

The Rock



A PUBLICATION OF GOVERNMENT COLLEGE IBADAN PRESS CLUB SEPTEMBER 2026 (9TH EDITION)



BALANCING ACADEMIC, TALENT AND PERSONAL STUDENTS LIFE GROWTH



THE CREATOR ECONOMY:
TURNING TALENT INTO DIGITAL
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

AGRICULTURE 2.0:
TECHNOLOGY FEEDING THE FUTURE

HOW TO SAVE MONEY
AS A STUDENT

**VOLUNTEERISM AND
COMMUNITY SERVICE:**
MAKING AN IMPACT BEFORE GRADUATION

BUILDING RESILIENCE:
TURNING FAILURE INTO
PPORTUNITY

**INNOVATION BEGINS
WITH CURIOSITY:**
HOW GREAT IDEAS ARE BORN



**WE CAN SHOOT
YOUR WIFE AND
FRAME YOUR MOTHER-IN-LAW**



**GROOVY
PRODUCTIONS**

www.groovyproductionllc.com

for more info:
SCAN HERE





Welcome to another exciting edition of **The Rock Magazine**. This edition brings you inspiring stories, educational articles, and useful information designed to inform, motivate, and entertain.

In this edition, we explore ideas that challenge us to become curious thinkers, responsible citizens, creative entrepreneurs, lifelong readers, and globally prepared leaders.

Innovation Begins with Curiosity: How Great Ideas Are Born. Every great innovation begins with a question. Curiosity encourages us to ask questions, explore, experiment, and discover better ways of solving problems.

Volunteerism and Community Service: Making an Impact Before Graduation Education should not only prepare us for personal success but should also teach us to serve others

and contribute positively to our communities.

The Creator Economy: Turning Talents into Digital Income

The digital age has created new opportunities for young people to transform their talents and skills into meaningful work and sources of income.

Nigeria in 2040: What Kind of Nation Will Today's Students Build?

The Nigeria of 2040 will largely reflect the decisions and values of today's young people. We will need citizens who value education, integrity, innovation, unity, and responsible leadership.

As you turn the pages of the Rock Magazine, we hope you will enjoy these and many other interesting and thought-provoking articles.

Thank you for reading, and happy reading!

Adaramoye Kehinde Olajumoke
Editor

AMAZING FACTS: DID YOU KNOW THAT?

1. The human brain is made up of about 60% fat, making it one of the fattiest organs in the body.
 2. Honey is the only natural food that does not spoil when stored properly.
 3. An octopus has three hearts and blue blood.
 4. The Eiffel Tower can become about 15 cm taller during hot weather because metal expands in heat.
 5. A snail can sleep for up to three years under unfavourable conditions.
 6. Your heart beats about 100,000 times every day.
 7. Sharks have existed on Earth for hundreds of millions of years, even before many dinosaurs.
 8. Bananas are naturally slightly radioactive because they contain potassium.
 9. The fingerprints of every human being are unique.
 10. Light from the Sun takes about 8 minutes and 20 seconds to reach the Earth.
 11. The world's largest desert is Antarctica, not the Sahara.
 12. Cows have best friends and can become stressed when separated from them.
 13. There are more stars in the universe than grains of sand on all the beaches on Earth.
 14. Butterflies taste with their feet.
 15. Water covers about 71% of the Earth's surface.
 16. The human body has 206 bones in adulthood.
 17. Dolphins sleep with one eye open and one half of their brain awake.
 18. A day on Venus is longer than a year on Venus.
 19. Bamboo is one of the fastest-growing plants in the world.
- Every snowflake has a unique pattern.

FOREWORD

There is something deeply meaningful about returning to a place that once shaped you, not simply to remember what it gave you, but to ask what you can give in return.

For those of us who entered Government College Ibadan in September 1991, GCI represents far more than classrooms, uniforms, examinations and friendships. It is part of the foundation upon which many of our lives were built. Within its walls, we learnt discipline, resilience, responsibility and the value of belonging to something larger than ourselves.

About three decades later, that sense of belonging remains.

The Education Committee of the September 1991 Class Set is guided by the conviction that education remains one of the most enduring investments we can make in young people. Our responsibility is therefore not merely to celebrate the GCI of our memories, but to contribute meaningfully to the GCI of today and tomorrow.

The Rock magazine is an expression of that responsibility. It gives students a platform to think, question, write, create and find their voices. Somewhere within these pages may be the first published words of a future writer, engineer,

physician, entrepreneur, academic or leader. Education, after all, is about creating possibilities whose full impact we may not immediately see.

Bringing this publication to life required more than good intentions. I particularly acknowledge the active members of the Education Committee, Dipo Adewumi, Muraina Oyekola and Timothy Fasanya, whose financial and material support helped transform this idea into reality.

Our appreciation also goes to our Social Secretary, Lanre Eniola, who became our invaluable presence on the ground despite not being a member of the Committee. His commitment and support deserve special recognition. I equally appreciate our set member and friend, Idris Kola Balogun, who sacrificed his time to meet with the Press Club and share his personal journey, experiences and life lessons with the students.

To the members of the Press Club, this magazine ultimately belongs to you. Continue to read widely, ask questions, write courageously and remain curious.

To the School Principal,



teachers and everyone shaping these young minds, we offer our sincere appreciation.

To our Set Chairman, Tunji Adediran, the Executive Officers and fellow September 1991 Class Set members, our connection to GCI should extend beyond photographs, reunions and memories. Nostalgia has its place, but legacy demands something more.

We arrived here as boys in September 1991. GCI gave us friendships, opportunities and foundations for our individual journeys. Today, we have the privilege of giving something back.

May these pages inform, inspire and awaken in one young student the confidence to believe that his own story is worth writing.

Olaniyi Olayiwola
Chairman,
Education Committee
Carr House
School No. 9287

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

The Rock Magazine, 9th Edition

It is with immense pride and gratitude to God that I address you today as we celebrate the 9th edition of The Rock Magazine, a milestone that reflects not just endurance, but growth.

The Rock Magazine has always been more than ink on paper. It is a mirror of the intellectual vibrancy that lives within the walls of Government College Ibadan. Every edition is a testament to the discipline, creativity, and courage of our Press Club members, who take on the responsibility of thinking deeply, writing boldly, and sharing ideas that matter.

This edition is no exception. Our young writers have tackled themes that speak directly to the world they are inheriting, from the Creator Economy and how talent can be turned into income, to Volunteerism and community service as a path to impact before graduation. They have written on financial intelligence and the money habits every teenager should learn, on how great ideas are born from curiosity, and on Agriculture 2.0, a reminder that even our oldest industries are being reshaped by technology and innovation.

These are not small subjects. They show that our students are not merely observers of change, but are already thinking like the innovators, entrepreneurs, and change-makers this generation needs.

I commend the Press Club for their diligence, and indeed all our students for the spirit of learning and excellence they continue to embody. My appreciation also goes to the Head of Department, English, for the guidance and mentorship that shapes the quality of writing our students produce, and to the entire set members whose support continues to sustain this proud tradition.

Special greetings go to Neyo Alhaji, Lanre Eniola, and the committee members whose dedication and hard work made this edition a reality. Your efforts, often behind the scenes, are what give this magazine its life and polish.

I am also delighted that, alongside our hardcopy, this 9th edition continues to be available virtually at



therockmagazine.org.ng, sustaining a tradition that ensures the voice of GCI's press reaches not only our school community, but old boys, parents, and readers far beyond these walls, wherever they may be.

To the students of the Press Club: continue to write, continue to question, and continue to dream boldly. The Rock has always produced men of timber and caliber, and through platforms like this magazine, you are already writing your place in that legacy.

Congratulations to everyone who made this 9th edition possible. May The Rock Magazine continue to grow from strength to strength, edition after edition.

Thank you, and God bless GCI.

Adetunji Adediran
Chairman

Interview with Mr. Idris Olasunkanmi Kola-Balogun

OLD BOY, GOVERNMENT COLLEGE IBADAN-GCI PRESS CLUB

THE ROCK: Good day, sir. Please can you introduce yourself to us and tell us about your journey to Government College Ibadan?

Mr Idris: My name is Idris. I'm also called Kola-Balogun - I have a compound name. My dad is Kola, and his own dad was Balogun, so it's a joint last name. I'm a multimedia expert; I'm into video and photo production, and I've been in the industry for a little while, just over twenty-five years. I currently live in the United States. I own my company, Grew Productions LLC, based in Chicago, and I work all over the world. I'm currently in Canada, doing a seminar for a whole week.

Mr Idris: I came to Government College in 1994. I had a spell at Lagos State Model College before I came to Government College in 1994 to join my classmates in SS1. I was admitted into Grier House. Joining Government College was a bit dramatic, and a little bit funny, but I learned a lot of things from attending Government College, and it made me who I am today. My experience in the hostel was really good - we bonded like a family, and even though sometimes it was a little up and down, the unity and cooperation from the boys I went to school with actually made my journey pretty smooth.

Mr Idris: I also came from a very big family - two of my step-siblings went to Government College with me, Kabiru Kalabalogun and Maruf Kalabalogun, so we were all in the hostel together. My principal at the time was Mr Adelagu - I believe he's late now, of blessed memory. He was very good to me personally, because my dad and the principal's father used to work together politically, so there was a bit of connection, and that made my journey so smooth.

Mr Idris: We used to go out from school back in the day to a place - I can't remember what it's called now - behind Government College. It was a bit of fun. That wasn't what I was traditionally used to at the other secondary school I attended. Lagos State Model College was more like an enclosure, very strict. Coming to school in Ibadan, being in my hometown, was a bit more flexible; it made me feel



like I was home, even though I wasn't. Going to Model College and back was too far and lonely - the school was in the forest by itself, with no life around it. But at Government College, you felt more like you were in your own house, even though you weren't at home. So it was so far so good. I never had any backlash or terrible experience at Government College - as far as I'm concerned, it was all good.

THE ROCK: Sir, what could you say you admire most about GCI during your stay?

Mr Idris: I think it's the bond between the students. What really caught my eye, which I never got from any of the other schools I attended, is how the seniors - the alumni who went through Government College - come back to school for reunions. I remember one year the owner of Kakanfo Inn, Chief Lekan, and other old boys of Government College were all just there, having fun, happy. I was like, this is different - I'd never seen anything like that, and it was fascinating. I made a pledge to do the same thing I saw them doing, and that's what we're doing now.

THE ROCK: So do you differentiate between the present GCI and the GCI of your time?

Mr Idris: Yeah, there's a huge difference. I'd probably say the economy was better back then, the teachers were more committed, and it was a more family-oriented kind of school. Right now, it's a bit disoriented, because of the way the economy is in Nigeria and the way government is running public schools currently. The last time I was at Government College was about seven or eight years ago, if I remember precisely, and it's more disoriented now compared to our days. It was more bonded, more connected - we did things together.

We didn't do individualism back when we were at Government College, if you get my point. So as far as I'm concerned, there's a huge difference, and I hope that with the old boys coming together to build infrastructure and invest in your human capital, that will encourage a lot of things to change, and inform students to go back to what we used to do back in the day - the way we bonded together.

