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This questionnaire collects information about first year science students' levels of scientific literacy; the extent to which they apply science and technology in their everyday lives; and biographical information about the respondents.

This study could result in improved science teaching and learning practices at secondary schools.

The respondents can rest assured that all information from the questionnaire will be treated in the STRICTEST CONFIDENCE.

Please answer all the questions by circling the appropriate number in a shaded area or writing your answer in the shaded space.

PLEASE LIST YOUR STUDENT REGISTRATION NUMBER BELOW BEFORE ANSWERING ANY QUESTIONS.

A. Registration number



PART 1: QUESTIONS ABOUT SCIENCE

Question 1: The Chemical Compound that is responsible for global warming is...

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C	h	12	1	-	0	C
	ш	13	1	١.	٠.	N

NH ₃	O ₂	N ₂	CO ₂	
1	2	3	4	V2:8

Question 2: The weathering of concrete structures exposed to rain may be as a result of water combining with...

Choices

NH ₃	SO ₂	CH ₄	Fe	
1	2	3		V3:9

Question 3: The chemical substance that protects the earth from harmful ultra violet rays...

Choices

CO	CO_2	O_2	O_3	
1	2	3	4	V4:10

Question 4: Seasonal change on earth is caused by...

Choices

The rotation of the earth	The position of the earth relative to the sun	The tilt of the earth	The position of the earth relative to other planets
1	2	3	4

V5:11

V6:12

Question 5: While making your way to a lecture, three objects, a pen, an eraser and a coin, fall out of your pocket at the same time. As you watch them fall you notice...

Choices

The pen falls fastest	The eraser falls fastest	The coin falls fastest	All objects fall together
1	2	3	4

Question 6: When ice melts in a container of water, the water level decreases because...

Choices

Ice is equally dense as water	ice is more dense than water	ice is less dense than water	the statement is untrue	
1	2	3	4	

Question 7: When you are seated in a car and it swerves to the left, your body moves to the right because your body wants to...

	p on going in a straight line	
1 2 3	4	V8:
ion 8: It is easier to pull than to push an object b net force exerted by the ground Choices	ecause the	
	e statement is	
creases Decreases remains constant	ASSESSMENT AND AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF T	
ion 9: When catching a cricket ball, the pain expethe hand can be reduced if the time taken the ball	untrue 4 erienced by	V9
ion 9: When catching a cricket ball, the pain expethe hand can be reduced if the time taken the ball Choices	untrue 4 erienced by	V9
ion 9: When catching a cricket ball, the pain expethe hand can be reduced if the time taken the ball Choices	untrue 4 erienced by to stop the	V9
ion 9: When catching a cricket ball, the pain expet the hand can be reduced if the time taken to ball Choices creases Decreases remains constant 1 2 3 ion 10: When salt is added to a cooking vessel, the point of its contents	untrue 4 erienced by to stop the ne statement is untrue 4	
ion 9: When catching a cricket ball, the pain expethe hand can be reduced if the time taken to ball Choices creases Decreases remains constant the ball the pain expethe time taken to ball Choices creases Decreases remains constant the pain expethe taken to ball	untrue 4 erienced by to stop the ne statement is untrue 4	

Energy only

V12:18

CO₂ and energy

CO₂

O₂

Question 12: The genetic make up of an offspring is...

C77			
Cl	M	16	C
U 1	ıv		э

predetermined in the mother	predetermined in the father	dependent on the crossing over of chromosomes	dependent on the time of fertilization	
1	2	3	4	V13:19

Question 13: A synthetic product can be described as a strong acid if its pH is...

~					
C	h	1	×	-	DC
			м	к.	

6	7	14	ı ı	
1	2	3	4	V14:20

Question 14: Chemical reactions in the body are influenced by enzymes as the rate of reactions...

Choices

Double	decrease	remain constant	increase	
1	2	3	4	V15:21

Question 15: The AIDS virus is transmitted during...

