

Rural School (Non-government, Boarding)

Q I would like to find out what learners like some of you here, who are very active in sports such as netball, basketball, soccer for ladies, cricket have to say. Is it true that such learners do not perform well in their respective subjects in their form? Some parents even discourage their daughters or sons from participating in any sport fearing that they might fail in their schoolwork. Do you agree with that?

A. I think that it is wrong because there are some people who are both good in academic and extra curricula activities so I believe that it's a wrong fact to be given.

Comment: Thank you

A. I think it depends on the person because there are some people who if they take part in sports then they spend 3/4 of the day concentrating on sport and as a result their books suffer but then there are other people who can balance it well that they are very good in sport at the same time are very good in school as well so it just depends on the individual person.

A. I think it also depends on the school that you are at. There are some schools that make you concentrate strictly on sport and therefore you will lose academically.

Q Some even go to the extent of saying the more beautiful you are the less well you are going to perform academically.

A. I totally disagree because maybe you have the face and all but then it does not mean that you are not good in school. You could be beautiful and all but then you are very good in school so I totally disagree.

A. I totally disagree with that fact because the more confident you are of yourself the better you are in whatever you try to do in your life so I think okay if I thought I was pretty and everybody else told me that I am pretty then I would think I am beautiful and I will be more confident of myself then I would be better in everything I do.

A. It depends on the individual. There are some who will if they know that they are pretty and everybody tells them that they are pretty they will put all the effort into being pretty and then there are other individuals who do not really care even though they are pretty they do not really care about that and they concentrate on their school work so I think its all to do with individuality.

A. I think that when people tell you that you are beautiful all the time you tend to spend time staring at yourself in the mirror like I have got a friend who spends half her study looking at herself while we are studying so then I think that beauty can make your study suffer.

A. I totally disagree because look at me I am pretty and I am intelligent so I disagree.

Laughter! Clap, clap

Comment: Thank you

Q How do you feel about your academic performance generally as an individual yes?

A. I am please with my academic performance because I feel like I do the best every result I get its my best so I am proud of my academic result.

A. There is always room for improvement.

A. I think our environment sort of stimulates my results to higher or lower so usually it is the environment.

Q Right, at the school, are you automatically on the road to success?

A. I do not think I am automatically on the road to success because I might not work hard because of that and I think that my parents contribute a lot to my being intelligent because if they compare me with my elder sister or something like that and if she is more intelligent than me then obviously I am going to be shun down and put down and I will not try my best because I know that she is always going to be better than me.

Comment: Thank you

A. Okay I think being at St Dominic's as a road to success because here at St Dominic's the environment generally here is an environment for studying so in a way you will always be studying because people around you are studying so in a way it is a road to success. That's what I think.

Comment: Thanks.

Q. Your relationship as a school with your educators, with your peers that is people of your age, your head and so on have anything to do with your performance?

A. I think that they all have a part to play in my performance because there are some subjects which I do not participate and I do not perform well because of the

educators and sometimes because of the responses other learners give to the contributions I make in the subject.

Comment: Good

- A. One thing I have realised about myself is that when I am angry I tend to go down in my school work and so my relationship with other people around me contributes a lot to the fact that whether or not I am going to perform well.

Comment: Well thank you.

- A. I think that my relationship with the educators and other peers contribute a lot my academic work because if the educators are supportive and if they like me definitely they will be supportive so I think my academic performance will be high whereas if the educators do not like me most probably they will not be supportive of my work so I do not think my academic performance will be that high.

Comment: Thank you.

Q When you do get tests from your educators one time you perform very well other times dismally how do you feel when this happens suppose you pass very well or you fail dismally. How do you feel about this experience?

- A. I feel justified because I try very hard to study every time and when I fail I sometimes feel disappointed but I know that its probably thought that I did not study so well so I take it as a push that next time I will study better and do better.

- A. Sometimes I feel like when I have passed then I fail again I look at why I have failed if I fail because the test was too hard and almost everyone else has failed then fine I think okay I am with the rest of the crew and its not so bad but if I am by myself and I really scored so high and low again I really check myself and probably be depressed for a day or two.

- A. If I pass and then fail again I think I feel strongly because I feel that its life there are ups and downs in life and I feel that yes I can do it sometimes and sometimes I cannot and I just feel that its part of life.

Comment: Good its life.

Q. What would you young people here influence you in setting goals for your life? What kind of things helps you set your goals for life?

Comment: Quiet please

- A. Personally listening to other people's points of view in terms of education helps me set my goals and knowing that there are so many people out there who share the same views as I do also helps me.
- A. My brother helps me set my goals in life because look at my parents they encouraged my brother to do everything he does and he is intelligent so I also want to be encouraged by my parents and I also want my parents to like me the way they like my brother so I set my goals high and so that I may be able to achieve them and so that my parents will learn to like me the way they like my brother.

Laughter

- A. I think my parents affect my so-called career to be and also money. I think money is a really big factor because I can not see myself sitting inside a career wanting to be a missionary worker when I know I won't be able to do what I want and I won't get money that I want.
- A. I look at all the successful people and usually you hear oh do you know that that one he is a billionaire now the thing is just I want to be like that soon so you always try to set the highest goals ever so that you get there and also I think I like stuff that makes me enjoy myself. I do not want a job where I will be just I have to work because there is money. I want something where I can work and because there is money and I enjoy it.
- Q. Generally we do not perform well in all the subjects that we do here. If you are doing 9 subjects it is not always that you get 80s in everyone or you get 40s in everyone. There are others that you do so well and others which you do so badly how do you feel about this suppose you do not perform so well in?**
- A. Well I am not really bothered by some subjects that I fail because I know that nearly every time I know that I get something very low and even though I try hard enough I find that..... so I am not really bothered by some of the subjects.
- A. I know that at like all the times there are subjects which you fail and subjects which you do not fail but then I still believe that subjects which I fail are a valuable waste of my valuable time.
- A. I believe I can do the best if I work hard enough but most of the time if I am not so good in the subject it is most probably that because I do have a good relationship with the educator.

Q Now finally what are your views about the comments made by some people that girls are not as good as boys either generally or in some subjects particularly Science or Maths or any other?

A. I disagree with the fact that boys do perform well than girls. I believe that we are actually more intelligent than them to some extent I believe girls have a better intellect than boys.

Comment: Thank you.

A. I do not disagree because it is a proven fact. A lot of people we find that in girls they do not do well most of the times because they will be affected by a lot of things but I think that what people say is what also contributes to girls not doing well so I think sexual discrimination leads to girls doing badly.

Q. What other things you were mentioning will affect your performance?

A. Having boyfriends, being told that you are beautiful and stuff like that.

A. I believe girls are fast learning and boys will catch up later on in life and I think we are equally fine.

A. I think that in certain subjects men are better than girls because like for the Physicians and Mathematicians that we know of I have never heard of any women.

Q. In certain subjects because we have not seen any role models in the ladies?

A. I disagree because I think the women were not given the chance because long back it used to be men always they used to put men in front of women and so women do not get the chance to prove to them what they can do so I disagree with the fact that boys are more intelligent.