THE ROCK: Before academic excellence, what qualities should every student develop before leaving school?

Mr Idris: I'll refer to my dad. He always tells us he never went to secondary school - his family couldn't afford it. He went to primary school and to an Arabic school, Ile-kewu, while other people were going to Government College or Ibadan Grammar School. His father couldn't afford to send him, so he pursued self-education instead. For him - someone who never attended secondary school - to build himself up to a level that's inspiring for a young boy to achieve is one of the things I hold onto from growing up with my dad: your human capital has to be in you. Education is always important, but whatever you want to do, you have to put your mind to it. My dad always told us that whether you're selling firewood or coconuts, or whatever the smallest business you can think of, if you go to school, it adds value to how you sell.

Mr Idris: Now you might call me a photographer or a videographer - that's how a layman would look at it. I see myself as a multimedia expert; I run a company. I have White employees, Hispanic employees, African American employees, and Nigerians working for me. That's how I see myself, and that's where I place myself.

So I'd ask you, as an individual, to have some kind of skill to learn. Maybe you want to learn tailoring, or barbing - I can bab; I used to own a barber shop in Nigeria, in Olu-Iwo Estate. I learned photography after I left Government College in Ibadan, and it became my career today. My bachelor's degree is totally different from what I do today. So I'd encourage anyone listening to actually learn a skill, to be able to add value going forward.

You can be in college or university and still be learning - you don't need a job to learn from; you can build from your own skill, and that skill could end up shaping your goals and your career.

Mr Idris: And one more thing - everybody is talented one way or another, but we just have to identify it. Maybe you're supposed to be a footballer, I don't know. Maybe your friend is supposed to be a photographer or videographer like me. You just have to identify that talent, develop it, and make something of it.

THE ROCK: In your view, sir, is education today producing problem solvers, or simply certificate holders?

Mr Idris: There are two ways to look at it. Education is always the best thing to do - I'm not one of those people who subscribe to the idea that school is a scam. I don't subscribe to that school of thought, because regardless of what you become, whether a footballer or a basketballer, look at the pundits on Fox TV in America during the World Cup. Did you watch the World Cup that just concluded?

THE ROCK: Yes, sir.

Mr Idris: There's a pundit who doesn't have any element of formal education - would you believe that?

THE ROCK: No, sir.

Mr Idris: Right - regardless, education is very, very important. Let that be your foundation, adding some security. You can build on a particular skill, but there's nothing you can do without having an education. I won't say education is limiting - no, it's very important, an element of every part of our lives, whichever way you want to call it. I'm not the kind of person who says the pillars of Nigeria doing whatever they're doing don't need it - there'll come a time they'll look back and wish they'd gone to school. Let me add one more example quickly.

There's a tall actor I admire so much, who does Yoruba movies - you'd probably remember his name. He achieved his fame, but even so, he went back to the University of Lagos to earn a degree. There might come a time when, despite your experience and your capacity, someone tells you they need you to have a certificate.

What are you going to do then - go back to school at that point? So it's better to get it early.

THE ROCK: As an adult, what do you have to say to the child who struggles every day to answer the call, hoping hard work pays off?

Mr Idris: I just want every child to continue to believe in themselves, to believe in what they do. My own life story has been one of continuous change - I can't fully explain how, but at the end of the day, having an education alongside your hard work will actually help you learn faster, if you know what I mean. So it's good to put in more than a hundred percent into your work. Like I told you guys, I'm currently in Canada - I woke up at ten a.m. to do this session with you. I could have chosen not to, but I'm committed, because failing to add value to people matters to me. So in life, whatever you do, you have to put a thousand percent into it.

THE ROCK: Sir, talking about mentoring and academic excellence, what role do you think teachers play?

Mr Idris: I'll refer to one of my principals, the late Governor Ajimobi. He used to say it's a tripod: one leg is the student, one is the parent, and one is the school - the teacher. If any one of those three legs is missing, we've already failed. If the parent doesn't play their part - encouraging the child to go to school on time, providing the child with proper meals - the parent has already failed. If you get to school and the teacher isn't teaching you right, isn't encouraging or guiding you, the teacher has already failed you too. So in life, whatever we do starts as a cooperation between different sectors. When it comes to the parent, they have to play their part; when it comes to the teacher, they have to play their part - and the student has to play their part too. Different pillars working together are what make things work.

THE ROCK: How can young people become creators of opportunities instead of waiting for them?

Mr Idris: To create things, you have to inspire yourself. You have to research. Let me give you an example - the richest Black man in Africa. Go check how many

people follow him on Instagram, and how many Nigerians follow him, compared to some of the people being celebrated for the wrong reasons right now. You have to inform yourself with things that will better your life, not things that make you laugh for a second - those things won't build your life. Sitting on Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat - all of that is temporary. By the time you need to be there for yourself, those things won't help you. So you have to follow people who genuinely inspire you - even if you don't know them personally, let them mentor you from a distance. Look at the stories of great people's lives. Read books about how people achieved millions, how people became innovators. Research more. Put together a plan for your life, for every day, on how to be better. Don't just sit on TikTok or Instagram all day.

Mr Idris: I post my own work on Instagram because I want to make money from it, not because I want to be distracted by things on there. I wake up very early in the morning and I pray - as a Muslim or as a Christian, whatever you believe in - and I set out what I want to achieve that day. You have to make sure you achieve something every day, and look to people's stories that inspire you, not people saying mediocre things. You don't have to do that, okay?

THE ROCK: Yes, sir. What legacy do you think parents can leave behind for fragile and formative minds?

Mr Idris: A lot of legacy. Like I told you earlier, parents have a lot to do with a child's life. You look at your parent as your teacher, as your mother, as your father - and at the end of the day, we're kind of a copy of our community, a copy of what we see. If you see your dad smoking a cigarette every day, out of curiosity you'll want to try it, just to see what it's like. So a parent has to be intentional about training the child, whether you're rich or poor, laying out the goals and the things the child needs to do. Parents carry a lot of responsibility. What a parent is supposed to do is have a plan for the child.

Mr Idris: I'll use myself as an example - I have a thirteen-year-old and a fifteen-year-old, and since they were about eight, I've been guiding and mentoring them on what they want to do. I don't want to push them into saying, 'You have to become a doctor.' Those are old ways of thinking in Nigeria - that if you're not a doctor, an engineer, or a lawyer, you're nobody. It's different these days. Whatever my child wants to do, I try to guide them and point them in the right direction, and I try as much as possible to keep my own bad habits away from them.

It's very important that whatever we do, we guide our kids right.

Mr Idris: So parents have a huge responsibility - to guide their kids in the way of the Lord, whether Muslim or Christian, whichever you practice. The Bible says to seek the kingdom of God first, and the rest will be added unto you. So commit yourself into God's hands, and seek wisdom as a parent. If a parent isn't educated enough to guide their child directly, they should find someone who can be a godfather or godmother figure in the direction the child wants to go, someone who can help steer that journey. It's very important - if a parent doesn't have the capacity to guide their child, it's good for them to

seek help from someone who can.

THE ROCK: Okay, thank you, sir. How do you think your career can inspire students of today?

Mr Idris: Well, my story is quite a story. I left Nigeria around 2000 - I was at the University of Ibadan in 1999, when there was political unrest and a crisis at UI, between the military and the newly organised democratic groups. So I travelled to England - well, first I went to Germany for a while, then Belgium for a little while, then the Netherlands, then the Republic of Ireland, before I finally made it to England, where I did my bachelor's degree.

Mr Idris: After my bachelor's, I got into a bit of trouble as a young man and came back to Nigeria. It was tough, but at the same time, I committed myself to making my life better, to being a good ambassador for myself. I like to use those words a lot, because I want people to look at me and say, 'This is Idris Kalabalogun, I'm proud of him,' before I even need anyone else to say it - I want to be proud of myself first. So I opened a business called Graphics Group Digital World in Oluyole Estate, Ibadan. As luck would have it, a family friend became governor, and through that connection I got a few jobs here and there. I committed myself to what I wanted to become - I started doing graphics for them, and I started running motorbike taxis around the streets of Ibadan.

At one point I owned over fifty of them. I did well, running into millions, but I decided I wanted to do something even bigger.

Mr Idris: I committed to relocating to America. I left with a couple thousand dollars in my pocket and asked myself: do I want to be mediocre, or do I want to be an entrepreneur who employs people? A lot of people looked at me like, 'What's wrong with you? What are you going to do?' I already had a business in Nigeria - I'd already built my first home, and people thought I was doing well. But I asked myself what I would do differently from what I'd already done.

Mr Idris: I went to the local office, registered my business, and got a tax form, even though I hadn't earned a single dollar yet - I paid about two hundred dollars in anticipation of future profit. I had no clients. I took a job as a trainer at Bella Baby in Chicago - it's like an Uber platform for photographers. They partner with hospitals; I would train people, high school and college students, to go to hospitals with a camera, photograph a newborn with the mother, and then pitch the photos to the parents. If they bought, the photographer made ten percent, and I, as the trainer, made ten percent too.

Mr Idris: One day, one of the ladies I trained said to me, 'Why are you doing this? I've seen your work, you're doing great work. Last night I got a five-hundred-dollar job, and you're still here waiting on ten percent. You need to do better for yourself.' I told myself I couldn't compare myself to her just yet. So I went back home and made a plan. I went on Facebook looking for people planning weddings and

other events, and people who needed headshots. I messaged a lot of them, offering to shoot their wedding or headshots for free. About eighty percent didn't reply. The ones who did, I shot for free, and they loved it - they'd call me back for another event. One of my cousins called me for a wedding too. To the glory of God, it was tough, I was struggling to pay my bills, but I was committed to becoming somebody.

Mr Idris: Then a lady called me after seeing a wedding I'd shot and said she had a job for me in Urbana-Champaign, about three hours from where I lived. I'd have to drive three hours, work, and drive three hours back. I told her to book me for the whole day, and she could decide what to pay me after seeing the results. I took it as a test. I went, I shot the job, sent her the pictures, she loved them, and asked what I charged per hour. I'd never actually set an hourly rate before - I just said a hundred and twenty dollars an hour. I was there for twenty hours including travel time, and she paid me a hundred and twenty dollars for every one of those hours. I made in one day what I would have made in an entire year in Nigeria. That was my breakthrough - that was when my horizon opened up, and I fully committed to this journey and set my rate going forward, higher than what many professionals earn after years of study.

THE ROCK: *What do you think is responsible for cybercrime, and how do you think it's influenced by things of this world?*

Mr Idris: Like I mentioned earlier, it's about copying the things of this world. You have to clean up your mind and put it in the direction of what you actually want to become. I remember the last time I was in Nigeria, one of my subcontractors was telling me how everybody's riding Okada now, there's a fast lane in Nigeria - everybody wants to get rich quickly overnight, because it's always somebody's neighbour's son or daughter who made it that way, and everyone wants that fast living. There's always a bad end to it, as far as I'm concerned. So for the children listening, you have to inform yourselves, because nothing else is going to guide you the right way - you have to be intentional about the direction you want your life to go. Every decision has a consequence. If you go the Yahoo Yahoo route, you can end up in jail, or worse. If you go what some people call the slow route - whether you're in school, about to start school, or working a nine-to-five earning steady pay - you build your capital, you build your investments, and you can close your eyes at night with a clear conscience. If the police knock on my door right now, I open it without fear; if I'd done something wrong, I'd be hiding. That's how life is.

