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1	Relationship between Resource Availability and Performance in
2	French Subject in Public Secondary Schools in Vihiga
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8 Abstract

French subject was the first foreign language to be taught and examined in Kenya. This 9 subject however, has continued to register low enrolment, as well as poor performance in the 10 national examination. This study examined the role of resource availability on student?s 11 performance in French language in secondary schools. The study adopted correlational 12 designs. The target population included all the schools teaching French subject, in Vihiga 13 County. Stratified random sampling technique was employed to select 10 schools out of 14. 14 The schools were grouped into National, County and Sub-County schools. One-way ANOVA 15 technique was used as the main analysis method. The findings from the study revealed that 16 human resources, school physical resources and financial resources have the most significant 17 relationship with the performance of students in French subject. However, the study also 18 found that teachers were not exposed to teacher professional development activities and a 19 handful had attended in-service (seminar) on French language pedagogy. The study concludes 20 that most teachers had not attended any refresher courses as well as inexperienced, explained 21 why the performance of French was dismal. More than two thirds of the schools did not have 22 libraries, meaning that learners were denied the opportunity to interact meaningfully with 23 books. Some teachers confessed that the funds allocated to their departments were 24 inadequate. Therefore, the study recommends that efforts should be made by school 25 authorities, the Ministry of Education, county authorities and other stakeholder to provide 26 enough physical resources like teaching/learning resources, class rooms and libraries. 27

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29 Index terms— teaching French subject, human resources, school physical resources and financial resources.

³⁰ 1 Introduction a) Background to the Study

i. Study Area ihiga County is located in the western region of Kenya and constitutes 5 constituencies namely:
Emuhaya, Sabatia, Vihiga, Vihiga, Luanda and Hamisi. It boarders Kakamega County to the North, Nandi
County to the East, Kisumu County to the South and Siaya County to the West. The County covers an area of
530.95 sq. It has an annual average rainfall of between 1,800mm and 2000mm and average temperature of 24c.
The County has hilly terrain and a good amount of forest cover such as Kibiri Forest which is an extension of
Kakamega Forest. Agriculture is the main economic activity. Crops planted include: tea, maize, millet, bananas,
avocado, papayas, sweet potatoes and cassava. Livestock rearing is also practiced in the county.

³⁸ 2 ii. The Teaching of French in Kenya

Language plays a critical role in the education of any given people. Around the world from 2000-2015, there are 39 more and more children and adults who, for personal, aesthetic, academic and economic reasons, are becoming 40 multilingual. It is a fact that there are more bilingual brains on the planet than monolingual ones (Awoniyi, 41 2002). Whether it is to find new literatures, friends or business markets, or to maintain a connection with the 42 historic past of a heritage language, there are many reasons to learn something of a second language. There are a 43 number of advantages of being exposed to a second language, including cognitive advantages that can arise from 44 achieving a particular level of proficiency in a second language. Halliday (2007) said that the role of a language 45 in the education process is a special aspect of the relation between language and social structure since language 46 is the principle means of culture transmission. The fundamental assumption in education theory and practice is 47 the adjustment of the child to the life and culture of his society (Awoniyi, 2002). 48

Awoniyi argued that it is hardly possible to take away a child's first language without adverse consequences 49 and that no greater injustice can be committed against a people than to deprive them of their language. Bearne 50 (2009) quoted a definition from the Cox Report that defines language as a system of sounds, meanings and 51 structures with which we make sense of the world around us. It functions as a tool of thought, as a means of 52 social organization, as a repository and means of transmission of knowledge, as the raw material of literature and 53 as the creator and sustainer or destroyer of human relationships Bearne, (2009). It changes inevitably over time 54 and as change is not uniform, from place to place. Apparently, language seems to be a major tool of defining our 55 individual identities. Lawton (2009) said that we are human largely by means of language and that our view of 56 reality is bound up with language. He perceives language as the Globally, there are over 6500 languages in the 57 world and French is rated among the World's major languages and perhaps one of the most promoted foreign 58 languages in Africa. ??ichard and Rodgers (2000) pointed out that in the sixteenth century, however, French, 59 Italian and English gained an importance as a result of political changes in Europe, and Latin gradually became 60 displaced as a language of spoken and written communication. The authors went on to say that as the status 61 of Latin diminished from that of a living language to that of an occasional subject in the school curriculum, the 62 study of Latin took on a different function. Authors also say that the study of classical Latin the Latin in which 63 64 the classical works of Virgil, Ovid and Cicero were written and analysis of grammar and rhetoric became the 65 model of foreign language study from the seventeenth to the nineteenth centuries. Consequently, children entering 66 grammar school in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries in England were initially given a rigorous 67 introduction to Latin grammar, which was taught through learning and grammar rules, study of declension and conjugation, translation and practice in writing samples, sentences, sometimes with no use of parallel bilingual 68

⁶⁹ text and dialogue **??**Kelly, 1969; **??**owatt, 1984).

⁷⁰ 3 iii. The Teaching of French in Kenya Secondary School

In Kenya, though French is a foreign language with its origin in France, it has steadily risen to a level of another 71 nationally recognized language defying hurdles ranging from indifferent individual attitudes and biases of the 72 discriminative government language policies. According to Chimerah (2007), French has phenomenally risen 73 especially in the second half of the 19th century as to capture the interest of social-linguists, foreigners, tourists, 74 educationists, writers and others. The current 8-4-4 Secondary Education French curriculum since introduction 75 has since been evaluated and revised to remove unnecessary overlaps across subjects and levels. Previously it 76 was also overburdening parents in provision of facilities, equipment and materials needed and also that teachers 77 were inadequately prepared to handle practical subjects such as French. 78

In the former Western Province, Omusoga (2009) indicated that French subject at secondary schools continued 79 to register low enrolment as well as poor performance in national exams. Despite the effort made by the 80 government and the French Embassy to promote the teaching and learning of the subject, schools continued 81 to register poor performance despite low enrolment. This is evident from the Kenya Certificate of Secondary 82 Education (KCSE) performance data from the Ministry of Education. The Table ?? indicates the performance 83 of French in Vihiga County since 2011. From the table above it is evident that despite the few numbers in 84 enrolment, most schools did not perform well as displayed by St Claires, and Kegoye. Consequently, most 85 schools' performance is not stable for example Mudavadi posted 8.00 in 2012 and then 5.167 in 2013. The 86 performance of French in these schools over the years is worrying as a declining trend is observed. 87

⁸⁸ 4 b) Statement of the Problem

Despite the critical role French subject plays nationally, regionally and internationally, its performance in national examinations is still below expectation. Besides, its role as an economic, political, social and technological medium cannot be overemphasized let alone its growing influence in international circles. In Kenya, French plays a crucial role in national development; first, French nationals are among the tourists that come to Kenya and may in one way or another need to communicate with the locals, secondly to communicate with major investors which are French speaking and thirdly French is an examinable subject in national examinations and has a stake in the future of Kenyan students who may want to pursue further studies abroad.

Various students sitting for KCSE courses take French as an additional language and as the best foreign language they can study with aspirations for further education or employment. Despite all these efforts to make 98 the teaching of French and to help improve the student's mastery of the French language, there are still many 99 challenges facing the performance of the subject in secondary schools as a growing foreign language in Kenya.

100 ??moh (2002), in his study stated some of the factors affecting French language teaching, including inadequacy

of materials, the unsatisfactory acquisition of basic language skills by students and the incompetence of language

teachers. Consequently, Amugune (2013) observed that Christian Religious Education had low enrolment and

performed poorly because of inadequate teaching and learning resources for example, textbooks for learners and reference materials for teachers.

Studies have been done on effects of teaching/learning resources on performance of mathematics (Yara & Otieno, 2010) but there is no research however that has been undertaken to discern the relationship between resource availability on performance in French subject in Vihiga County.

108 5 d) Hypotheses

H a 1: There is a relationship between level of human resource and performance in French subjects in secondary
schools. H a 2: There is a relationship between level of physical resource and performance in French subjects in
secondary schools. H a 3: There is a relationship between level of financial resources and performance in French
subjects in secondary schools.

¹¹³ 6 e) Significance of the Study

This research study is significant in that it will provide all the stakeholders in education with information of the true status of French in Kenyan Secondary Schools. This will be based on human resources available, Infrastructural set-up, instructional materials present and the enrolment of students.

The administration will be able to provide the necessary materials resources for teaching French, to select qualified and experienced teachers and to create the necessary environment for effective teaching and learning French.

Teachers on the other hand will be able to identify the needs of the students as a whole this will foster new and improved teaching and learning strategies, appropriate resources and materials needed for improved learning, and

their management. They will be able to offer necessary guidance to students in the selection of elective subjects and careers.

The ministry of education will be able to facilitate the training of adequate teachers of French and organize professional development of teachers through in-service programs, to liaise with schools to provide adequate instructional and infrastructural facilities for learning the subject.

¹²⁷ 7 f) The Scope and Delimitation of the Study

This study was conducted between the months of July and August 2014. The study focused on the relationship between resource availability and performance in French subjects among secondary schools in Vihiga County-Kenya. It targeted the high school teachers and students of French within Vihiga County.

¹³¹ 8 g) Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework outlines a model that the study was employ in analyzing the relationship between resource availability and performance in French subjects among secondary schools in Vihiga County-Kenya.

¹³⁴ 9 Independent variable

135 10 Dependent Variable

¹³⁶ 11 Resource Availability

Performance in French Human resources or human capital are the set of individuals who make up the workforce of the school. In this case the teachers who teach French are the main focus of the human resource in school. The success of the school in teaching French is heavily reliant on the talent and strength of these teachers. The hiring of experienced teachers with track records of excellence within their teaching career ensures that the mission and goals of the school will be carried out efficiently and with competence.

Physical resources are fundamental for effective teaching and learning hence every organization must have the
appropriate physical resources to survive. Physical Resources include a proper work space, good learning and
teaching materials both for the teacher and the student, and working French teaching electronics.

Financial Resources refers to the funds needed to run French related projects in the school. Finances are needed to purchase French electronics, Pay French motivational speakers, organize French Days, award students who perform better among other functions. Alternatively, loans and lines of credit may be granted from financial institutions, friends and relatives, private investors and even the government.

¹⁴⁹ 12 Human resource

150 **13 II.**

¹⁵¹ 14 Literature Review a) Social Learning Theory

The theoretical framework for resource availability is based on the fact that most human behavior is learned observationally through modeling and socialization. From observing others, one forms an idea of how new behaviors are performed, and on latter occasions this coded information serves as a guide for actions (Bandura, 1977).