A. I also disagree that boys are more intelligent than girls are and also that girls are more intelligent than boys. I think that we are supposed to be put at the same levels because in science we do science and I have never heard of boys having given more brains or something like that. I believe that we are somewhere at the same level and I believe that if you work hard then obviously you will do better and if you do not work hard you will do lazy.

A. I feel that it is just that girls have this inferiority complex that has been put on us by the society. We have always been told that we are not better than boys. We cannot do this and that so when that feeling sets in us we do not do as well as we are supposed to. Our potential is lowered due to that so I think it is only because of society that has made us think that we are worthless when in actual fact we are very great people.

A. I do not think it's a matter of sex but I think it's a matter of genes and the environment.

Q. Are you saying the men have been given better genes than women?

A. No girls can have better genes than the boys in the family and the boys can have better intellectual than the girls it all depends.

Q. Do you know why I am saying this? If you go to the Faculty of Medicine where I work the proportion of ladies doing medicine is far smaller than the men and yet we are trying to cushion many women as possible but we fail to get the numbers because if you look at their science performance you find there are fewer girls that this year we went down to 13 points for the men we took up to 14 and 13 pointers did not get anything.

A. I think its because like she said society. I think by lowering the points you are actually making us believe that we cannot do it.

Q. So we keep them at 15 and 14?

A. Yes

Laughter

A. I think we women we are the same as men but us as women like lets take for example here at St Dominic's I am in form 4 and there is a boy at St Ignatius who is in form 4 if we both get 9 As and I go to St Ignatius in most cases I am going to get 13 points and he is going to get 15 points and when I want to go to University just because I am a woman they let me in with 13 points. That goes to show that as we grow older our brains as women they decrease so we are generally lower than men

A. I think we are all the same but when it comes to fields I think that most ladies are not interested in the physical science but they most interested in lets say fashion, accounts. These are the fields they like and the food industry but most men would like in the physical side of the path so we are distributed according to our like they are more intelligent than girls because women tend to be more emotional. They let the stuff around them determine what they want to be so they definitely are less intelligent than boys.

A. I think that boys and girls are the same but then if you look at it girls should actually be far much better than boys because even looking at our mothers, they can bring in stuff from the 1980s that you did yet showing that they have got a good memory so if they use that memory for educational stuff they should be able to pass better than boys because boys can forget. Yesterday he would have sent

you a rose today se has forgotten he did such. He tells you I do not remember that but then your mother will bring in stuff from the long time ago so I think girls should actually be better.

Comment: Thank you.

Q. Finally, some of our parents discourage you from having boyfriends whilst in school because they believe very soon that it negatively affects your performance in schoolwork. What do you say?

Laughter

A. I believe that it does negatively affect your schoolwork as in after you start thinking of him most of the time. I am not speaking from experience but I have seen people doing that and they have gone lower in the academic work but if you are someone who does not take the boyfriend seriously you can make it in life.

A. I think it's about the individual because there are some people and your maturity level. If you have a boyfriend and you are immature you will always be thinking about this boy and whatever but if you are mature and you know that there is a time for having fun and there is a time for books so I think it is all a matter of the individual.

Comment: Thank you.

A. I also believe that it depends with the person if you are able to balance your school work together with your boyfriend I believe you will succeed and I know that it also depends with your maturity level. If you are mature and you know you can be able to handle both things you can succeed.

Comment: Thank you.

A. I think it depends with the type of boy you get some boys are encouraging and sometimes when you get a boy you feel like your parents tell you that if you get a boyfriend you do not do well in school so you want to prove to your parents that if I get a boyfriend I can do well in school.

That was St Dominic's School.

Non-government rural boarding school

We are now at St Ignatius College, the following interviews at St Ignatius School

Q. I have heard either some learners like yourselves or your brothers or even your parents saying those learners who participate in sport more often either athletics, soccer, netball, volley ball, karate and so on normally do not perform as well as those who do not participate in those in their school work. What are your views on that? Do not worry about what other people think. Do you think that those young men and women who participate in sports, come first term there is Athletics they are there, come second term there is soccer they are there, there is basketball they are there, there is karate they go, cricket they are there, do not perform as well as those who do not participate in the sport. What do you say?

A. I think that is incorrect that is all I must say because as I see in our school our number one student is a very good soccer player and various students in the top ten play rugby some do swimming therefore I think that's totally incorrect.

Q.Because some of your top students here are stars in soccer, cricket, rugby. Do you have any different opinions? Anybody who say that those girls and young men who are beautiful, handsome do not perform as well as those who are not?

Laughter

A. I do not believe that's true because handsome people and beautiful people can also do well in school for example myself I am quiet handsome but it does not mean that you have to have problems with your work because it does not affect your school work at all.

Laughter

A. I think it does affect on your schoolwork because there are certain people I know they have become so full of themselves that they spend less time studying and more on the mirror.

Q.Concentrate on their looks always on the mirror and less time on the books that's if you have got physical disability that may affect your performance in the school. Does this make any correspondence or relationship?

A. I think it has no correspondence at all because if you have physical disability that means you can spend more time on your work and you will not be disturbed at all especially lets say you are going for a outing you can stay behind and practice on something which you are not perfect in class so I do not think it has any link

Q. How do you as you are here generally feel about your academic performance in this school, St Ignatius College?

A. I think it is up to standard comparing with the rest of the country. I think we are one of the best schools in the country.

Comment: He thinks you are one of the best schools in Zimbabwe. That is what he thinks.

Q. Now at times even in this school that you say is the best once in while either you or some of your colleagues pass very well in some of the tests you are given by your teachers or your educators or you perform very badly, how do you feel when this happens whether you are one of the best schools in the country how do you feel?

A. Embarrassed.

A. I think there are probably those vanonyatsopasa pano they feel as if when they go out in the external examinations they will do very well and then those who fail they will probably think that I will do better in the external examinations.

Comment: Is it? So they do not think that by failing tests here they are hopeless? Wait for the final one they will perform wonders when the time comes.

Q. Any other different views?

Q. Form fours now I think some of the exams are around the corner or in 2 or 3 weeks time you will be writing the exams. Do you feel anxious about coming of the exams or you re just a composed as ever? You get exams last term you are going to get some end of year exams in abut a month's time when exams time table is out do you ever feel anxious that oh exams are coming you become restless, uneasy and so on.

A. I do not feel anxious because examinations are the same even mid term they bring the same stuff which is revision

A. I feel exited.

Comment: You are not afraid you look forward to examinations? Let them come. Good

A. Usually examination time approaches you feel a bit scared and uneasy and so I really do feel most people feel anxious when the time of examinations approaches.

Comment: Most people feel anxious a bit scared you may not talk about it, I am scared about exams but internally I think the heart will be pounding is it? Okay anything else?

A. I think you really feel anxious because like for the form 4s this is the kind like the future they are making up so you feel so restless and uneasy and for us like juniors you know that its end of term exams and the marks that are going to come out that really going to affect your holiday so if you want to have fun you feel so restless that you wont bare the pain.