So you have to choose which direction you want, and it's very important for the government in Nigeria to enforce high penalties for crime, so other kids can see that going that route leads to jail.

THE ROCK: *Okay, sir. What do you believe is the difference between holding a position and being a true leader?*

Mr Idris: Anybody can hold a position. To lead, you

have to lead with intention, you have to carry your people along. Leadership capacity isn't just given to you by a title. I don't know what position you hold, maybe you're a class rep or a class captain, but leadership is entirely different from just holding a position. People can be governors, principals, whatever, that doesn't automatically mean they have the capacity to lead. You have to carry your people, be a good listener, be intentional in how you relate to people. You can't be judgmental, and you can't just impose. If someone comes to report an issue to you, you have to know how to navigate between both parties and reach a fair decision. So leadership is bigger than how people typically see it. Sometimes holding a position is just a title, governor, captain, chairman, anybody can hold that. But being a leader is a much bigger quality than that.

THE ROCK: *Finally, what message would you like people to remember after this?*

Mr Idris: I hope I've shown you guys how to have heart in life and be committed to what you believe in. As long as you don't do anything against the law, you can become whatever you want to be. Let me give you a quick story before I go. Shortly after I came to America, I was working to build my photographic career, and I met a man at a car wash who cleaned my car. When I gave him my card, he said he really appreciated what I did, that I was still committed to working while I built my path, and that my car was so neat and all that. I appreciated him too, and I asked about his story. He told me he never went to school, he didn't have the means. But he was committed to what he believed in, and this man told me his minimum contract right now is over ten million dollars. He owns the car wash, and several of his old schoolmates who earned degrees now work for him as accountants, in management, and in human resources. And he never went to school.

Mr Idris: So my message is this: whatever you want to become in life, try as much as possible to have a clean mind and stay committed. Surround yourself with people who can positively influence your direction. If the people around you only tell you your shirt looks good but never tell you how to become better, be wary of that.

You have to continue to inspire yourself with people who are greater than you, not lesser than you. I'm not saying discard your friends or your classmates, that's not what I'm saying. I'm saying let yourself be inspired by people who are ahead of you, the way I look up to people too, and the way I hope people can look up to me.

Mr Idris: So please remember this interview as something you can look back on and be inspired by, that anything is possible.

THE ROCK: *Thank you, sir. We appreciate your time. We really value your words of wisdom.*

Mr Idris: My pleasure. Thank you. I wish you guys the best of luck. I love you all.



Managing money is one of the most critical skills an individual will ever need in life, yet it is rarely taught inside traditional classrooms. Many students graduate knowing how to calculate complex algebraic equations or memorize historical dates, but they enter adulthood without knowing how to budget a paycheck, open a savings account or navigate the pitfalls of consumer credit.

Financial intelligence is not merely about accumulating huge amounts of wealth; rather, it is about understanding how money works, how to make it grow, and how to keep it from slipping away. Developing healthy financial habits during the teenage years forms the foundational bedrock for lifelong peace, security and personal freedom. By reshaping their relationship with money, mastering strategic budgeting, understanding the power of saving and resisting social spending pressure, teenagers

can set up their future selves for ultimate success.

To build true financial intelligence, teenagers must first redefine what money actually represents. Most people look at cash and see the physical items it can buy. In reality, money is traded time and human energy. Whether someone earns an allowance for household chores or works a part-time job at a food store, they are trading finite hours of their life for digital numbers on a screen or paper currency. When a teenager shifts their perspective to calculate costs in hours worked rather than local currency, impulsive spending habits naturally disappear.

Furthermore, teenagers must learn to dismantle the illusion of wealth perpetuated by modern social media platforms. True wealth is not the expensive car or designer brand visible to the public; wealth is the hidden money tucked away in bank accounts, investments and assets that provides long-term

peace of mind.

Saving money becomes much easier when it is tied to an intentional purpose rather than a vague chore. The very first savings target for any young adult should be a foundational emergency fund. Life is inherently unpredictable and having cash set aside for a cracked phone screen or an unexpected car repair prevents a minor inconvenience from turning into a major financial crisis. Beyond emergencies, teenagers should utilize sinking funds to save gradually for large future expenses, like buying a used car or funding a specific school event.

This disciplined approach eliminates the need to rely on predatory loans or high-interest credit cards, both of which chain an individual's future income to past decisions.

While credit cards can eventually be used as tools to build a positive credit score, they must always be treated like debit cards, meaning the balance must be paid in full every single month to avoid massive interest traps.

In conclusion, financial intelligence is a progressive journey built on small, daily choices. Money is an excellent servant but a terrible master. By taking control of their finances early, teenagers ensure that money remains a tool for opportunity and security, allowing them to construct a stable future built on financial freedom.

Bankole Emmanuel
SSS1C

BALANCING ACADEMIC, TALENT AND PERSONAL STUDENT LIFE GROWTH

Have you ever wondered why some students excel academically, develop their talents, and still maintain a healthy personal life, while others find it difficult to cope with the demands of school? The answer lies in striking the right balance. Student life is more than attending classes and passing examinations. It also involves discovering one's talents, building good character, and developing the skills needed to succeed in life. According to UNESCO, education should focus on the total development of an individual. This means that a student should not only acquire knowledge but should also develop creativity, leadership qualities, moral values, and social skills.

Academic excellence is undoubtedly important because it provides students with the knowledge and qualifications needed for future careers. However, education should not be limited to the four walls of the classroom. Many successful individuals have achieved greatness by combining academic knowledge with their natural talents. Whether in music, sports, writing, technology, entrepreneurship, or leadership, talents give students opportunities to express themselves and contribute positively to society. Likewise, personal growth helps students develop discipline,

confidence, emotional intelligence, responsibility, and resilience, which are essential for overcoming life's challenges.

As Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." This statement reminds us that education remains the foundation of progress. Nevertheless, knowledge becomes more meaningful when it is supported by talent and good character. Similarly, the famous basketball player Michael Jordan stated, "Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships." This quote teaches us that talent alone is not enough; success requires discipline, continuous learning, and the willingness to work hard.

Achieving a balanced student life requires commitment and proper planning. Students should learn to manage their time effectively by creating realistic study schedules while making time for talent development, recreation, family responsibilities, and adequate rest. They should avoid procrastination and excessive use of social media, which often distract students from achieving their goals. Participating in extracurricular activities such as debate, music, sports, drama, science clubs, and volunteer services also helps students discover their strengths and build leadership skills.

Parents, teachers, and schools also have important roles to play in helping students maintain this balance. Parents should encourage their children to pursue both academic excellence and talent development. Teachers should identify students' strengths and provide the necessary guidance to help them improve. Schools should organise competitions, seminars, sporting events, and talent exhibitions that enable students to showcase their abilities. Organisations such as UNICEF continue to advocate for quality education and the holistic development of children because every child deserves the opportunity to reach his or her full potential.

In conclusion, balancing academic work, talent, and personal growth is essential for every student's success. These three aspects complement one another and prepare young people to become responsible, productive, and successful members of society. As Benjamin Franklin rightly said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." Therefore, students should strive to maintain a healthy balance between their studies, talents, and personal development, because true success is achieved when these three areas grow together.

James Oluwatobiloba
SSS1G

GCI SCHOOL SONG

School of our pride built on the rock
By order, justice and fairplay ruled
May what we dare to learn from thee in youth
Be our guideligh through out our lives
Refrain: School of our pride we build on thee

Service to others not to self
Consideration for our Nation first
By our examples and not by precept
Show honest labours dignity
Refrain: School of our pride we build on thee

Generations shall come and go
But our pride in you will for aye remain
Maybe not in the confines of your walls
But in Alumni world-renowned
Refrain: School of our pride we build on thee

SCHOOL MOTTO: Learning to Serve
FOUNDED: February 28, 1929.



SWANSTON HOUSE

Year Founded:	1929
House Patron:	E.C. Swanston
First House Master:	Benton evans
House Colour:	Blue
House Emblem:	A white swan on blue water
House Motto:	Order, justice and fair play bring contentment. It is a willing cooperation That makes a strong team.

HOUSE SONG:

TUNE (LONDON DERRY AIR) -

<http://www.gcimuseum.org/content/tune-swanton-house-song>

Oh, Swanston House
The call, the call has come to you

To do your best to help this world along
To be like him who trod this earth before you
And died without a consciousness of wrong
But do not wait for idleness to injure you
Get up and work now that you've work to do
And when you win, be not proud nor conceited
But rest content with work well done
Oh Swanston House.

CARR HOUSE

Year Founded:	1949	First House Master:	Enobakhare Imafidion G. N.
House Patron:	Henry Rawlinson	House Colour:	Orange
Carr		House Emblem:	Eagle

HOUSE SONG:

1. Where is the source of our great joy?
Everyday we bound in joy?
A unique fruit of our ambition
It's striking initiation
Comes from this lovely home of grace
Carr House historical place
All Eaglets let us now rejoice
An exalt Carr with our voice.
2. Of all eaglets none can deny
What pleasures he has thereby
To cheer up our hopeful course
Are provided games and sports
Thus boredom swamped from our way
Never sad but always gay
We heartily thank Vigilia
May he help us for ever.
3. We all are very proud of thee

Something must we do for thee
Youngest yet envied by others
Present boys, let's lead others
Our Old Boys will take charge willingly
Of greater affairs bravely
Thus fulfilling their promises
Helping Carr House in all fields.

4. Great men will from Carr House emerge
Christ from Nazareth did emerge
Glorious things for thee shall we do
We honour that great crest too
Eagle, king to birds of all types
Indicates our place in life
Great was our Patron, Henry Carr
Greater may we be on earth thee.

TUNE:

<http://www.gcimuseum.org/content/tune-carr-house-song>

POWELL HOUSE

Year Founded:	1973	House Emblem:	Lion
House Patron:	Lord V. B. V. Powell	House Motto:	"From East And from West Came We"
First House Master:	Mr A. S. Emordi		
House Colour:	Purple		

HOUSE SONG:

1. From East and from West came we
To lodge in thee, royal host
Came to put life into thee
To make thee great is a must
What a house, it shines like as
Diamond among rough stones
We in you shall not be drones
We shall make you polished brass.
2. On the field or in the school
Towards evening or at noon
We shall employ every fool
That school glories may be won
Powell House full of young blood

In the building, in the boys
It shall not be just our noise
But our trophy-tray must flood.

3. See the violet arise
Mustard seed mixed with the swan
Born a leader Powell is
From him, older brothers learn
Neatness, sports and discipline
Beautiful environment
From these our way'll not bend
And our glory never less.

