

Role of Homework in Learning Achievement: Teachers' Perspectives

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Abstract:

Homework means types of work which is planned and approved by the teacher within certain time of period. Homework has been used for enhance quality of education by connect students to outline of any subject. Many Teachers and parents have been believed that homework can play the important role for improve learning in other hand different scholars and academician has been rise their voice against homework and anti-homework movement also raised in latest time. Different debatable and controversial issues have been raising regarding homework. The study is to find and explore the role of homework for enhancing students learning. Through the in-depth interviews and observation, the study examines teachers' perspectives, experiences, and understanding toward homework. This study has been emphasized to find the role of homework for enhancing students' learning from teachers' perspectives in basic-level education in the Narayan Municipality of the Dailekh district. Especially private schools have been blamed for homework issues. Many students were victims of overloaded homework. In this article I have been trying to explore the role of homework by aligning with students learning achievements through teachers' perspectives. The positive and negative roles of homework and ways of using homework as an effective tool are also described. For preparing this article, I have used the qualitative research approach. Five teachers were selected from two private schools in the Dailekh district through the purposive sampling

Key Words: Homework, Assessment, Role, Learning achievement

Introduction

Homework is work or assignment done by students under the direction of their teacher. The word homework is formulated by two words Home and Work it means the work which done at the home regarding instruction and guidance of teacher is Homework. A series of academic assignments given by teachers to their students to finish after school is over is known as homework. In the history of teaching learning activities, the homework was applied since 1990s (Pyari, 2019). In the period before 1990s the homework has been explored as positive aspect of learning but after the time of 1940s many critical thoughts has been raised regarding homework (Chouinard, et al, 2006). In the earlier period homework has been defined as a fruitful tool for academic achievement in school level education. Although after 1950s the concept of homework was being advanced and educators claimed that the homework have important role to gaining the learning for young school children. Teacher can give the different work as homework. Such as reading, writing and project work. Homework is the way of engage students in learning activities. The homework is being more relevant in lower class then higher class. In the present time homework become a hotly debatable issue in education sector. Some scholars have been defined the role of homework positively they believed The Role of home work is important to enhance students learning by engage in teaching learning activities outside of the classroom (Durmuş & Ergen, 2021). In other hand some Scholars haven't believe in positive role of homework for academic achievement. Over load of homework or assignment can negatively effects on mental development of children. Additionally, homework can encourage bad habits like plagiarism, when students copy projects from other students or pay someone else to finish their homework for them (Kralovec and Buell ,2001). So, it is necessary to formulate effective policy for reduction homework and choose different alternate against homework for academic achievement. But we cannot totally ignore the role of homework for enhance academic achievements in the school level many

educators have been advocate about the positive role of homework in strengthening students' skills The advantages fall into four categories: increased parental participation and enthusiasm for education, long-term academic benefits, non-academic benefits, and instant accomplishment and learning (Cooper et al., 2006).

Homework is the main aspect of education; it helps to develop the habit of study to the students. Similarly, Homework helps to developing the critical thought in students and it is very beneficial to students for academic development. Students can get the opportunity for enhance the decision-making power according to environmental condition (Minke, 2017). Trend of giving homework to the students in existing all over the world in educational sectors. According to (OECD, 2014) in the United State students were engaged in homework at least 6 hours in a week. The home work has been used from lower class to higher class although, it is effective in lower class then higher (Batterson, 2009). The nature of homework is different according to the nature of subject. similarly, the ways of applied homework and the amount of time also vary in different subjects. The use of homework is standard practices to gain learning achievement of students. using practice of homework provide the opportunity to connect the objectives with students' learning and motivates to the students for engage in teaching learning. Students can get depth knowledge by study by the help of homework. Teacher Should use the homework for improvement the learning of the students. It is necessary to create the interesting environment for active participation in homework. Teachers use homework as important tools for students' achievements. By giving the task to the students create the opportunity of gain knowledge in the related subject. We can define the homework as bridge to connect school and home for learning. It is necessary to motivate the students to complete the homework. Teacher and parents should guide to the students positively (Howe, 2019).

