

**AN INVESTIGATION INTO CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED BY TEACHERS OF  
ENGLISH IN LAIKIPIA WEST SUB-COUNTY, LAIKIPIA COUNTY**

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**A RESEARCH STUDY SUBMITTED TO THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION,  
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## ABSTRACT

The use of English language in the economic, social and political realms cannot be gainsaid.

The prevalence of the English as a Lingua Franca has had enormous advantages on its spread. The importance of Teachers of English therefore is clear that their challenges cannot be overlooked. The purpose of this study was to determine the challenges faced by teachers of English which affect their effectiveness. An analysis of challenges in three secondary schools was undertaken to highlight the problem. Twelve teachers of English and four Heads of Departments of languages in four schools responded. The study was guided by three objectives which were to seek environmental, professional and school-based challenges facing teachers of English. The Expectancy theory of motivation informed the study. A descriptive survey research was carried out. Purposive sampling was used to identify the secondary schools which were used in the study. Research was carried out three secondary schools, that is, Ndurumo Secondary Schools, Sipili Secondary School and Olmoran Secondary School. Two research instruments were used to collect data. Questionnaires were used to teachers of English while interviews were conducted with Head of Departments. A pilot study was conducted to ascertain the validity and reliability of the instruments before commencing the main study. The Secondary School participating in the pilot study was not included in the main study. The Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) used in data processing and organization. Processing involved computation of percentages. The results were presented using percentages, pie charts and bar graphs. A population of thirty teachers of English and ten Heads of Department languages was targeted. Four Heads of departments in four secondary schools were interviewed while twelve teachers in three secondary schools were requested to fill questionnaires. The study revealed that the effectiveness of Teachers of English was caused by a number of environmental, professional and school-based challenges. An urgent action to secure teachers by the Ministry of Interior Defense with the advice of Ministry of Education was proposed. In addition, teachers'

colleges were challenged to elongate the time for teaching practicum. It was envisaged that the findings of this study would inform the ministry of education and education policy makers, administrators and donors to formulate relevant policies to address the challenges facing them. Other stakeholders e.g. donors, curriculum experts and the Boards of Management of these institutions would also find this helpful in their resource allocation and general school administration.