This theory is guided by the assumptions and principles that humans are social beings who learn by observing the behavior of others and the outcomes, that is, the reinforcements and punishment associated with that behavior. That the person whose behavior is rewarded is called the role model and the process of imitation is called modeling, Learning can sometimes occur without change in behavior. This behavior may occur at a later time or may never occur, and finally, cognitive processes play an important role in learning. Some of these cognitive processes include attention, memory, rehearsal, motivation and expectations of reinforcements or punishment, (Ormrod, J.E, 2004).

There are two core concepts of social learning theory, these includes: The idea that people can learn through observation and the internal mental state are an essential part of this process. Bandura identifies three basic models of observational learning which include: a live model which involves an actual individual demonstrating or acting out a behavior, a verbal instructional model which involves description and explanations of behavior and a symbolic model which involves real or fictional characters displaying behavior in books, films, television programs or online media.

This theory was relevant to this research study when considering the resources; the study involved the human resources which in this case is the availability of a model because learning in this context is a result of watching the behavior of models in the environment. For example live demonstrations of a behavior or skill by a teacher

172 typify the notion of modeling.

Another aspect is the availability of instructional resources. These are the teaching and learning material used for teaching-learning. This is relevant with the symbolic model which involves real or fictional characters displaying behaviors in books television programs and online media. These materials are used to stimulate learning and facilitate attention, retention, reproduction and motivation.

177 15 b) Resource Allocation Theory

A critical component in the systemic approach of performance in education is the effective use of resources. As 178 179 education systems are redesigned to create high performance in all schools, systems must also be redesigned for greater efficiency and effectiveness (Odden & Busch, 2008). The twenty first century supports this need for 180 considering efficient structures in school reform. Resources can and must be used better if ambitious education 181 reform goals and student performance improvement are to be achieved. Research has produced a great deal 182 of information about how resources are distributed to school districts. However, there is insufficient data in 183 the research on how to put dollars to productive use (Picus & Fazal, 2005). Another well-established fact 184 is that spending for instruction represents about 60 percent of state and local operating expenditures (Odden& 185 186 Busch, 2008; Picus, 2001; Picus & Fazal, 2005). High-spending districts generally spend higher percentages of their funds for instruction than low-spending districts, although there are exceptions ??Adams, 2007). Researchers 187 established that school districts in the USA are basically consistent in the way they allocate resources ??Miles 188 & Darling-Hammond, 2008). When funding levels rise due to state aid or property tax increases, these districts 189 use operating funds primarily for smaller class sizes and teacher pay increases (Picus & Fazal, 2005). When more 190 program or categorical funds are available, districts enhance instructional programs with new technology, teacher 191 aides, and professional development linked to the program. Some researchers have begun to examine resource 192 allocation in districts undergoing reform to see if new reform ideas also change thinking about resources. So far, 193 they have learned that reform-oriented districts continue to retain control over most operating resources rather 194 than decentralizing allocation decisions to the school or classroom ??Adams, 2007). 195

196 These six strategies are: provide teachers with more generalized roles and reduce specialized programs, use 197 flexible student grouping, organize the school to support stronger personal relationships between students and 198 teachers, provide more common planning time for teachers, implement longer instructional time blocks, and make 199 creative use of the school day and staff. ??dden This theory relates to this study in that it implies that school decision makers may be able to reallocate resources more efficiently than they are doing using current policies. 200 These studies point to the need to examine data generated by districts and schools, as well as large national 201 datasets, to identify alternatives for allocating resources towards improving its performance in KCSE results 202 (Monk & Hussain, 2000). This theory also suggests that studying resource distribution can still yield results that 203 will help state and local policymakers improve schooling for all children through the efficient use of resources. 204

c) Critique of the theories i. Critique of the Social Learning 16 205 Theory 206

This theory was important in education as it easily handles inconsistencies in behaviors of students, it brings an 207 accurate picture of how behavior is learned, it offers a way to integrate social and cognitive theories, and explains 208 a large number of behaviors. However the same theory has its weaknesses as it applies too heavy of an emphasis 209 of what happens instead of what the observer does with what happens, it does not take into account physical 210 and mental changes, and finally it doesn't take in account that what one person views as punishment, another 211 person may view as a reward (Ormrod, 2004). 212

One of the greatest strengths of social learning theory is that it combines several important models of learning. 213 It is clearly behaviorist in that it advocates that children are motivated to imitate a behavior if that behavior is 214 215 seen as resulting in praise or some kind of reward. It is cognitive in that this learning process goes from imitation 216 to mastery, a point is reached where the model is no longer necessary and the child can go her/his own way. 217 Using certain insights from the other general models makes this theory attractive as an educational theory.

On the other hand this theory raises questions from the Social Learning Theorists who believe that learning 218 occurs through a modeling of behavior, dependent on environmental factors. Again cognitivists would disagree 219 because behavior is really not a factor of learning. Learning occurs regardless of a change of behavior. The 220 environment could have an effect on the learning but cognitivists believe that the instruction enables the learner 221 to look past the environmental factors and organizing the information that is important. Like any theory, 222 however, social cognitive theory also has limitations such as that it cannot explain why learners attend to some 223 modeled behaviors and not others, it cannot explain why learners can reproduce some behaviors they observe 224 but can't reproduce others, it can't account for the acquisition of complex abilities such as learning to write, it 225 cannot explain the role of context and social interaction in complex learning environments. For example, research 226 indicates that student interaction in small groups facilitates learning ??Fernandez-Berrocal & Santamaria, 2006). 227 228 The processes involved in these settings extend beyond simple modeling and imitation (Eggen P. & Kauchak, 2010). 229

The act of teaching is fundamentally concerned with passing ideas, skills attitudes from teachers to learners. 230 Mutebi and Matora, (1994) have emphasized the effect of instructional materials utilization on teaching and 231 learning. According to them, we learn and remember 10% of what we hear 40% of what we discuss with others 232 and as high as 80% of what we experience directly or practice. In this case the adequate human resources, material 233 resources and a good environment cannot be over emphasized for effective teaching and learning process. 234

ii. Critique of the Resource Allocation Theory 17235

This theory is important to this study in that it implies that school decision makers may be able to reallocate 236 resources more efficiently than they are doing using current policies. These studies point to the need to examine 237 238 data generated by schools, as well as large national datasets, to identify alternatives for allocating resources 239 towards improving its performance in KCSE results (Monk & Hussain, 2000). This theory also suggests that 240 studying resource distribution can still yield results that will help state and local policymakers improve schooling 241 for all children through the efficient use of resources.

But even with this more refined notion of relevance used to Buttress Fuller's argument, the doctrine of Resource 242 Allocation still would not apply in the manner Allan, De Smith and Feldman seem to suggest, that is, as a 243 threshold consideration excluding review of discretionary resource allocation decisions. One is that institutions 244 already do quite often balance the interests of represented and unrepresented parties. 245

Secondly, the representation of diverse interests in such cases is an important relevant concern, and adjudication 246 is evolving to take account of it. First, one must recall that the dispute is not between two private citizens (Picus 247 & Fazal, 2005). There is admittedly an important concern about the quality of representation of the public 248 interest in such cases. The point being made here is that there is a channel for representing the interests of the 249 public and that the state is relatively wellpositioned for providing it. To the extent one wishes to say that the 250 state does not take its responsibility seriously in this regard, it only bolsters the claim that oversight is needed 251 of administrative decision-making. 252

d) Review of Empirical Studies i. Human Resources and 18 253 Student Performance in French Subject 254

255 Aregbeyen (2011) examined the quality of teachers and students' performance in schools in Nigeria, 40 secondary 256 schools were selected purposively. Systematic random sampling was adopted in the selection of the students. 257 Descriptive research design was used. Schools were categorized into four: elite and private non-elite schools and 258 explained that the effects that teachers have on students' achievement are largely undisputed. He used a sample of 400 students and 200 teachers; the students' performance was measured by their scores in English Literature 259 and Mathematics. One way ANOVA was used to test hypothesis. The composite measure of the quality of 260 the teachers covered qualification, experience, patience, creativity and communication skills were utilized. The 261 obtained results suggested that the observed variations in the students' performance across the four categories 262 of the schools were significantly explained by the difference in the quality of teachers. 263

18 D) REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL STUDIES I. HUMAN RESOURCES AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN FRENCH SUBJECT

The sample used in the study was adequate only that the method used for sampling may cause bias when it comes to selecting the respondents. Method used to test hypothesis (ANOVA) data was relevant because the researcher sought to find out the significance of the difference in students' performance and quality of teachers across the 4 categories of schools.

Furthermore, Ibukun, Oyetakin, Iyiomo, Akinfolarin & Ayandoja (2012) examined the impact of human 268 resource allocation and utilization on the academic performance in Ondo State Secondary schools, Nigeria in 269 their study; they recognized teacher quality as the independent variable and student academic performance as 270 the dependent variable. A sample of 900 teachers, 100 head teachers were selected by use of purposive random 271 sampling, data was collected by use of questionnaire; descriptive survey design was used and t-test used to 272 test the hypotheses; There is no significant difference between the quality of teachers allocated to junior public 273 and junior private school and the academic performance of students in Ondo State. The study revealed that 274 no significant difference existed in the quality of teaching staff and students academic performance between the 275 public and private schools whereby according to the study, most public schools had qualified teachers as compared 276 to Private schools where graduate teachers without teaching qualification were higher (21%) than in public junior 277 schools (18%). 278

The sample used in the study was adequate but the use of questionnaire alone to collect data was an oversight. The study of the quality of teachers may be examined from different perspectives, for example, the teaching and learning skills applied in the classrooms and their effectiveness was to be collected through the use of observation schedule, and teachers' proficiency in the preparation of curriculum materials to be reviewed through document analysis. The use of survey design when examining the impact of an independent variable on a dependent variable is disputable as the latter should be investigated by experimental designs.

Nambuya (2013) examined school based factors influencing student academic performance at KCSE, Kenya. The study used descriptive survey design, targeted all 12 secondary schools in the district, the target population included 12 head teachers, 24 form 3 and 4 class prefects and 12 directors of study purposive sampling techniques was used to sample the respondents, observation schedules and questionnaires were used to collect data from the head teachers, class teachers and director of studies, Descriptive research design was used to analyze data, The study revealed that human resource was not well handled since most of the head teachers and directors of studies do not employ well trained school workers and their numbers were not enough to handle all students.

Even though the study outcome agrees with most researchers whereby the teacher-student ratio and experience greatly impacted on student performance, the sample of 4 class prefects was not adequate for the study to come up with generalization of the entire population, the tools used to collect data were also not adequate as there are some information that needed to be ascertained through document analysis for curriculum materials for example the schemes of work, lesson plans and records of work to find out teacher effectiveness.

The results of the study negated Newstrom & Davis (2002) study on quality and teacher training and student achievement which indicated that trained teachers do make a difference and in particular teacher qualification, experience and amount of education and knowledge were positively related to student achievement. It is worth noting that it is the teacher who translates the broad general curriculum goals into learning experiences and the method of presenting content. They do most of the evaluation. Therefore, the teacher initiates, develops and directs student learning so as to realize good results in the national exams.