Purpose

The main purpose of this study is to explore the role of homework on students' learning. In this study I have tried to collect more information regarding the role of homework for students' learning. Here This study set the purpose for collecting the facts and more information regarding the role of homework, so in this qualitative study, information and knowledge have been collected by conducting in-depth interviews with subject teachers who taught English, Nepali, Math, Science and Social in basic-level in Narayan Municipality, Dailekh. This study has been emphasized to find the relevance and challenges also to enhancing students learning regarding homework. The finding of this study will be fruitful to all educators for exploring the practice of homework from a global to local perspective of teachers.

Research Questions:

1. What are teachers' perceptions of how homework contributes to students' learning?
2. How do teachers design and implement homework to support students' learning?
3. What factors influence teachers' decisions regarding the amount of homework assigned?

Delimitations of the Study

This study was delimited to exploring the role of homework for learning achievement in two private schools in Narayan Municipality, Dailekh, Nepal. This is qualitative research based on an in-depth interview. Five teachers were involved in this study as respondents. I collected the data through in-depth interviews with five basic-level participant teachers. I also used my observation diary and teachers' reflection notes as the source of data collection and interpretations.

Rational of the Study

This article has shown the role of homework on students' learning. In this article I have been trying to show the role of homework on students' learning. Home work is the important tools for improve the students learning. Nature of homework to be different according to subject matter. This study will effective for different scholars and all stakeholders who conduct research regarding to the role of homework in future. This study is prepared by collect the fact thorough in-depth Interview with teachers who are engaged in instructional profession. Teachers Ideas and real experiences were also collecting so, this study has been very effective and fruitful. Homework is viewed as a connection point between school and home. Different studies, educators, and parents have differing views on the

practice of giving homework by instructors. Homework is viewed as valuable and worthless at different times, like many other educational techniques and tactics. In this study I have described about the significance of homework on students' learning by understanding teachers' views. so, this study has great significance.

Literature Review

In this chapter, I reviewed the literature related to the study. Home work has been used as an educational tool for students' achievements. Many scholars have been studying this topic. The role of homework in students learning is the burning issue in the latest time. Especially in this topic, I have written about the role of homework on students by connecting with the research question of this article.

Homework is a task or assignment given to the students, which they complete by taking it home and submitting it to the teacher after completion (Howe, 2019). According to Ramdass and Zimmerman (2011), homework is defined as tasks given by teachers that are intended to be completed and carried out outside of school hours. Typically, that is the straightforward way to understand homework, where tasks are given by teachers for students to complete at home for practice on the subject of the work without the assistance of teachers in order to hopefully increase understanding and knowledge of the subject. Homework plays the important role for improve the achievements of students in teaching learning (Trautwein,2006). Teachers can apply the homework for provide the opportunity to the learners for develop creativity and engage in study without pressure of teachers and parents. Students consume much of time for study in home that helps to enhancing their knowledge (Carr, 2013). Practically every school and classroom applied homework. It may be used for many different purposes, and the instructor assigning homework may have various goals in mind when deciding which activity is acceptable. But not all homework is created equal. The demands and outcomes of assignments differ. Teachers can make better use of their assigned assignments and decide how it will affect learning if they have the necessary understanding and practice (McPherson, 2020). In the past, homework has experienced a number of adjustments in response to societal demands and educational philosophies. Although our knowledge of educational procedures throughout the nineteenth century is incomplete, it may be presumed that some form of homework was required given the necessity to memorize and recite during numerous lectures (Gill & Schlossman, 1996). Some people believe that homework is an essential component of a student's success in the modern world. Despite this, there was a significant "anti-homework" campaign in America in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (Eren & Henderson, 2011). The Cold War's historical events and the 1980s' worldwide competition with Japan accelerated the trend in education toward higher standards and more homework for pupils (Minke, 2017).