HOUSE TUNE:

<http://www.gcimuseum.org/content/tune-powell-house-song>

GRIER HOUSE

Year Founded:	1930
House Patron:	Sir Selwyn Grier
First House Master:	Lord V. B. V. Powell
House Colour:	Maroon
House Emblem:	A short shield with three flowers in the middle, then at the bottom is written "sapere aude" which means "we dare to learn always"
House Motto:	"Sapere aude" which means "we dare to learn always"

HOUSE SONG:

1. O Grier House, let us for thy dear honour yearn
Let us from experience past this lesson learnt
That discipline leads but to our one true goal
Devotion, true must be our unfailing role.
2. We dare to learn both from victory and defeat
If once our best is done then we all can meet
To sing loud in praise of thy untarnished fame

- That both past and present cherish just the same.
3. United in Spirit we uphold thy grace!
Of unbroken justice taught in every race
Grier sons thy true greatness must strive sure t
shield
We dare to learn always and we 'll never yield.

DOWNLOAD THE TUNE AT

<http://www.gcimuseum.org/content/tune-grier-house-song>

FIELD HOUSE

Year Founded:	1948
House Patron:	Captain H.T.C. Field
First House Master:	Mr. Long
House Colour:	Green
House Emblem:	Palm Tree
House Motto:	Nil Desperandum meaning Never Despair

HOUSE SONG:

1. Foremost stands the sun in heaven
Foremost! Field House in this School
Field House is our inspiration
Past achievements show this well
Inspiration stirs ambition
Leads us unto better yet
Sixteen only when we started
Now unrivalled amongst the rest.
2. Those who left us showed our spirit
Standing well the test of life
Brave in sorrow, staunch in service
Field House lessons held in mind
In the face of strife and hardship
Holding on without despair

- Their achievements are our glory
Their example is our guide.
3. Field present the calls now yours
Keep the noble flame alight
The name by which the flame was lit
Shall ne'r die. H. Field for aye
Don't forget what Baba Job taught
Valiant toils brings glorious name
Keep our glory and spirit
Evergreen and ever bring.

TUNE:

<http://www.gcimuseum.org/content/tune-field-house-song>

COMPOSED BY

Femi Osofisan (1100, Field, 1959)

THE CREATOR ECONOMY: TURNING TALENT INTO DIGITAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP



For a long time, the path to making money and building a career followed a rigid and predictable route. Individuals went to school, learned a specific skill, and then exchanged their time for a steady salary from a large company. In that traditional system, starting a business was extremely difficult because it required substantial capital to rent or build physical stores, operate factories, manage warehouses, and pay for expensive advertisements on television or billboards. Because the cost of entry was so high, ordinary people with unique talents could not easily share their work with the world. An author who wrote an excellent book needed a major publishing company to print it, a musician with a beautiful song needed a record label to produce it, and a teacher who wanted to share knowledge often had to be employed by an academy.

The birth and growth of the internet changed these old rules completely. This major transformation created a new digital business environment known today as the Creator Economy. The barriers that once prevented ordinary people from reaching a large audience have been significantly reduced. With affordable digital tools, a basic smartphone, an internet connection, and a unique talent, individuals can now begin building businesses that reach people around the world. The

Creator Economy has therefore created opportunities for people to share their abilities without depending entirely on traditional institutions or large companies.

The Creator Economy represents a major global shift in which independent individuals, including video creators, writers, podcasters, and artists, can move beyond traditional corporate structures. Instead, they use digital platforms and applications to sell their skills, knowledge, creativity, and personalities directly to audiences around the world. This is no longer merely a casual hobby or a small weekend activity. It has become a genuine way of transforming human talent into a sustainable digital business. Creators can build audiences, develop personal brands, provide valuable content, and turn their expertise into sources of income.

For a digital business to grow successfully, creators must also develop good financial and organizational habits. They should separate their personal money from their business funds, monitor the cost of software and other digital tools, and save responsibly to meet their annual tax obligations. They should also learn to view every video, photograph, or article they publish not only as a creative work but also as a long-term business asset that can

continue attracting potential customers and generating sales. To increase productivity without experiencing burnout, digital entrepreneurs can use automation tools such as scheduling software, editing templates, and artificial intelligence applications for routine tasks. These tools can free up mental energy and let creators focus on key creative ideas and major business decisions.

In conclusion, the Creator Economy is not simply a temporary internet fad or a passing social media trend. It represents a significant change in how the global workforce operates and how businesses are created. It has opened new doors of opportunity, giving people with unique talents the ability to build digital businesses that can reach a global audience. However, moving from raw talent to genuine digital entrepreneurship requires more than creativity alone; it requires discipline, financial responsibility, organization, consistency, and effective use of digital tools. The future of the modern economy will increasingly reward self-directed digital entrepreneurs who are willing to invest in their skills, develop their voices, and turn their human potential into meaningful and sustainable opportunities.

Adebayo Oluwadunnu
David - SSS1C

VALEDICTORY

by Abdulrazaq Godwin Omeiza

Head of School, 2025/2026 Academic Session

SPEECH

The Chairman of this occasion, our esteemed Principals, distinguished Vice Principals, cherished members of staff, invited guests, proud parents and guardians, my fellow graduands, and the students of this great citadel of learning, I greet you all. The philosopher Heraclitus once observed that no one ever steps into the same river twice, because by the second time, both the river and the person have changed. Standing here today, I understand him completely. Six years ago, a boy walked through the gates of Government College Ibadan carrying little more than a love for words and a hope he could barely explain. Today, that same gate opens outward, and a different person walks through it. I will not tell you I am sad to be leaving. I am not. I am full; full of gratitude, full of memory, full of the joy that comes from watching a place do exactly what it promised. I arrived here a boy who simply loved to speak and write. I leave an internationally published, multi-award-winning writer and orator. I arrived a student. I leave as the Head of School of one of the most formidable sets this institution has ever produced. None of this was inevitable. It was built patiently and deliberately by the unique teaching and character of Government College Ibadan.

To every member of staff, teaching and non-teaching, who gave us the time, patience, and the very best so that we might become better people, thank you. Yours is a labour whose full value the world rarely sees, and I want you to know that it was seen and felt here. A few individuals I must name, not because others matter less, but because some debts deserve to be

spoken aloud. To Mr Adeleye, who saw something in me while I was still a junior school boy and began preparing me for a greatness I could not yet see in myself, thank you. To Mrs Soboyin, Mrs Adaramoye, and the entire Languages Department, who gave me my very first platform and pushed me toward competitions that stretched my mind and widened my world, thank you for believing a stage was where I belonged before I believed it myself. To Mr Azeem of the Physics Department, for a trust in me that never once wavered, thank you. To Mr Ogundokun, whose quiet confidence in me became one of the sturdiest pillars I have ever leaned on. You saw something valuable in me and trusted I would not let you down. I hope I have not. To Mr Oni, who has walked with me since day one, certain long before I was that I could reach further than I imagined, thank you. To the teachers of Ubuntu Leaders Academy, whose deep belief in me and in my ideas became fuel for everything that followed, thank you. And to Miss Grace, who stood by me more times than I can count, who told me the truth even when it was not easy to hear, who corrected me simply because she cared enough to, I am forever grateful. Every teacher in this citadel has left fingerprints on who I am, and this speech could run for hours and still not thank you properly. So let me simply say, I remember. I will always remember.

To my brothers still on this journey, the students of Government College Ibadan, I want you to know who you are, and know it more each day. Do not trade your values for anyone or anything; they will be the one thing that is truly yours in every room you

ever walk into. Trust your teachers. Treat every opportunity, win or lose, as a road that leads somewhere useful. And to the incoming prefects, before any title, you are human first, and no position should ever make you forget that. Lead with empathy. Lead with resilience. Lead with humility. Serve this school selflessly, expecting nothing back but the knowledge that you did right by it. Leadership was never about the badge on your chest or the name on a list; it is measured only by your true commitment to change. I trust you. I have watched you. You are the best of the best, and I have no doubt you will prove it.

To my fellow graduands, six years is a long time to be believed in, and you believed in me more than I sometimes believed in myself. Thank you. What I have loved most about all of you is your spirit as a team, and your relentless push toward positive change, even when change was hard-won. I cannot tell any of you exactly what tomorrow holds, not even for myself. But I can tell you this: you were built for the top. I do not doubt it for a second, and I cannot wait to watch each of you arrive at the highest point of whatever you choose to pursue. Stay close to one another. Let this brotherhood outlive these gates and outlive this uniform. You have come this far by simply being yourselves; do not stop now. I love every one of you, and I will spend my life proud that I was the Head of School of this set. There is an African proverb that says, if you want to go far, go together. We have already gone far. Let us go further together. Thank you, and God bless Government College Ibadan.



 Fast | Secure | Reliable

MONEY TRANSFERS TO NIGERIA

Unlock a world of fast and secure money transfers with VeloRemit! We are here to make sending money to Nigeria from the UK a breeze.

Instant Transfers

to all major banks in Nigeria within minutes.

Low Fees, Competitive Rates

Enjoy cost-effective transfers with competitive exchange rates.

Commission Choices

Send money with or without commission - the power is in your hands.

Flexible Payment Options

Choose between Manual Bank Payment or Automated Bank Payment methods.

User-Friendly App

Seamlessly manage your transactions with our easy-to-use mobile app.

Get low fees on your
international
money transfers

Next



Available to
DOWNLOAD NOW



GET IT ON
Google Play



Download on the
App Store

Need help? Contact Support



0132-247-2321



veloremit.com







Transform Your **Business** with **Smart** **Technology**

Powerful digital solutions that
drive growth, efficiency and
measurable results.

Let's Build Your Future 



+234 (803) 404 8178



techvaults@gmail.com



17, Akinremi Street,
Anifowoshe, Ikeja,
Lagos, Nigeria.



www.techvaults.com



@techvaults





As students, we always need money for food, books, transport, and other things. But many times the money finishes too quickly. Saving money is very important because it helps us when we have emergencies and also helps us buy the things we really need. If we learn how to save money now, it will help us in the future when we become adults.

1. **Make a Budget and Plan Your Spending**

A budget means planning how you will spend your money. First, list all the things you need to buy in a week or month. For example: food, transport, data, and notebooks. Then decide how much money to spend on each one.

Example: If you get #5,000 in a month, you can plan #2,000 for food, #1,000 for transport, #1,000 for savings, and #1,000 for other things. When you plan like this, you won't waste money.

2. **Avoid Unnecessary Spending**

As students, we sometimes waste money on things we don't really need. Buying snacks every day, expensive drinks, or data for TikTok all the time can finish our money fast.

Instead, we should ask ourselves: "Do I really need this?"

Example: Instead of buying soft drinks every day, you can drink water. Instead of buying new clothes every month, you can manage the ones you have. The little money you save can become big later.

3. **Use a Piggy Bank or Savings Account**

One good way to save is to have a piggy bank or a savings account in the bank. Whenever you get money, remove a small part and keep it. Even if it's #100 or #200, keep it.

Example: If you save #200 every week, in 1 month you will have #800. In 1 year you will have #9,600. That money can help you buy books, pay for excursion, or help your family.

Also, tell your parents or guardian to help you open a student savings account.

Saving money as a student is not hard. All we need is planning, discipline, and patience. If we budget our money, avoid waste, and keep some aside regularly, we will always have money for important things. Remember, "a little drop of water makes an ocean." Let us start saving today so that tomorrow will be better for us.