Comment: Good

Q.my holiday can be very bad if I have done very badly. Do you get affected during the holiday thinking about your performance?

A. I think that if you are really prepared for the exams there is nothing you need to be afraid of because you know you take it as a normal exam you know that if I am prepared I will do well.

Q. Does that anxiety influence your performance in the examination? Suppose you are very anxious, uneasy over what's coming, does this influence or affect your performance in the examinations?

A. I think sometimes it might because like as you are getting into the exam you feel so you panic instead you write the wrong answer and yet you know the answer so I think it affects your performance.

A. I feel more anxious when I feel that I am wasting time during my examination period.

Comment: wasting time, why wasting time?

A. Wasting time not reading

Q. And do you correct that habit?

A. I will try if I could I would not want to be rude

Q. How do you rate yourself either in your class or in this school, how do you rate performance?

A. I think I am moderate, middle

Comment: He thinks he is average. That is his rating but maybe your classmates will be rating you far above average. Anybody?

A. My performance is also average

Comment: He says he is average.

A. I think my performance is below average it needs some improvement.

Q. Do you think this school is good enough for promoting your achievement academically? Is this school good enough to promote your academic achievement?

A. I think it is for education

Comment: He thinks this is the furtive ground for high performance. That is the general feeling?

All: Yes

Q. Now some of you in their work either daily work in this school that you say is conducive to very good academic performance some perform badly other very well do you feel your performance either good or bad does have you different feelings compared to what you would feel when you are in a school known to be either average as a performer or below average?

A. It is better to go to another school when there is not much challenge.

Laughter

Comment: When you feel there is much heat from your colleagues the best thing is to go where there is cooler water?

A. Yes

Comment: This is how he feels. Anybody?

A. I think you should ask yourself the question why? As in why cant I do better than that other person? I am at the same school, I have got the potential to do so if the heat comes on why don't I give extra heat to that heat?

Clap clap!

Q. Why am I not performing to scratch? It is because of the time that I am putting into to it? Is it because of the effort? What is it? If there is heat can I also add heat and then things will balance. That is his view anything different?

A. Sometimes it just not a matter of putting up more heat because some people do just better than you. Taking the form fours nokuti chero mukatsva sei Chabaya anongozokukundai chete saka kuzvinetsa.

Laughter

Q. Eh he says its not just a matter of putting effort or so on if one is extremely good one is just good there is nothing you can do. But would you be very worried I just want to find out sometimes you are given class positions does it worry you if you are middle of the class or bottom of the class but your marks are above 75 or above 70. Does that worry you at all?

A. No because you know that your average is good.

A. I think you it should because maybe you got that average above 70 because the tests were easy so if your average is above 70 and you are bottom of the class that means the examinations were just easy so you have to try and be somewhere if you get may to be number one then that means that even if the examinations were easy you got one of the highest marks.

Q. I understand that you are naturally worried about class position you get at the end of every your or term. Does that worry you the position?

A. It does not actually worry me because if I know that I have got a higher average or higher marks I know that at the end of the public examinations I can do well.

Comment: He says why worry if the average is above the class why worry come end of the year I still get my 98 or 88.

A. Well I worry because when relatives ask what number you are out of the class they do not ask those according to averages they just ask of the number you are out of the class and may be you were the last in the class it seems like you are not good at your education.

Q. It is such a very interesting point but yes I may have a very good average but the relatives may not understand this question of averages

A. Looking at his point they might ask if they ask you what number you came you chosen the number and both the average you got just because usually at this kind of school you may come number 70 but if you look at the students they are good in their education.

A. It all depends on what you did previously because if you say lets say you became number 60 last term and you had an average of 63 and this term you become number 54 you still have got an average of 63.6. There is no improvement so you

really need to look at your previous average then you look at the current one then you rate yourself.

Comment: That is why you should judge your previous performance. If your previous performance was lower and today you are higher you must be happier.

Q. Okay now we move on to the next one. Does your relationship with the Head, the educators, or the teachers affect your performance or even your colleagues here, does that affect your performance?

A. Yes it affects your performance because sometimes there are some teachers you dislike so sometimes they may brutalise you and it may end up in abuse.

Comment: Poor relationships can affect you negatively, yes.

A. Yes I agree because if you and the educator do not go along well the educator when marking books or test answer sheet he might be a bit hard on you. So I think there should be communication.

Comment: Good

Q. Actually if they are looking at your script if you are not relating very well I suppose the opposite is also true. How about your own classmates, do they affect you suppose you are not relating very well. Does that affect you badly?

A. Yes they can affect me because sometimes you can be accused of cheating and yet you did not cheat.

Q. You like anybody else in life you set goals for yourself, right now as you are here if I would ask you what do you want to do after school and so on you will tell me a lot of things and so on. These are your ambitions. These are the goals that you have. What really influences you in setting certain goals for yourself for the future?

A. The factor that may influence me to become a Doctor is that may be I have got a relative who is also a Doctor and is doing really good so I might also want to be like my relative who is doing good so that might influence me to become a Doctor.

Comment: Role models in the family that is if there is somebody who has achieved high in the family you may want to be like him or her.

A. I still believe that pressure from all angles may be parents relatives may be you might have peers who push you to do all that.

Q. To achieve certain levels?

A. The need of money.

Comment: Nobody can aspire to get a lowly paying job so we need money

Q. Finally, may I know we have sisters do you think your performance as a student you are naturally or should naturally be better than your sister and secondly do you think having a girlfriend while you are a student affect your performance at the school?

A. I believe that you should not expect to beat women in most subjects but in the more technical subjects I believe guys should have a natural advantage over the women but on the issue of girlfriends its all about time management. If you let your girlfriend be on your mind every minute of every day then it is your own problem. It may be a sport if can be anything that you put too much time in but if you divide your time well from your girlfriend and your books everything will go on fine.

Comment: Thank you very much.

A. I think the men are more switched on than the opposite sex and I believe the men are hands on. They are more practical than women, as for the girlfriends I believe that some of the girls are inspiration to some of the boys.

Comment: Some of the girls are an inspiration to you, does that make you do better?

A. I disagree that men do have a superior mentality or academic ability over women because we are all people and I think the mental capacity of every single person is almost the same if not even women's mental capacity is other means so it is all about how a person can harness or is able to utilise their mental capacity. It has nothing to do with sex and I might also attribute that if you have a girlfriend its about how you organise your life and if you are able to read and have a girlfriend as well it has no bearing on your academic performance or anything.

Comment: Thanks very much.

Q. Time management and that the ladies are no worse than you are in terms of potential they are just as good as you are. How do you use the potential that you have?

A. I think having a girlfriend need not put you into problem because that same girl might help you in solving problems that might hinder your achievement probably she will help you in solving Maths problems which you personally can not solve on your own.

Comment: Thank you very much.

Gentlemen I want to thank you very much for your time.

That was the Gina St Ignatius Boys lets see where we are going next.
Thanks.

