earn from that course. Effective time tabling is important for every student. Personalized learning does not mean that students should loaf about or refuse to put more efforts to their studies. Flexibility in academics means that students should study at their own time or pace but, with more efforts of studying better than their colleagues in their level or department. Personalized time table is considered a responsibility to be drafted and adhered with as well as opportunity for each student to tailor their studies to their learning needs. It is alarming that some students do not make constant use of their personal time table at home and their comfort homes. The raves of games, films and pornographic films watched and played with portable technologies have caused unimaginable failures to students. Information and communication technologies like handsets, desks tops, lap tops and pam tops are esoteric learning media by which students can use to get solutions to their research, assignments and possible guides for answering examinations. It is saddening that students of this 21<sup>st</sup> century have particularly divorced the academic importance of those ICT facilities to other extraneous uses. Inability to pay less attention to films and games watched with ICT facilities have been a very herculean task by students.

### **Cost of Education**

Cost is inevitable in education. Managers make use of cost to ascertain expenses incurred in their business. Cost management is imperative for determining expenses and incomes. In every human endeavours, where losses or gains are anticipated, cost management is important for determining of gains and losses.

Cost of education is defined as the aggregate of all the resources spent on training or production of effective manpower needed in a country by educational institutions. It is the total amount of money spent on training or production of graduates from different levels of educational institutions in a country. Cost of education is also,

defined as the total amount spent on procurement of real resources for education. Those real resources include: payment of academic and non-academic staff salaries, procurement of educational facilities. As stated from the beginning, no educational institutions can exist without determining cost. Cost is a strong determinant of progresses and failures of any business.

### **Private Cost of Education**

Vagaries of resources parents and guardians spent for the education of their wards, is called private cost of education. Private cost of education is borne by the students or their parents. It comprised of tuition costs, costs of books, lodging, uniform, meals bought by students (Oguji, 2001). However, there are opportunity cost in education. Opportunity cost in education is also, known as indirect cost of education. It is the income forgone by the students during the periods of their education. Private cost of education is made up vagaries of costs forgone during acquisition of educational programme. It is the income forgone after tax.

### **Meaning of Wastage**

Wastage is the process of whereby human or an object losses its values. It is the process whereby an object or a phenomena losses its value due to climatic conditions or over use. Wastage as it regards to human beings, is a condition whereby human beings develop inability to meet up with their potentials or prospects due to ineffective preparations in their lives endeavours.

### **Meaning of Educational Wastage**

Wastage in education refers to a condition in which an investment in education do not yield desired results at a level unbeneficial to the targets set for it. Wastage in education is a reflection of lack of internal efficiency which hinged on inadequate supply of educational resources to education industries in Nigeria. Wastage in education is made up of material and human wastage (Odu 2013). Human wastage in education include: Drop outs, repeaters, failures at

the end of a cycle, death and slay outs. Frequent drop out of youths from higher educational Institutions have continued to increase due to students perceptual deficits during delivery of instructions. On the other hand, material wastage in education is observed in public tertiary education institutions where majority of roofs of lecture halls are blown off due to poor maintenance culture on them. Material wastage is observed in public universities, colleges of educations and polytechnics where facilities such as chairs, desks, books, vehicles, computers sets are lying wasted due to high handedness of the sun, rains, wear and tear.

Educational wastage is a situation whereby a student is unable to meet up with the teaching and learning offered in his or her levels of education. It is a situation whereby a student or group of students show perceptual deficits from the teachings and learning offered in higher educational institutions. It is also, a situation whereby a student or group of students show apathy to the curriculum offered in higher educational institutions or resist being obedient to rules and regulations in higher educational institutions in Nigeria in which the resultant effects is failures.

