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Crafting My Success: Stories and Challenges of Technical Vocational Livelihood Track - Bread and Pastry Production Students in Learning Skill-Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning (MDL)

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ABSTRACT

The main aim of this study is to determine the different challenges encountered by TVL students in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning. The participant was 20 selected Technical Vocational Livelihood Track who specialized Bread and Pastry Production students on Modular Distance Learning of Luis Y. Ferrer Jr. Senior Highschool School Year 20221-2022. This study used qualitative type of study through interview and focused group discussion. Qualitative data was analyzed using Litchman's 3C's of Analysis (Coding to Categorizing to Conceptualizing) to generate emerging themes. The study revealed that TVL- BPP students encountered challenges in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning such as lack of knowledge and skills, lack of tools, equipment, financial difficulty and attitude problem. Those mentioned problems affect student's academic performance. Most of them failed to meet the appropriate practical outputs. The study also revealed the different coping mechanism utilized by skill-based students. Part time job, watching informative learning videos and articles from internet, time management and improvising tools and equipment were the coping strategies done by students. The study focused only to the challenges and coping mechanisms of Luis Y. Ferrer Jr. Senior High School Technical Vocational Livelihood - Bread and Pastry Production students in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning. The result of this study serves as reference or basis for the skill-based teacher to formulate clear, effective and efficient form of teaching for the students to easily learn the subjects on modular distance learning.

Keywords: *challenges, Modular Distance Learning, skill-based subject, Technical Vocational Livelihood*

INTRODUCTION

Corona virus pandemic is a contagious disease that first appeared in Wuhan, China, in the year 2019.The outbreak of the virus remains one of the worst global pandemics for decades (WHO, 2020). The disease spreads from person to person via infected air droplets that are projected during the transmission process. Coughing or sneezing It can also be spread when people come into contact with sick animals or surfaces. Containing the infection, they should avoid touching their eyes, nose, or mouth with infected hands. Due to the limitations in terms of physical contact many sectors of government are highly affected.

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One of the affected sectors worldwide is the educational systems, resulting to the closure of schools, universities, and college (UNESCO, 2020). The main aim of the closure of the schools is to lessen the spread of the virus.

In addition, school closures due to the Corona virus have created new issues, such as how to make the shift to online learning.

learning, and how to meet the needs of those who rely on school for food and shelter. 2020 (Madeline). It raises the burden on parents, particularly those with inadequate digital skills education and those who do not have the financial resources to do so. Continuing education, as well as the stress on parents to not only strive for a living but also to undertake the duties of parenthood. Supervising roles in order to ensure that their children study at home.

The government response to the new problems brought by COVID 19 in education is the use of technology as a tool in continuing the education sector. Education institution worldwide embrace the use of technology to provide appropriate learnings to diverse learners.

Despite the huge benefits of e-learning as a growing trend during the Covid-19 pandemic, it has its own disadvantage and resulting set of obstacles for both students and teachers, especially for those who have no prior experience with it. Some of the challenges of e-learning implementation are Energy/Electricity supply, availability and accessibility issue, affordability issues, network issue, insufficient skill or expertise, attitudinal issues and time constraints. Learning using the internet. It necessitates a significant amount of time and effort (Sylvia, 2016). It should be used gradually to allow students and teachers to adjust to it appropriately.

Due to the outbreak of pandemic most of us seem unprepared. A lot of lacking and shortage happened in many aspects of our lives. In our education sector students suffered and the number of enrolled students decrease. According to Onyema et al, (2020) reported that as at 23rd March 2020 over 1.3 trillion learners were out of school due to school closures in response to COVID-19. Erica & Nichola (2020) the closures can either be reactive or proactive, as reactive closing of schools occur upon the discovery of coronavirus case among the students, staff or parents while proactive school closures occur before the disease even reaches the door of the schools.

The main reason of this was the lacking in terms of non-physical dissemination of learning. Most of students were not literate about new forms of learning resulting to millions of out of school students. This pandemic also affects the skill-based education who requires students to train, experience and learn the competencies physically resulting to the rise of challenges in order to survive learning the skill-based education on modular form of learning. Those mentioned problems in learning skill-based education inspired researchers to determine the different challenges encountered by students in learning the skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning. Gathered result will be served as a basis to improve skill-based education teaching strategy and help for the formulation of future programs to solve learning challenges in skill-based education. This would also be beneficial to future researchers as the basis of their future studies.