Positive and Negative Effects of homework

Positive Effects of homework: Homework can play the important role on students' learning as an educational tool. through the homework students can get the immediate achievement as well as get the long-term benefits on study and they can get the opportunity to enhance knowledge (Minke, 2017). Students of every class and level can be benefited by applied homework for enhance quality of education Strauss, 2017). When students are engaging in homework then they can develop their study behavior, connect their knowledge with subject matter and they can control them self by maintain discipline (Cooper et al.2006). Homework also helpful to develop the good relationship between teachers and parents. So, homework is an educational bridge which connect parents to the school. So, the role of homework on students learning is very important.

Negative Effects of homework: In all situation and all subjects the homework cannot be beneficial. If teacher cannot be able to well handling homework by motivate the students, then student feel stress and they cannot do well in their study (Alanne, N., & Macgregor, R,2007). Similarly, students can develop the habit of cheating for complete the homework. When Students fell complex to solve the homework than they cannot show good performance in the study and class absent rate may be increase that negatively effect on students' learning achievements. Teacher should be senser while giving homework to the students. Amount of homework should be proper over dose of homework create the stress to the students as well as in their family (Buell, 2000). So, homework should be applied by understanding

the students' interest it is not good to give the homework to the students without motivation. Teacher shouldn't use of Homework as penalty to the students that negatively effects on students' learning.

Homework is an important educational tool for enhancing knowledge of students in different level. Relevancy of homework is high in lower level then higher level of education. Different educators are agreed to explore the positive effect of homework on students learning but it is necessary to be serious while giving homework to the student. Teacher must be accountable for enhance quality of education by creating learning environment. It is necessary to motivate to students for active participation in homework. The effects of homework are determined by different factors such as time spent on homework, amount of homework, frequency of homework, types of homework, student views of homework, parental influence on homework and many others. So, it is necessary to applied the homework by respecting the above factors.

Methods and Materials

Research method is important part of research. In this part researchers mention the procedures of doing activities and explain them systematically. I have chosen in-depth interview and follow the procedures regarding in-depth interview for meet target of this study. For preparing this article I have been used the Qualitative research approach. This study was focused on role of homework on the student's learning and I have sought the teacher's Accountability on students learning through homework. An In-depth interview has been used under the qualitative research design for collecting data. Basic level Private school's teachers were respondent of this study. The purposive sampling method was used for this study. At first, I have gone to school then take the permission from the head teacher and conducted in- depth interviews with teacher who teach English, Nepali, Mathematics, science and social subjects in Private School of Dailekh district.

I have asked about concept and role of homework for students' learning to the selected teacher and take the views of teacher regarding homework. Five Teachers were selected from two private schools. I have explored the role of homework and teacher's accountability to handling homework and take the views of teacher regarding student's learning by homework and without homework. I asked to teachers about the benefit and limitation of homework and described about the accountability of subject teacher on student's learning. I have Conduct in-depth interview with five subject teachers of English, Nepali, Mathematics, science and social subjects. By used open question for conducted in-depth interviews. I have used observation also for preparing this article.

In-depth Interview:

I conducted in-depth interviews with all of the participating teachers following the research intervention to gain an understanding of their general experiences and perceptions of homework, as interviews enable participants to convey the reality of the issue in qualitative research (Stringer, 1999). An in-depth interview was open-ended or inductive, as recommended by Leavy (2017), allowing each participant to share their opinions with me. In order to provide the greatest possible opportunity for individuals to express themselves freely in their own ways, I carefully prepared certain interview guidelines with open-ended questions (Stringer, 1999) and used those questions to gather extensive information. With the teachers' complete cooperation, I used smart phone to capture the interviews, making notes as I went along without disturbing the subjects. After that, I converted the audio recordings of the interviews into English while preserving the meaning of the replies that were received. This provided further support for the data processing, analysis, and interpretation.