In the whole world, there are different attitudes student portray which endangers their future or prospects in higher educational institutions. Most of these attitudes or behavior include: thuggery, cultism, stealing, rape, robbery, violence. Public higher educational institutions have established rules and regulations that guard against perpetration of inordinate attitudes. Higher educational institutions rules and regulations are approved in Nigeria by the National Universities Commission (NUC). Higher educational institutions rules and regulations are also, called code of conducts. Those code of conducts or rules and regulations are contained in the students hand books. Violation of any of the rules or regulations contained in the students hand book attracts severer disciplinary actions against students. This is one of the reasons why, majority of students are rusticated from higher educational institutions in Nigeria. It is saddening that some students do

continue with those unwanted behaviours in their new higher educational institutions in Nigeria. Inordinate behaviors are canker worms eating deep in the fabrics of students in Nigeria and in the Diasporas countries of world.

### **Students with Learning Difficulties**

It is saddening that there are students with learning difficulties in higher educational institutions in Nigeria. Students with learning difficulties are also, seen in higher educational institutions in diasporas countries of the world. Learning difficulty is a situation whereby a student or group of students show perceptual deficits to what a lecturer or group of lecturers have thought them in the lecture hall or classroom (Christian, 2025). Slow learners are students that possess learning difficulty in their learning. On the other hand, learning difficulty also reflect on how fast learners learn because sometimes, they are not methodic in their learning. However, students with health problems exhibit difficulties in their learning. Some students whom their health problems started right from their birth exhibit difficulty in their learning. Students with severe or partial visual impairment exhibit poor perceptual and visual deficit in their learning. There are different kinds of health problems that prevent students from learning. Those health problems include: legs, belly, eye impairments. Students suffering from any of these health problems are devastated in their academic pursuit on health grounds. Vast majority of students whom their cases are so severe do not do well in their semester quizzes and examinations. These are reasons why there are multitudes of repeaters in higher educational institutions in Nigeria.

### **Dropout from School**

There are different problems that can constrain a student from learning. Some of these problems include: Inadequate financial strength, sickness, diseases, poor performances in examinations. Others include: thuggery, stealing, rape, cultism and fighting. Any of the above problems can constrain a student from doing well in his or her examinations. Expulsion causes some students

into be a drop out. If parent of expelled child do not have financial resources to carry out education of that child in another higher educational institutions, that student will be a dropout of school. However, some students can be a dropout from school if they are unable to cope with what is offered in the curriculum of their higher educational institutions where they are schooling. Furthermore, some students dropped out from school due to deviant or inordinate attitudes. However, some students can drop from going to school when their health conditions are not palpable or manageable by them. Some students drop out of schools because they have pile up of carry overs. They are ascribed to as never do well in schools, work places, and higher educational institutions educations (Mbah, 2008). Dropouts are observed in both public and private higher educational institutions in Nigeria.

### **Repeaters**

Repeaters are groups of students with learning difficulties which dove tails to many carry overs in their academic records in higher educational institutions in Nigeria. These groups of students do not go to lecture hall to receive lectures from their lecturers. Some of them do not care to make use of handsets, laptops and other learning enhanced technologies to learn. They do not participate in quizzes and seminars conducted in their schools. During semester presentations, those students inability to write their examinations shows lack of effective preparation. These are reasons why some students' performances in examinations are very poor. Repeaters are also observed in in primary and secondary schools in Nigeria. Educational wastages are caused by students and majorly on ineffectiveness of the educational system (Deribe, Endale & Ashebir, 2015).

### **People with Wrong Notion about Education**

In both Nigeria and in the whole world, people that developed wrong notions about education have continued to increase on daily basis. In line with the level of chronic unemployment in Nigeria and some part of the world, majority of