The main purpose of this qualitative study is to determine the different challenges encountered by students in learning skilled-based subject on Modular Distance Learning. The following are the statements of the problems; 1. What are the challenges you encountered in learning skill-based subject on modular distance learning? 2. How it affects your level of learning skill-based subject? 3. What are the coping mechanism you do in order to cope those challenges on modular distance learning?

Literature Review

Despite of the effects of COVID 19 pandemic in our education sector the government ensures the continuity of learning. The Department of Education (DepEd) uses Modular Distance Learning to provide learning continuity throughout the COVID-19 epidemic (MDL). Learners employ Self-Learning Modules (SLM) based on the Department of Education's Most Essential Learning Competencies (MELCS).

Distance learning is a type of learning that takes place between a teacher and students who are geographically separated at the time of teaching. The MDL is the most common type of DL in our country.

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According to a DepEd study, 8.8 million parents chose MDL, therefore it is now utilized in all public schools. The use of printed modules to learn has become popular.

Each SLM includes the learning competencies that learners should master. It includes an activity that assesses what the students already know about the topic. It involves drill or review to assist students connect the current and past topics. There is a section where the new lesson is introduced. It also includes a summary of the session as well as assignments for independent practice. It includes challenges that allow students to assess their level of competence in achieving the learning competency. It includes an exercise that attempts to improve the learner's understanding or skill in the lesson. The answers to all of the module's tasks are found in the final section.

The teacher is responsible for keeping track of the students' progress. Learners can contact the teacher via e-mail, text message, or instant chat to ask for help. If at all practicable, the teacher will make home visits to students who require remediation or support. Teachers in the school deliver printed modules to parents or guardians on a weekly basis. Students must complete the exercises and turn in their work by the end of the week. Because education is no longer confined to the classroom, parents have become educators' collaborators.

The recent coronavirus pandemic has highlighted the expanding impact of technology on education. Many educational institutions around the world have relied on the use of technology to improve their long-term success on education During the pandemic, education was extremely important (Charles et al, 2020). Every country was creating an online environment from the use of basic messaging services such as Facebook or Messenger when students do not have access to a computer to using a more advanced technology such complex IT learning platforms, or even by watching national television for information and substituting for traditional classroom instruction.

According to Onyema (2019a), the inclusion of emerging technologies in teaching and learning process is no longer a choice but a need for; changing learning atmosphere, demand for flexibility in methodology, and to enhance creativity and productivity in learning. in addition, Onyema state also that the use of appropriate educational technologies increases the accessibility to learning resources and multiple learning approaches to meet the need of diverse learners.

On the other hand, skill-based education is highly affected because of the change in way of teaching. Skill-based education primary goal is to teach appropriate skills. Skill Based Education is the study of abilities for adaptive and positive behavior that enable individuals to deal effectively with the demands and the challenges of everyday life (Borah,2016). Skill-based learning aims to build upon knowledge by developing practical expertise in a particular area (Gorsky, 2021).

Technical-Vocational Education and Training (TVET)is a form of a skilled-base education that focuses on improving students' skills. TVET is a process of education or training that involves in addition to general education, the study of technologies and related science, as well as the acquisition of practical skills, are all options in addition to general education, relating to work in a variety of economic and social domains It is made up of well-organized programs that are part of a larger whole. Non-formal (planned classes outside the school system) and formal (school system) techniques (UNESCO & ILO,2016) with the primary goal of preparing youth for work, which is accomplished via learning and development. Mastery of underpinning knowledge and scientific principles, as well as work-related expertise.

Research Questions

The following are the guide questions used in data gathering:

1. What are the challenges encountered by modular students in learning skill-based subject?
2. How does it affect the academic performance of the students in Bread and Pastry Production subject?
3. What are the coping mechanisms utilized by MDL students?