Ahmed Abdulrazak Abdulmumin - SSS1G

CHOOSING A CAREER IN THE AGE OF AUTOMATION

Automation, artificial intelligence, and smart machines are changing how work is done today. Many routine jobs are being taken over by technology, making career choices more confusing for young people. The big question now is: which careers will still matter in the future?

While automation may replace repetitive jobs, it cannot easily replace careers that require creativity, critical thinking, and human connection. Fields such as technology, healthcare, education, engineering, and entrepreneurship will continue to grow. To stay relevant, students must learn digital skills and be ready to adapt. The goal is not to compete with machines, but to work alongside them and use them to become more productive.

In conclusion, the age of automation is not the end of jobs, but a shift in the kind of jobs available. Young people who choose careers that combine human skills with technology, and who keep learning, will be able to build secure and successful futures.

Akinola Ezekiel O. SS2D



Volunteerism is the voluntary act of rendering and offering one's resources — whether time-wise, skill-wise, service-wise, or in other possible ways — to support others without expecting any form of reward, either financial or material. Community service is organized work carried out to benefit a society and improve the wellbeing of its inhabitants. Referring back to the topic at hand, we can say that volunteerism and community service refer to selfless efforts made by individuals to improve the lives of others and strongly contribute to the development of society.

Volunteerism and community service are powerful ways of making a positive change to society. As learners before graduation, engaging in voluntary activity provides an opportunity to impact lives, develop essential life skills, and leave a long-lasting legacy in one's name. In reference to our topic, the act of volunteerism and community service is

found among people who are determined and willing to give freely without expecting any reward. Let's dive into multiple ways of developing this act. Firstly, organizing community clean-up campaigns; also, tutoring the younger generation on the right path, both academically and behaviourally; and visiting orphanage homes to support them and possibly care for and tutor them.

Furthermore, organizing health campaigns and awareness programs for the sick and less-privileged; engaging in the promotion of environmental conservation and encouraging cleanliness of the society, school, and any official environment, and anywhere they find themselves; and taking part in literacy and mentorship programs for the younger generation who need counselling and mentorship. Let's turn to examples of people who have practised the act of volunteerism and community service. First, we have Wole Soyinka, who has supported the promotion of

education, human rights, and social justice; also, Mitchell Elegbe, who has volunteered in education and youth development services.

In addition, there is the donation of books, clothes, and shelter to the less-privileged. Provision of these needs to people of that calibre will serve as a means of encouragement, and also as a way of giving proper and adequate attention to satisfying their needs. There is also the use of online platforms to promote positive values and generally accepted norms of the community, and to instil in people a good impact which is of great advantage to them and to society at large. In conclusion, we can say that volunteerism and community service provide people with the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on people's lives, and will make them long remembered.

**Adeolu-Ajadi Ajibola
Shalom**

THE RISE OF GREEN JOBS AND SUSTAINABLE CAREERS

What are green jobs? These are jobs that contribute to preserving the environment. They are jobs that help mitigate climate change and conserve natural resources.

Sustainable careers are the careers that endure over time through the entire work-life cycle of an individual. They are the long-term profession that provide support to an individual's personal well-being.

It focus on maintaining individual health and life balance throughout their life span.

However, green jobs focus on:
Renewable energy
Waste management

Agrotech

Renewable Energy: In almost all the countries in this globe, their national network for distributing electricity, gas or water is facing stability challenges and rising cost of diesel fuel. Solar energy has changed from an alternative option to an absolute necessity.

Waste to Wealth: This can be best described as the use of waste to generate funds. E.g. in Nigeria, gathering of bottles, plastics for sale is common or electronic waste. It is just to supply informal micro-enterprise (i.e. unofficial small business organization aimed at growth and profit) that upcycle these materials into useful products, probably for building or

agricultural fertilizer.

Agrotech: Agriculture is now transforming into a higher level. It is now made easier through the use of technology as a workforce. It leads to an increase in the yield of products because the rise of green jobs and sustainable careers relates to the shift in the global labour market towards roles that help preserve the environment.

The rise of green jobs and sustainable careers is driven by the need for renewable energy, waste management and agrotech.

Renewable energy and agrotech are associated with the need for solar technicians and operators of agriculture farm machinery.

The following reasons can also be classified under the reason for the rise of green jobs:

Newly emerged industries

Transformation of jobs

Corporate integration

The rise of green jobs proves that sustainability and economic survival are deeply intertwined.

AKINNUMIJU DAVID. O
SSS1

WHY READING STILL MATTERS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Have you ever picked up your phone just to check one message, only to spend an hour watching videos and scrolling through social media? It happens to almost everyone. Today, technology has made life easier, but it has also made it harder for many people to slow down and truly focus. In a world full of screens, notifications, and endless entertainment, some people think reading is becoming old-fashioned. But the truth is, reading is more important now than ever before.

Reading is more than looking at words on a page. It is a way of learning, thinking, and understanding the world. Every book, article, or story teaches us something new. It can take us to places we have never been, introduce us to people we have never met, and help us understand ideas we may never have thought about on our own.

One reason reading still matters is that it helps us think better. Social media often gives us quick information that disappears in a few seconds. Reading is different. It encourages us to slow down, pay attention, and understand ideas deeply. This helps us make better decisions instead of believing everything

we see online.

Reading also helps us become better communicators. The more we read, the more words we learn, and the easier it becomes to express our thoughts. Students who read regularly often perform better in school because they understand lessons faster and write with more confidence.

Another reason reading is important is that it grows our imagination. When we read a story, we create the pictures in our minds. We imagine the people, the places, and the events. This makes reading exciting because every reader uniquely experiences the story. It also helps us become more creative and better at solving problems.

Books also teach us about people. They allow us to see life through someone else's eyes. By reading about different experiences, cultures, and challenges, we learn kindness, patience, and understanding. These are qualities that every good leader, friend, and citizen should have.

Some people believe that because we have videos, podcasts, and artificial intelligence, reading is no longer necessary. However, these tools should

support reading, not replace it. Watching a short video may give us information, but reading helps us understand that information more deeply. It trains our minds to focus, question, and learn for ourselves.

Reading does not have to mean spending hours with a thick book. It can be a novel, a newspaper, a biography, or even a meaningful article. What matters is taking time to read with attention instead of rushing through everything.

In conclusion, reading still matters in the digital age because it builds knowledge, improves communication, develops imagination, and teaches us to think for ourselves. Technology will continue to change, but the value of reading will never disappear. In a fast-moving world, reading gives us something many people are losing: the ability to slow down, understand deeply, and grow into wiser, more thoughtful individuals.

Sado Caleb O.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS TIPS

Health is the state of total well-being of an individual. For you to be said to be healthy, you must have a complete state of being. No matter what a man possesses, once he's not healthy, he can never enjoy the things he has. This state of being includes the physical, spiritual, emotional, social, mental, and other dimensions. You don't need much money to be healthy — it's just discipline and dedication that is needed. This brings us to this group of things to do in your daily routine:

1. DAILY HABITS

Water first: Aim for 6-8 glasses a day. Hydration hack: Keep a 1L bottle on your desk. Finish 2-3 of them daily. Add lemon/cucumber if plain water is boring. When you don't hydrate, it leads to the following: Dehydration = fatigue + headaches

Move daily: 30 mins of walking, dancing, or stretching. You don't need a gym.

Sleep 7-8 hrs: Consistent sleep time helps mood, focus, and immunity.

Special Teacher Stress Kit:

Brain dump journal: Write all to-dos before bed so your mind can rest.

"No" practice: As a lecturer or teacher, you can't mark all scripts in one night.

Sleep routine: Same sleep/wake time. No phone 30 min before bed. Dark room + cool temp = better rest.

Signs you need a break: Irritability, constant headaches, forgetting things. That's your body asking for rest.

2. FOOD & NUTRITION — "Fuel up, not just fill up"

80/20 rule: 80% whole foods — fruits, veggies, beans, fish, grains. 20% treats are fine.

Protein + fibre each meal: Keeps you full and energy stable.

Limit sugary drinks: Swap soda/juice for water, zobo without too much sugar, or fruit.

Smart swaps: You can always swap the following for the healthier option pointed to by the arrow.

Gala + soft drink → Groundnuts + water + fruit

Indomie alone → Indomie + egg + veggies

Late night snack → Greek yoghurt, banana, or dates

Meal timing: Don't skip breakfast — it stabilizes energy. Have your last heavy meal 3 hrs before bed.

Below are some good foods to eat before bedtime:

[efo] [ugwu] [carrots] [beans] [fish] [chicken] [eggs] [yam] [rice] [swallow] [plantain]

3. PREVENTION & GENERAL WELLNESS

5-minute reset: Deep breathing, prayer, journaling, or just stepping outside.

Talk to someone: Friends, family, or a counsellor. Don't bottle it up.

Screen breaks: 10 mins away from your phone every 1-2 hours.

Annual checks: BP, blood sugar, eyes, dental. Catch things early. There are so many affordable check-up centres.

Immunity boosters: 15 min of sunlight in the morning, wash hands, garlic/ginger/tea during cold season.

Social wellness: Laugh with colleagues. Connection reduces stress more than anything.

Digital detox: 1 hour before bed = no WhatsApp/TV. Read, pray, or stretch instead.

Sun + Hygiene: Get some early morning sun if you're outdoors, and wash your hands.

4. ENERGY & FITNESS — "Move your body, boost your brain"

Micro-workouts: No gym needed. 10 min morning stretch + 10 min evening walk + 10 min bodyweight = 30 mins total.

N.E.A.T. (Non-Exercise Activity Thermogenesis): Take the stairs, stand while marking scripts, walk during calls. This burns more than you think.

Posture check: As a lecturer or teacher, set a phone alarm 2x daily to "shoulders back, chin up." Saves you back pain.

[squats][pushups][planks]

5. A 7-DAY SIMPLE STARTER PLAN FOR A WELL-BALANCED DIET

You can pick what fits your schedule:

Mon: 20 min walk + 2L water

Tue: Add veggies to 2 meals + 10 min stretch

Wed: Screen break every 1 hr + early sleep

Thu: Protein at breakfast (eggs/beans) + breathing exercise

Fri: No sugary drinks + call a friend

Sat: Meal prep for next week + rest

Sun: Review the week. What worked? What needs adjusting?

Mr Jude Ajobiewe
Biology Department.

BENEFITS OF SPACE TO EARTH

Imagine being in an open space without air or sound; that gives us an idea of what space is like. It may seem frightening, but space plays an important role in the existence of Earth and the life we know.

Space is vast and mysterious, and it is essential to our understanding of the universe. Many people ask, "What is the usefulness of space?" The answer is simple: space provides opportunities for scientific discovery, technological development, education, and the protection of our planet. Let us look at some of its major benefits.

Benefits of Space Exploration

Educational purposes: Space exploration improves our understanding of the Earth, the solar system, and the universe. It also increases our knowledge of chemical substances and other materials that can be useful to humanity.

Improved technology: Research and exploration in space have contributed to advances in technology. Scientists also study and identify minerals and other resources beyond Earth that may have useful applications.