We are now at Churchill Boys High

Q. What I came to ask you here is I have heard both from parents or some of you learners and even some of the educators as well do say those students who are actively involved in sporting activities, rugby, soccer, swimming, basketball, cricket and so on normally do not perform as well in the academic work as those who do not participate. So some parents even tell their sons and daughters please do not do sport you will fail. Just keep to your books. What are your opinions on this?

A. Just depends on your time management.

Comment: What do you mean by that?

A. You have to divide your day's time into some hours of play and reading your books.

A. I agree with him because you do not necessarily have to not do sport it also prepares you in life in respect as well especially respect and it is just on time management as he said as you do not have to do sport from 1:05 until 6 o'clock but you can do sport and then you still have to put aside some of your time for study.

A. I think sport disturbs your from doing school work because we look at lets say I go for sports right now I go there until 3 o'clock so transport going back home is a problem because there is no transport so I am going to have to wait until 5 o'clock then reach home I bath I eat then the time for reading or writing my homework is now lessened.

A. I think sport disturbs a person academically because when you reach home you will be tired and you will not do much according to me

A. I think what the two guys are saying is wrong because if you do sport and academic it teaches you time management and it depends what type of person you are and when you do sports and you are good in academic it means you are a good time manager.

A. I disagree with them because if you do sports, sport teaches you discipline and if you go home late there are times when you can read and do academic work lets say during weekends and holidays.

A. I think sport is academically good because they keep you fit naturally and so forth.

Q. How do you feel generally about your academic performance in this school?

A. I feel my academic performance in this school is rather well except in some subjects that I only started learning a year before I came here.

A. I think I need to improve on my academic

A. Marks are quite well because I am improving in many subjects.

Comment: Good

A. I think my academic performance in school is quite good because last term I got more marks than what I did 1st term.

Q. At times you write tests you pass other times you write tests you fail how do you feel when you either pass or fail?

A. I feel depressed when I fail my tests because I would not have put much effort but if I pass I feel like I am on the top of the whole world.

A. When I pass my tests I feel that I have really done a good job when I fail I look on the corrections of the work that I have failed.

A. When I fail my examinations I will be feeling that I have wasted the money which the parents have paid for my school fees.

A. When I fail my examinations I just try to work hard so that I can achieve good marks.

A. When I do good at my examinations I feel good because it determines what I am going to do in the future.

Q. Overall, do you usually in this school or in your class feel anxious about your academic work, how you perform either how well you are performing or how bad you are performing?

A. On to that note I put it as uncertain.

A. Individually I feel anxious because I want to know what I will have achieved.

Q. Do you feel rather sad, miserable, depressed and so on such a day when you come to school in this kind of mood does this affect the way you perform in school or in class or in a subject?

A. Depression does really affect your performance lets say in Maths there are long division I doubt if you can work correctly on long division whilst something is troubling your mind.

A. I think you cannot concentrate on your subject when you are depressed.

A. Just depends what your mood is like for example at home you may be you were fighting over a story then you come here at school there are problems in Maths you will be able to work those problems because your mind will be somewhere.

A. I think the problem which would have happened home will make you not concentrate on what you are doing.

A. I feel that those problems which happended at home are not supposed to be brought here at school so you must concentrate on your work then if there are any problems and you feel you will be depressed with the problems at home.

Q. Do you think in this school you have the right environment that can make you achieve what you want academically?

A. I think the environment is alright because there are many trees that you can breathe in air very nice.

A. I do not think so because many of our book facilities are not good as most of the books have no pages and there is a lot of shortage of books here.

A. Some students do very well be it form 1 level form 2, form 3, A level others not so well, do you think your performance is determined by what he has said the kind of resources and so on that you have here or these are not important life can still go on under these difficulties.

A. Its because if there are no books there is no learning and I do not think you happen to have any job if you do not learn.

A. I think if there are no books you can just go and buy some books and then you use your own books.

A. I do not really agree with what he says because it is not like now you are putting all the fault on the school but it is not like you can only get your education from the school you can go home you can go to the library you can do your own research on the computer and everything so its not only school that can teach you you can learn by others and communication.

Comment: Good

Q. And other peers that is people of your age group like your classmates here does influence or affects your learning or your academic performance?

A. I think it will not affect my academic performance because I will be targeting on being above all of my classmates.

Comment: Somebody who has not spoken

A. I think it affects my learning because there are some teachers who are fierce to ask questions so when I want to ask questions I get afraid to ask those questions so I just keep quite.

A. I think it will affect your learning because some of my friends will be making noise whilst I want to read so you wont have the opportunity to read books you will be affected by the noise.

Q. Others want to become Doctors, others want to become teachers, others want to become pilots and so on those are the goals you set whilst you still youngster in school and so on what influences you in making such decisions at the moment?

A. It sometimes depends on who is your role model?

Comment: Beautiful

A. If you work hard and target on something else I think you can achieve that goal.

A. If you target high you tend to look for things that make you get high so when you look like pilots and doctors that is what you would want to achieve

A. I think its normally because some people need money and so you want a lot of money so then you say you want to do this job because maybe because its got a lot of money and also because you need to help others.

A. And also it might be because you are inspired by it.

Q. There are people who perform well in all the subjects others in some others have said to themselves maybe Maths is difficult but still perform very well in examinations or tests. Some say Maths is very easy but perform poorly or you say maths is difficult and perform poorly all the time. Do you think the attitude we have towards a certain subject does anything to do with our performance?

- A. It depends because someone says I can do Maths better than everyone so the person will not practice because he will be saying that I am better but when doing examinations he does not know anything because he did not practice.

Comment: Good thank you

- A. If you underrate someone or a subject you wont perform good because you will be underrating someone saying if I do not study I can bit him in this and that.

- A. Maybe you get relaxed because if you say you are good in this subject maybe you get relaxed.

- A. It is like when you like something you tend to want to do it more. Its like when you are sets say given something you like food you like is it not that you would want to eat that more than the other ones you hate so when it comes to the subject you like you tend to want to do that subject more that the others you hate so you practice more to that subject than the others that is one of the main reasons you tend to pass it.

Q. There are people who generally feel girls are not better generally academically than boys either overally or in certain subjects what is your opinion on this?

- A. Well I think it all depends on how you look at the subject if you think you are good on the subject I think you tend to be better than the opposite sex.

- A. I think it does not matter even if you are a boy of a girl I think it depends on your natural intelligence.

- A. I agree because if you are practicing hard even if you are a boy of a girl it does not matter if you are a boy or a girl just practice you will pass it does not matter with the sex.

- A. I think it does not matter even if you are a boy of girl I think it depends on your intelligence.

- A. I think a boy and a girl we are all the same so I think it depends on an individual that you should work hard to achieve your goals.

- A. I think it depends because some girls are talented in schoolwork than boys.

Q. Does your being handsome or the girls being beautiful have anything to do with your performance in class or in school?

- A. I think that's so because when you thin you are handsome for a boy for instance you tend to look for girls and things like that and forget about the books.

A. It depends that are you a hard working person or you are not because if you are a boy and you are handsome you dress properly because you would like girls to see you.

Comment: Therefore does that affect your performance?