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METHODS

This phenomenological research study captured the challenges encountered of Luis Y. Ferrer Jr. Senior Highschool Technical Vocational Livelihood - Bread and Pastry Production students S.Y. 2021-2022 in learning skill-based subject using Modular Distance Learning as modality. The participants were chosen through random sampling. Prior to the data gathering a consent form was secured from the participants. Anonimity and data privacy were prioritized in the study. Also, the participants were given to withdraw their participation in the study.

The participants of the research were the 20 selected TVL MDL students of Luis Y. Ferrer Jr. Senior High School. The primary data that was collected through the use of Facebook/ messenger by sending the participant the interview questionnaire.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this study, qualitative means of investigation was employed to know the different challenges of encountered by Bread and Pastry Production students in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning, an interview and focus group discussion with the TVL-BPP MDL students at Luis Y. Ferrer Jr. Senior High School were made. Shared students' experiences, ideas and perspective showed the challenges of TVL - BPP students on MDL. The perspectives of BPP MDL students on some question such as "What are the challenges you encountered in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning?", "How it affects your level of learning the skill-based subject?","What are the coping mechanism you do in order to cope those challenges on modular distance learning?"served as a basis for the thematic analysis of data.

Little Paper Bills: Finacial Difficulty Affects TVL- BPP Students in Learning Skill- Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning and Its Effects to Student's Academic Performance

According to Child Fund International, Poverty and education are intimately intertwined because poor people may skip school in order to work, leaving them without the literacy and numeracy skills needed to advance their professions. Skilled-based subject like Bread and Pastry Production and Cookery requires money in order to buy the necessary ingredients and tools to perform bread and pastries practicals in home on Modular Distance Learning. One of the participants said, " Ang hirap po talaga kapag wala kapong sapat na pera pambili ng ingredients at tools sa pagagawa ng tinapay tuwing may performance task kasi di mo po masimulan gawin kasi kulang kulang po yung mga gagamitin mo". The other participant said, Mababa po ang mga nakukuha ko pong score sa practicals dahil hindi kulang nga po sa pera pambili". Children in low income do less well than their better off peer on many outcomes in life such as education or health, simply they are poor. Unable to pay your bills and important necessities affects the ability of a students. Furthermore, the interviewee also said " Nahihirapan po ako magisip ng gagawin kasi po wala po ako nung mga kailangan na tool at ingredients sa pagbabake" A study done by Princeton et al., 2015 proves that financial hardship may directly influence person's cognitive ability.

You Cannot Give What You Dont Have: Lack of Knowledge and Skills Affects TVL- BPP Students in Learning Skill- Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning and Its Effects to Student's Academic Performance

Skilled -based subjects requires a hand-to-hand experience and enough knowledge and skills to succeed in this field. Skill-based education, on the other hand, requires experience, believing that real-life practice lies at the core of better learning. 'Learning by doing' is the mantra here, extending beyond the confines of the blackboard to actually learn new skills through practice (Lipson, 2021). Technical vocational education is recognized as that aspect of education which leads to the acquisition of practical and applied skills as well as basic scientific knowledge that will enable an individual to secure employment in a particular occupation for sustainable livelihood. An interviewee said, " Ang hirap po kapag wala kang background sa mga baking dahil yung mga terminologists hindi ka po familiar". Insuffiecient knowldege and skills about baking affects students on Modular Distance Learning. Like what Francis Bacon states that " Knowledge is a most powerful tool provides power to

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people. In addition, skill is an ability to do something well. A well-developed skill can make us experts in a particular field (Zahra, 2019). Unable to meet the required knowledge and skills in order to perform baking bread and pastries practical's led students to failed this field.

Neglected Uniform: Attitude Problems Affects TVL- BPP Students in Learning Skill- Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning and Its Effects to Student's Academic Performance

The result of being lazy led to unfinished work and a form of being irresponsible. Being irresponsible individual results to many consequences. The absence of teachers who facilitates students' performance led to students on Modular Distance Learning to be irresponsible. No physical educators to tell what they do. Vocabulary.com define irresponsible as you do what you like and don't care what happens afterward. What happens very often to students on Modular Distance Learning is that they make decisions that they try to satisfy one or more these needs as expense to others. This considered an irresponsible behavior. One of the participants said, " Nakakawala po ng gana magawa ng module dahil wala namn pong nagbabantay kung nagagawa ba namin yung task sa bawat oras. Ginagawa nalang po namin kapag malapit na magpasahan". As a result, most of the student failed to submit outputs on a right time and the outcome of the output was not good. According to Dr. Dwayne Dyer 2021, " the consequences of being irresponsible is impossible to attain our dreams.