Predicting and preventing danger: Astronauts and scientists study space not only for discovery but also to identify potential dangers. For example, scientists monitor asteroids and other objects that could pose a threat to Earth and develop ways to protect our planet.

DID YOU KNOW?

Space is completely silent because

there is no atmosphere to carry sound waves.

Venus is the hottest planet in our solar system.

Scientists continue to investigate whether life may have existed or could exist on Mars.

There are billions of stars in the observable universe.

Space suits are highly specialized and can cost millions of dollars to design and produce.

Light travels at approximately 300,000 kilometres per second in a vacuum.

The universe is vast and continues to expand.

The highest mountain in the solar system is Olympus Mons on Mars. It is about three times higher than Mount Everest.

Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system and is about 1,000 times the volume of Earth.

Durojaye Obajah

Press Club Member - JSS2B

THE POWER OF COMMUNICATION IN SCHOOLS AND BEYOND

What is a nation without communication? What is learning without understanding the teacher? Communication goes beyond just speaking, but it is built on the mode of speaking, language and understanding of concepts. According to the Oxford English Dictionary, "communication" is the activity or process of expressing ideas, feelings, and information, or of giving information to others through speech, writing, gestures, or other means. It also refers to the methods and systems used to transmit information, such as telephone, radio, and digital networks, and, in a formal sense, to a specific message, letter, or

notice. At its root, the word means "making common" or sharing, so communication is essentially about creating understanding and connection between people.

The importance of communication stretches far beyond the four corners of a traditional classroom; it doesn't only explain mathematical equations, answer English comprehension passages, or discuss science theories. It relays security information, publicizes strategies, and also stands as a fundamental solution to misunderstanding; it minimizes conflicts and serves as an important part of leadership.



Communication, when used well, fosters co-operation and unity among people. It also serves as a pillar in business development as it plays a pivotal role in advertisements. It fosters good governance as it can be used to create public awareness, campaigns, etc.

Finally, it supports security, as security officials can now educate the general public about safety, consequently building a safe and inhabitable society for all. Say YES! to effective communication and enjoy the benefits it brings.

Ekong Prosper Christopher
SSS1F



A founder whose first business flopped or an athlete who lost big before winning. Failure feels like the end, but it's actually data.

Failure strings.

It's the job opportunity that gets ghosted. The business that doesn't take off. The presentation that flops. The relationship that ends. In the moment, failure feels like proof that we're not good enough.

But here's the truth most successful people won't tell you until later; *failure isn't the opposite of success. It's the path to it.*

Resilience is what turns that path from a dead end into a door. And the good news? Resilience isn't something you're born with. It's a skill. One you can build.

What resilience really means

We often picture resilient people as Unbreakable. Stone-faced. Never bothered. Real resilience looks different. It's not about avoiding pain. It's about what you do after the pain.

Resilience has 3 parts:

1. **Mindset:** Seeing setbacks as information, not identity. "This didn't work" instead of "I'm a failure".
2. **Emotional Regulation:** Feeling disappointment, frustration, or shame without letting it run life.
3. **Action:** Taking the next step even if it's small, with what you learned.

You don't need to be fearless. You just need to be willing to move forward while you're still a little scared.

Why Failure is actually an Opportunity

Failure gets a bad reputation. But strip away the emotion, and it's one of the faster teachers we have.

1- Failure gives you clarity

When something works, you don't

question it. When it fails, you're forced to look closer. What assumption was wrong? What skill was missing? What market didn't care? That clarity is expensive to buy any other way.

2- Failure builds skill faster

Safe, easy wins don't stretch you. Failure does. The musician who bombs on stage learns stage presence. The founder whose product flops learns about customers. The writer whose draft gets rejected learns to edit. Each failure adds a layer to your craft.

3- Failure builds character people trust

Nobody relates to a perfect record. We relate to the comebacks. When you've been knocked down and gotten up, you carry a quiet credibility. People listen to you differently because they know you've been tested.

5 Steps to turn Failure into Opportunity

Knowing failure can be useful is one thing. Using it is another. Here's how to actually do it:

1- Reframe the question

The default question after failure is: "Why me?"

Try: "What is this teaching me?" or "What have I learnt?"

That one shift moves you from victim to student. You can't control what happened. You can control what you learn from it.

2- Extract the lesson in 24 hours

Don't let the failure sit and turn into a story about you. Grab a notebook and write 3 things:

- What went wrong?
- What was in my control?
- What will I do differently next time?

Getting it on paper stops the spiral and starts the strategy.

3- Shrink the goal

Big failures make the next step feel impossible. So, make it smaller. If your business failed, don't launch another one tomorrow. Talk to 5 customers. If you failed a test, don't aim for 100%. Aim to master one chapter. Momentum kills fear.

4- Borrow strength

Resilience isn't a solo sport. Talk to someone who's been there. Read about someone who failed 10 times before they won. Failure feels isolating until you realize almost everyone you admire has a graveyard of attempts behind them.

5- Take one action, immediately!

Action is the antidote to rumination. Send one email. Apply to one more job. Write one paragraph. Post one video. It doesn't have to be perfect. It just has to prove to your brain that you're still in the game.

Examples we forget about

Thomas Edison failed 1,000 times before the light bulb. When asked, he said he didn't fail 1,000 times. He found 1,000 ways that didn't work.

J. K. Rowling was rejected by 12 publishers before Harry Potter.

The students who fail Mathematics learn that they study better in groups and end up tutoring others. The creator whose first 20 videos flop learns what the audience actually wants and video 21 takes off. The pattern is the same.

Failure → Feedback → Adjustment → Progress

The closing thought

Resilience isn't about never falling. If you never fall, you're probably not trying anything hard enough.

Resilience is about what you do in the 24 hours after you fail. Do you decide it means something about you? Or do you decide it means something for you?

Every "NO" is data. Every mistake is a map. Every setback is setting you up for a comeback, if you choose to use it.

So, here's my question for you.

What's one "FAILURE" in your life right now that might actually be an opportunity in disguise?

Write it down! Find the lesson! Take one small step!

That's how resilience is built. Not by avoiding failure. By turning it into fuel.

CYBERSECURITY:

PROTECTING YOURSELF IN A TECHNOLOGY-CONNECTED WORLD

In today's hyperconnected world, technology has become an indispensable part of our daily lives. From smartphones and social media to online banking and smart homes, we constantly interact with digital systems. Protecting ourselves and our data in this technology-driven environment is no longer an option but a necessity. Understanding the risks and implementing effective cybersecurity practices are crucial for navigating the digital world safely.

The digital world is filled with various threats, each with the potential to cause significant harm. Malware, including viruses, ransomware, and spyware, can infect devices, steal sensitive information, or disrupt operations. Phishing attacks, often disguised as legitimate communications, aim to trick individuals into revealing personal information such as passwords and credit card numbers. Identity theft, which can result from compromised personal data, may lead to financial loss and reputational damage. Social engineering tactics also exploit human psychology to gain unauthorized access to systems

or information.

Fortunately, there are several proactive steps individuals can take to significantly improve their cybersecurity. One of the most fundamental practices is using strong and unique passwords for all online accounts. Passwords should contain a combination of uppercase and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols, while avoiding easily guessed information such as birthdays or common words. Using a password manager and enabling multi-factor authentication can provide additional protection for online accounts.

Keeping software up to date is another critical defense against cyber threats. Software updates often include patches for security vulnerabilities that hackers may exploit. This applies to operating systems, web browsers, antivirus software, and other applications. Individuals should also be cautious when clicking on links or opening attachments from unknown sources and should avoid sharing sensitive personal information unnecessarily. These measures can reduce opportunities for

attackers and minimize the risk of falling victim to social engineering or other cyberattacks.

In conclusion, the technological advancements that have enriched our lives also present significant security challenges. In this interconnected world, protecting ourselves from cyber threats is a continuous responsibility. By using strong passwords, enabling two-factor authentication, keeping software updated, and remaining vigilant about suspicious online activities, individuals can build a strong defense against cyber threats. Understanding the evolving nature of cybersecurity and consistently applying safe digital practices are essential for safeguarding personal data, financial information, and digital identity. Ultimately, awareness, diligence, and responsible online behaviour empower individuals to navigate the digital landscape with greater confidence and security.

Olatunji Inioluwa
SSS1G

PRESSCLUB

INTERVIEW

Government College Ibadan
with the Principal, Mr. Olugbemi Oresgun

THE ROCK: Good day sir, we are here to have an interview with you, sir.

MR ORESEGUN: All right. Thank you very much, members of the Press Club of Government College Ibadan. It's a pleasure having you here. So I'm ready for your questions.

THE ROCK: Sir, could you shed light on your enigmatic self?

MR ORESEGUN: Enigmatic - I like that word. My name is Olugbemi Oresgun, and I have been in the educational space for about 27 years. I've been, and I remain, a passionate educator. I enjoy being in the company of children, and one of my greatest inspirations is watching my students grow up, graduate, and realize their potential. I've been at Government College for about seven months now, and I've already seen great potential here. There have been improvements, and I'm confident the next academic session will bring even more accomplishments. Thank you.

THE ROCK: Sir, what are the roles of a teacher in promoting tutoring and academic excellence?

MR ORESEGUN: The teacher wears several hats: guidance counsellor, facilitator, mentor, and career guide. In and out of the classroom, the teacher plays a very critical role in shaping the lives of students. Beyond the subjects they teach, teachers also mentor students, engage in co-curricular activities, and try as much as possible to model what they want to see in the children — which means there are certain things a teacher simply cannot do, because of that modeling role. It's an all-encompassing responsibility.

THE ROCK: Thank you, sir. With the increasing cases of examination leakages nationwide, what impact do you think this has on students who earn scholarships based on merit?

MR ORESEGUN: You've raised a very important point. Our society today generally isn't so conducive to integrity, and that's why our watchword at Government College is

integrity. We want to raise a set of students who can go out there and defend their results, so that even a bare credit earned honestly by a GCI student can be defended anywhere. Students who gain admission by foul means will eventually be exposed once they get there, because they won't be able to cope - and that's bad not just for the institutions involved, but for the economy as a whole. Nowadays you see graduates who cannot even defend their own certificates. Imagine that in the medical profession or in law - someone below average attempting to treat you in a hospital. You already know how that ends, yet the person genuinely doesn't know what they're doing. So it's very important, as a school and as a society, to bring back those virtues-honesty, integrity, excellence-because that is what will ultimately lift our nation. Thank you.

THE ROCK: Please, sir, what roles do parents play in ensuring that students do their homework?

MR ORESEGUN: Parents are expected to support the school by properly supervising the homework and assignments given to their children - the education of a child isn't the business of the school alone. It's a joint project, and the first education a child receives is actually from the home, which is supposed to lay the foundation the school then builds on. If parents can't provide that supervision, it becomes very difficult for the school to follow up. Parents need to devote time and be intentional about engaging with their children so they can track what's happening academically. This is actually part of why the school sometimes encourages boarding - in the boarding house, that responsibility is eased somewhat for parents, since the child goes straight to prep and group study after school, and tends to do better academically as a result. Still, parents need to remain supportive and show genuine interest in their children's academic progress. That's what I think is expected of parents at this point.