In accordance with the results outcome, Muhammad & Rashid (2011) equally demonstrated that academic 303 qualification, professional qualification, refresher courses or trainings and teacher experience are the most 304 important qualities of a teacher. The qualities like academic qualification and knowledge of the subject matter, 305 competencies, skills, and the commitment of a teacher have an impact on teaching and learning process. Metzler 306 & Ludger (2010) in their study found that teacher quality is a key determinant of student learning and subsequent 307 academic achievement. Kombo (2005) observed that the learners regard the teacher as a source of power, resources 308 (knowledge and skills) as well as personal satisfaction (such as recognition, approval and acceptance). In the 309 classroom, the teacher is expected to play multiple roles, which include teaching, guidance and administration. 310 Olembo, Wanga & Karugu (1992) acknowledged that the demands on the teacher change considerably during 311 their career. In view of the continuous renovation and development of teaching knowledge and of the constant 312 change taking place within educational systems, it does not seem possible to equip the teacher trainee with all 313 knowledge and skills required for an entire professional life. Shiundu & Omulando (1992) observed that given 314 their vital role in curriculum implementation, teachers need appropriate and relevant training to be able to teach. 315 In addition, they need encouragement alongside a continuous training process to update their skills. 316

Sanders & Rivers (1966) were of the view that students who are assigned to several ineffective teachers in 317 a row have significantly lower achievement and gains in achievement than those who are assigned to several 318 highly effective teachers in a sequence. Kuenzi (2008) argued that certain teacher attributes like verbal ability, 319 subject matter knowledge, pedagogical knowledge, years of experience and certification status influence student 320 achievement. According to Coleman et al., ??1996), teachers' verbal ability is related to student achievement 321 and that the relationship may be differentially strong for teachers of different types of students. Murnane (1985) 322 observed that verbal ability is hypothesized to be a more sensitive measure of teacher's abilities to convey ideas 323 in clear and convincing ways. 324

Research clearly indicated that teacher expertise is the most significant school-based influence on student learning Saracologlu, ??2000). School improvement always calls for enhancing the knowledge, skills, and dispositions of teachers. Whatever course of action a school adopts, success usually hinges on providing support and resources for teachers to strengthen existing expertise or to learn new practices.

Qualification of French teachers weighs heavily on language performance, in secondary schools thus compromising quality of education. The Ministry of Basic Education has failed to employ enough teachers thus leading to an acute teacher shortage. The studentteacher ratio stands at 60:1. What is not clear however is how teachers in public schools cope with this situation in their day to day activities in their classrooms.

333 Globally, the bedrock of adequate foundation and training of needed manpower irrespective of area of specialization has been a function of the sound products from the teacher education in that country (Edobor, 334 2007). He further asserted that no educational system rises above the quality of her teachers anywhere in the 335 world, thus the growth and development of courses in the world largely depends on the quality and adequacy of 336 teachers in those areas of professional endeavor. The availability of human and material resources in the teaching 337 and learning of vocational course in secondary schools confirmed that Education in skill based courses requires 338 not only facts and information but also involves changing people's attitudes. To actualize this dream, qualified 339 teachers must be employed in the right numbers. 340

According to (Galloway, 2000), teachers require constant training exposure and interactions with professional experts through seminars, symposia workshops and conference. This will help to improve their competencies and professionalism. That in-service training must be given to the existing teachers and supporting staff. This is to bring them abreast with the latest technologies in their various skills. Consequently, Smith (2006) pointed that if instructors are inflexible and unclear, they are much more likely to be difficult to learn from which is a major concern to students.

Consequently, Cantrel & Kane (2013) on the measure of effective teaching, conducted a study in the USA, 347 348 concluded that the quality of teachers directly affected test score results regardless of a student's past performance. The research confirmed that groups of teachers previously identified as more effective caused students to learn 349 more, and groups of teachers who had been identified as less effective caused students to learn less. In as much 350 as teacher effectiveness may affect student's performance directly, we cannot rule out other factors that include 351 student's factors which are also crucial to performance. These may include students IQ, family background, and 352 attitude towards the subject just but to mention a few, hence we cannot generalize that poor performance is 353 entirely the effect of the teacher on the student. 354

In relation to these studies, it is evident that the teachers place in student's performance cannot be over 355 emphasized. Given their importance, the government together with the Ministry of Education should ensure 356 that the training of teachers of French should be effective in order to bring out competent teachers that will be 357 able to meet the teaching and learning objectives of French language in Kenya. This can be achieved through 358 regular in-servicing of teachers to ensure quality and standardized teaching through the use of adequate, relevant 359 360 and up to date teaching and learning materials. Moreover, the training of teachers should be done in a manner that conforms to the current trends in education; and that measures should be taken to ensure the adequacy of 361 teachers and that every child is taught by professionally trained and qualified teachers. 362

ii. Availability of Physical resources and performance in French Dorman (2008) argued that school physical
 resources refer to school's physical structure, equipment and other teaching and learning resources, class size
 among others. Environment in an educational setting refers to the emotional atmosphere, tone, ambience, or
 climate that prevails in a particular setting.

Kurdzioleck, (2011) in her dissertation examined classroom resources and their influence on learning in Texas
 USA, claimed that educationists and policy makers believed that by providing more resources they could improve
 student learning outcomes. To their frustration this turned out not to be entirely true.[©]

Resources may be necessary but they aren't sufficient. Resources themselves are not self-enacting, that is, they do not make change inevitable, and differences in their effects depend on differences in their use, Cohen

Raudenbush, & Ball, 2002; Grubb, 2008). Kurdziolek conducted a case study for four years; she used several designs, that is, delayed treatment design for year one study and quasi experimental design for year two study.

For year one study, a sample of 95 teachers and 1621 students was used. Stratified sampling technique was used 374 to select both teachers and students. Data was analyzed from Grounded theory perspective. She used interviews, 375 observation and achievement tests to collect data. Treatment teachers were given a set of new resources to use: 376 a combination of curriculum educational software and teachers professional development control group teachers 377 were asked to use their usual curriculum. Year 1 study results demonstrated by randomized control testing 378 the successful use of technology in class settings, however there was little information on how the students and 379 teachers actually interacted with resources. Students from both conditions were given a pre-test before their unit 380 as well as an identical pot-test once the unit was completed. 381

The results from the year one study indicated that students in the treatment condition had a higher mean difference score or gain score as compared to their peers in the control condition. This indicated that students from the treatment group learned more than students in the control group.

The study examined classroom resources and their impact on learning such studies are conducted by use of experimental designs which was used in the study. The researcher in general used a mixed design where she combined qualitative and quantitative analysis. The sample acquired is adequate and the data collection instruments are adequate as well as appropriate for the study.

Kurdziolek study agrees with Scheerens (2003) who concluded after a study that availability of teach-

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ing/learning resources enhances the effectiveness of schools as they are basic things that can bring about good 390 academic performance. Shiundu and Omulando (1992) argued that the head teacher as a manager plays an 391 important role in whatever goes on in school. The head teacher is responsible for proper execution of the 392 school curriculum, provides necessary teaching and learning resources, motivates teachers, supervises formative 393 evaluation, ensures that the curriculum is wellimplemented according to the school vision and mission and 394 finally sets mechanism for the curriculum evaluation and innovation. School management therefore, should 395 endeavor to provide necessary resources for the support of teaching and learning especially the purchase of relevant 396 textbooks, building and equipping laboratories with correct apparatus and chemicals to facilitate effective learning 397 in the school. Adalikwu (2012) examined the influence of instructional materials (teaching aids) on academic 398 performance of students in chemistry Nigeria; He used quasi experimental design for the study. Five schools were 399 selected through stratified sampling, 100 students who studied Chemistry were selected from the five schools 400 through simple random sampling techniques. He grouped the students into two: 50 students were placed in 401 Experimental group and were taught with instructional materials and another 50 control group taught without 402 instructional materials, Chemistry Achievement Test (CAT) was used to gather data, and independent t-test used 403 to test hypothesis at 0.05significance level. The hypothesis tested was the influence of instructional materials 404 on student academic performance in Chemistry. He found out that students taught with instructional materials 405 performed significantly better than those taught without instructional materials, and that the use of instructional 406 materials generally improved students understanding of concepts and led to high academic achievements. 407

408 The study only looked at one variable; instructional material and its influence on students' performance 409 in Chemistry as opposed to the current study that examined resources in totality and its relationship with 410 performance in French subject, the experimental research design used was relevant as it not only measures 411 opinions but the actual effects of the independent variable on the dependent variable, except that it may be difficult to have a true control group, and to assign subjects to the experimental and control group. In as 412 much as the researches are related, the current one examined the extent to which the variables are related 413 hence correlation survey design was used. The sampling techniques used were relevant and the sample used was 414 adequate. The t-test for testing the hypothesis was relevant as the researcher only had one independent variable 415 and given the nature of the research design. The current research used one way ANOVA to assess the relationship 416 between the resources and performance. The results obtained hence cannot be far from the truth. 417

Nambuya (2013), when examining school based factors influencing students' academic performance at KCSE 418 Teso south looked at the influence of physical resources on student's performance as one of the independent 419 variable. The study used descriptive survey design, targeted all 12 secondary schools in the district, the target 420 population included 12 head teachers, 24 form three and four class prefects and 12 directors of study. The study 421 employed census sampling to sample all the all the 12 schools, and purposive sampling technique to sample 12 422 423 head teachers, 24 class prefects and 12 DOS, observation schedules and questionnaires were used to collect data from the head teachers, class teachers and director of studies, document analysis was used to capture academic 424 performance in schools. Descriptive research design was used. The study revealed that in most schools, in the 425 district, physical resources were not well developed and this affected the performance of students in the district. 426 The study sought to investigate the influence of physical resources on performance but the researcher used 427 descriptive survey design instead of experimental or quasi experimental designs, the census sampling technique 428 for selecting schools was relevant but the purposive sampling is not relevant for quantitative studies the researcher 429 did not test hypothesis, hence it is not clear if there is a significant difference between the mean performances of 430 schools with different levels of physical resources.