people have begun to develop wrong notions about the efficacy of education on human development. Those groups of people assert that students spent many years in higher educational institutions and graduate to drag menial jobs with those that do not go to school at trades and crafts workshops. In Nigeria, people that have already developed hatred to education are enormous. Chronic unemployment and staggering histories of Nigerian economy have caused people to stick to their erroneous stands about education (Obasi, 1987). Students schooling in higher educational institutions do not mean that those students are restricted from learning a trade. There are trades graduate can feat in before looking for white collar jobs. However, the National Policy on Education( 2014) provided that apart from going to school students are trained on jobs they can perfectly rely on for their self- sustenance especially, if those student finds out that those trade are lucrative to them (Nwankwo, 2017). People with wrong notions about education do not like schooling thus; they use every means to show apathy to it or resist it with vagaries of erroneous reasons. Some youths have ignored going to higher educational institutions because they are of the opinion that majority of graduates are unemployed in Nigeria and that schooling will waste them times to carve better niches for their survival (Nwadiani, 2000). Nwadiani). Vast majority of these reasons are the reasons why some bulks of financial and non-financial resources that are supposed to accommodate all students that enrolled for schooling in higher educational institutions in Nigeria are lying wasted or plundered for selfish reasons. Frequent movement of Nigerian professionals from educational industries in search of more reward jobs in developed countries of the world, possess significant setbacks on Nigerian economy as skills or technical knowhow of Nigerian professionals are harnessed abroad, while some students suffer for inadequate lecturers in Nigeria (Durosaro, 2012 & Christian, 2025)..



## Impacts of Inadequate Government Intervention in Education

Education has both the private good and the social good. Both social good and private good can be more rewarding and fascinating when government provides the needed manpower, facilities and financial logistics to education. Unfortunately, the needed the needed financial and non-financial resources are inadequately provided in education. In view of these short comings, scholarship are not provided to students to embark on their studies in Nigeria (Maduewesi, 2001) In Nigeria, the cost of education is very high. Education in Nigeria is exclusively provided for the children of rich families (Christian, 2024). Some students cannot afford their tuition fees, let alone feed themselves and provide other educational needs by themselves (Nosiri, 1997). These are among the reasons why some students drop out from schools without completing their academic programmes.

## Statement of the Problem

In Nigeria, number of youths that did not study in higher educational institutions in Nigeria have out- numbered those that studied in higher educational institutions. This is because, higher educational institutions tuition fees are high to bear by some students. Some students came from very poor families and could not further their education due to financial constraints. Some youths that depend from getting white collar jobs from private organizations do not find. Some government jobs which some youths hoped in Nigeria for their survival perhaps to finish their educations are not easy to come by due to the recruitment nepotism, god fatherism and other financial demands the poor youths cannot afford. The above reasons are reasons why some youths regarded higher education as a waste of their time and resources. Other reasons why there is educational wastage among youths in Nigeria include: Lack of adequate scholarship grants to indigent students in Nigeria, inadequate delivery of instructions in higher educational institutions among lecturers, inadequate examinations preparations among students, inadequate

instructional materials, lecture halls and students counseling. Others include: lack of regular salary payment and other emoluments as at when due to lecturers. These and more constitutes drop out of students in higher educational institutions educational in Nigeria.

## Methods

This paper is investigated ineffective use of personalized study time table: Existential wastage of earned resources among students in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria. Descriptive research survey design was adopted for this study. Imo State University Owerri is among the universities Nigeria meanwhile, Imo State University is chosen to represent entire universities in Nigeria. Two research questions and two hypotheses guided this study. Population of this study is 7,000 which comprised 4,500 males and 2,500 female students of Imo State University Owerri.. Stratified random sampling technique was used to select 34 male students each in life science education and business administration. In the same vein, 23 female students were selected each in department of health science and economics, which gave a total sample size of 114 students selected as sample size. Researcher developed questionnaire titled “ineffective use of personalized time table: Existential wastage of earned resources among students in public higher educational institutions in Nigeria” was used, with four rating scales of strongly agree, agree, dis agree and strongly disagree. The instrument was validated by two specialists in Business Education, Madonna University Nigeria, Okija campus, Anambra State. Cronbach alpha statistics was used to determine the reliability coefficient of this study at 0.78 and 0.97, which shows that the instrument was reliable for use on this study. The instrument was administered to students with the help of two research assistants. Student’s responses were collected and analyzed using mean and standard deviation. Chi Square -test of independent was instrument was reliable for use on this study. The instrument was administered to students with the help of two research assistants. Student’s

responses were collected and analyzed using mean and standard deviation. Chi Square -test of independent was used to test the hypotheses.