THE ROCK: Thank you, sir. Since its establishment, Government College Ibadan has produced many outstanding personalities who have shaped Nigeria's history. Sir, do you think the present students have what it takes to uphold this legacy?

MR ORESEGUN: Thank you very much for that. Yes, I believe they do. As you rightly said, GCI has over the years produced an outstanding set of students, and even now - despite the fact that educational standards generally have fallen a bit - we still have outstanding students here with enormous achievements to their name. Even within the current set, we have a student who scored well above 300 in the UTME. That gives me hope that the future is not entirely bleak. We have students who are self-driven, intelligent, and motivated enough to go on and achieve great things. Even those who are only average academically will, by the time they leave Government College, carry with them the lessons and virtues instilled here. I dare say an average student from Government College is a world better than students outside it. Thank you.

THE ROCK: Sir, what is your vision for the future of Government College, and how do you plan to achieve it?

MR ORESEGUN: That's a needed question. My vision for Government College is to see it compete among the best schools in Nigeria, and eventually in the world. As for how we plan to achieve it: we've partnered with one of the best institutes in Nigeria, and we're working together to fine-tune our academic processes and curriculum, so we can deliver the kind of education our founding fathers intended - where students excel not only academically, but also in sports, vocational skills, and other areas of life. Achieving that comes down to every detail of daily activity, from assembly to classroom teaching to what happens on the field - all of it has to be intentionally planned and worked out. Those day-to-day

activities are what eventually make up a great school, and that's exactly what we're doing. If you work on the input, the output follows automatically, and I'm confident we'll reap great rewards.

THE ROCK: Sir, if you could make one major improvement to the education system in Nigeria, what would it be and why?

MR ORESEGUN: It would be academic integrity, because integrity defines everything. It's disheartening that our educational system has been compromised in one way or another - in the bid to get students to succeed at all costs, you find parents, and even some unscrupulous teachers, aiding their children to do well by any means, and that has cost us a lot as a country. We should learn to do things right. So if there's one thing I would change, it's instilling academic integrity in what we do, both as an institution and as a society, because that is what will end up making our country a better place.

THE ROCK: Sir, what initiatives have you introduced to improve students' academic performance and overall development?

MR ORESEGUN: Interesting - thank you for that question. Having been here these last several months, I've looked closely at our pedagogy, and I've concluded that for a lesson to be meaningful, students need to actually be part of it. I've led lessons myself and gone into classes to engage students and demonstrate what I'd love to see. If there's one initiative I'm proud of, it's reengineering classroom delivery. I've also worked on students' respect for their environment - you're now familiar with the "do not cross" signboards around the school, and I'm glad students are more conscious of themselves when they cross those lines; soon we'll clearly demarcate the walkways too. Another thing I'm proud of is improving punctuality - late-coming was a real concern when I arrived, and we've gradually improved to the point where even students who come in late now feel that urgency to move quickly and meet up. As for those who used to jump the fence, we now have far fewer of them, since the fence has been raised higher, making it harder for those little rascals. So we're getting there in terms of discipline and conduct, and I expect further improvement by next academic session. My ambition is to raise a generation of children who stand out in

society, such that people will say "I'm sure you're from GCI" just from their exemplary conduct. That is our ambition. Thank you.

THE ROCK: Sir, since the school is regarded as an agent of socialization, how much influence do you think it has on shaping a child's character and future?

MR ORESEGUN: As you said, the school is a very important agent of socialization, and it plays a strong role in shaping children's conduct. For some children, the respect they show school authority is honestly more than what they show their parents at home. In my former school, I remember that the only time my students used the words "sir" and "ma" was in school, not with their own parents - that shows how much regard they have for the school, and it would be a disservice if the school let them down by not modelling the right attitude in return. So the school has a big role to play, not just in the academic lives of students, but in their moral lives, their sporting life, and their social skills and interactions. That's why we don't base our curriculum delivery on classrooms alone - even activities after exams are part of learning, teaching students to interact, handle disagreements, and resolve conflicts. It's all part of learning, and the school plays a big role in making that happen.

THE ROCK: Okay, sir. Beyond football, cricket, and hockey, what extracurricular activities does Government College Ibadan offer to help students develop leadership skills, creativity, and other talents? And how have these programs impacted the community and the school?

MR ORESEGUN: Beyond those games, we have volleyball, which is growing in the school, and the racket games - table tennis, lawn tennis, and badminton. We're also looking at engagement with the surrounding community, going out to render community service, because we see ourselves as agents of change as a school, and our students should be able to impact their immediate environment. That's an area we'll keep working on - how do we reduce some of the difficulties faced by the communities around us, and ensure our presence is felt in Apata and its environs? For the programs already running, we intend to get even better at them, so that we build well-rounded students, both technically and outside

the classroom. Thank you.

THE ROCK: Sir, many young people look up to you as a source of inspiration. What advice would you give them as they strive to build successful, meaningful lives?

MR ORESEGUN: They should work hard. They should be determined and show integrity. If they do things right, the right things will come true. That's my advice.

THE ROCK: Sir, what is your relationship with the teaching staff and the non-teaching staff - is it good, platonic, or bad?

MR ORESEGUN: I would describe it as professional, because in any school there needs to be synergy between the teachers and management. Management is there to direct affairs, give direction, and provide support, while the bulk of the actual work is done by the teachers and non-teaching staff - I call them the engine room of any organization. If they do their work well, with the right kind of support, the school becomes a better place. So I engage with every staff member on a professional footing, and that's the relationship. On that note, I'd also like to commend the press club team - this is my very first interview with the press club, and I'm impressed by the depth of the questions and the intelligence behind them. I'd love to see more of your activities in the coming academic session - news headlines, write-ups, news flashes - whatever support you need as a press club to make that happen, let us know. We currently have a publication once a session, but it would be good to move toward more regular publications so the school stays informed of what's going on. Let's start from there and build on it. Thank you very much for interviewing me - I look forward to seeing more.

THE ROCK: Okay, thank you sir, for having us.

MR ORESEGUN: All right, thank you very much.

Mind-Bending Riddles

The more you take, the more you leave behind. **What am I?**

Answer: Footsteps.

I am always in front of you but can never be seen. **What am I?**

Answer: The future.

What can you break without touching it?

Answer: A promise.

The person who makes me doesn't need me. The person who buys me doesn't use me. The person who uses me doesn't know it. **What am I?**

Answer: A coffin.

I have cities but no houses, rivers but no water, and forests but no trees. **What am I?**

Answer: A map.

What comes once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a thousand years?

Answer: The letter M.

The more you remove from me, the larger I become. **What am I?**

Answer: A hole.

I can be cracked, made, told, and played. **What am I?**

Answer: A joke.

What has an endless supply of letters but starts empty?

Answer: A mailbox.

What has one head, one foot, and four legs?

Answer: A bed.

I have branches, but no leaves, no trunk, and no fruit. **What am I?**

Answer: A bank.

The more there is of me, the less you see. **What am I?**

Answer: Darkness.

I have no life, but I can die. **What am I?**

Answer: A battery.

Feed me, and I grow. Give me water and I disappear. **What am I?**

Answer: Fire.

What can run but never walks, has a mouth but never talks, has a bed but never sleeps?

Answer: A river.

ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION TRANSFORMING TECHNOLOGY EVERYDAY LIFE

In 1948, Williams grey hotter developed the first electronics autonomous robot, which where simple tortoise shield machines that could respond to life and touch. Robotics is the interdisciplinary study and practice of the design, construction, operation, and use of robot. A roboticist is someone who specialize in robotics. Automation is the use of technology to perform tasks done by humans, while robots refer to machines that can automatically perform a complex series of actions. Robotics and automation have now transformed technology in everyday life; robotics is now used in homes, hospitals, schools, and business. Robotics version cleaners keep homes clean with minimal human effort. In health care, surgical robots help doctors to perform complex procedures with greater precision, while robotic assistants support elderly and disabled people. In education,

educational robots help students learn programming, engineering, and problem-solving skills through interactive experiences. Automation in industry and business. Automation has increased industry productivity; factories use automated machine and robotic arms to assemble products quickly and accurately. Some business also use automated software to manage costumer services, payment method, organize data, and daily operations. And this save time and improves the quality of goods produced.

Benefits of Robotics and Automation to Society

1. **INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY:-** Productivity is faster and wore efficient than manual labor
2. **GREATER AGRICUTURAL EFFICIENCY:-** Robotic and automated farming equipment can increase crop production.

3. **ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENOVATION:-** Robotic and automation can make technological advancement by creating new industry, and generate opportunity for skill job.

4. **BETTER HEALTH CARE :-** Robotics and automation can serve as assistant or teacher to doctor in the hospital especially during surgery.

5. **IMPROVED EDUCATION:-** Robotics and automation can improve the way people and student acquire knowledge by making it easier and interactive for them while there are automated learning tools

6. **COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS:-** Assistive robot helps people with mobility, communication, and daily living activity

Adigun Abdulrahman
SS1A

Every student walks a tightrope, books on one side, talents on the other, and personal growth holding the balance in between. To succeed in life, one must learn to walk this rope without falling.

Academics remain the backbone of every student's journey. It is the ladder that leads to certificates, admissions, and future careers. Without a strong academic foundation, doors remain shut, and dreams stay half-built. This is why students are encouraged to read wide, ask questions, and take their studies seriously, for education today determines opportunity tomorrow.

However, academics alone does not complete a person. Talents, whether in sports, music,

art, writing, or public service, are gifts that deserve just as much attention. A student who studies hard but ignores his talent is like a farmer who plants seeds but never waters them. Talents build confidence, open unexpected doors, and often become sources of joy that pure academics cannot provide.

Beyond books and talents lies personal growth: the quiet, steady work of becoming a better version of oneself. This includes developing discipline, managing time wisely, staying humble in success, and remaining strong during failure. Personal growth is what shapes character, and character, more than certificates, determines how far a person truly goes in life.

The real challenge, therefore, is not choosing between these three, but blending them into one steady rhythm: study with purpose, practice with passion, and grow with patience. A student who reads without skill will burn out; one who plays without discipline will drift; and one who grows without direction will struggle to find meaning.

In the end, balance is not about doing everything at once, but about giving each part of life its rightful place and time. Academics build the mind, talent builds confidence, and personal growth builds character; together, they build a complete person.

Jooda Moyinoluwa
SSS2B

... Practical Uses of AI

Not long ago, artificial Intelligence felt like something out of a movie. Today, It is part of our everyday lives, working behind the scenes and most of us rarely notice. AI is helping things run a little smoother and faster.

In the workplace, AI takes care of the difficult tasks nobody really enjoy doing. Instead of a person spending hours reading resumes or application there are some AI tools that can do that and highlight the strongest candidates. AI makes works easier, save time and improves efficiency in many fields.

In schools, students use AI to study, do research, and understand difficult topics. AI

can also help in writing assignment that makes a student have deep knowledge about a topic or a subject even after being taught in school. Also, Teachers can also use AI to prepare lessons and mark tests more quickly.

In healthcare, AI helps doctors detect diseases early by analyzing medical scans. It also helps researchers develop new medicines and supports doctors in choosing the best treatment for patients to save lives.