A. Yes it does.

A. I think that the physical state does not affect your performance but your brain is what matters.

Comment: Okay, thank you.

A. It all depends on what you are doing and if you are confident on what you are doing you will succeed.

A. Lets take a look at our special class there we can see that some of the boys in there are handsome but their brains are not working very well.

A. I think your handsomeness or your beautifulness has nothing to do with your knowledge because its someone self willing that tells him that although I am ugly or although I am handsome I can do this and it does not matter if a girl is pretty or not because she is the one who needs to tell herself that I want to do good in school not because of her handsomeness or anything.

A. I think it does disturb your concentration on your work because when you like if you like somebody that much you begin to just think of her and you can't stop thinking of her.

A. I think it depends with how you think lets say you are beautiful or handsome your begin to start to impress and forget about books so I think it depends on how you think about it.

A. I think if you are a hard working boy you wont to be thinking about it because you will be wanting to have a nice job but when you are not hard working boy you will be thinking about it all the time in class so I think if you are hard working it does not disturb your achievement in class.

Comment: Good comment yes. Whether it is the same school or different schools the mere idea of having a girlfriend in your case?

A. I think having a girlfriend or a boyfriend will affect your class work because you will not be concentrating on the work you are doing.

- A. Having a boyfriend I think it will affect your class work because you will spend more time with your boyfriend or your girlfriend forgetting about your books.
- A. It will not affect you because you study at home while you enjoy with your girlfriend during the day.
- A. It will affect you because you could not concentrate on school.

Comment: Okay

- A. It just depends with the way you take it. If you take it fine then you spend a lot of time with your girlfriend then you wont concentrate in your school work therefore you will end up being a failure.

Comment: Thank you.

- A. I think you will not concentrate much thinking about your girlfriend.
- A. You will not concentrate I am agreeing with that boy Chipunza because you will not concentrate because you will be just thinking about the girl.
- A. I think having a girlfriend will affect your schoolwork because I once read a book, which said friendship it will lead up into love so you might get her pregnant and you will be sent out of school.

Laughter

- A. Yes it does affect your education because you concentrate more on the girlfriend rather than concentrate on school.

Comment: Very good

- A. I think it will affect your school work because lets say you are in a lesson and instead of writing work you will be writing oh sweetie Rudo, oh sweetie sugar!

Laughter

- A. Lets say its depends having a girlfriend can give you an advantage and also a disadvantage lets take for example he said you will be writing Rudo isn't it you think if I fail will Rudo still like me so you tend to want to study more so that you achieve what you want.
- A. It does not affect your work because it depends on how you are if you are serious with your work it does not affect your education.

- A. A girlfriend is someone you can share ideas with but some people think that a girlfriend is a girl you can date out and go places but its like a friend that you can share ideas with and do class work.

Government day urban B school

Appendix D2

This is now Glen Norah High. Glen Norah High ndiko kwatava. Glen Norah High. We are now at Glen Norah High.

- Q. I have heard both pupils and parents saying that those students who are actively involved in sporting activities it be Netball, Basketball, Rugby, cricket, soccer and so on do not perform so well in their academic work as those who do not participate. To that extent some parents have even said to their own sons and daughters I do not want you to participate, I know its athletics season do not, I know its soccer and netball season do not participate you will fail. Look at your books and that's it. What are your views on that?**

- A. I actually think that pupils must be allowed to participate in other sport so that they can find their talent maybe if they are talented in that sport and also they will have to find time to read and study hard so that they can pass.

Comment: Thank you.

- A. I think its wrong for parents not to allow their children to participate because there is time for everything. The student has to balance her work.

- A. I agree with this one.

- A. Parents should just understand that some pupils will be talented in sport or they will be talented in both sport and their academic work so if a pupil is talented in sport they should be allowed to do sport even academic work should be allowed to do academic work if both they should be allowed to do both.

- A. I think parents should allow children to participate in sports because the child might be talented in the sport therefore bidding them to participate it.

- Q. From your experience at Glen Norah High that students who are active in sport are not academically good do you agree?**

- A. No I do not agree with that because everyone I think like academic work is not the way you can depend on so I do not think its possible.

Comment: Okay, what do you say?

A. I say I disagree with that because pupils who are in sport can be also good in academic work so I think other pupils who join the sport they are very good in academic work.

A. I disagree because other students who are physically fit or they can do sport they are also good in academic work.

Q. There are some who go further and say the more handsome you are meaning young men the more beautiful you are you young girls the less well you perform in your school work. In other words you don't perform as those who are not so handsome or beautiful. What do you say?

A. I think I disagree with that because in this class there are many beautiful and handsome people but they are one of the best students so I disagree.

Q. You see that is the point. Have you spoken before?

A. Well I think it is not true that the handsome boys and beautiful girls are not that intelligent in school. It is definitely not correct because I find that when I was doing investigation about all the students at this school I found that most of the students those who are handsome boys and beautiful girls they are very intelligent and I found it definitely not correct about that thing.

Laughter

A. I disagree. That's all I have. I mean mareasons andinawo ese ataurwa.

Comment: Okay

Q. How do you feel about your performance in schoolwork in this school in general. How do you feel about your academic performance in this school?

A. I pick on the first one of parents not allowing their students to participate in sport. I know that parents do not allow their students to take part in sport because the child might not end up in mischief to the competitions they go so I do not disagree with the parents.

A. I also want to speak on

Laughter.

No I think parents should allow their kids to perform at the sports arena because somebody might be multitalented. He can do sports up to the age of 30 and then

he can continue with his academic studies and also the sports you know physical activities they can also stimulate the child's performance at school.

Q. The 3rd question I ask how do you or what do you think about your academic performance here?

A. I feel good because sometimes there are many challenges you face in school academic but I go through it we help each other and I feel good about it.

A. I feel very embarrassed when I fail a subject which I am very interested in. I feel very happy when I pass a subject, which I want.

Comment: Good, listen to her

A. If I fail a subject I feel depressed and if I pass a subject I feel proud. I can say I feel proud.

A. When I pass a subject which I normally pass I feel happy and when I pass a subject which I do not normally pass I feel offended because people think that I have cheated or so.

Laughter

Q. Alright you come to school not in very good mood, depressed, down, for one reason or another maybe something did go well at home last night or this morning whether with your brother or parents does this affect your performance in school that day or the rest of the semester or term?

A. Ha it affects my performance because I will be feeling very bored and I would not want to learn that day because my thinking capacity will be tired.

A. I think it does not affect my performance because when I come to school I will do my school work forgetting what's at home and when I am at home that is when I start to think of it.

Comment: Okay

Q. Would you prefer learning in a class of learners who are very fast or slow or average if you have a choice which would you choose?

A. I would like to belong to the class of students who work very fast because it will challenge me and I will endeavor my best in my subjects.

Comment: Okay

- A. I prefer a class with students who learn faster because this will help us in finishing the syllabus so as to this will help me in our end of year examinations.

Comment: Good

- A. A zvataurwa
Laughter

- A. I would prefer that of the fast learners because it will encourage me to learn very fast also since I am a slow learner.