From the foregoing, it is clear as observed by Nijhuis (2005) that school environment is of paramount 432 importance to promote learning. This type of atmosphere prevailing in school is a perpetual inspiration for 433 the children to learn more and more. Further, he argues that classroom environment is the total of all social, 434 emotional, mental and physical factors that make overall contribution to the teaching learning process within 435 the classroom. Goddard, Hoy and Hoy (2000) and Heck (2000) observe that favorable learning environment also 436 improves academic and professional standards of the school and leads to higher achievement. 437

431

Class size is yet another important aspect within the school factors. Fabunmi and Okore (2000) viewed class 438 factors as very important in the teaching-learning activities, particularly when students' academic performance 439 is being considered. He continues that class size is an important factor in relation to academic performance of 440 students. In addition, he argues that there is consensus among various researchers and educationists that, the 441 lower the class size or teacher pupil-ratio, the higher the achievement and that student' achievement decreases as 442 class size increases. In view of this fact, it could be said that teacher-pupil ratio is one of the important factors 443 determining good academic performance. 444

iii. Financial resources and performance of students in French subject in KCSE Financial resources are a key 445 element among educational resources. They are mainly used for acquisition of other resources such as physical 446 facilities, text books and human resources (Lumuli, 2009). Equally, according to behavioral scientists effective 447 worker performance requires motivation ability and reward system that encourages quality work. ??Ivancerich 448 et al, 1994). 449

Diane, Zena Rudo, Cynthia Schneider & Lotte (2003), conducted a study on the examination of resource 450 allocation: Connecting spending to student performance in the USA. The purpose of the study was to explore 451 differences in fiscal spending and staffing allocation in relation to varying levels of student achievement and 452

identify resource allocation practices and challenges related to the process of improving student performance. The study included Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and Texas.12 improvement schools were selected, the identified improvement districts were divided into 3 groups of varying sizes: small (800-1999), Medium (2,000-10,000) and large (more than 10,000) students. The 12 districts were selected on the basis of consistent improvement in student's performance not on the basis of consistently high performance. Interviews focus groups and surveys were used for data collection, ANOVA was used to examine the differences between the high and low performance groups in fiscal and human resource allocation. Group means of 5 years of data were compared.

The findings from the research demonstrated a strong relationship between resources and student success. High performance district showed different resource allocation patterns in specific fiscal and staffing categories than low performing districts. A general pattern emerged where higher performance was associated with higher spending for instruction, core expenditures and number of teachers and with lower spending for general administrative staff. In all the 4 states high performing districts spent more on instruction as a share of current expenditures while in 3 states high performing districts spent more on instruction per pupil and employed more teachers 1000 students.

Munda, Odebero, (2014) studied the influence of education costs on students' academic performance in Kenya-467 Bungoma County secondary schools. The study sought to investigate the relationship between unit cost and 468 students' academic performance in secondary schools. The study used descriptive survey research design. The 469 schools were grouped into two: County schools and District schools, proportionate random sampling was used to 470 471 select 13 District schools and 7 County schools, and 80 class teachers in 20 schools. The study used structured 472 questionnaire with open/closed ended questions to collect data from the respondents. Pearson correlation was 473 used to measure the degree of relationship between unit cost and student performance at a significance level of 0.05. The Pearson correlation was used to test the relationship between school average unit cost and performance. 474 The results revealed a significant positive relationship existed between unit cost and academic performance, and 475 the government's effort to provide financial subsidy to education were still not adequate to cover vulnerable 476 groups. 477

The study sought to find out the influence of education costs on students' academic performance but went ahead and used descriptive survey design instead of experimental designs. Apart from that, the targeted population only included the school class teachers and left out the school heads that are key in the study as they are the ones tasked with the collection and management of funds in the schools. Inadequacy is also observed in the data collection instruments where the questionnaires were the only instruments used yet there could be vital documents that needed to be analyzed.

Richard (2001) determined if certain financial resources were related to academic achievement in Georgia 484 public schools. Four predictor variables representing different financial resources were compared with a criterion 485 486 variable representing different financial resources were compared with a criterion variable representing differences were statistically held constant to reduce their possible effects. The four financial variables were Per-Pupil 487 Expenditure, Average Teacher Salary, Per-Pupil Local Revenue, and Per-Pupil District Wealth, all measured by 488 dollar amounts. The criterion variable was the Georgia High School Graduation Test Pass Rate, measured by 489 percent for each school district. The three covariates were socioeconomic status, race, and special education 490 enrollment, all measured by a percent for each school district. Participants in the study were the 180 public 491 school systems in Georgia, although seven were excluded because they did not have secondary schools, but 492 instead transported their students to a nearby district (n = 173). The most recently available data were obtained 493 from the Georgia Department of Education (GDOE) in August 2001 for the 1999-2000 school years. 494

Following the organization and summation of descriptive statistics, correlation coefficients were reported and 495 compared. Next, a simultaneous multiple regression analysis was conducted, and the results were reported. 496 Since interaction between the variables modified certain relationships, it was also necessary to show how these 497 relationships were modified. The results were conclusive. Average Teacher Salary was found to have a statistically 498 significant (p < .05) and moderately positive relationship (r = .41) with academic achievement. However, none 499 of the remaining three financial variables (Per-Pupil Expenditure, Per-Pupil Local Revenue, Per-Pupil District 500 Wealth) had anything more than a weak relationship with academic achievement. The analysis supported the 501 value of Average Teacher Salary as a predictor of academic achievement. The findings of this study imply 502 that when financial resources were used for higher average teacher salaries, the results were higher academic 503 achievement. 504

The study sought to find out the influence but went ahead to use descriptive survey design. Inadequacy observed in data collection instruments applied, only one instrument used that is questionnaire yet documents of school income and expenditure needed to be analyzed to see how finances were acquired.

According to Fermanich (2003), the effects of schools and teachers on student achievement was found to have 508 three main types of studies: production function studies, effective schools studies, and school effects/teacher-509 effects studies. Production function studies such as those reviewed by Hanushek (1989) and reviewed by Hedges 510 et al. (??004) found, at best, a questionable link between resources and student learning. However, it is also the 511 case that these studies tend not to include fully specified models of how learning transpires in a classroom. The 512 second group, effective schools studies, shows that effective schools tend to have certain characteristics, but these 513 are not necessarily linked to level of resources in a school. The third group, school-and teacher-effects studies, 514 uses regression analysis to show how various characteristics of schools and teachers are related to student-level 515

18 D) REVIEW OF EMPIRICAL STUDIES I. HUMAN RESOURCES AND STUDENT PERFORMANCE IN FRENCH SUBJECT

outcomes, including achievement. In terms of the effect of school-level resources, most of these studies have not looked directly at this issue. This study looks both directly at this issue and at some of the other variables found to influence student achievement cited in studies next.

At the school level, some studies have shown a negative relationship between the size of a school and student achievement, suggesting that smaller schools may be more conducive to learning (Andrews, Duncombe, & Yinger, 2002). A number of studies have analyzed the relationship between per-pupil spending and student achievement, with the majority showing no relationship (Hanushek, 1989), although many of those models used a district-level measure of per-pupil spending rather than an actual measure of expenditures per student at the school level. For a more extensive summary of the variables at the student, classroom, and school levels that affect student learning gains, Odden et al. (2004).

Current resources can and must be used better if ambitious education reform goals and student performance 526 improvement are to be achieved. Research has produced a great deal of information about how dollars are 527 distributed to school districts. However, there is insufficient data in the research on how to put dollars to 528 productive use (Picus & Fazal, 1995). From recent studies, it is known that at least 80 percent of most school 529 district budgets are spent at and within school sites for a wide range of student services such as instruction, school 530 leadership, counseling services, supplies, and materials (Odden & Archibald, 2001). The remaining expenditures 531 support the superintendent's Another well-established fact is that spending for instruction represents about 60 532 percent of state and local operating expenditures (Picus, 2001). Highspending districts generally spend higher 533 534 percentages of their funds for instruction than low-spending districts, although there are exceptions (Hartman, 535 2008).

According to a report by World Bank (2005), unit cost of classroom construction can be reduced through 536 evaluation of the choice of technology and building materials with respect to cost, quality maintenance 537 requirements as in community managed construction and in use of locally available input. Similarly, Shepherd 538 (2009) focuses on better schools for less money as in United Kingdom. This were necessary through breakdown of 539 construction cost which opened up avenues for rationalization of school construction methods and ultimately for 540 controlling school construction cost and inspiring economies by setting cost limits on all proposed construction. 541 Aoki et al., ??2002) recommend the reduction of construction costs by as much as half through the use of more 542 modest but still safe and adequate design standards; the use of lower cost local construction materials; and 543 through mobilizing community labor to help build schools. 544

No educational system can be run without financial resources, this is evident as indicated by researches conducted, it is in fact because of financial implications required in teaching and learning that governments have come out to fund learning through the program of free education for all where the government allocates funds to support teaching and learning in public schools. However, the program needs to be closely monitored and evaluated to find out the extent to which it is implemented and whether it is reaching the intended beneficiaries and to provide room for accountability from those managing the funds so as avoid cases of misappropriation of funds meant to improve educational systems in the country.

iv. KCSE Performance Globally, school performance has been seen as a function of school resources. However,
 learning resources are likely to be subject to diminishing returns such that mathematics text book is likely to
 add substantially to learning effectiveness, but additional text books are likely to contribute successively smaller
 amounts (Hurd, 2005).

Adebayo, (2007) in his study of French language teaching and productivity enumerated the factors affecting the French language to include: policy deficiency of not making the subject compulsory at all educational levels, unqualified teachers, attitude of many students to the language, insufficient funding and curriculum combination of the subject with other subjects.

Studies conducted by Odden et al. (??004) indicated that the school process affects KCSE performances are the school processes. This is due to the fact that schools have control over how school input are organized and managed, teaching practices they use and the climate they create for student learning. They also reveal that a number of policies and practices have been shown to affect performance. Some studies have shown that school organizational practices which include teachers and parents in decision making, affect student achievement in middle and high schools as in USA.

However, communal organizations, including democratic governance had no impact on achievement (Rum-566 berger, 2005). Aoki (2002) identified teacher quality as the most important determinant of school effectiveness; 567 KCSE performance. As such, Hanushek, (2003) said that high quality teachers are ones who consistently obtain 568 higher than expected gains in student performance. Research has demonstrated that a wide variety of individual 569 student characteristics are related to student test scores, including demographic characteristics such as ethnicity 570 and gender, family characteristics and structure and academic characteristics such as previous achievement and 571 retention (Rumberger et al., 2005). Ibid further noted that student characteristics influence student achievement 572 not only at an individual level but also at aggregate or social level that is social composition of students in a school 573 which in turn influence student achievement apart from the effect of student characteristics at an individual level. 574 According to Aoki et al., (2002) student factors such as poor health can be a major cause of low learning 575 achievement .Also, physical or learning disabilities effect achievement if proper assistance is not given. Also, 576 violence influence KCSE performance. Education Minister Sam Ongeri in TSC (2009) says that post-election 577 violence of early 2008 caused disturbances, displacement of students and teachers, loss of learning time as well 578

as closure of schools in the affected areas as a result drop in the candidates' performance in KCSE, he further identified school unrests as determining KCSE performance as they lead to destruction of school facilities.