In agriculture, AI helps farmer to increase production and reduce wastage. Some AI tools helps farmers to know the perfect time for planting and harvesting. AI tools also

analyses thing that a farmer should to get more production and harvest that is, the use of fertilizers and pesticides.

In conclusion, Artificial Intelligence has become one of the most important technologies of the modern world and it has improved education, healthcare, business and agriculture in many positive ways. Although AI has many advantages, it should be used wisely and responsibly.

When AI and human effort work together, they can create a better and more productive future for everyone.

Adesuyan Ayodel

MOTHER TONGUE INTERFERENCE IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

MEANING OF MOTHER TONGUE.

A mother tongue is the first language a person learns and commonly uses at home or in their immediate community. It is usually acquired naturally from the parents, relatives and other members of the community during childhood.

Meaning of mother tongue interference.

Mother tongue interference occurs when the rules, sounds, vocabulary, sentence patterns or cultural expressions of a person's first language affect the use of English. Mother tongue interference refers to the influence of the person's first language on the learning and use of a second language. In Nigeria, English is widely used in Education, government, business, the media and formal communication, while many learners grow up speaking one or more indigenous languages such as Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa, Efik, Tiv or others. As a result, the structure, pronunciation, vocabulary and expressions of learners' mother tongue may influence the way they speak English or write English.

Mother tongue interference is a common feature of second-language learning. It occurs because people naturally use the rules and patterns they already know from their first language when learning another language.

Areas of mother tongue interference.

1) Pronunciation.

One of the most noticeable effects of mother tongue interference is pronunciation. Different languages have different sound systems. When a sound exists in English but not in a learner's

mother tongue, the learner may replace it with a sound that is more familiar.

The problem may also occur with vowel sounds. English contains several vowel distinction that may not exist in a learner's first language, making some English words difficult to pronounce accurately.

2) Grammar

Mother tongue interference can affect the way learners construct English sentences. This happens when they transfer grammatical patterns from their first language into English. A learner may produce a sentence that follows the structure of the mother tongue rather than standard English. For example:

Incorrect: He is having a car

Standard English: He has a car.

Other errors may involve the use of articles, verb tenses, plural forms and subject-verb agreements

3) Word order

Languages do not always arrange in the same order. A learner may therefore transfer the word order of their mother tongue into English.

Correct English requires learners to understand the normal arrangement of subjects, verbs, objects, modifiers and other elements of the sentence.

4) Vocabulary

Mother tongue interference May also occur when learners translate words directly from their first language into English.

Some expressions have no direct English equivalent, while others may have meanings that depend strongly on cultural context. Direct translation can therefore produce expressions that

are understandable within local language but unnatural in standard English.

5) Idiomatic Expressions

Idioms are expressions whose meanings cannot always be understood by interpreting each word separately. Learners may translate expressions from the mother tongue directly to English. This can produce sentences that are grammatically understandable but unnatural to a native or proficient English speaker. Learning standard English idioms and understanding their appropriate context can help reduce this type of interference

6) Intonation and Stress.

Mother tongue interference can affect the rhythm, stress and Intonation of spoken English. Different languages use stress and pitch differently. A learner may therefore place emphasis on wrong syllable or use a rising or falling tone differently from what is expected in English. This can sometimes affect both pronunciation and meaning.

7) Spelling and Writing.

Mother tongue interference can influence written English as well. Learners may spell words according to how they pronounce them in their first language or according to the sound patterns they are familiar with. It may also affect sentence construction, punctuation, choice of words and the organization of ideas. Regular reading and writing practice can help learners become more familiar with standard English spelling and grammatical structures.

AGRICULTURE 2.0: TECHNOLOGY FEEDING THE FUTURE

In many West African countries, agriculture remains the foundation of the economy and the primary occupation of most Africans. However, despite its importance, farmers receive inadequate support from the government. Although some farmers benefit from foreign assistance, a large number still find it difficult to earn a sustainable living from their farms due to the lack of proper government intervention.

The influence of technology in agriculture is also expanding rapidly. Today, technology is no longer restricted to offices and urban areas; it has penetrated schools and farms alike. Most schools are now equipped with computers for practical training, and students no longer rely

solely on textbooks. Learning is now facilitated through laptops, mobile phones, and the internet, as the entire world transitions to digital and smart systems.

Regrettably, both the education and agricultural sectors are still deficient in adequate equipment and support. If we are to secure the future of food production, both agriculture and technology must be given adequate priority. The government and private organizations should invest more in modern agricultural tools and in equipping schools with technological facilities.

Only then can we realize Agriculture 2.0 — a system where technology is utilized to enhance farming, boost food production, and guarantee food security for the future.

By Akinola Ezekiel O.

UNWEYDOR

Imagine person ask me if dem dey sell "borrowed money" on credit. See me see wahala.

Person tell me say him phone battery die. I ask am, "Charge am." Him say, "I don pray for am." See me see wahala.

Imagine person ask where dem dey buy "expired fresh fish." See me see wahala.

My guy say him wan save fuel, so him off engine while climbing hill. See me see wahala.

Person ask me, "Abeg, where I fit buy rechargeable garri?" See me see wahala.

Imagine person enter barber shop ask for "wireless haircut." See me see wahala.

Person say e no fit come work because NEPA no bring daylight. See me see wahala.

Imagine person ask me where dem dey sell "fairly used pure water." See me see wahala.

AMAZING FACTS
DID YOU
KNOW?

- The human brain is made up of about 60% fat, making it one of the fattiest organs in the body.
- Honey is the only natural food that does not spoil when stored properly.
- An octopus has three hearts and blue blood.
- The Eiffel Tower can become about 15 cm taller during hot weather because metal expands in heat.
- A snail can sleep for up to three years under unfavourable conditions.
- Your heart beats about 100,000 times every day.
- Sharks have existed on Earth for hundreds of millions of years, even before many dinosaurs.
- Bananas are naturally slightly radioactive because they contain potassium.
- The fingerprints of every human being are unique.
- Light from the Sun takes about 8 minutes and 20 seconds to reach the Earth.
- The world's largest desert is Antarctica, not the Sahara.
- Cows have best friends and can become stressed when separated from them.
- There are more stars in the universe than grains of sand on all the beaches on Earth.
- Butterflies taste with their feet.
- Water covers about 71% of the Earth's surface.
- The human body has 206 bones in adulthood.
- Dolphins sleep with one eye open and one half of their brain awake.
- A day on Venus is longer than a year on Venus.
- Bamboo is one of the fastest-growing plants in the world.
- Every snowflake has a unique pattern.

INNOVATION BEGINS WITH CURIOSITY: HOW GREAT IDEAS ARE BORN



Every great invention, groundbreaking discovery, and life-changing innovation begins with a simple question: "What if?" Curiosity is the spark that ignites creativity and drives people to explore the unknown. Without curiosity, the world would remain unchanged, and progress would come to a standstill. Innovation is not reserved for scientists, inventors, or entrepreneurs alone; it is a mindset that begins with the courage to ask questions and the determination to seek better solutions.

Curiosity: The Foundation of Innovation

Curiosity is the desire to learn, understand, and discover. It encourages people to challenge existing ideas and look beyond the obvious. From a child wondering why the sky is blue to a researcher searching for a cure to a disease, curiosity inspires exploration. Every innovation starts with someone noticing a problem or imagining a possibility that others have overlooked.

History offers countless examples. Sir Isaac Newton's curiosity about a falling apple led him to formulate the law of gravity. The Wright brothers questioned whether humans could fly, and their determination resulted in the invention of the aeroplane. These achievements remind us that extraordinary ideas often begin with ordinary questions.

How Great Ideas Are Born

Great ideas rarely appear overnight. They develop through observation, imagination, experimentation, and persistence.

First, innovators observe the world around them. They pay attention to everyday challenges

and identify opportunities for improvement. Second, they ask meaningful questions that challenge assumptions. Third, they experiment with different solutions, learning from both success and failure. Finally, they remain persistent, understanding that setbacks are stepping stones to success.

Innovation is therefore not simply about intelligence; it is about having the courage to remain curious even when the answers are unclear.

The Role of Creativity and Learning

Curiosity and creativity work hand in hand. A curious mind gathers knowledge, while creativity transforms that knowledge into useful ideas. Reading books, exploring different cultures, learning new skills, and engaging in meaningful discussions all broaden our perspectives and inspire fresh thinking.

In today's rapidly changing world, continuous learning is essential. Technology evolves, industries transform, and new challenges emerge every day. Those who remain curious and adaptable are more likely to discover innovative solutions that improve lives and shape the future.

Overcoming the fear of failure

One of the greatest barriers to innovation is the fear of failure. Many people hesitate to explore new ideas because they are afraid of making mistakes. However, history proves that failure is often part of the journey toward success. Thomas Edison conducted thousands of experiments before successfully inventing the practical electric light bulb. He viewed each

unsuccessful attempt not as defeat but as a lesson.

Curiosity encourages resilience. Instead of asking, "Why did I fail?" curious people ask, "What can I learn from this?" This mindset transforms obstacles into opportunities for growth.

Encouraging Curiosity In Everyday Life

Innovation does not require a laboratory or a large company. It begins in classrooms, homes, workplaces, and communities. Students can cultivate curiosity by asking thoughtful questions, reading widely, conducting experiments, and seeking creative solutions to everyday problems. Teachers and parents can encourage innovation by creating environments where questions are welcomed and ideas are respected.

Even small improvements—finding a better way to study, solve a community problem, or organize daily tasks—are examples of innovation driven by curiosity.

Innovation begins with curiosity because every great idea starts with a question, a dream, or a desire to make things better. Curiosity inspires exploration, creativity fuels invention, and perseverance turns ideas into reality. As individuals and as a society, we should never stop asking questions or seeking knowledge. The next groundbreaking innovation may not begin in a famous laboratory—it may begin in the curious mind of a student who dares to ask, "What if?"

Remember: *The future belongs to those who remain curious today, because every great idea is born from the courage to explore the unknown.*



PHANUEL
INVESTMENTS LTD.
RC: 1094255



MINING



AGRICULTURE



TRADING

Address- 46, Industrial Avenue (Shoreline House), Ilupeju, Lagos

Email- info@phanuel.com.ng

Tel- 09035596977



Leadsolar System Technology Ltd.

Say No To Unreliable Power Supply!!!



OUR SERVICES:

- ▶ INVERTER INSTALLATION & REPAIRS
- ▶ SOLAR PANELS INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
- ▶ CCTV CAMERA INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE
- ▶ SOLAR WATER PUMP FOR HOMES & FARMS
- ▶ SOLAR STREET LIGHTS INSTALLATION
- ▶ PROFESSIONAL TRAINING



08037204541, 08183504568

www.leadsolar.com.ng

@leadsolarsystemtech.ltd.7

info@leadsolar.com.ng

leadsolar system technology limited





Operated by:

**Bi-Courtney Aviation
Services Limited**

SETTING THE STANDARD

IN TERMINAL MANAGEMENT



- LOUNGES
- ART GALLERY
- TRAINING CENTER
- DIGITAL COLD STORAGE
- CARGO
- PARKING

