

Youth and Electoral Violence in Nigeria's Fourth Republic: When will the youth be responsible?

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Abstract

Election is an important tool that helps to shape peaceful transition of political regimes in a democratic state. Electoral processes in Nigeria, over the years, are marred with malpractices and other massive irregularities, which often lead to premeditated killings and post-election violence, where the youth are mobilised to perpetrate the dastardly act that culminates in fear, insecurity and intimidation of opponents. Many lives and property worth millions of Naira have been destroyed with nobody getting arrested and prosecuted, thereby leaving the citizens in the state of abysmal hopelessness. The authors examine the youth and electoral violence in Nigeria's Fourth Republic. They adopt a survey research technique in which they interview respondents purposively in five geo-political zones. The study concludes that youths are responsible for the election-related violence that has characterised previous elections in the current republic since 1999 and perpetrated by hired thugs comprising largely the youths in various capacities and constituencies across political parties in Nigeria. The paper, therefore, recommends that the constitution and electoral laws should be reviewed to capture the punishment that will be meted out to the perpetrators, regardless their party affiliations, religion or ethnic groups.

Keywords: election, electoral violence, the youths, Nigerian politics.

Concealment Strategies in Media Representation of Covid-19 Discourse

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Abstract

The outbreak of Covid-19 in Nigeria in February 2020 has generated different opinions. The opinions have not gone without the attention of the media and it has led media and media participants to adopt different strategies in reporting the news. One of the adopted strategies is concealment. Previous studies have engaged the use of concealment strategies in medical interactions and media discourse. However, they have not engaged the use of concealment strategies by the media participants in disease outbreak. The present study engages concealment strategies used by participants in Covid-19 discourse in Nigerian media and examines the motivations and implications of the strategies for the society. The study adopts Fairclough's model of CDA to reveal the strategies. Qualitative analysis is adopted to analyse relevant data collected from four

Nigerian newspapers, the *Punch*, *Vanguard*, *Premium Times* and *Sahara Reporters*. Purposive sample method of data collection is adopted to manually assess the data. News reports and opinion news constitute the corpus for this work. Six concealment strategies were identified in the discourse, qualifier, pronoun, lexical replacement, deflection, jargonisation, and stalling, which are used for prevention of drug abuses, face saving, emphases on reality of the disease and to cover the inadequacies of the government. The study encourages the use of concealment strategies, especially, during health emergencies.

Keywords: concealment, Covid-19, media discourse, medical interactions

Effectiveness of Computer and Video-Mediated Instructional Strategies in Teaching Practical Chemistry in Nigeria Secondary Schools

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Abstract

This study examined the effectiveness of Computer Mediated Instructional strategy (CMI) and Video Mediated Instructional strategy (VMI) on the performance of students in practical chemistry and determined the effect of these modes of instructional strategies on the retention ability of the students. A pre-test, post-test control group design was used for the study. The population for the study comprised of Senior Secondary School (SSS) II chemistry students in Akure South Local Government Area of Ondo State. 134 students in three intact classes from three randomly selected secondary schools in the LGA were used for the study. The three intact classes were assigned to the treatment groups and control group. The groups were taught with Computer Mediated Instructional strategy (CMI), Video Mediated Instructional strategy (VMI) and Classroom Demonstration Technique (CDT) respectively. Pre-, post- and retention tests were administered to the students. The data obtained were analysed using one-way Analysis of Variance and, where significant differences occurred, the Scheffe's post- hoc was used to determine the direction of the significant. The results showed that there was a significant difference in the performance of students taught with CMI, VMI and CDT ($F = 33.54$, $p = 0.00$). In addition, there was a significant difference in the effectiveness of CMI, VMI and CDT in enhancing retention ability of students in practical chemistry ($F =$

26.62, $p = 0.00$). However, VMI was more effective in teaching practical chemistry (Volumetric Analysis).

Key words: practical chemistry, Computer Mediated Instruction, Video Mediated Instruction, Classroom Demonstration Technique, Senior Secondary School students, instructional package.

A Semio-Stylistics Analysis of Foregrounded Graphological Elements In Afejuku's *A Spring of Sweet* and Yesufu's *Visions and Recollections*

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Abstract

The author focuses on the grapho-semiotic features of Afejuku's *A Spring of Sweet* and Yesufu's *Visions and Recollections*. Using Peirce's triads of signhood, as further explained by Short and Auxier and Halliday's concept of foregrounding, the paper identifies the significant icons, indexes and symbols, explains the stylistically significant versification features in the two collections and establishes how they dovetail with the collections' thematic concerns. The analysis is stylistic and semiotic in orientation, adopting the qualitative method of textual analyses. Accordingly, the two collections are studied and relevant features identified, analysed and related to the subject matters and themes of the collections. The analysis reveals that Afejuku's *A Spring of Sweet*, more than Yesufu's *Visions and Recollections*, deploys iconic and symbolic emblems and pictograms to illustrate some sections and themes, while both collections copiously use varied patterns of lineation, punctuation and emphatic markers to foreground the themes of love, death, nostalgia and patriotism.