⁵⁸¹ 19 v. Measures of Effectiveness

Globally, studies have shown that that cost have little meaning or value unless they are set against educational 582 results and the results are weighted against the objectives Coombs and Hallack (1972). This implies that despite 583 scarce resources, the effectiveness of costsaving measures need to be assessed. Ominde, RoK ??1964) showed 584 that large schools secure maximum economies of building and equipment as full use of certain space can only 585 be obtained where there are three or four streams. Kosgei et al., (2004) added that recurrent expenditure per 586 pupil had an inverse relationship with the size of the school as increase in size of the school triggers reduction in 587 recurrent expenditure and hence the school realizes substantial amount of savings. Rumberger & Palardy (2005) 588 589 say that large schools are more effective in improving student learning than midsized schools. However, large 590 schools have significantly lower test scores than medium sized or small schools.

591 According to studies conducted in Africa by Guellemette (2005), it was found out that reducing class size has proved expensive. Also, later primary (three and six) and secondary grades finds no significant improvement in 592 student performance from smaller classes. For example, in US, over the past quarter century a steady decline in 593 pupil-teacher ratio had no corresponding measure of student achievement. (Ibid) further observes that a wide 594 discrepancies in pupilteacher ratio across countries and time show little relationships to achievements as in science 595 and mathematics test, countries such as South Korea with very large sizes routinely outperformed richer countries 596 such as US and Canada where classes are much smaller. Cooper, Valentine, Chariton & Melson ??2003) indicate 597 that modified school calendars were associated with higher achievement for economically disadvantaged students. 598 They say that extended school calendar is a panacea to where there is a great need for additional schools and 599 classrooms as the existing buildings are in use year round. 600

Studies conducted in Kenya by, IPAR (2007) associated poor governance to rampant corruption at administra-601 tion and board levels with regard to procurement of school equipment, consumables, learning materials and hiring 602 603 of teachers and nonteaching staff. Therefore, poor board management increases transactional cost of secondary education. On education technology, Anderson (2005) said that it has been demonstrated to increase student 604 learning cost effectively hence enhance quality of education both by increasing availability of up to-date teaching 605 materials and providing the most highly qualified teachers with the means of reaching wider audience. In addition, 606 Pritchett & Filmer (2007) added that education production function is determined by an underlying pedagogical 607 process. This theory shows that in multi-grade schooling, student learning compares very favorably with learning 608 outcomes in traditional classrooms. Also, double-shift schools can allow students adequate instructional time 609 without impairing learning (Aoki, 2002). 610

⁶¹¹ 20 e) Knowledge Gap

Studies have been conducted to determine the factors that affect student performance in different subjects. The 612 foregoing literature review embodied some studies that depicted the position of resource availability against 613 student performance in schools globally, regionally an in Kenya. Reports from these studies have served as useful 614 guides to the present study; however there are emerging gaps that needs to be filled for knowledge advancement. 615 Aregbeyen (2011) examined the quality of teachers and students performance in schools in Nigeria. The 616 composite measure of the quality of teachers covered qualification, experience, patience, creativity and 617 communication skills. The obtained results suggested that the observed variations in the students' performance 618 were significantly explained by the difference in the quality of teachers. The emerging gap involves the context of 619 the study area which is Nigeria as opposed to the current study that will be conducted in Vihiga County-Kenya. 620 In as much as both studies focus on French teaching and performance, the current study looked specifically at 621 teachers as opposed to the current study that also involved physical as well as financial resources and how they 622 relate to student performance. Equally time factor cannot be left out as these two studies were conducted in 623 different time frame. 624

Focusing still on studies conducted, Nambuya (2013) examined school based factors influencing student 625 academic performance at KCSE Kenya, the study revealed that human resource was not well handled since 626 most of the head teachers and directors of study did not employ well trained school workers and their numbers 627 were not enough to handle all students hence poor performance of students. Even though the studies used 628 the same variables, this study generally looked at students' performance as opposed to the current study that 629 specifically looked at French subject. The study also sought to find out how each variable influenced performance 630 while the current study sought to find out the relationship between each variable and performance of French 631 632 subject. The method used for sampling the respondents is different whereby the previous study used purposive 633 sampling technique, and the current study used simple random sampling technique which is better as it is free 634 from bias.

Furthermore, in what concerns physical resources, Adalikwu (2012) examined the influence of instructional materials (teaching aids) on academic performance of students in chemistry in Nigeria. He found out that students taught with instructional materials performed significantly better than those taught without instructional materials, and that the use of instructional materials generally improved students understanding of concepts

and led to high academic achievements the study only focused on one variable that is the instructional material 639 which is a section of all the resources required in teaching and learning of a given subject, consequently the 640 subjects in focus of study are different that is French and chemistry. The context is also different whereby the 641 study was conducted in Nigeria. From the foregoing, it is evident that there has been no study to establish the 642 relationship between financial resources and performance in French subjects among secondary schools in Vihiga-643 County, also none addressed in-depth investigation on this subject thus leaving a potential gap in literature that 644 this study sought to fill. This study therefore aimed at assessing the relationship between resource availability 645 and performance in French subjects among secondary schools in Vihiga County-Kenya and identifies ways of 646 improving KCSE performance in secondary schools in Vihiga County. By filling this gap, the study would 647 contribute to the body of knowledge available on the issue. 648

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650 **22** III.

⁶⁵¹ 23 Research Design and Methodology a) Research Design

The study employed a correlational research design. Correlational research design was used to describe in quantitative terms the degree to which two or more variables are related. It involved the collection of data on two or more variables on the same group of subjects and computing a correlation coefficient. Stanovich (2007), this design also provides an accurate and efficient means for describing people's thoughts, opinions and feelings. The researcher described in quantitative terms the degree to which two variables are related. This enabled the researcher to assess the degree of relationship between these two variables.

⁶⁵⁸ 24 b) Target Population and sample size

The target population of the study included all the schools teaching French language, all head teachers of schools teaching French subject, all teachers teaching French subject and all students studying French subject in Vihiga County-Kenya.

Head teachers were included in the study because they are decision makers and as pedagogical leader he gets 662 to know what goes on in class and school as teachers report to him. As a supervisor he is tasked with deploying 663 staff, allocating time to subjects taught in school, providing teaching and learning materials and creating an 664 atmosphere conducive to effective teaching and learning. Teachers were selected because their training and 665 experience is important to student's performance, through them the researcher found out the teaching and 666 learning materials present and frequently used in teaching-learning process, their attitude towards the subject 667 and views on performance, and the challenges they face in the implementation of the French curriculum as they 668 have firsthand experience through their interactions with the students. d) Description of Research Instruments i. 669 Teachers Questionnaire Structured questionnaires were used to collect the required information from the study 670 671 population. By using self-administered questionnaires information about resource availability and performance in French subjects in Public Secondary Schools in Vihiga County and other related data was obtained. The 672 questionnaire consisted of 3 sections, the first section included the researchers introduction and instructions, the 673 second section had the respondents' background information, the third sought to find the relationship between 674 human resource and performance of students in French subject in KCSE, the fifth examined the relationship 675 between physical resources and performance of students in French subject in KCSE and finally the last section 676 sought to find out the relationship between financial ii. Interview schedule for Head Teachers Interviews are 677 questions that are asked orally, it can be structured or open ended questions. Oral interviews were used to ask 678 questions and obtain data from the head teacher. A question which cannot be included in the questionnaire due to 679 their elongated nature will be phrased to fit the informants' level of understanding. This made it possible to access 680 intensive data that covers wider scope of research. The method also provided reliable and accurate information 681 in an intensive manner that give satisfactory results. The interviews were audio taped and transcribed. The 682 interview schedule had two sections; the first section involved the researcher's introduction, while the second 683 section consisted of the availability of resources in the schools. 684

iii. Observation Schedule In this regard the observation checklist was used to observe the teaching and
 learning resources for French subject adopted by the respective secondary schools that is likely to impact on the
 performance of students in French together with the physical, teaching and learning resources available/functional
 in the schools.

iv. Document Analysis Schedule Document analysis schedule was used to collect recorded information related
 to the research study. This included mark books to find out the performance of students in French classes,
 records of work and the schemes of work to establish the teaching and learning materials used by the teachers.
 This method is ideal because it enabled the researcher to obtain unobtrusive information at the pleasure of the
 researcher and without interrupting the researched.

25e) Validity and Reliability i. Validity of Research Instru-694 ments Results 695

Validity of the instruments was assessed in terms of the extent to which the results of the research instruments 696 serve the particular interpretations and uses for which they are intended. An aptitude scale is considered valid, 697 for example, to the degree to which its results conform to other measures of possession of the aptitude. Validity 698 therefore refers to the extent to which an instrument asks the right questions in terms of accuracy. The content 699 validity of the questionnaire was determined through discussing the items in the instrument with the lecturers 700 from the department and colleagues to check both the content coverage and the clarity of the questions. Advice 701

given by these people helped the researcher determine the validity of the research instruments. 702

26 ii. Pilot Study of Research Instruments 703

The questionnaire and interview schedule were piloted in 2 schools in the neighboring Kakamega County a locality 704 similar to the study area but not involved on the study to test how they work. In this regard 2 teachers and 705 2 pupils not involved in the study were asked to complete the questionnaire. The head teachers of the schools 706 were interviewed. Data collected from the pilot study was used to rephrase and reorganize the format of the 707 questionnaire. Piloting was important as it enabled the researcher to assess the willingness of the respondents 708 to co-operate in the study, the eminent obstacles to data collection and helped to determine the validity and 709 reliability of the instruments results. 710

iii. Reliability of Instruments Results $\mathbf{27}$ 711

The questionnaires were designed carefully to ensure no ambiguity and that all respondents understood and 712

responded to all issues in exactly the same way as expected by the researcher. This involved the rating scales 713

that include the attitude questions and were computed in Likert scales. The test re-test method was used to test 714 715 the reliability of the instrument results. Questionnaires were administered twice after an interval of two weeks

and the results compared. The split half was used to determine a reliability index through Pearson's Product 716

Moment Correlation coefficients. The study found that all the variables had a reliability index of 0.7. 717

f) Description of Data Analysis Procedures $\mathbf{28}$ 718

Quantitative analysis, editing, coding, data entry, cleaning and recoding activities were done by using SPSS 719 (version 19.0).Composite averages were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Descriptive data was analyzed 720 using frequencies, percentages, means and standard deviations. For inferential statistics ANOVA was used to 721 722 test the hypotheses. The schools were grouped in terms of those with: Inadequate Resources, Moderate Resources and Adequate Resources. 723