Q. The parents want to send their children to very expensive school maybe boarding or so on or those that are known for achieving very high pass rates others do not mind sending their child anywhere but you find children sent to schools with high pass rates some fail all the same those sent to schools that are known for low pass rates still pass very well. What is your view about that?

- A. I think some children who are sent to those schools with high pass rates I think they do much because they are encouraged by the teachers to work hard and taught some of the things which can be banned to achieve high pass rates at the school.

Comment: That's fine but there are some who fail at the same school how would you explain it?

- A. Ah I think they get that idea that their parents have got a lot of money so they do not mind about education they know that if they fail they will be supported by their parents.

Comment: Okay

- A. I think those sent to poor schools they can also pass because the poor background it can challenge them to work very hard to pass and also those sent to good and expensive schools some of them can fail because they would think they will boss themselves because of the name of the school and because of the high pass rate of the school.

Comment: Good, thank you.

- A. I think it's a matter of wasting money because the syllabus is just the same if it is photosynthesis its just photosynthesis everywhere so I think it's just a matter of wasting money.

- A. I think it all depends on the student's seriousness because if the student is not serious about his work even if he goes to an expensive school there is no way he

is going to pass but if he goes to a low pass rate school if he is really serious he can pass.

Q. Do you think your relationship with the head, the teachers, or educators and even your peers here does affect or influence or performance in school with the educators, head of school or peers that is how you relate among each other that is whether you are friendly to each other or hostile to each other does that affect your learning or performance?

A. Ya I think it affect our learning capacity because when you do not have good relations with our educators we can not pass because we will be hating those teachers and to us students as well we should have a good relationship we see that in this class as I view it we are not friendly to each other we cannot even get together to work together in other subjects so I think relationship with our educators and other students affect our school ability.

Comment: Good

A. Eh our relationship with other students will also affect our learning because if we do not communicate well or we mock each other will not go well and will not pass our examinations and if we indulge in other relationships like girls having boyfriends it can also affect our learning at school and also our relationship with teachers if we do not have a good relationship with teachers you know we will hate the because of that teacher. We will not learn well and in the end we will fail our examinations.

Comment: Good

A. I think relationships between teachers and pupils is very important to our learning because some students understand their friends much better than their teacher they cannot get what the teacher is trying to say but if a friend tries to explain what the teacher was saying she can get it easily.

Comment: Good, students being supportive of one another that is what she is saying do you have anything to say?

A. No

B. Laughter

Comment: You agree with everything?

Q. Love relationships, does this really affect your performance in school? That you have a boyfriend or girlfriend does that affect your performance? Anybody

A. It definitely affect your school work because by the time you will be thinking about your boyfriend and stuff you will not hear what the teacher is saying so I say it affects the school work.

Q. You are saying it negatively affects because the mind is thinking about the girl or boy no time to think about the Mathematics problem being solved on the board.

A. I think love relationship is not good at school because it affects your school work when you say you have got a boyfriend he is waiting for you at the door and the teacher is dictating some notes and you are sitting here it affects you.

A. I think its bad because if you are in love you lose your concentration on your school work

Q. Why?

Laughter

A. I think it does not affect anything because if you have your girlfriend in another school it does not matter because you concentrate very fine in your class.

Comment: Okay, thank you.

Laughter

A. I think it does not affect because what matters is the seriousness of the student if the student is not serious he can fail even if he does not have a boyfriend or a girlfriend. I think it does not affect because if you just put your mind to the books that you are reading you will never fail. You just have not to think of the girlfriend at all times.

Comment: Thank you, those are his views. And I think from what you have said there is noone here with a boyfriend or a girlfriend.

Q. Tell us I think everyone of you if we were to ask one after the other you will tell me what you want to do when finishing school isn't it? Now I want to know whatever you want to achieve or become after school. What influences you to set such a goal or a target.

A. I think I want to preach the word of God because people nowadays they are turning to their own ways forgetting the ways of God so I want to preach the word of God.

Laughter

Comment: That is his views.

A. When I finish school I want to be the most qualified scientist

Laughter

Comment: Listen to him why he wants to be a scientist the most successful one.

A. I want to be as inventorous as other scientists from other countries like Japan, China, USA and so on. We want that to be also in this country and to improve our standards of living in this country.

Comment: Thank you.

A. I think I would choose a certain qualification to do because mostly of the money. You see you have to choose a job that earns you money and also sometimes for prestigious reasons.

Comment: Good, thank you.

A. I want to be an international evangelist. I want to preach the good word to the people.

Laughter

Q. He wants to become an international evangelist, why what's pushing you to become one?

A. Because it is not only in our country where people are falling in the wrong path but its in the whole world because nowadays we think what we are it is our

Laughter

A. It is our goodness but we are just living with the faith of God so we just want to pray him and to preach the good word.

Comment: That is good, thank you.

A. I want to be a businessman because you know nowadays indegenisation is leading the roles of businesses you know its not very good to have a masters degree because people with masters degrees and PhDs are sitting right home but I think to be in business is rather too wise because you will get very good money.

Comment: Good, you want to add?

- A. I think setting our goals are influenced by the environment we come from. Let's say at our area there are young people who smoke and do all sorts of things so that influences setting your goals.
- A. I like to be a part of the politics in Zimbabwe because the situation in Zimbabwe is really deteriorating and I think I have the potential of improving it.
- A. A chemical engineer to improve the industrial raw materials and products but if God calls me I want to be an apostle evangelist.

Laughter

Comment: I see here is 3 I you are the top class in the school and I see there are both boys and girls almost the same number

Laughter

Q. Some argue that girls are not as good as boys or men academically. What is your view on this?

- A. I think that boys and girls they are all intelligent the only thing that matters is whether the girls are not intelligent. I think it's the circumstances that surround the girls because some of these girls their peers might tell them that mukomana wangu chii chii and then it gets into their minds so they do not concentrate on their books whereas boys will have a mind that is bigger they will have something in their minds that will drive them to have that feeling of wanting to learn than girls so that I think girls are equally as intelligent as boys.
- A. I think all the people academically they are equal.
- A. I think boys and girls boys are quite clever because look in this class there are many boys and less girls so boys are more clever than girls.

Comment: Okay

- A. I think it depends on whether you are reading or not. We are all equal so I think your studying matters.
- A. I think they are the same only it only differs with our background. At some other houses while boys will be reading girls will be doing all the house work so they wont have time to work but we are all intelligent the same.

Comment: Good

A. I think girls' performance at school is low because girls indulge in relationships. The girl can even think that even if I fail I can be married and the man is going to be responsible for the children. I think that is why girls perform less at school.

A. I think such a distortion started those days when people used to say send boys only to school but nowadays girls and boys are just the same.

Comment: Beautiful, madam?

A. Ah no comment

Q. No comment?

Q. Subjects which form 3.1 are doing where you think the girls have an upper hand or have got an advantage over the boys or vice versa?

A. I think they are good in English and Shona than boys.

Q. Is it? What are the boys good at?

A. Maths, Biology, Chemistry and History.

Comment: Good at Shona and English Language? Are you not good at Maths, Physics and Chemistry?

