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MATHEMATICS AS A PREDICTOR OF STUDENTS' ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE IN SCIENCES

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Abstract

The study investigated whether the performances of students in the Senior School Certificate Examination (SSCE) in Physics, Biology and Chemistry could be predicted from their grades in Mathematics mock examination. 60 students were randomly selected from four Secondary Schools in Ekiti State with the instrumentality of mock examination and achievement test. The instrument was validated by the experts in science education and curriculum studies. The reliability coefficient of the instrument was found to be 0.84 using test-retest methods. Regression analysis was used to analyse the result at 0.05 level of significance. The result of the findings indicated that the performances of students in Mathematics could be used to predict results of SSCE Physics, Biology and Chemistry. Based on the findings, it was recommended that Mathematics teachers should be committed to the teaching of the subject using the best approach because of its importance to sciences and consequently for technological development of the nation.

Keywords: Mock results; Mathematics; Predictors; Physics; Biology; Chemistry; Performance