## Results

### What are the causes of dropouts in Imo State University Owerri ?

**Table 1: Shows causes of dropouts in Imo State University Owerri.**

S/N	Statements	X	S.D		X	S.D	Mean
1.	Inability of students to pay their tuition fees.	2.60	0.20	Agree	2.40	0.30	Agree
2.	Students inability to cope with instructions due to anxiety on evading from paying tuition fees	3.10	0.10	Agree	2.50	0.20	Agree
3.	Signs of poor feeding observed among some students due to paucity of their sponsors.	2.80	0.00	Agree	2.60	0.10	Agree
4.	Some students inability to cope with new technological learning materials.	2.70	0.30	Agree	3.10	0.20	Agree
5.	Inadequate use of recommended textbooks among students which hinders effective learning.	3.30	0.10	Agree	3.00	0.30	Agree
6.	Lack of well -equipped library for students use.	3.50	0.40	Agree	3.10	0.20	Agree
7.	Lack of adequate e- learning facilities for students use.	3.10	0.50	Agree	3.20	0.10	Agree
8.	Inadequate desks and chairs for students comfortable seating during teaching and learning.	3.40	0.10	Agree	3.10	0.30	Agree
9.	Inadequate salaries payment and other emoluments to lecturerswhich hinders effective instructional delivery.	3.20	0.40	Agree	2.60	0.60	Agree
10.	Irregular payment of lecturers salaries which causes draw backs on instructional delivery.	3.90	0.50	Agree	4.10	0.30	Agree
<b>.Total</b>		<b>27.10</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>Agree</b>

## Research Question Two

### What are the causes of inadequate students preparations during examinations?

Table 2: Shows the causes of inadequate student's preparations during examinations?

S/N	Statements	X	S.D	Decision	X	S.D	Decision
11.	Inadequate counseling causes students to loaf in their studies.	2.60	0.20	Agree	2.40	0.30	Agree
12.	Truancy causes poor performance of students during examinations.	3.10	0.10	Agree	2.50	0.20	Agree
13.	Inadequate study before examinations causes poor performances of students.	2.80	0.00	Agree	2.60	0.10	Agree
14.	Frequent use of ICT for film watch causes failures to some students.	2.70	0.30	Agree	3.10	0.20	Agree
15.	Mingling with bad groups causes poor performance to some students.	3.30	0.10	Agree	3.00	0.30	Agree
16.	Lack of textbooks causes poor performance of some students.	3.50	0.40	Agree	3.10	0.20	Agree
17.	Inadequate collaborative learning causes poor performances in their examinations.	3.10	0.50	Agree	3.20	0.10	Agree
18.	Lack of personalized learning periods causes poor students examinations grades	3.40	0.10	Agree	3.10	0.30	Agree
19.	Ineffective time table causes poor learning habits among students.	3.20	0.40	Agree	2.60	0.60	Agree
20.	Poor students participations in quiz	3.30	0.50	Agree	5.00	0.30	Agrees
<b>Total</b>		<b>27.10</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>Agree</b>

## Test of Hypotheses

Table 3: Shows hypothesis test on causes of student drop out in Imo state university Owerri.

	N	X	S.D	D.f	X0- cal	Xe-tab	Decision
<b>Male staff</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>27.10</b>	<b>2.60</b>	<b>0.05</b>	<b>40.6</b>	<b>3.84</b>	<b>Rejected</b>
<b>Female Staff</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>27.00</b>	<b>2.60</b>				

In table 3: Calculated Xo value is 40.6 which is greater than the table value of Xe of 3.84. Since the calculated Xo is greater than the Xe table value, the null hypothesis was rejected.