A. According to me I think girls and boys we are all equal because we are born both us girls and boys with the same brains, 5 boys were not born with six and us girls with 5 so I think we are just equal.

Q. I am talking about your experience in 3.1 now. Do you think the girls are just as good as boys in Maths, Physics and Chemistry?

A. I think girls are as good as boys in those subjects.

Q. Boys as good as girls?

A. Eh.

A. I think girls are a bit lower than boys in these subjects but I think with maximum reading and studying we can prove to be some people of high standards

Q. But do you agree that you excel in Shona and English Language?

A. I think in English we excel higher than boys but in shona it's all equal.

Q. Now why the ladies are very good at English and the boys not so well?

A. They are interested in reading novels that is why they are good in English and Shona unlike boys they are interested in other things.

A. Its because sometimes boys use vulgar words and slang language that is why their English is a bit on the step side.

Q. And to try and come back to the formal becomes difficult.

All agree.

Q. Now finally finally focussing or forecasting on the end of year either this year or next year do you think your chances of passing whether all with very high grades in this case A are higher or lower while you remain here?

A. I think if we keep on working very hard we will pass.

Q. You have to work hard?

A. Lops

Laughter

A. I think we can pass a bit high if there is no hot sitting here.

Q. Are you being affected?

All agreed.

We are now at Zimbiru Secondary School. This is now Zimbiru Secondary School.

Q. What I have come to ask here is I have heard some students even some educators some parents say those children who take part in sporting activities it be soccer, Netball, Rugby, Cricket and athletics at the school do not perform as well as those who do not participate in these activities at school level. What do you say about it?

A. I disagree

Q. Tell them why you do not agree with that statement

A. Because when you are doing sport it does not mean that you will be doing sports for learning but it will be for your physical fitness and sometimes you gain more confidence in what you are doing.

Comment: Good, thank you.

A. I think it does not affect your performance.

Comment: Speak up so that those in the corner may hear.

A. I think it does not affect somebody's performance if you just balance your time you can do both.

Comment: Good.

A. I agree because when you are doing sports you will be exercising your body physically and your mind will be relaxing so that by the time you do your school work you will have refreshed and you start a happy end in your activities.

Comment: Good

A. In addition I could say I strongly disagree because if you are participating in sports you will be physically and mentally healthy and that it will say that you will be well jerked up in school and your mind will be opened.

Q. The more beautiful or handsome you are you know we use beautiful for the ladies and handsome for the gentlemen isn't it right? the more handsome you are the more beautiful the less well you are going to perform in your school subjects or academically in general. What do you say?

- A. I think it all depends because some beautiful girls will concentrate on their beauty. They spend their time on the mirror but some concentrate more on school so I think it all depends on the person.

Comment: Right, thank you.

- A. I disagree because out there are beautiful girls and handsome boys they are at the University and some girls are participating in Miss Malaika and Miss Zimbabwe so I strongly disagree.

- A. I think that is wrong because sometimes it depends on how you handle yourself. Sometimes if you look at your handsomeness or your beautifulness that will make your academic deforms but sometimes when you just look at your academic not how you are beautiful or handsome you will achieve a very good thing.

- A. I do not think the handsome you are can disturb the academic because if you concentrate on reading and studying very hard and you just throw away how beautiful you are I think you will pass.

Q. What do you have to say?

- A. Nothing to say.

Q. Nothing to say you just smile?

- A. I think they will compensate on their beautifulness and they do not participate well in school.

Q. Think of passing a test the teacher gives a test like a Maths test here after marking you find you have passed or you have failed when you pass or fail how do you feel?

- A. If I pass I feel excited because I know I will be achieving something because I know that I will be happy that the reading that I will be doing will be paying me but if I fail I will be very embarrassed because I start to think of all the hard working that I will be doing so I just try to do something to improve that grade.

- A. When I fail I feel depressed because with all the effort I put and I fail its very difficult and start to work hard to improve my mark.

Comment: Good.

- A. When I pass I feel excited because I will be working hard for my future.

Comment: Good, and when you fail?

A. I feel depressed because I wont be working hard.

Q. In your class would you prefer to be in a class where everyone is very brilliant or where there is a class that is mixed or a class that is full of people who are not as good as yourself.

A. I want to be in a class that has brilliant children because there is more competition there.

Comment: Good, she wants competition.

A. A class which is a mixture.

Q. Why?

A. Because there are some people who can teach you and you will teach some others.

A. I want a class with intelligent people so that They will be helping me and giving me ideas.

Comment: Good, beautiful.

A. Well I would like the class with most intelligent people because they will give you that desire to pass because everybody will be passing.

Comment: Good

A. I want that class which has a mixture of people because if you learn you will be practicing of your life and you will be in good

Q. As we expect in our school work and there are times when we do very well when we do not expect to do well. How do you explain your success when you normally do not expect a good result?

A. I think if you fail you might be over excited so you tend to fail.

A. I have nothing to say.

Pardon

A. I have nothing to say

Q. Nothing to say?

A. Nothing.

- A. When you pass whilst you were not expecting a pass it I think it will be a chance for you so that you can work hard to that subject to pass it again.

Comment: Good

- A. Nothing to say.
- A. I feel very confident if I fail because this will give me the power to study hard in order to succeed.
- A. When you fail may be you will be having more confidence in what you are going to do but when you reach the exam room you forget all that you have because you will be over excited or something.

Comment: Thanks.

Q. With the educators, the head of school, your peers, peers means people of your age group and even your boyfriend or girlfriend does this relationship affect your performance in school?

- A. I think if you do not have a good relationship with your educators and you hate one of them its obvious that you would not concentrate when he is talking in class and then you will fail.

Comment: Good

- A. If you are in good relationships with your educators, I think it will also affect your education you will improve because you will be getting things which are more advanced from them especially in language, they use English language whenever they are talking so you copy and on this relationship whether it's a boyfriend or a girlfriend I think it really affect our education because you find someone will be concentrating say she has received a letter from a boyfriend she no longer thinks of her school work she is just thinking of her boyfriend reading the letter here all the time so I think it affects.

Comment: Good thank you very much.

- A. I think the relationship in educators is good because they are the ones who help us and on boyfriends and girlfriends I think it depends with the way you handle them because some people they take a girlfriend as a brother and sister so we may tend to plan our time so that we sit together and study so I think we may help each other.
- Q. Girls everyone of you are coming to school for a purpose and I think some of you already have plans as to what to do after completing school. Am I right?**

All yes

Q. Can you tell us what you want to do after school?

A. I want to do motor mechanics.

Comment: She wants to do motor mechanics, I like that, good and you?

A. I want to be a nurse.

A. I want to be a TV presenter.

Comment: TV presenter, here is TV personality.

A. I want to be a pilot

Comment: Pilot

Laughter

A. I want to be a judge.

Q. A judge?

Laughter.

A. I want to be an accountant.

Comment: Accountant to look at the money for the country?