Choices

Saliva exchange if there are abrasions in the oral cavity	Sexual intercourse	Intravenous blood transfusion	All of the above	
1	2	3	4	V16:

Question 16: The unit in which electricity is bought from power suppliers is ...

Choices

Kg	W	Cd	kWh	
1	2	3		V17:23

Question 17: The energy changes which take place when a light is switched on

Choices

electrical to heat	electrical to light	electrical to heat to	heat to light	
1	2	3	4	V18:24

Question 18: The best conductor of electricity is...

Choices

Cu	Ag	Fe	Au	
1	7	3	4	V19:25

Question 19: Which one of the following properties determines the colour of light?

Choices

Wavelength	frequency	speed	velocity	
1	2	3	4	V20:2

Question 20: A ball is dropped from a height above the ground, it falls and bounces back to ...

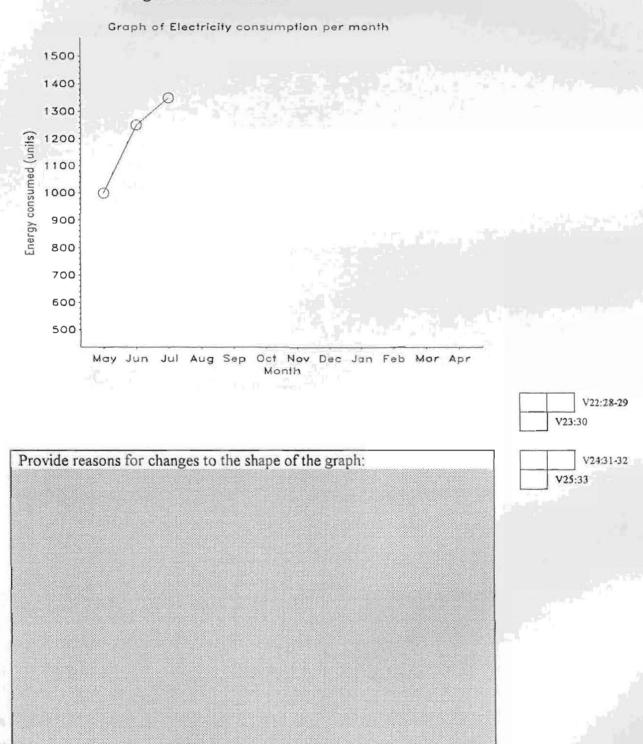
Choices

		C.S.S.F.		
The original height	< the original height	> the original height	the original height repeatedly	
1	2	3	4	V21:27



PART 2: QUESTIONS ABOUT SCIENCE IN OUR EVERYDAY LIVES

Task 1: The graph below reflects electricity consumption for a family of four in a standard three-bedroom home in Gauteng for a three month period. Sketch changes to the shape of the graph for the period December to February. Support your proposed changes with valid reasons.



Task 2:	Briefly describe the technological factors that you would take into consideration before purchasing a cell phone, and justify your selection of factors?	
		V26:34-35 V27:36
Task 3:	Discuss the impact of the internet on society:	
		V28:37-38 V29:39

	Should the drug AZT be made available to pregnant women in South Africa?	
		V30:40
Sask 5:	Provide an illustrated example of an indigenous (homegrown) form of technology that you have experienced in	
	South Africa.	
	South Africa.	V33:45
	South Africa.	V33:45
	South Africa.	V33:45
	South Africa.	

Task 6. Suppose that the Land Vaniversity of Pretoria on an active campaign of community service and enlisted the support of its students. You have been requested to assist with resolving sanitation problems at an informal settlement for a population of 100 residents. You have the daunting task of applying your knowledge and understanding of sanitation issues to develop a system that is cost effective and convince the local community that the system that you develop is in their best interest. Prepare a detailed description of how you would approach this challenge. Your response should be restricted to a

page and include details on:

Investigations Pursued:		
	V34:46- V35:48- V36:50- V37:52- V38:54	-49 -51
D. J. Dil.		
Design and Planning:	V39:55	-56
	V40:57	
	V41:59	
	V43:63	