IV. 724

Results $\mathbf{29}$ 725

30 a) Demographic Characteristics of Respondents 726

The demographic information of the respondents is considered very crucial not only for subsequent discussions 727 of the findings but also for the authenticity and generalization of the results. This section, therefore, presents 728 respondents' background information considered crucial for discussions in this study such as gender, age, highest 729 level of education and teaching experience. 730 i

731

31. Age of the Respondents 732

The age of the respondents was sought by the researcher. The findings are illustrated in figure 2. From the 733 findings, clear majorities (58.5%) of the respondents were between 31-35 years, 23.7% of the respondents were 734 between 36-40 years, 14.8% of the respondents were between 41-45 years and 3% of the respondents were below 735 30 years. This implies that most teachers had some experience in the teaching of French subject. 736

iii. Teachers' Qualification 32737

The academic qualification of teachers is one of the most important factors that determine acquisition of language 738 skills. As such, the researcher sought to establish the teachers' academic qualifications. The results of the 739 740 study are as presented in Figure 4. It was revealed that 41.5% of the respondents were diploma holders, 40%741 of the respondents had Certificate level of education, 11.9% of the respondents were degree holders, 5.9% of the 742 respondents were at P1 level and 0.7% of the respondents had Master's level of education. The study noted that 743 this was very important that schools should employ and retain competent and qualified staff because most of their activities require the use of knowledge, skills and abilities. The study put into account the gender of the 744 respondents which was considered relevant to this study. Figure 3 illustrates the results. As evidenced in the 745 findings, 64% of the respondents are female whereas 36% of the respondents are male. From the above findings, 746

33 C) SCHOOL PHYSICAL RESOURCES AFFECTING PERFORMANCE IN FRENCH

it was clear that majority of the teachers were female which indicates a bias regarding teaching of French. This 747 could be as a result that more females venture into languages as compared to their male counterparts. The 748 teaching experience of a teacher enables the teacher to interact more freely with the children especially during 749 activity times. Figure 5 shows the respondents work experience in the school. From the findings in Figure 5, 750 46.7% of the respondents had an experience of 11-20 years teaching, 40% of the respondents had taught for 6-10 751 years, 8.1% of the respondents had taught for 1 to 5 years and 5.2% of the respondents had an experience of 752 over 20 years. Since most of the teachers had an experience over 11 years, they are able to interact freely with 753 children and contribute to the development of their language skills. With such a rich teaching experience coupled 754 with their wealthy professional qualifications, teachers were therefore expected to be knowledgeable and hence 755 able to give reliable information as sought by the study. From the findings presented in Table 4.1, majority 756 of the respondents 7(38.8%), mean = 1.91, strongly disagreed that teachers of French subject seem to be well 757 qualified in teaching while 7 (38.89%) of them agreed with this fact. 7 (39.9%), mean = 2.31, also agreed that 758 the school has adequate number of French subjects and this might be because of the school following a set out 759 curriculum. However, 8(43.6%), mean = 2.67 disagreed that teachers of French are committed in teaching French 760 subjects despite majority of the respondents, 9 (48%), mean = 2.90, agreeing that the school administration is 761 very supportive to teachers of French subjects and that 8 (42.9%), mean = 3.09, of the respondents disagreed that 762 the teachers of French are well motivated to teach the subject although the teachers are well experienced to teach 763 the subject as agreed to by majority of the respondents, 6 (34.1%), mean = 3.71. Past research findings have 764 765 revealed that teacher quality is a major factor in determining student performance because it is well known that an academically qualified teacher has more authentic knowledge about the relevant subject than the academically 766 767 less qualified teacher. The findings above have shown that although teachers are qualified and receive support from the administration, they seem to be not motivated enough to teach and are not well motivated to teach. 768

Considering research question of the relationship between Human Resource and Performance of Students in 769 French, the study indicates that teachers handling French in the schools under study were trained professionals. 770 The analysis revealed that a good number of teachers were university graduates and diploma holders. But in as 771 much as most of them were trained professionals, it was observed that majority did not adhere to the expectations 772 of teaching skills required for implementing the curriculum. For example most teachers went to class with no 773 notes or lesson plan, while others did not keep records of work and marks for consistency, continuity and keeping 774 track of student's performance hence it proved difficult to explain student's behavior at the end of the lesson and 775 this affected the effectiveness of teaching and learning. 776

777 **33** c) School physical Resources Affecting Performance in 778 French

The researcher sought to find out the availability of school physical resources and their relationship with the 779 performance of French at K.C.S.E. Such resources included teaching and learning resources, school management 780 styles, school physical facilities, class size among others. Table 4 The findings in Table 4.2 revealed that the 781 text books for French subjects are less available, 13 (83.9%) Although well maintained classrooms are available, 782 13(60.5%), in some schools, the classrooms as a resource are not adequately available. The findings also indicate 783 that well maintained classroom furniture is medium available, 8 (42.1%). In addition to this, exercise books were 784 found to be less available, 8 (44.8%) as well as the manuals for French subject, 7 (41.4%), Journals for French 785 subject, 7 (39.9%), curriculum catalogues for French subjects, 6 (33.6%) as well as charts for demonstrations, 6 786 (33.9%), all these were found to be less available indicating inadequacies in terms of reading materials. 787

In terms of availability of modern technology for teaching/ learning of French subject, the findings revealed that internet is less available in majority of the schools, 11 (62.0%) with 6 (31.5%) of them indicating that internet is not available. In addition to this, computer labs were found to be less available, 9 (52.3%) with 7 (37.7%) indicating that computer labs were not available at all. As indicated, most of the schools are ill equipped with the modern technology needed in the teaching/learning of French subject. Although some schools were found to be having electronic media, 5 (27.4%) the number is insignificant thus qualifies the fact that in majority of the schools, computer labs are less available with some schools not even having computer labs.

This gives an indication that majority of the schools have not invested in new technology that can aid in 795 the learning of the French subject. As a consequence, even the teachers do not use modern technology in 796 aiding their teaching and thus the full benefits of using modern technology in learning of French subject are 797 not fully utilized. This would definitely affect the performance of the students in the subject especially when 798 compared to schools which have fully embraced the use of modern technology in teaching of French as well as 799 the changing trend of learning of French as well as other foreign languages. The use of technology, specifically 800 801 multimedia, for foreign language instruction has expanded rapidly in the last two decades. Research on the 802 effect of technologyenhanced instruction on achievement and studies of student attitudes regarding learning 803 with technology have also increasingly been reported (Salaberry, 2001) while a number of benefits for students 804 related to the general use of technology in classrooms have been identified and include increased motivation, improvement in self-concept and mastery of basic skills, more student-centered learning and engagement in the 805 learning process, and more active processing, resulting in higher-order thinking skills and better recall (McGrath, 806 1998). Additionally, there seems to be a beneficial multimedia effect, especially for low achieving students, when 807

it is used to illustrate concepts and organize factual information. Furthermore, students also appear to gain 808 confidence directing their own learning. While these benefits have been identified, the findings in this study 809 indicated that the schools fail to realize these benefits because majority are ill equipped with modern technology 810 and this might impact negatively on their performance. library, while the other 6 had school main library with 811 only course books, while 2 only had book stores. Lack of that important facility denied both students and 812 813 teachers the opportunity to access reference materials and ample space especially for students to do private studies when out of class. The analysis indicates that teaching and learning resources were inadequate in almost 814 all the sampled schools especially those that fell in the district school category. Schools lacked the necessary 815 textbooks like language course books, the few that were available students had to share in a ratio of one book to 816 three learners. 817

School management committee's styles were also found to impair schools' quest for impressive academic performance. The school's management did not to allocate funds to those resources that directly affected student academic wellbeing. Second, when a chance arose to employ BoM teachers, in most cases they went after those they could pay cheaply. School principals did not escape the blame because some of them could not send teachers

for in-service courses because they had financial implications.

⁸²³ 34 d) Financial Resources and Performance of Students in

French Subject An assessment of the availability of financial resources was also carried out. French teachers 824 were asked to indicate the extent to which they agreed with selected aspects of school finances. The findings 825 summarized and presented in Table 4.3. From the findings, majority of the respondents agreed that the schools 826 have adequate funds to support French subjects, 8 (42%) although majority of these schools do not have their 827 own income generating activities, 10 (56.3%) indicating that majority of the schools depend on the government 828 for financial support with the support being at least adequate given that the majority of the respondents, 6 829 (33.5%) noted that the government financially supports school operations but the support is not adequate given 830 that 5 (25.4%) of the respondents agreed that the government does offer financial support for school operations. 831 832 In addition to this, parents do not give adequate financial support to the school programs such as French classes, 5 (30.2%). Given that there was no adequate support from both the government and the parents, majority of 833 the respondents, 7 (41.4%) disagreed that the school has received aids and grants from donors, NGOs among 834 others and though there was some form of support in terms of aids received, these findings showed that it was 835 not adequate and given that this is the case, 7 (39.9%) disagreed that the schools do not experience any financial 836 shortage. 837

From the findings it is evident that most schools were grappling with the issue of inadequate funds since most of them depended on the school fees paid by students and money paid by the government for each student that in real sense is not enough to support effective running of school programs and many a time it delays due to one reason or another thus stifling the programs, most students from these schools come from poor backgrounds hence may not be able to pay school fees on time, or may not be able to pay at all. As a result, most schools cannot be able to afford modern/ required facilities for keeping up with the current trends of teaching and learning the French subject.

Majority of the schools had only one radio and hence they would share with other subjects. This will limit the frequency of administering the listening comprehension as one has to work with the program of other teachers using the same radio. Others opted for the cheap electronics hence compromise on the quality of voice production and hence poor performance in the listening comprehension examination. Most teachers did not use charts for demonstrations in classrooms mainly because the charts are not readily available, and because some did not have the French rooms hence don't have a place to place them as they keep on moving from one classroom to another.

Co-curricular activities and educational trips are crucial in student learning as they play a major role in promoting a student's social behavior. Most schools participate in drama and poems that boosts self-esteem and mastery of language phonetics and literature; equally it gives a student a chance to learn from others as well as promoting healthy competition amongst them. Insufficient finances frustrated the implementation of such programs as a number of schools did not participate fully in the activities because of that.

Consequently, it is clear that most head teachers did not allow their teachers to attend professional development programs and trainings organized by the ministry of Education due to high costs associated with such programs, as a results most of them lagged behind since knowledge keeps on changing with time and hence the poor performance observed in the County.

⁸⁶⁰ 35 e) Performance in French

The specifics of the performance of French at KCSE for the period 2009 to 2013 are summarized in Table 4.4. The results in Table 4.5 indicate that performance of French in Vihiga County over the five years under study has not been encouraging despite the positive deviations. The findings have shown a steady decline in the KCSE means scores for the French subject from the year 2009 (mean score = 4.512, SD = 0.217) to the year 2013 (mean 4.030, SD = 0.000) which indicates a mean grade of D+ over the five years. In addition to this, though the mean score has been declining over five years, the findings also revealed that the mean scores for each of the years was still way below par because in each year, the mean grade for French in KCSE was D+. This indicates that the French subject has been experiencing poor performance over the years and the results are still declining which shows that there have been no effective solutions put in place to reverse the trend or it might imply that the solutions put in place to address the negative trend are not working at all.

