



SDI Review Form 1.6

Journal Name:	Asian Research Journal of Arts & Social Sciences
Manuscript Number:	Ms_ARJASS_32417
Title of the Manuscript:	Mastery Learning Strategy and Learning Retention: Effects on Senior Secondary School Students' Achievement in Physical Geography in Ganye Educational Zone, Nigeria
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

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This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound.

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PART 1: Review Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Compulsory REVISION comments	<p>The paper is interesting. There are some potential in the paper. The objective and hypotheses are clearly stated.</p> <p>My concerns are on the reactive rearrangements and the imbalance treatment that are given to both groups. The author stated the objective was informed to the experimental group. However, it was not stated whether the students of the control group was ever being informed on the objective. Furthermore the students of the control group were only taught using chalk and talk. I feel that anything that is more than chalk and talk would give a better outcome. This would definitely effect the outcome of the experiment.</p> <p>Furthermore, the author needs to state clearly what is meant by conventional learning.</p>	<p>1. Yes. But, do you know that anything more than chalk and talk may be another strategy. How would you define MORE in this context? Lecture method is simply a chalk and talk approach to teaching and learning. The teacher here is seen as the centre of knowledge transmission (you can also call him the all-knowing), and the students, a box in which knowledge is being transmitted into.</p> <p>2. Check the second to third line in phase one, I used the word 'students'. So I did not specify group there. It means all the students involved were duly briefed.</p> <p>3. The used of varying strategy/method provided the baseline for comparison. When you used the same strategy for both groups, what are you trying to achieve? In every experimental research like this, it is very necessary for you to have a control group. Such control group should be the popularly teaching method used in the study area. When you go through the introduction, the complaints were centred on the use of lecture method. This is the popular teaching method used in this area.</p> <p>4. The researcher observed and the students complained of the use of this lecture method. This is the method used so far. However, the complaints and observations made may or may not be true. That is why the group was treated using the lecture method which is at variance with the other. However, one thing I want</p>



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		<p>you to know is that, using the chalk and talk approach does not mean that the students' performance did not increase. When the pre-test scores of students in the lecture method group were compared with their post test scores, there was an improvement. However, comparing the post test of the two groups showed a significant difference.</p> <p>5. There is also something that might interest you to know. In the course of this study, there were many factors that might have robbed the students in the experimental group from performing better. One of these factors is time. Mastery learning is time consuming and the same lesson time was used within the 6 weeks of this study for the two groups. While the teachers in lecture method group covered the chosen topics in good time, the teachers in the mastery learning strategy group barely struggle to do this. This might have favoured the students in the lecture method group. I will also tell you a story. A friend of mine conducted a study using gaming to teach English language. The researcher was expecting gaming to be better than lecture method at the end, however, the results turned out to be the opposite. What could be responsible for this? You may ask. Some many factors might have played against the students' performance in the experimental group when compared to their counterparts in the control group. It could be that the instructor in the control group is better at what he does. It could be that time robbed the students in the experimental group (gaming) from covering the content substantially, and they were made to take the same post test. It could be as a result of poor implementation of the gaming strategy. So many things come into play when you go to the field for experimentation. So, you never can tell which is better by just reading.</p>
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		<p>Therefore, just sitting down and looking at this, you might say, this group will perform better than the other. But in experimental research, you never can tell what your results might be unless you go to the field.</p> <p>6. In any experimental research, it is always very good to have the control group taught by the lecture method. Lecture method is viewed as the old traditional way of teaching where the teacher is seen as the 'Alpha and Omega' of knowledge transmission. The use of control group can tell you whether the experiment is effective or not. If you don't have the control group, for instance, I used Mastery and Collaborative strategies to teach, (all experimental) and just made my comparisons and drew my conclusions between these two, I can tell you that no matter how good the conclusion is, the result cannot be substantiated. What if, the lecture method (control) is there and students in this group performed better. What if.....? So the control group is very necessary, so we could clearly decipher where the problem truly lies. That is why you cannot give them the same treatment. You are trying to find where the problem lies. Note that mastery may or may not be the remedy to students difficulty in Geography (the researcher's mind was blank to what to expect at the onset of the study).</p>
Minor REVISION comments	There are some minimal errors in the language used.	I addressed this aspect
Optional/General comments		Thank you.