Key words: *A Spring of Sweet*, *Visions and Recollections*, foregrounding, semiotic signs, graphology, icons and symbols.

Anti-Corruption and the Informant Phenomenon: The Harrowing Experiences of Whistle blowers in Nigeria

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Abstract

The informant or whistle blowing concept has widely proven to be a practically useful mechanism in the fight against corruption in public and private sectors. Within the ambit of the whistle blowing framework, the disclosure of corrupt practices by employees of organisations is justifiable only on the grounds that the action is genuinely directed towards protecting the interest of the public. Impliedly, therefore, besides its valuable attributes as an important anticorruption weapon and mechanism for incentivising the citizens, whistle

blowing practitioners often go through diverse “harrowing experiences” for the actions they take in defence of public interest. The author of this paper uses some cases from Nigeria as examples to concretise this position and concludes that the informant practice, indeed, has dual distinct sides, especially in the absence of a well-articulated legal framework for protection of whistle blowers. The author advocates that the Nigerian government should expedite actions to enact a comprehensive whistle blowers’ protection law to guarantee adequate protection of informants, who risk their lives to expose acts of corruption in the interest of society, from likely abuses. The study is a non-empirical and qualitative research that depends on the secondary method of data collection and the narrative analytical technique.

Key words: anticorruption, corruption, good governance, informant/ whistle blower, whistle blowing

Strategic Planning: A Management Tool for Achieving Corporate Goals of Higher Education Institutions (HEIS) in Nigeria

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Abstract

The paper examines the need to establish an effective strategic planning model by higher education institutions in Nigeria so as to facilitate the accomplishment of their mission and vision statements, strategic objectives and ultimately, their corporate goals. It emphasises that strategic planning model is a core area in strategic management, as it provides the framework for decision-making and creates unity of purpose among faculty members. Some conceptual definitions of strategic planning, strategic management, corporate goals/objectives, corporate planning, strategic decisions, policy decisions and tactical decisions are provided in the paper, while the benefits of strategic planning in higher education institutions are highlighted. The processes and steps involved in strategic planning are discussed using some models. The paper further establishes the relationship between strategic planning and corporate goal of a university through a university corporate attainment goal model (UCGAM). The paper also examines the tasks of top management in strategic planning in educational institutions. It finally recommends the need for educational institutions to establish strategic planning unit to monitor their programmes and to periodically review and evaluate planned university programmes to facilitate the achievement of their corporate goals.

Key words: higher education, strategic planning, strategic management model, corporate goals, programme management, mission statement, top management structure.

**Volatility in Capital inflows and Exchange Rate Uncertainty in Nigeria.
A Threshold GARCH Approach**

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Abstract

Volatility in capital inflows creates immense challenges for monetary authority in the management of monetary aggregates and equally induced uncertainty in the foreign exchange market. The authors examined the relationship between capital inflows volatility and exchange rate uncertainty in Nigeria for the period 2008M1 to 2021M12. They employed a multivariate threshold GARCH (TGARCH) approach. The mean equation result of the study showed that a unit change in capital inflows has no significant effect on exchange rate in Nigeria. The variance equation indicated that volatility of capital inflows does not induce uncertainty in exchange rate in Nigeria and external shocks from inflation rate negatively and significantly influence exchange rate uncertainty. The study concluded that the results obtained showed that the relationship between capital inflows volatility and exchange rate uncertainty yields good news and this positive shock dies quickly. Thus, the authors recommended that the government should focus on maintaining price stability through appropriate macroeconomic (fiscal and monetary) policies rather than engaging on shooting capital inflows for exchange rate uncertainties.

Keywords: macro-economics, capital inflows; exchange rate, volatility, Threshold GARCH,

Reading the Patient's Mind in Patient-centred Clinics

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Abstract

The recent focus of mode of consultation in patient-centred clinics can be seen not simply as technical moves towards improving the quality of care; it also describes ideological moves that set out the frame in which negotiation between patients and hospital staff can be understood. This study examines the reading

of the minds of patients in effective communication in patient-centred clinics by presenting a pragmatic framework of subjective, intersubjective and interactive processes that take place in the consultation. The authors identify, explain and integrate relevant theoretical concepts in the processes into a theory for consideration and application. They then apply the theory to interpretation of sample texts from clinical consultations. The study foregrounds pragmatics as a discipline that is relevant for reading patients' minds in consultations because of its capacity for interpreting cognitive, social, textual and contextual features in medical communication.

Key words: clinical communication, patient-centred consultation, mind theory, pragmatics

Dr. Jumoke Ajuwon: Tribute and a New Definition of Mourning

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