

**AN INVESTIGATION OF CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN
CHEMISTRY IN SCHOOLS IN TETU DISTRICT OF
NYERI COUNTY, KENYA.**

BY

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ABSTRACT

Chemistry is one of the three sciences that are offered to students in Secondary Schools in Kenya. The science subjects in general have been poorly performed in K.C.S.E especially in Tetu district. Chemistry have been performed poorly, even in some years the performance being poorer than in other sciences, that is Physics and biology. The objective of this study is to investigate the possible causes of poor performance in chemistry in schools in Tetu district. The key variables to be used will be altitude of learners to the subject, availability of teaching-learning resources, the syllabus and their effect on performance in chemistry. The study will be conducted in Tetu District of Nyeri County. Nine schools will be selected, three girls schools, three boys schools and three mixed day secondary schools. The population to be selected will comprise of teachers and students. Stratified and random sampling approach will be used to establish the objectives of the study. In this study a sample of one hundred participants will be drawn from both teachers and students. Data will be collected by use of questionnaires. An interview schedule and observation check list will be used to investigate the type of teaching strategies employed in teaching chemistry in the selected schools. The data collected will be analyzed descriptively and presented through figures, percentages and tables. The findings of this research will go a long way in providing the much needed information of what causes poor performance in chemistry. This will help in setting the way forward for improving the performance of chemistry in our Secondary schools.