

**A STUDY INTO THE CAUSES OF POOR PERFORMANCE IN ENGLISH  
LANGUAGE IN NATIONAL EXAMINATIONS IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN  
EMBU EAST DISTRICT IN EMBU COUNTY KENYA**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Over the years in Kenya, there has been a consistent decline in students' performance in the Kenya certificate secondary Examination (KCSE) in English Language. This sordid situation has caused teachers, parents, curriculum experts and evaluators a serious concern. This study therefore is set out to assess factors associated with students' poor performance in KCSE English Language in Embu East Sub County in Embu County. To carry out this investigation, data will be collected from 10 English Language teachers randomly drawn from the three divisions in Embu East district. Analysis of data collected will be analyzed to prove or disapprove the factors so given so far for the poor performance in English as a subject in the district i.e. that poorly trained English Language teachers, poor instructional delivery, lack of infrastructural facilities, teachers' attitude towards innovation, the traditional content/knowledge oriented curriculum and general students' apathy in English language were factors associated with students poor performance in KCSE English Language. Based on the findings, recommendations will be made on strategies that will improve the quality of instructional delivery and learning of English Language geared towards enhancing students' performance in the subject at the KCSE level.