Incomplete Toolbox: Lack of Tools and Equipments Affects TVL- BPP Students in Learning Skill- Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning and Its Effects to Student's Academic Performance

Wale (2006), was of the opinion that the use of instructional materials would makediscovered facts glued firmly to the memory of students. According to Ogwa (2002), instructional materials include audio visual aids, tools, equipment, machines, educational materials such as Automotive Servicing tools and equipment instructional resources. He also states that, instructional aids mean all the materials or teaching aids or material resources whichthe teacher utilizes for the purpose of making teaching and learning more effective and meaningful to students. In the same sense, instructional facilities for vocational and technical education encompasses all basic hand tools, equipment, classrooms, workshops, laboratories, electrical and electronics instruments among others which help the learners to learn properly (Bulama, 2001). Home is the new classrom of students on Modular Distance Learnings. Most of home doesn't have available tools and equipment in order to perform the bread and pastry practicals properly. Most of the participants of this study said that lacking in tools and equipment highly affected them in learning and acquring the appropriate skills needed. The lack of tools and equipments plays a big impact in learning the skill-based subject. Skills cannot be acquired in a vacuum but rather in a well- established and functional workshop with the right tools, equipment and machines, (Rufai etal., 2013). It proves that lacking in terms of tools and equipments limits students in acquiring the needed skills. One of the interviewees said, "Ang hirap po matutunan yung paggagawa ng tinapay kapag wala pong mga kagamitan kasi dito mo magawa ng maayos" and another participant said, "Naiintihan namn po namin yung mga nasa video kaso may maganda po kung kami po mismo nakakexperience ng pag wewelding po". " Mababa po ang mga nakukuha naming scores dahil hindi po namin masundan nang maayos yung gagawin dahil wala naman po kaming sapat na tool sa loob ng bahay. Most of them encountered ths challenge while learning on Modular Distance Learning.

Life Goes On: Part Time Job as Coping Mechanism to Transcend Financial Difficulty in Learning Skill-Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning

One of the biggest impacts brought by COVID 19 was the increase of number of unemployed workers. A study of Gould et al., 2020 proved that millions of workers of all ages suffered jobless in the corona virus driven recession. Also, a study done by Posel et al., 2020 said " the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic resulted in unprecedented job losses"On the hand, skill-based subject requires sufficient money to support the kitchen or laboratory needs such as money to buy ingredients, and appropriate tools and equipment to properly perform the specific kitchen task. Lacking in finacial aspect resulted to low kitchen performance. As a response most of the students made an alternative source of income through working while studying. One of the participants said, " Hindi naman po pwede na hahayaan ko nalang na wala po akong magamit na pera pambili ng mga ingredients sa

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pagbabake kaya po nagtinda tinda po ako ng mga miryenda tuwing hapon". It also supported by other participant, " Para meron po akong pambili ng mga kulang na tools and equipments trabaho po ako sa umaga tapos module po sa hapon". For some students, especially those in traditionally underserved populations, taking a job is not a matter of choice, but necessity. They need to work to save for college or even to supplement family income (Boshoven,2021).

Just Click the Link: Watching Internet Informative Learning Videos Reading Articles and Books as Coping Mechanism to Transcend Lack of Knowledge and Skills in Learning Skill-Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning

Learners have a free access to internet websites such as google, youtube, facebook and many more. Those mentioned websites offers informative videos and articles from reliable authors and video makers with sufficient knowledge and skills to appropriately shared information to diverse learners through their visual contents. Most of students relied to the use of internet website as a new source of knowledge in addition to knowledge from the school. According to Pew Research Center 2011, "The internet has become a significant local information source". Internet as a functional tool that helps them to communicate with professors, conduct research, and access library materials. Internet is easy to understand, important, beneficial, believable, and accurate (Rhoades,2008). Most of the participants said that in order for them to clearly understand the topic or lesson from their modules they went to internet websites and watch or read the relevant topics to their lessons as a result they understand it clearly because they visually understand the lesson through video contents or internet articles.