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				V45:6
				V46:6
				V47:7
ensitivity to the ettlers:	Issues and Choice	es in the Communi	ty of Informal	V49:
				V51:: V52:: V53:81
				n
inal Recommend	lation:			V54:
inal Recommend	lation:			V54: V55:84
inal Recommend	lation:			V54: V55:84
inal Recommend	lation:			

1. What is your name?	
2. What is your age in completed years?	
	V56:85
3. What is your gender?	
Male 1 Female 2	V57:86
4. What is your first language (the language you use most often)?	
English         1           IsiZulu         2           SeSotho         3           IsiXhosa         4	V58:87
Afrikaans 5 Setswana 6	
Other (specify)	
5. Are you willing to be interviewed for this study?	
Yes 1 No 2	V59:88
If "Yes", please provide a contact number below.	
6. Name the last school that you attended?	V60:89
7. Where is the school located e.g. Diepkloof?	
	V61:90



8.	In which province is your so	chool situat	ed?				
						П	V62;9
9.	How would you describe t situated?	he area in	which y	our sch	nool is		
City	1	1					V63:9
Subur	b 2						
Town	ship 3						
Farm	4						
Other	(specify)						
				100.0			
10.	Select the former depar affiliated to?	tment tha	t your	schoo	i was		
	(Urban African Schools)	1					V64:9
	(Indian Schools)	2					
	(Coloured Schools)	3					
	(Homeland African Schools)	4					
	(White Schools)						
Other	(specify)	ų.					
11.	Describe the physical reso table below?	ources of y	our sch	ool usi	ng the		
11.	table below?	ources of y	our sch	ool usi	ng the		
11.	table below?  Physical resource						/65:94
Electr	table below?  Physical resource	Excellent	Good	Poor	Not available	-	/65:94 /66:95
Electr	Physical resource	Excellent	Good 2	Poor 3	Not available	1	
Electric Labor	Physical resource ricity ratories	Excellent 1 1	Good 2 2	Poor 3	Not available 4 4		/66: <b>95</b>

12. Complete the following table for subjects taken in matric?

Subject	High	Std	Lower	Symbol						
English	1	2	3						V70	:99
Physics	1	2	3						V71	:10
Mathematics	1	2	3						V72	2:10
Biology	1	2	3						V73	3:10
Geography	1	2	3		r.= .				V74	1:10
Other subjects (specify)				<b>3</b> = 1 = 2   1						
а.	1	2	3							
b.	1	2	3					L.		
c.	1	2	3		200			1		
t.				-			_	-	100	1
	in your m	2 natric so	3 cience cl	lass?					] v8	7:1
d.		natric so	cience cl		nce cl	ass			] vs	7:1
<ul><li>13. How many learners were</li><li>14. What was the medium of at school?</li><li>English only</li></ul>	f instruct	natric so	cience cl		nce cl	ass		vs	V8 8:121	7:1
13. How many learners were  14. What was the medium of at school?  English only English & your 1st language	f instruct	natric so	cience cl		nce cl	ass		vs		7:1
<ul><li>13. How many learners were</li><li>14. What was the medium of at school?</li><li>English only</li></ul>	f instruct	natric so	cience cl		nce cl	ass		Vs		7:1

104-107 108-111 112-115 116-119

15. Indicate how often you experienced each of the following kinds of teaching in science at matric level?

Kind of teaching	Always	Most times	A few times	Never	
Mainly chalk and talk	1	2	3	4	V89:122
Use of textbooks to explain	1	2	3	4	V90:123
Questions and answers	1	2	3	4	V91:124
Problem solving	1	2	3	4	V92:125
Science experiments	1	2	3	4	V93:126
Work in small groups	1	2	3	4	V94:127
Other(specify)		- E - S	·		V95-V96
	1	2	3	4	128-129
		T, FA	1=	× 2	