Findings

Contribution of homework on students learning

Homework is popular educational tools applied for students learning. In every school and all subjects have practice of homework for enhance students' learning. During preparing this article I have conducted the in-depth interview with teachers who teaches different subjects in Private Schools. According to English teacher homework provides students with an opportunity to reinforce and practice what they have learned in the classroom. Similarly, Mathematics teachers also agree with contribution of homework on students' learning. He believed that the use of homework helps to

increase the interest of students for study and they can get the opportunity for understanding the certain subject matter taught in the classroom. I have got the views of all teachers they all were emphasized to use of homework for enhance students learning. They were experienced on practice of homework and I have got opportunity to collect more information regarding homework. From the teachers' perspectives homework contribution is valuable for enhance students' learning. Students can get the opportunity for repeat the topic once which discussed in the class room that is fruitful for recalling the knowledge store in their mind. Similarly, all respondent teachers were believed homework assignment is the effective way in reinforcing learning and promoting academic growth of students. Students' performance can be reviewed from homework done by students that helps to understanding about students' achievement and that also helps to provide feedback to the students. When teachers motivate their students for complete the homework the homework completion rate can be increase and high completion rate of homework helps to active engagement of students in study. Those students who were engaged in subject matter through homework they can be actively participate in classroom discussion that helps to eradicate all types of hesitation in the students. So, homework has great contribution on students' learning.

Practice of Homework for students' learning

The Practice of homework have great significance for students learning. Home work is very useful for students to understanding about certain topic which discussed in the classroom. I have got the opportunity to know about the practice of homework from teachers during conduct in-depth interview in Private Schools of Dailekh. When I met with different teachers then I know they usually applied homework for promote students' performance. They provide homework for students daily and give suitable feedback for improvement students' learning achievement. They provide different types of homework according to the nature of subject matter. Usually practice of provide reading, Writing, problem solving and project base work as a homework base task. all types of homework are very useful to engage students in study. It is necessary to motivate the students for participate in homework otherwise students fell burden in study and they cannot enhance their knowledge. All teachers were agreed there the practice of homework students can improve their abilities to understanding the subject matter which discussed in the classroom and they can enlarge their knowledge for problem solving skill. From the English teachers' perspective practice of homework can make drastic change in their understanding regarding subject matter. English, Nepali, Social teachers were satisfied with their students in practice of homework but science and mathematics teachers were faced different issues with their students regarding completion of homework. According Those students who were understanding the subject matter in the classroom they can easily complete the homework but who cannot able to understanding subject matter in the class they feel burden to complete homework and they cannot complete homework that make easy to knowing the level of students for teachers. Teacher can make effective plan for teaching by understanding the views of students. For this process the practice of homework is very essential and it make students self-discipline and self-control. That helps to enhance the learning achievement of students.

Determined the amount of homework

Determining of homework is an important issue for enhancing students learning. The amount of homework is different according to the nature of the subject matter. During preparing this article, I have conducted in-depth interviews with different teachers in private schools. From the teacher's perspective, the amount of homework is determined by different factors such as the amount of study in class, the student's capacity, curriculum objectives, the level of students, the interest of students etc. Teachers can determine the amount of homework by consult in their class syllabus and communicate to students about amount of homework. The amount of homework should not be in high amount. It is Necessary to understanding the all factors which determining the homework while provide homework to the students. The best way of determine the amount of homework is to know the understanding level of students during conduct teaching learning activities in the classroom. Science and mathematics teachers were giving the homework regularly to their students, and other teachers were giving

homework to their students after completing the one chapter. They were calling to complete exercise and making a notebook as homework for their students.

Teachers' perceptions how Homework contributes to students' learning

During in-depth interviews, teachers were exploring the role of homework in learning achievement. According to five respondent teachers, homework can play an important role in enhancing the study habits of students. They have used homework for evaluating the performance of the students. according to the teacher's views, homework is a tool to reinforce classroom learning, giving students an opportunity to practice and internalize new concepts.

Design and Implement Homework to Support Students' Learning

I have known that during the conduct in-depth interviews with respondent teachers, they used homework by aligning with learning objectives. Teachers designed homework according to the nature of the subject matter and implemented that design by following an innovative strategy. Science and math teachers were applied homework as the feedback mechanism. Similarly, other teachers also applied homework for enhancing the learning of students. They were designed homework by analyzing the nature of the subject and the diverse ability of students. According to the teacher's perception, homework design is a complex task; if students cannot be motivated, that creates the problem to the teaches as well as students.