Make a Way: Improvising Tools and Equipments as a Coping Mechanism to Transcend Lack of Knowledge and Skills in Learning Skill-Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning

Home was the new learning field of the MDL students. We cannot deny that most of home does not have the access to many appropriate tools and equipment that can be seen to accredited learning facilities or schools. These problems play a big part to the level of learning of the students. The use of improvised tools and equipment was utilized as a practical response to this problem. Ajewole, (1998), defined improvisation as devise and construction of alternative instructional media as substitute to the manufactured ones. Improvisation is applicable to almost all facet of knowledge like arts, science, education, medical

sciences, engineering and non-academic spheres. One of the interviewee said, " Kahit kulang po yung mga gamit namin gumagawa po kami ng paraan para masolusyunan po yun. Halimbawa po dahil walang oven sa rice cooker po kami nagbabake or sa kaldero", The other interviewee also states that, " Nagpagawa po ako kay papa ng improvised oven na gawa sa lata. Okay naman po yung resulta". Improvisation also resulted to many advantages. Improvisation it touches the cognitive, affective and psycho motive domains of learners'(Crossan, 1998, Moshavi, 2001, Sawyer, 2004, Spolin, 1999).

Due to improvisation students learned the power of tranceding one's limitation. Transcendence, as stated by Kenny & Gellrich (2002) is a state of consciousness that reaches beyond the knowledge accumulated within you, whereas the primary objective of deliberate practice is to stimulate the development of improvisation skills through the bases of acquired knowledge.

Focus on your Goals: Time Management as Coping Mechanism to Transcend Attitude Problems in Learning Skill-Based Subject on Modular Distance Learning