# To what extent were each of the following learning methods encouraged in science classes at school? 16.

Learning Method	Always	Most times	A few times	Never			
Memorize notes & equations	1	2	3	4		V97:130	
Solve problems using numbers only	1	2	3	4	4	V98:131	
Solve problems using concepts and principles	1	2	3	4		V99:132	
Solve problems using concepts and principles	1	2	3	4		V100:133	
Solve problems using numbers, concepts and principles	1	2	3	4		V101:134	
Use your own ideas to understand new information	1	2	3	4		V102:135	
Relate physics to real life	1	2	3	4	1.		
Other(specify)		TELE		'- " -		V103-V104	ŀ
	1	2	3	4			136-138
	6 1 3			115			

17. What degree are you registered for at University?

B.Sc	1	V105:139
B.Sc. Engineering	2	
B. Paed	3	
Other (specify)		

# 18. Select the subjects (course

4		
	UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA	
FOC	UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA?	
rse	YUNIBESITHI YA PRETORIA	

Course	Taken this year	Taken last year
Physics 1	1	2
Chemistry 1	1	2
Mathematics 1	1	2
Biology 1	1	2
Applied mathematics 1	1	2
Computer science 1	1	2
Engineering drawing	1	2
Geography	1	2
Other (specify)	7-52 - 11	
a.	1	2
b.	1	2
c.	1	2
d.	1	2
e.	1	2

10-141 12-143
14-145
46-147
18-149
50-151
52-153
54-155
V136
156-159
160-163
164-167
168-171
172-173

Thank you for responding to the questions posed above. You will be briefed about the findings distilled during the synthesis of data. If you are unhappy with any aspect of the work, it will be revisited as you specify. I once again wish to remind you that all information retrieved from the questionnaire will be treated in the strictest confidence.



Appendix 2

# Focus Group Interview Schedule

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Ιn	str	-11	СŤ	IA	n	ς,	,

a. Quickly decide how the following roles will be assigned in your group of five students:

Gatekeeper: ensures that each member has an equal opportunity to participate.

Scribe: summarizes the main points raised in the discussions.

(Rotate these roles for each of the questions provided below.)

- b. Discuss each of the questions listed below in your groups and provide responses in the spaces provided. There could be more than one response per question if the group decides that more than one answer is correct.
- c. Circle the correct answers in the table below before attempting the questions:

Group No:	1	2	3	4	5
Course:	PHY	101	_ P	HY17	1

# **QUESTIONS:**

1. a)	Define the following terms: Scientific Literacy:	
b)	Technological Literacy:	



2. a)	Explain how you would determine whether your friend, colleague or parent is: scientifically literate:
<b>b</b> )	technologically literate:
3.	How do you use science and technology in your everyday lives? For example, what scientific principles are applied while driving a car or when preparing meal? N.B. PLEASE USE YOUR OWN EXAMPLES!

4.	would you introduce in society to enable all citizens to become scientific and technological literate?
5.	In the questionnaire that you completed earlier this year, you encountered several challenges. Some of these challenges included determining whether AZT should be made available to pregnant women, the technological factors taken into account when choosing a cell phone, and the impact the internet has had on society. Discuss these challenges in your group and provide a joint response to each challenge.
a) 	AZT availability to pregnant women:
<u>b)</u>	Cell phone technological factors:
c)	Impact of the Internet on Society



#### Observer Schedule

Observer Name:		_				
Observer Registration Number:						
Group No:	1	2	3		4	5
Course:	PHY101		PHY	171		

The observer plays the most critical role in the execution of this focus group interview as s/he will objectively record the group dynamics that are associated with the development of responses to the questions in the focus group interview schedule. The observer must remain with the group that s/he has been assigned to at all times. The observer is kindly requested to complete the following frequency table during observations.

