

TRCN

***PhD* Study Material**

on

PQE 007: Teacher Education

For category "**A**": teachers with *Doctorate in Education* or **PhD** in any other field but in combination with either *NCE, PDDE* or *PGDE*.

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Concept of Tertiary Teacher Education

Tertiary teacher education provides formal training at colleges and universities, preparing future teachers for secondary and post-secondary education.

It aims to develop educators who are not only knowledgeable in their subject areas but also skilled in pedagogy and classroom management.

Aims and Objectives of Tertiary Teacher Education

1. **Producing competent educators:**

Teachers must master their subject areas and apply effective teaching methods.

2. **Developing critical thinking and problem-solving skills:**

Teacher education helps future educators think critically and apply problem-solving techniques in the classroom.

3. **Promoting lifelong learning:**

Tertiary education encourages continuous learning, enabling teachers to adapt to educational innovations.

4. **Encouraging research and innovation:**

Teacher education prepares educators to conduct research and apply innovative strategies to improve student learning.

5. **Fostering ethical and professional values:**

Future teachers must internalise professionalism, ethics, and commitment to student welfare.

Roles of the Teacher in the School and Society

In the school, the teacher's roles include:

1. **Facilitating learning:** Teachers deliver the curriculum and ensure students achieve learning objectives.
2. **Guiding and mentoring students:** Teachers offer emotional support and guide students in making informed decisions about their future.
3. **Managing the classroom:** Teachers foster a positive learning environment by promoting appropriate behaviour and encouraging student engagement.
4. **Evaluating and assessing progress:** Teachers regularly assess student performance, offering feedback to help them meet academic goals.

In society, especially in Nigeria, teachers also:

1. **Lead the community:** Teachers contribute to social, economic, and political discussions as respected community leaders.
2. **Act as agents of change:** Teachers shape societal values, promote national unity, and enhance cultural awareness through education.
3. **Embrace lifelong learning:** Teachers continue to learn and adapt, as their knowledge is essential to national progress.

Teacher Education Issues and Problems

1. **Inadequate funding:**

Many teacher education institutions struggle with insufficient funding, affecting infrastructure, materials, and training quality.

2. **Poor teacher quality:**

Some teacher training programs do not adequately prepare future educators, leading to insufficient classroom skills.

3. **Shortage of qualified teachers:**

There is a lack of qualified teachers, especially in rural areas, leading to reliance on undertrained staff.

4. **Out-dated curricula:**

Teacher education programs often follow out-dated curricula that do not reflect modern educational needs.

5. **Limited professional development opportunities:**

Many teachers have few chances to engage in continuous professional development, which is crucial for improving their teaching skills.

6. **Teacher retention issues:**

Low pay, lack of incentives, and difficult working conditions contribute to high turnover rates, especially in rural schools.

Strategies for Improvement

1. **Increase funding:**

The government and other stakeholders need to provide more funding to improve infrastructure, learning materials, and teacher training.

2. Reform the curriculum:

Updating the teacher education curriculum to reflect global best practices and emphasise practical experience will better equip teachers for modern classrooms.

3. Attract and retain qualified teachers:

Offering better salaries, housing, and professional development opportunities will attract and keep qualified teachers, especially in underserved regions.

4. Encourage continuous professional development:

Providing teachers with access to workshops, seminars, and advanced degree programs will enhance their skills and knowledge.

5. Collaborate with international organisations:

Partnerships with global institutions can introduce innovative teaching methods and give access to international resources for teacher education.

Trends in Teacher Education

1. **Incorporating technology:** ICT is transforming education by training teachers to use digital tools and online learning platforms, which are now common in teacher education.

2. **Inclusive education:** Teacher education now focuses on preparing teachers to support students with diverse needs, including those with disabilities and from various cultural backgrounds.

3. **Competency-based education:** Programs are shifting towards models that focus on developing specific skills and competencies rather than covering theoretical content.

4. **Globalisation of education standards:** Increased international collaboration has led to globalised teacher education standards, aligning Nigerian programs with international benchmarks.

5. **Sustainability and environmental education:** With environmental issues gaining prominence, teacher training now includes sustainability education to promote awareness and action on climate change.

**PRACTICE QUESTIONS ON
THIS TOPIC: TEACHER
EDUCATION (007)**

1. Which of the following is NOT an objective of tertiary teacher education?

- A. Developing critical thinking skills
- B. Fostering unethical practices
- C. Encouraging research
- D. Promoting ethical values

2. What does inclusive education promote?

- A. Exclusion of diverse learners
- B. Support for students with diverse needs
- C. Neglect of cultural backgrounds
- D. Standardised teaching methods

3. What contributes to high turnover rates among teachers in rural schools?

- A. Attractive salaries
- B. Difficult working conditions
- C. Abundant incentives
- D. Positive community support

4. What does teacher education help develop in future educators?

- A. Knowledge in pedagogy and classroom management
- B. Disregard for student engagement
- C. Sole reliance on textbooks
- D. Limited critical thinking skills

5. What is a benefit of continuous professional development for teachers?

- A. Ignoring current educational practices
- B. Enhancing teaching skills and knowledge
- C. Reducing effectiveness in the classroom
- D. Limiting exposure to new ideas

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