A. I want to be a designer.

A. I want to be receptionist.

Comment: Good whenever you get to school or a company you would receive a smile.

Laughter

A. I want to be a pilot

Comment: Pilot eh this class is big there are so many pilots.

A. I want to be an accountant.

Q. Right with that goal what directs you to choose such a goal or such a career?

A. What guides you are the subjects, which you will be doing well at school.

Q. Subjects you are doing well at school are the ones that guide you?

A. Nothing to say.

A. I look at my academic progress then I look at the lifestyles which are the people of the profession that I am choosing are leading.

Comment: Lifestyles of other people and you?

A. Nothing to say.

Comment: At least you can smile.

Q. Are your views on the ascension that generally in schoolboys are better than girls?

A. I disagree because the girl who is sitting next to me is very intelligent than me so I disagree.

Comment: He says for example this girl is brilliant.

Laughter

Q. Is it true that girls are worse than boys?

A. I really disagree because the degree that you get in school is according to how much effort that you put on the subject and your objective for your future on what you want to be on the business atmosphere. If you want to work in the higher rank you can work hard then you can have a better opportunity of getting good job.

Comment: Good, not because you are a boy or a girl.

A. I disagree because other girls nowadays are involved in high paying jobs so they are aiming high even at school so I think girls can do better than boys.

Comment: Good. Where the boys are far better than girls and vice versa.

A. Normally girls are more good at English and boys are good at Maths so yes there is a difference.

Comment: Is it?

A. I disagree with what she said because its ad traditional way of thinking we are just equal.

Q. Just equal?

A. Yes

Q. In all subjects

A. Yes

Comment: She says we are equal

A. I want to say the test that you get every term every month or so on aren't there subjects where boys perform extremely well or better than girls and vice versa that is what I am asking.

A. I think girls are good at English because I think girls like to speak English more often than boys but I think on my point of view everybody can as well participate in English and also in Maths and doing exactly the same like what the boys and girls can do.

A. I think girls perform higher in English because they tend to treat the subject as the simpler one and therefore put their more effort on it and treat Maths as more difficult and in addition the English is used in all the subjects except Shona.

A. I think girls are good at English because here we have a small library there and we find more girls reading novels than boys.

Comment: Good

Parirewa boys and girls we are just going to ask you a few questions.

Q.

A. I don't agree on the statement

Comment: Tell them why you don't agree.

A. Because I can give an example of Tauya Murewa a former Dynamos player who is now studying his course in South Africa.

Comment: Infact he is not studying he is a medical doctor. He qualified at the medical school in Harare at the University of Zimbabwe but he was a high styled soccer player, wasn't he?

A. Yes.

Comment: Good. So he says he does not agree.

A. I do not agree because if you just work hard you will achieve your goals or schoolwork.

A. I do not agree because if I only just work hard without doing my sport activities maybe I will just only pass my hameno.

Q. My hameno What is my hameno?

Laughter

What subject is that called hameno?

A. Fine what do you say son?

A. I agree because you spend most of your time concentrating on sports.

A. I do not agree because if someone works hard he will achieve his academic work

A. Because boys can come any time talking to me about love stories.

Comment: So disturb you?

A. Yes

A. I do not have any idea.

A. I agree because most of the girls they can look at the mirror so they can disturb lessons.

A. Because if she is so beautiful she will be concentrating on her beauty than schoolwork.

Comment: Right that is what he thinks.

A. Ah ndirikumbofunga

Comment: You do not think. At least you are smiling.

A. I feel good when I achieve all I have to do at school.

A. I feel glad because when I was in primary school I was very I was not good at schoolwork but now I am good at schoolwork.

Comment: Aha, you see.

A. I feel to work hard even if I pass.

Comment: Good

A. I feel happy because I did very well than I did in primary level.

Comment: Very good

A. No.

Q. Why not?

Q. Are you happy in the class which you are?

A. Yes

Q. Why?

Because there are good learners.

Comment: There are good learners. She says I like it because there are good learners. What do you say?

A. I really like it because it is one of the best classes at school.

Comment: It is one of the best classes so he feels quite comfortable. He feels like a fish in water.

A. I am happy because they share information with me.

Comment: Good. The colleagues share information with him that is why he is happy.

A. Because we share some ideas which are very important.

A. Yes I am happy because we can cooperate with others.

Comment: Cooperation in the class?

A. I am not happy because some of the colleagues they will only do negative things on what we are doing.

Comment: Like what?

A. Like making a lot of noise discouraging you from reading books that is all.

Comment: Good, thank you.

A. I do not know.

Comment: Aha you do not have to know anything

A. I do not know.

A. I feel glad when I pass and feel bad when I fail.

Comment: Okay thank you and mainini?

A. I feel embarrassed when I fail.

Comment: Right she feels embarrassed when she fails and when you fail?

A. I feel happy

A. Because I am a prefect so I must lead by example.

Q. Aha listen to this one you juniors must hear that one it's a beautiful thing.

A. I feel great embarrassment because I am a prefect so I want to lead by example.

Comment: Good.

A. I do not know.

A. My performance because they are the ones who teaches me good or wrong thins.

Comment: Good, thank you.

A. No because I will have someone to share ideas with.

Comment: Fine.

A. No does not affect my education because you should have someone to share ideas with.

Comment: Very good.

A. I think they do not affect me because they are the ones that help me when I get something wrong.

Comment: Fine.

A. I think it will not affect my education because I have some people to share with me my ideas.

Comment: Good does that affect your performance at all?

A. Really it does not affect my performance but actually it encourages me because when you are closely related to your teachers and the staff may be they will be really encouraging you giving you steps what you should do and what you should participate in sort of.

A. It results in a bad performance at the first time when you hate the teacher or the educator life will go tough for you simply because there will be no relationship you will be not free to ask questions you will be not free to communicate to that educator.

Comment: Very good.

A. This can affect me because some of the friends are at bad behaviour, which can affect my education.

Comment: Good

Laughter

A. Yes because sometimes there are those sugar daddies maybe you will fall in love with a sugar daddy not a boyfriend so you will not have to participate well in your class because they will just give you money and you like it.

A. For example when your boyfriend is in class with you, you will think about him when a teacher is in a lesson teaching you and you do not participate in class.

A. Its because you always think of your boyfriend during lessons.

A. Yes because you will participate in your class academic thinking about him.

A. At times you will be writing a letter to him so you do not pay attention to the teacher.

A. I agree because it was created by God that someone will be intelligent than others.

Q. Is it: What verse is that?

Laughter

A. I do not agree because it depends on your memory.

Q. How about it?

A. I do not agree because some are very strong in other subjects so there is nothing to say on those who fail on other subjects.

Comment: Okay.

A. I do not agree because some other girls are intelligent in other subjects and

Comment: Okay. You bit boys in Maths?

A. Yes.

Laughter

A. In geography.

Q. Geography you bit the boys?

A. Yes.

A. English

Laughter

A. History

Q. In history what else?

A. Science.

A. Its because noone can bit someone in class if you just put your efforts

Comment: Effort counts nothing else do you agree.

A. Yes.