

The Influence of Teacher's Non-Verbal Communication on Ondo State Secondary School Students' Learning Outcomes in English Language

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Abstract : The study investigated the influence of teacher's non-verbal communication on secondary school students' learning outcomes in English language. The study was a survey research. Participants were three hundred Senior Secondary School II students randomly selected from ten schools in Akoko South West Local Government Area of Ondo State, Nigeria. The instrument used for data collection was a questionnaire containing twenty items on a four-point Likert scale which measured teacher's use of three types of non-verbal communication modes: body movement, eye contact and spatial distance. The data collected was analysed using simple percentage. Findings revealed that teacher's use of these non-verbal communication modes enhanced learners' learning outcomes in English language: a total of 271 (90.33%) participants affirmed that teacher's body language influenced their learning of English; 224 (74.66%) maintained the same stand for eye contact; while 202 (67.33%) affirmed that teacher's spatial distance had positive influence. Consequent upon these findings, it was recommended that teachers of English language should constantly utilize non-verbal communication in their instructional delivery. Also, non-verbal communication modes should be included in teacher education programme to equip prospective pre-service teachers with the art of non-verbal communication.

Keywords : non-verbal communication, body language, eye contact, spatial distance, learning outcomes

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