Conclusion:

In conclusion When homework is applied effectively and with specific purpose, it may improve student's engagement in study. It is effective and helpful tool for enhance the knowledge of students in class room and outside of class room. The use of home work can promote the performance of students and that helps to increase the ability of students on leaning. I have collected the different information regarding homework through different literature and I have conduct in-depth interview with teacher in Private School of Narayan Municipality, Dailekh. Most of teachers were agree in the positive role of homework on students learning. They have been usually applied the homework as an educational tool for improvement of students' achievement. Use the homework can bring the positive change in student's performance but it is necessary to be serous while applied homework. If teacher can't use the homework properly that's negatively effects on students learning. High dose of homework is burden for students as well as teachers. Teacher cannot examine the homework in particular time in the class if the amount of homework being high. Similarly, Students al so feel difficult to complete homework on time and they cannot do well in their study. Students cannot get the opportunity to develop the creativity they consume more time for complete homework in home that make burden to the students as well as parents. So, it is necessary to understanding the all factors regarding the homework and use the homework in proper way as effective tools of teaching learning. That can play the important role on students learning. Teachers and other related stakeholders also be responsible and accountable to applying homework for enhance the quality of education with high performance of the students.

Suggestions

The results of this study on how homework affects learning at Dailekh's private schools offer important new perspectives on how homework supports classroom instruction. Drawing from the teacher interviews, a number of crucial recommendations become apparent: Home work can play the important role for learning achievement of students but teacher should be aware to use homework. Nature and amount of homework may be different according to the nature of the subjects. There are many characteristics of good homework and assignments among them teacher should be able to find the following characteristics in good homework in my opinion.

Balanced and Purposeful Homework:

It is the responsibility of educators to make sure that homework reinforces the material covered in class. Increasing students' comprehension of the subject matter should be the main objective, not just providing assignments for the sake of it. In addition to giving students the chance to practice and apply their information in an efficient manner, homework assignments have to be created with the curriculum's objectives in mind.

Amount of Homework:

The quantity of homework assigned should be carefully considered, taking into consideration the difficulty of the topic, the ability of the students, and their unique learning requirements. Overindulgence in schoolwork can result in student fatigue, rendering it ineffective. Conversely, an inadequate amount of homework might result in insufficient chances for reinforcement. Achieving equilibrium is essential for maximizing the learning outcomes of pupils.

Engaging Homework:

To accommodate students with varying learning styles and subject areas, teachers should assign a range of homework assignments, including writing, reading, problem-solving, and project-based work. This variation makes sure that students don't lose interest or motivation in finishing the tasks, which improves their overall learning experience.

Providing Constructive Feedback:

Beyond only assigning grades, homework feedback should also include suggestions for how students might increase their comprehension. Feedback that is timely and targeted is crucial for assisting students in identifying their areas of weakness and building self-confidence.

Self-discipline and Motivation:

Students should be encouraged to take ownership of their education through homework, which should help them develop self-control and self-discipline. Teachers may help with this by establishing reasonable deadlines, inspiring students, and giving them encouragement. Ensuring that students recognize the importance of homework will result in increased completion rates and active participation in the educational process.

Teacher-Student Collaboration: Assignments for homework should take the viewpoints of the pupils into account. For the purpose of determining the proper quantity of homework and its connection to the lessons taught in the classroom, regular contact between teachers and students is crucial. This method makes sure that homework is viewed as an effective learning tool rather than overloading children.

Parental Involvement:

Without taking on the assignments themselves, parents should be encouraged by teachers and schools to help their children do their homework. This ensures that kids get the assistance they need at home and aids in their independence-building.

Professional Development for Teachers:

Teachers should get tools and training on efficient homework management techniques from their schools. If teachers want to optimize the beneficial effects of homework on student progress, they need remain up to date on innovative ways for designing assignments, managing workloads, and giving insightful feedback.

These recommendations emphasize how crucial it is to use homework as a well-rounded teaching tool. Teachers and school administrators may improve student learning outcomes and create a more productive and interesting homework culture by taking these suggestions into consideration. Teacher can use the homework for strengthening learning but be careful to limit the homework with subject matter and prevent overload of homework.

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