

Programme (RDP), Adult Literacy Programme (ALP), Partnership Programme (PP), Universal Primary Education Programme (UPE), Universal Basic Education Programme (UBEP), Call Back Book (CBB) etc.

Reading has a crucial role to play in creating independent learners, literacy promotion and educational attainment of individuals in every society in the world. Education at all levels is the key to national development. It is when the citizens are educated and enlightened that they can develop and could meaningfully contribute to the general development of their country. It is in this spirit that nations of the world try to give education a top priority in their developmental plans and programmes.

Reading influences readers in the promotion of one's personal development in particular and social progress in general. The importance of reading is to allow the reader to understand the meaning of a written text, evaluate its significance, and use what he/she has read, to enhance his or her reading effectiveness, or pleasure (Ibrahim 2004). Similarly, Richard (2009) stated that the individual who reads well has the means

for widening mental horizons and multiplying opportunities of success.

It is a fact that the beginning of acquisition of education is learning how to read and write. Similarly, Reading is described by Holderness (2002) as an activity characterized by the translation of symbols or letters, into words and sentences that communicate information and mean something to the reader. However, Anthony (2005) viewed reading as the interaction of what is in the head with what is on the page within a particular context that causes the reader to comprehend what he read. However, Tella and Akande (2007) has broadly defined reading as a process of thinking, recalling and relating concepts under the function of written words. Thus, reading can also be seen as the ability to recognize and examine words or sentences and understand the information within.

Statement of the Problem

The importance of reading towards personal, societal and national development cannot be overemphasized. For an excellent enlightenment and awareness towards educational development, there is need for the students to form