**Table 4: Shows hypothesis test on inadequate preparations among students in Imo state University Owerri.**

No of respondents	N	X	S.D	D.f	X0- cal	Xe-tab	Decision
Male staff	80	30.10	2.60	0.05	60.1	3.84	Rejected
Female Staff	90	30.00	2.60				

In table 3: Calculated  $X_0$  value is 60.1 which is greater than the table value of  $X_e$  of 3.84. Since the calculated  $X_0$  is greater than the  $X_e$  table value, the null hypothesis was rejected. This shows that repeaters, drop out and students with all manners of learning difficulties are observed in Imo State University Owerri. The result also, shows above result shows that repeaters and all manners of learning difficulties are observed among students in public tertiary education institutions in Nigeria.

## Discussion of Findings

Degree of educational wastage in Nigeria is a reflection of lack of internal efficiency which hinged on inadequate supply of educational resources to education industry and poor students learning in Nigeria.

Wastage in education is made up of material and human wastage (Odu, 2013). Human wastage in education include: Drop outs, repeaters, failures at the end of a cycle, death and slay outs. Frequent drop out of students from higher educational Institutions have continued to increase due to students perceptual deficit. On the other hand, material wastage in education is observed in public universities where majority of lecture hall are lying wasted due to poor maintenance on them.

Learning difficulty is a situation whereby a students or group of students show high perceptual deficit to what a lecturer or group of lecturers have thought them in the lecture hall or classroom (Christian, 2025). Frequent increase on group of students that are fondly called repeaters, learning difficulty students have caused educational institutions in Nigeria organize remedial classes to students. This will enable

students overcome their learning difficulties (Deribe, Endale & Ashebir, 2015) identified that Educational wastages among students are caused by students and majorly on ineffectiveness of educational plans in Nigerian educational system.

## Recommendations

1. Government should reduce the cost of education in Nigeria so that both the poor and the rich people in the society will benefit from it.
2. Government should provide adequate teaching and learning equipment in higher educational institutions. These would reduce number of drop outs in higher educational institutions in Nigeria.
3. Government should provide scholarship grants to indigent students. These will encourage students to have strong faith to complete their education in Nigeria.

## Conclusion

Nigerian higher educational institutions are institutions where series of manpower for developing Nigerian economy are generated. It is quite alarming that some students do not make effective preparations before going to write their examinations. This is why there is pile of repeaters in higher educational institutions in Nigeria. However, inability of students to interpret examinations questions coupled with students inability to collaborate with their classroom mates during studies causes some students to perform very poor during examinations. Vast majority of dropouts out of schools are caused by ineffective preparations among students. On the other hand, some students have no financial resources to continue

their studies in higher educational institutions. In the same vein, chronic unemployment among graduates has retarded student's desires for education in Nigeria. Academic and non-academic university staff, colleges and polytechnic lecturers are owed in months, also, delayed payments of emoluments to staff of higher educational institutions have truncated effective delivery of instructions in higher educational institutions in Nigeria as a result of lecturers frequent strikes. However, the purview of some public higher educational institutions shows tales of woe as many universities building infrastructures have dilapidated, roof tops of some lecture halls have been blown off by winds. Lecturers and students have resorted to alternative to practical due to inadequate science equipment. In higher educational institutions, e- library facilities that could enable students meet up with the demands of this technology age are inadequately provided. These have retarded effective instructional delivery and students poor performances during examinations thus, resulting to drop out of students from public universities in Nigeria.

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Quick Response Code	
DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.22192/ijamr.2025.12.08.005">10.22192/ijamr.2025.12.08.005</a>	

How to cite this article:

Christian Nwakanma, Ekeh Camillus Ugochukwu. (2025). Ineffective use of Personalized Study Time Table: Existential Wastage of Earned Resources among Students in Public Higher Educational Institutions in Nigeria. Int. J. Adv. Multidiscip. Res. 12(8): 45-55.  
DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.22192/ijamr.2025.12.08.005>