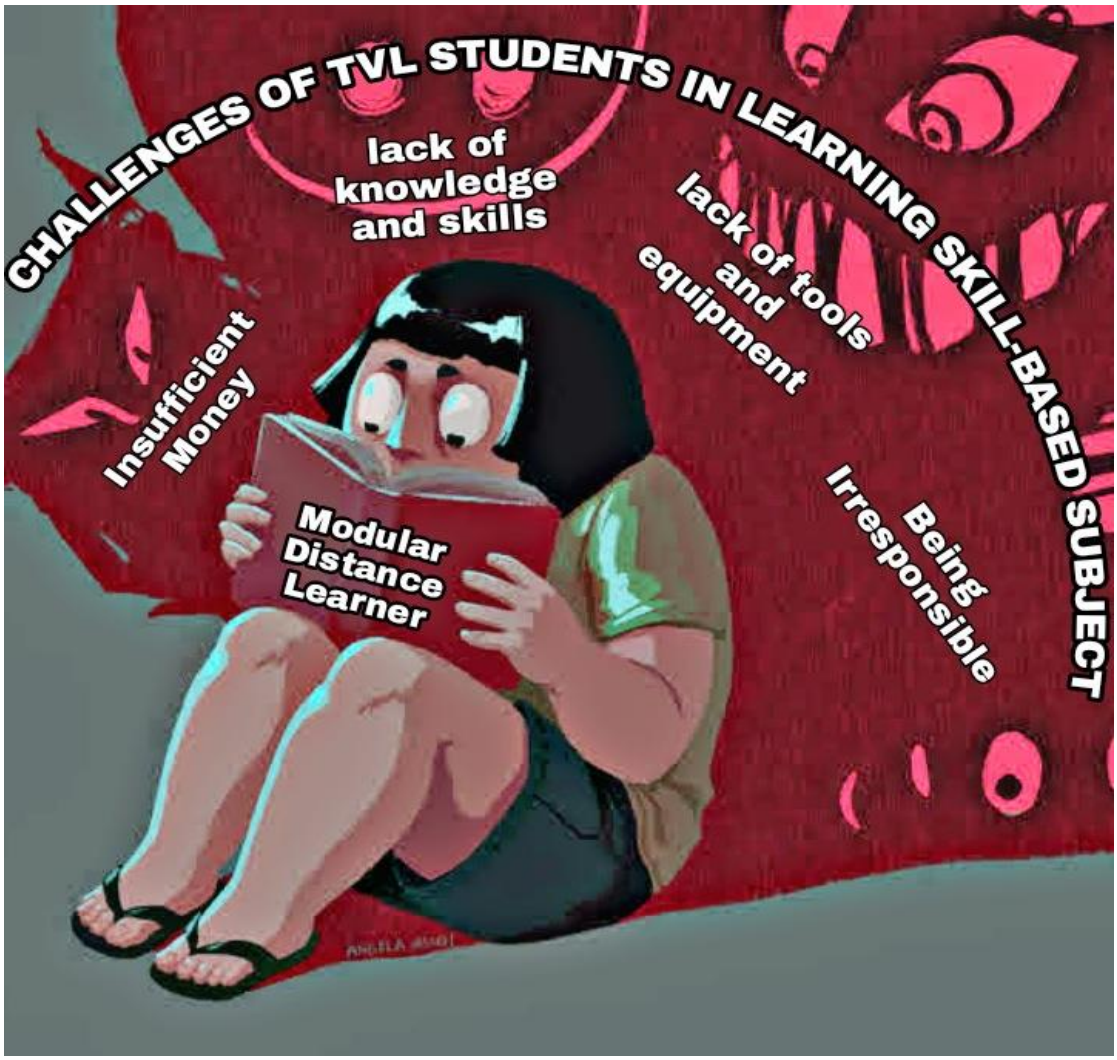
The absence of teachers or learning facilitators had resulted to student's loss of interest to learning. Most of the MDL students prioritize other things instead of education. In order to battle these attitude problems in learning students employed having time management. Time management is about planning and controlling the amount of time you spend on specific tasks (Auld,2021). One of the participants said, "Minsan po nakakatamad gumawa ng mga module pero para malabanan po yun nagkaroon po ako ng time management kaya po marami akong natatapos na mga modules". The other participant also said, "Tamang pagmamanage ng time lang po ginawa ko para mabilis ko pong nagawa yung mga modules "Effective time management allows students to complete more in less time, because their attention is focused and they're not wasting time on distractions (Aild,2021).

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Efficient use of time also reduces stress, as students tick off items from their to-do list. It can also provide a sense of achievement from fulfilling goals.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the study, the researchers formulated a diagram that summarizes the different challenges of TVL students in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning and a synthesis.



Skill-based subject affects students on Modular Distance Learning to acquire needed skills to be a globally competitive K-12 graduate. In order to be a competitive individual, you must have the proper knowledge and skills about your field of expertise. Through this, you will attract the future employer to hire you and it becomes an opportunity to you to showcase your abilities and skills. Due to the rise of COVID 19 pandemic, we seem unprepared. The highly affected learners were those who enrolled to skill-based education. The lack of knowledge and skills, lack of tools and equipment, financial difficulty and attitude problems resulted to not meet the required laboratory outcome and burdens Modular Distance learner to acquire the needed concepts, ideas, knowledge and more importantly the skills of their competencies. As a response to the mentioned challenges students learned

coping mechanisms it includes having part time job, watching informative videos and articles from internet, time management and improvising tools and equipment to battle the unwanted results of those challenges in learning skill-based subject on Modular Distance Learning modality.

Recommendation

In the light of the findings and conclusions, the following are recommended:

1. Webinar that provides more insight in the understanding and practice of alternative tools and equipment they can use in their practical performances.
2. Regular monitoring of learners is also recommended to ensure that they can follow the performance task given by the specialize teacher.
3. We recommend to the Education leaders to create an effective program for the future students of skill-based subject so it limits challenges they may encounter.
4. Seek support program from LGU and other non-profit organization.
5. Showcase talents and skill of Bread and Pastry Production students thru online bazaars wherein they can gain profit as a source of funds
6. To the future researcher we recommend to conduct a deeper study related to this field in that we can give reliable evidences that can be beneficial to diverse readers especially those who study skill-based subjects.

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