



National University of Science and Technology

Think in Other Terms



**AN INVESTIGATION INTO PERCEIVED CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE OF
STUDENTS AT 'A' LEVEL CHEMISTRY, THE CASE OF MATOBO DISTRICT
SCHOOLS IN MATABELELAND SOUTH PROVINCE.**

BY

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**A RESEARCH PROJECT SUBMITTED TO THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF EDUCATION IN APPLIED CHEMISTRY**

SUPERVISOR: DR F.N. TLOU

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ABSTRACT

This study was carried out to investigate the perceived causes of poor performance of A-Level Chemistry students in Matobo District in Matabeleland South Province. A total of 25 pupils, 4 Chemistry teachers, the School head and Head of science department were used as the research subjects. Interviews were used as research instruments.

The study found out that A-Level Chemistry students were not performing well in the national examination due mainly to shortage of relevant Chemistry textbooks, shortage of equipment and consumables for carrying out practical activities and unqualified Chemistry teachers.

The study recommends that the schools introduce Chemistry levies to help them purchase the necessary items needed for pupil learning. Government is also encouraged to increase expenditure on High schools and also remove sales tax on Chemistry textbooks and chemicals.

Finally, the study ^{also} recommended that further research be undertaken in order to establish how best to help form six pupils taking chemistry lessons achieve the most amidst the perennial problem of non-availability of resources in schools.

Good summary.