⁸⁷¹ 36 f) Tests of Hypotheses

The study adopted ANOVA method to evaluate how each of the identified variables that is: school human, physical and financial resources relate to performance in French. The selected students KCSE scores were used to determine the differences in the mean scores. The schools were grouped into three, that is: Schools with adequate resources, moderate resources, and schools with inadequate resources.

The following null hypotheses were tested using one way analysis of variance (ANOVA) at 0.05, level of 876 significance. Decision Rule: If F observed is < 3.075853, do not reject the null-hypothesis If F observed is 877 ? 3.075853, reject the null-hypothesis i. ANOVA Summary Table ??. Human Resources H o1 : There is no 878 significant difference between mean French achievement scores of students in schools with different levels of human 879 resource availability. The results indicate that there is a significant difference between mean French achievement 880 scores of students in schools with different levels of human resource availability. These findings revealed that 881 882 human resources have the second most significant relationship with the performance of students in French subject especially in terms of effectiveness and experience which agrees with Murnane (1985) who noted that teacher 883 experience and quality argued that student learning is heavily influenced by teachers' effectiveness and their years 884 885 of experience. Furthermore, it was observed from the findings that the teaching experience of majority of the 886 teachers was below five years, meaning they were relatively young in the field hence had not gathered sufficient expertise in language teaching/learning. To make matters even worse, one third of the teachers hired by BOM 887 stayed in schools hardly for a term or two which caused the element of inconsistency and lack of continuity 888 which adversely affected their performance. The study also found that teachers were not exposed to teacher 889 professional development activities. Of the 12 teachers who took part in the study, a quarter were engaged in 890 K.C.S.E marking, a handful had attended inservice (seminar) on French language pedagogy, while the bulky 891 of them (two thirds) were not engaged in any. Lack of professional development for most of the teachers was 892 occasioned by inability of the school principals to sponsor their teachers for training because of the financial 893 implication involved, as well as the fact that some teachers were hired by the BOM thus temporal in schools. 894 The same sentiments were echoed by Muhammad and Rashid (2011) that academic qualification, professional 895 qualification, refresher courses or trainings and teacher experience were the most important qualities of a teacher. 896 From the findings, the fact that a whopping majority of teachers had not attended any refresher courses is 897 a cause for alarm, a fact attested to by Olembo et al. ??1992) who acknowledge that the demands on the 898 teacher change considerably during his career. They further observe that in view of the continuous renovation 899

and development of teaching knowledge and of the constant change taking place within the educational systems, it does not seem possible to equip the teacher trainee with all the knowledge and skills required for an entire professional life. After carrying a study in Ankara, Saracologlu ??2000) found that teacher expertise is the most significant school-based influence on student learning.

He further argued that school improvement always calls for enhancing the knowledge, skills and dispositions of teachers. He concludes that whatever course of action a school adopts, success usually hinges on providing support and resources for teachers to strengthen existing expertise or to learn new practices. It is worth noting that professional activities give teachers' confidence hence perfecting their teaching ability as it exposes one to modern trends in teaching methodology. The researcher concludes that given that most teachers lacked professional training, had not attended any refresher courses and were inexperienced, explained why the performance of French was dismal.

The findings indicated that majority of the schools could not maintain a class average of 45 students because 911 912 they were faced with the perennial problem of student academic nomadism. On further inquiry, the researcher was informed that most students moved from one school to the other due to factors such as; failure to pay school 913 levies, the close proximity of one school to the other, clan politics and the belief that school A will perform 914 better than B in national examinations. This greatly hampered the schools' efforts to ensure good performance 915 in the language as these schools continued to receive new students each term, while at the same time losing some 916 to others. The researcher found that it was quite difficult for teachers across the schools to keep track of their 917 learners' progress as far as the grasp of vital language tips was concerned. The findings also indicate that some 918 schools had a class size of between 51 and 60 students which was way beyond the ministry guidelines. This was 919 because they lacked enough classrooms due to massive student enrollment following the launch of free tuition in 920 public schools. Teachers in particular confessed that it was practically not possible to give individual attention 921 to each learner due to large class size, and the fact that they had a second subject to teach explaining why 922 923 performance was dismal.

The findings in terms of class size were similar to those of Fabumni & Okore (2000) who in their study in Nigeria found that, the lower the class size or teacher pupil-ratio, the higher the achievement and that student achievement decreases as class size increases.

The study revealed the staffing condition of the sampled schools where it was observed that French teachers on average handled 25-28 lessons per week both in French and their second teaching subject. According to the Ministry of Education an ordinary classroom teacher is supposed to have 27 lessons per week, while Heads of Departments (HoDs) a minimum of 12 lessons and a maximum of 18 lessons per week. It therefore, meant that those teachers were overburdened especially when you add the other school administrative roles assigned to the such as being Heads of Department like guidance and counseling, games, examinations and career, languages among others. With that kind of workload, it was difficult for those teachers to rise to the occasion and deliver positive results in terms of performance.

⁹³⁵ 37 b.Physical Resources H o2 :

There is no significant difference between mean French achievement scores of students in schools with different 936 levels of physical resources. Since the above Table shows that the calculated value of F is 51.92016 which are 937 more than the F critical value, we reject the null hypothesis of no difference in the population means. Since the 938 null has been rejected, there is a significant difference between the mean French achievement scores of students 939 in schools with different levels of physical resources. The results in Table 4.6 indicate that a majority of teachers 940 considered teaching and learning resources as a major factor responsible for dismal performance. Other factors 941 942 were school physical facilities, school management styles, and school environment constituting. In addition to 943 this, the findings on the relationship between school physical resources and performance revealed the existence 944 of a relationship between the two variables which also accounted for the third most significant relationship.

The significance of teaching/learning resources cannot be gainsaid; an assertion confirmed by Scheerens (2003) 945 who argues that availability of teaching/resources enhances the effectiveness of a school as they are the basic 946 things that can bring about good academic performance. School management styles are also found culpable as 947 findings indicate that they don't always give priority to resources that directly affect academic performance when 948 it came to allocating financial resources. Physical facilities like class rooms and libraries are also elusive in many 949 schools. A fraction of the schools had swollen classes over and above the maximum of 45 set by the ministry of 950 education, meaning teachers were unable to cope with the numbers when it came to individual attention. The 951 findings are similar to those of Fabumni (2000) from his study in Nigeria that class size affects performance and 952 that the lower the class size, the higher the achievement and vice versa. More than two thirds of the schools did 953 not have libraries, meaning that learners were denied the opportunity to interact meaningfully with books. 954

⁹⁵⁵ 38 c. Financial Resources H o3 :

There is no significant difference between mean scores of students in schools with different levels of financial 956 resources. Since the above Table shows that the calculated F is 16.27405 which are more than the F critical value 957 of 3.075853 at 5% level, we reject the nullhypothesis of no difference in population means. Since we have rejected 958 the null-hypothesis, there is a significant difference between the mean achievement scores of students in schools 959 with different levels of financial resources. School management styles were found to influence performance of 960 students especially because the school administration has been given the mandate to allocate funds to different 961 vote heads and departments. This is so because financial resources are a key element among educational resources 962 as they are mainly used for acquisition of other resources such as physical facilities, text books and human 963 resources (Lumuli, 2009). 964

The school administration also may consider working hand in hand with the parents, community and the 965 sponsors to source for funds that will enable the successful running of the schools. From the findings, a percentage 966 of teachers indicated that most school head teachers did not treat the French teaching and learning with much 967 importance as the compulsory subjects, some confessed that the funds allocated to their departments were 968 inadequate as compared to other departments that contributed to the inadequacies observed. This attitude 969 displayed by teachers mostly affected the teachers and this worked negatively on their motivation. According to 970 behavioral scientists effective worker performance requires motivation ability and reward system that encourages 971 quality work (Ivancerich et al, 1994). 972

973 V.

⁹⁷⁴ 39 Discussion a) Summary of study

Despite the critical role French subject plays nationally, regionally and internationally, its performance in national 975 examinations is still below expectation. Besides, its role as an economic, political, social and technological medium 976 cannot be overemphasized let alone its growing influence in international circles. Thus, the main purpose of the 977 study was to determine the relationship between resource availability and performance in French subject in public 978 secondary schools in Vihiga County-Kenya. The study sought to answer the following. What is the relationship 979 between human resource and performance of students in French subject in KCSE? What is the relationship 980 981 between physical resources and performance of students in French subject in KCSE? What is the relationship 982 between financial resources and performance of students in French subject in KCSE? The study was based on 983 production function theory of education. The study employed a correlational survey research design. The sample 984 size of teachers sample size of 19 teachers of French was randomly selected and 14 head teachers were purposively selected. A structured questionnaire, interview schedule, documentary guide and observation schedule were used 985 for data collection. Descriptive data was analyzed using frequencies, percentages means and standard deviations. 986

987 For inferential statistics ANOVA was used to test the hypotheses.

From the study findings, the average age of the teachers of French was 31 to 35 years of age while 64% of the 988 teachers are female which shows that more females engage in languages subjects as compared to males. Majority 989 of the French teachers are diploma holders representing 41.5% while only 12.6% (degree and masters) of them 990 have a higher qualification than a diploma giving an indication that the teachers do not upgrade their knowledge 991 and skills and this might have an impact on the performance in the subject. This is despite that fact that most 992 of the teachers have taught for 11 to 20 years representing 46.7%. Although there were low levels of education 993 qualifications and higher experience, the findings also revealed that teachers of French subject seems to be well 994 qualified in teaching while the number of French subjects was adequate and this might be because of the school 995 following a set out curriculum. However, 43.6% of the teachers are not committed in French despite that the 996 school administration is very supportive to teachers of French of English subjects because the teachers of French 997 are not well motivated to teach the subject although 34.1% of the teachers are well experienced to teach the 998 subject. 999

The findings also revealed that French subjects are less available in over 50% of the schools although majority 1000 of the schools have classrooms in some schools, the classrooms as a resource are not adequately available. In 1001 addition to this, exercise books were found to be less available as well as manuals for French subjects, Journal 1002 for French subjects, curriculum catalogues for French subjects as well as chats for demonstrations. In terms 1003 of availability of modern technology for learning of French subject, the findings revealed that internet is less 1004 available in 62.0% of the schools with 31.5% of the schools have no internet. In addition to this, computer labs 1005 1006 were found to be less available in over 50% of the schools. Given that most of the schools are ill equipped with 1007 modern technology that can be used to aid in the learning of French subject, electronic media for teachers was 1008 also found to be not available and this qualifies the fact that in majority of the schools, computer labs are less 1009 available with some schools not even having computer labs.

