STATUS OF STUDY HABITS ON DISTANCE EDUCATION

by:
Menardo E. Cabang
Teacher III Asuncion Consunji Elementary School

Learners' academic performance represents an important chunk of aspects determinant of student achievement. Also, it shows a very important part in education, mainly as a concrete tool to measure the learner's learning process. Psychologists and scholars have endeavored to understand how learners vary in processing, retaining, and regaining learning information and have used various personality, attitudinal, cognitive styles, and capability measures (Tus, 2020).

Meanwhile, the world will remember the first quarter of the year 2020 onward as a period when people all over the world stayed at home in quarantine to safeguard against the coronavirus or COVID-19 pandemic. Economy, communities and education were seriously affected by the great health issue. In response to the alternative means of learning to complete the academic year, most schools went ahead and implemented distance education online –transforming quickly the educational landscape, including the Philippines (Esguerra, 2020).

The quick transition from face-to-face learning to remote and online learning has brought dilemma to the education sector, parents and learners, specifically to the learners’ study habits, where learners were used to attend classes where the teacher physically gives instruction and closely monitoring the study habits of each learner. They don’t have other choice but to adjust and cope up with the new normal of learning.

Buck (2016) described that distance learners, when studying away from their school, they must balance many challenges including work, family and study times. She expounded that it is an important factor to learner’s persistence and retention whether how, where, and when a learner organizes and interacts with his or her study
environment. Any assistance delivered by the school, including the library that can support learners succeed are necessary resource.

On the other hand, Echenique et al. (2016) conclude that most learners feel comfortable with gadgets and that they use social media for linking and communicating with friends rather than for educational communication. Learners prefer face-to-face interaction for both academic/school and social communication.

Likewise, in a study of Somuah et al. (2014), the results revealed that Distance Education learners show study habits such as reading while lying in bed, not being able to study for a minimum of three hours in a day, do not look for further materials from the internet as well as reading over their notes before their next face-to-face meetings. It was found in the study that distance education learners requires guidance and counselling on time management, prioritizing their priorities, as well as developing effective reading skills. Hence, it is suggested that distance education learners be given a support service such as guidance and counselling on effective study habits.

While it is true that educational transition from face-to-face to remote and online learning is challenging on the part of the learners, it is also significant to have a proper and organized study habit at home. It would help them meet progress, eventually a success, and surpass this challenging period of their time.
References:


Buck, S. (2016). In Their Own Voices: Study Habits of Distance Education Students. Available at https://doi.org/10.1080/1533290X.2016.1206781