The study findings also revealed that 42% of the schools have adequate funds to support French subjects. 1010 However, majority of these schools do not have their own income generating activities, which indicates that 1011 majority of the schools depend on the government for financial support with the support being at least adequate 1012 given that less than 30% of the schools are supported by the government financially to support school operations 1013 although the support is not adequate. In addition to this, parents do not give adequate financial support to the 1014 school programs such as French classes. Given that there was no adequate support from both the government and 1015 the parents, 41.4% of the schools do not receive aids and grants from donors, NGOs among others and though 1016 there was some form of support in terms of aids received, these findings showed that it was not adequate and 1017 given that this is the case less than 39% of the schools do not experience any financial shortage. 1018

i. Human Resources The study findings have indicated that the availability of human resources influenced the 1019 performance of students in French. Past research findings have revealed that teacher quality is a major factor 1020 in determining student performance because it is well known that an academically qualified teacher has more 1021 authentic knowledge about the relevant subject than the academically less qualified teacher. The findings above 1022 have shown that although teachers are qualified and receive support from the administration, they seem to be 1023 not motivated enough to teach and are not well motivated to teach. The study also found that teachers were not 1024 exposed to teacher professional development activities. Lack of professional development for most of the teachers 1025 was occasioned by inability of the school principals to sponsor their teachers for training because of the financial 1026 implication involved, as well as the fact that some teachers were form 4 leavers thus temporal in schools. 1027 ii. 1028

1029 40 Physical Resources

The results of the study indicated that the availability of physical resources affected significantly the performance of the students in French subject and thus, teaching and learning resources are a major factor responsible for the performance of students in French subject. In addition, because classes were not adequate not well equipped for French classes it can be noted that the physical facilities especially classes had a bearing on performance according to school principals.

iii. Financial Resources The findings also revealed that the financial resources affected the performance of the
students in French subject. Although this was the case, the availability of financial resources was important
in improving the performance of the students in French, the schools received inadequate support from the
government, parents as well as NGOs and thus they would fall short in terms of physical resources and thus
affect the performance of the students and this can be seen in terms of the declining trend of performance in
terms of KCSE results and the perennial mean grade of D+ in the French subject.

¹⁰⁴¹ 41 b) Conclusions

1042 On the basis of the findings of the study, the following are the conclusions made.

1043 ? The results of French subject have been declining over time with a lower mean grade and this is because 1044 the schools have been facing inadequacies in terms of human resources especially in terms of experience and 1045 knowledge base of the teachers. ? In addition to this, majority of the schools that offer the French subject are 1046 ill equipped when it comes to the use of modern technology for teaching and learning of the French subject. 1047 Physical resources in terms of availability of classes as well as teaching materials and learning materials that can be used to aid in the teaching and learning of the French language are not readily available. ? Finally, the schools
rarely receive enough funding from the Government, parents and other stakeholders to support the teaching and
learning of French subject.

¹⁰⁵¹ 42 c) Recommendations

1052 Based on the research findings and conclusions, the study made the following recommendations.

? In The Ministry of Education and the Teachers Service Commission may consider posting adequate qualified
teachers to all schools as well as enforcing a policy on who should be hired as a teacher by the BoM. Teachers to
be constantly engaged in refresher courses, seminars and symposia to update their skills on language pedagogy.
? Efforts to be made by school authorities, the Ministry of Education, county authorities and other stakeholder
to provide new technology, enough physical resources like teaching/learning resources, class rooms and libraries.
This can be done by bringing all the stakeholders together so that discussions can be made on how to enhance
this support.

1060 ? The school management, the parent teacher association and the government may come up with means that 1061 will ensure that all subjects are funded adequately, and that the school management is held accountable when it 1062 comes to the management of the funds.

¹⁰⁶³ 43 d) Suggestion for Further Studies

This study was limited to relationship between resource availability and performance in French subject in public
 secondary schools in Vihiga County-Kenya. Thus, for future research, researchers should try to generalize the
 research to other counties. Also, the study was limited to French subject only, thus further study should also put
 into consideration the resource availability and performance in other subject such as English subject.

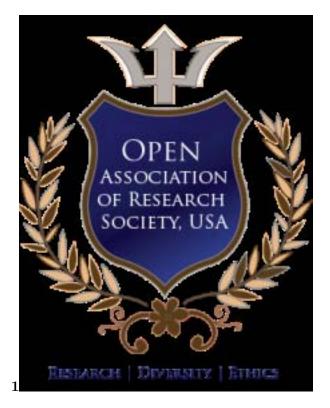


Figure 1: Figure 1:

1067

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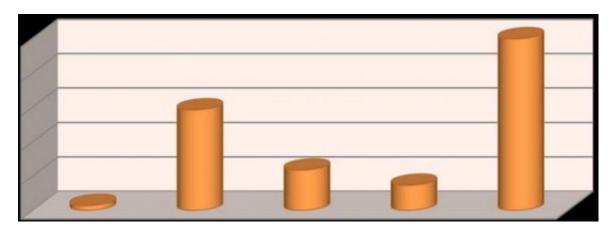


Figure 2:

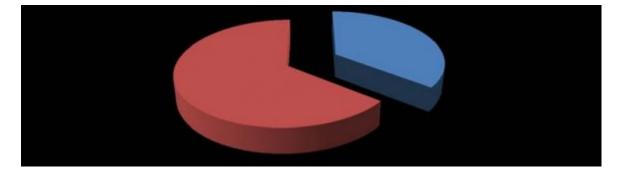


Figure 3:

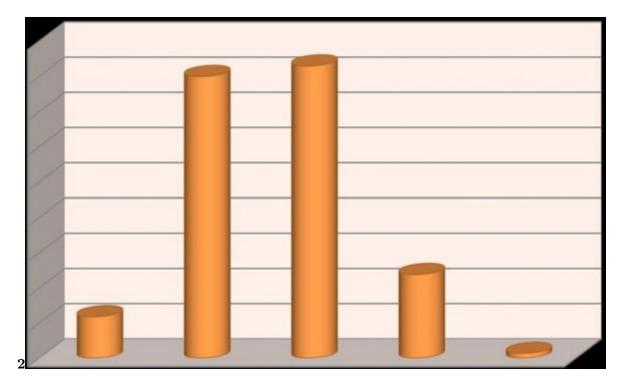


Figure 4: Figure 2 :

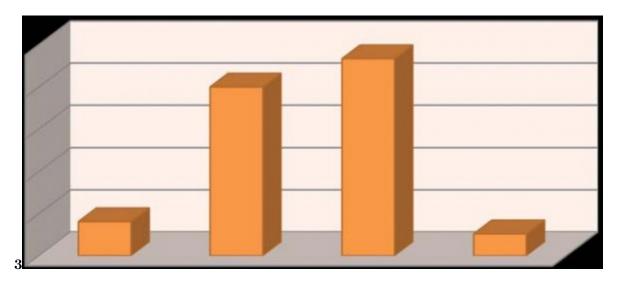


Figure 5: Figure 3 :

$\mathbf{11}$

School	2011	ENT	2012	ENT	2013	ENT
1.Mudavadi Girls	8.2857	7	8.000	9	5.167	18
2.Vihiga High	5.5385	13	6.000	15	6.444	9
3.St.Claires Girls	4.0556	18	4.500	4	3.7586	25
4.Kegoye Secondary	4.0000	3	4.000	1	2.000	1
TOTAL		41		29		53

[Note: Source: Ministry of EducationScience and Technology, (2013)]

Figure 6: Table 1 . 1 :

$\mathbf{31}$

Target Group	Frequency
Head teachers of Schools Taking French	14
French teachers	20
Total	34
c) Description of sample and sampling procedure	
10 schools out of 14 schools were randomly	
selected by simple random sampling. The sample size	
of teachers was derived from 20 teachers of French in	
schools in Vihiga County using Krejcie & Morgan (1970)	
table as quoted by Kathuri & Pals (1993). (See appendix	
VI).	

Figure 7: Table 3 . 1 :

$\mathbf{32}$

Target Group	Numbers	Target	Sample
	of	population	size
	schools		
Head teachers of		10	10
Schools Taking			
French			
French Teachers			
National level	2	6	6
County level	6	12	11
Sub County level	2	2	2
Total	10	20	19

Figure 8: Table 3 . 2 :

$\mathbf{41}$

F %	Mean
-----	------

Std. Deviation

Figure 9: Table 4 . 1 :

62 Volume XV Issue XI Version I G) (Global Journal of Human Social Science

No

[Note: s - Year]

Figure 10: 2015

$\mathbf{42}$

Yes

Not sure

Figure 11: Table 4 . 2 :

Well	maintained	Frequency	2	8	8
classro	om				
furnitu	re				
		Percent	13.4	44.5	42.1
					Year 2015
					63
					Volume XV Issue XI Version I
					G)
					Global Journal of Human Social Science -

Figure 12:

3 : Financial Resources	
YES	NO Not Sure

Figure 13: Table 4 .

KCSE Year	Mean score	Deviations	(%) Deviation
2013	4.030	0	0
2012	4.296	+0.266	6.600
2011	4.380	+0.084	1.955
2010	4.385	+0.005	0.114
2009	4.512	+0.127	2.896

Figure 14: Table 4 . 4 :

Source of Variation	\mathbf{SS}	Df	MS	F	P-	F
					value	crit
Between Groups	6480.933	32	3240.4	16471.5	23 34.86 E	-3.075853
-					14	
Within Groups	8958.759	9 114	78.585	561		
Total	15439.69	9 116				
Since the above table shows that the calculated value of H	F is /1 23	486 u	which a	re mo	ore that	, the F critical of

Since the above table shows that the calculated value of F is 41.23486 which are more than the F critical of we reject the null-hypothesis.

Figure 15: Table 4 . 5:

46

 $\mathbf{4}$

 $\mathbf{44}$

 $\mathbf{45}$

		ANOVA Summary table					
Source of Variation	\mathbf{SS}	Df	MS	\mathbf{F}	P-value	F crit	
Between Groups	7359.807	2	3679.903	51.9	20 196 33E- 17	3.075853	
Within Groups	8079.886	114	70.87619				
Total	15439.69	116					

Figure 16: Table 4 . 6 :

$\mathbf{47}$

		ANOVA summary table						
Source of Variation	\mathbf{SS}	Df	MS	\mathbf{F}	P-value	F crit		
Between Groups	3429.131	2	1714.566	16.27	40 5 06E-	3.075853		
					07			
Within Groups	12010.56	114	105.3558					
Total	15439.69	116						

Figure 17: Table 4 . 7 :

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