# N.B. The observer will also be the Timekeeper, i.e. ensure that the same amount of time is allocated to each question.

The following key will guide the completion of the table below:

Level of Participation: 1 – Poor (NO suggestions or questions per Group discussion, readily accepts group response contribution)

- 2 Satisfactory (1 or <1 suggestion or question per Group discussion, readily accepts group response)
- 3 Average (1 to 2 suggestions or questions per Group discussion, challenges group response at least once)
- 4 Good (3 to 4 suggestions or questions per group discussion, challenges group response 3<1 times)
- 5 Excellent (>4 suggestions or questions per group discussion, challenges group response >3times, leads the discussions)

Use of Science Concepts: 1 - Poor knowledge of science concepts

- 2 Lists scientific terms without explaining them
- 3 Lists the scientific terms and explains them
- 4 Links scientific knowledge coherently
- 5 Talks about science at an abstract level

### Use of Technological Concepts

- 1- Cannot apply scientific concepts in real life situations
- 2- Applies scientific concepts to real life situations satisfactorily
- 3- Applies scientific concepts to real life situations well
- 4- Can debate the advantages and disadvantages of technology e.g. AZT and cell phones
- 5- Can discuss the impact of technology e.g. the internet

Group member	Lev					Use	cepts	of s	Sci	ence	Concepts				
1	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
2	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
3	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
4	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5

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i ne c	bserver is a						tion o	or eac	n oi	tne ro	How	ng:	
a)	how cons	ensus w	as rea	ched in	the gr	roup,							
						_							
b)	the kinds	of chall	angac	ancount	harad	in and	sh of	tha m	raune				
U)	the kinds	or Chair	ciiges	Cheoun	.crcu	III Cat	)II (JI	ine gi	oups	•			
		<del>-</del>					_						



# Appendix 3. Analysis of Focus Group Interviews

N.B. These are actual responses of the focus groups.

#	Course	# of Students	Scientific Literacy	Technological Literacy	Use of Science in Everyday Life	Enable Scientific and Technological	AZT	Cell Phone	Internet
1a	PHY 101	3	Is the understanding of science and its application on a daily basis  TEST: The way he looks at things and if the person has an enquiring mind.	It's the understanding of technology like electricity and its understanding by the ordinary people and also electricity  TEST: If a person is exposed to technological appliances and knows how to use them in a daily basis.	We use science to measure the speed of anything which is in motion. We can use technology to communicate in everyday lives e.g. cell phones.  Newton's laws of motion can be used to turn the steering wheel of a car.	Literacy We must give more practical examples that are applied daily and which they can understand better.	Yes, it must be available in order to lower the rate of babies born with HIV virus	More functions that are available on the cellphone, quality of the battery, the capacity of the cell to store data.	It has given people easy access to informat ion.
1b	PHY 101	4	a process whereby information about science is given  TEST: By asking whether they understand the concepts/scientific processes that take place in our everyday lives.  E.g how does it come about to rain	Is a process whereby how science works in an everyday life  TEST: Through questioning them to see whether they know how to use technological equipments (sic) like computers.	Putting a plug into a socket to use electricity. Switching a light on/off.	Educate people about how science and technology work like introducing scientific equipments (sic) to them. Encourage them to participate in scientific events.	If it is used to protect women and their babies during their pregnancy then it should be made available.	A cell phone is the easier way to communicate, if there are disadvantaged factors they would be improved.	No response



#	Course	# of Students	Scientific Literacy	Technological Literacy	Use of Science in Everyday Life	Enable Scientific and Technological Literacy	AZT	Cell Phone	Internet
1	171	1	To know the science of the earth and understand it and you can apply the laws of science.  TEST: I would ask him why does an apple fall from a tree. If he know it is scientific he knows something scientific.	You can use modern technology like VCRs and computers. If the computer is broken you can sort of know what the problem is and fix it. TEST: It is easy to see. If he can program a VCR and know how to use a computer and try to be technological advancing everyday.	I program on a computer. Science is used when I am ryding my bike from home to university like taking a corner	I would give free internet to everyone.	It is their right, if they want to use it they must know the consequences.	If you want someone urgently you can get them easier on their cellphone	If you want information of everything you can get it there and you don't have to drive to the place to get them (sic)



20	PHY	5	The understanding	The understanding of	Being cautious of	I could introduce	AZT is	Encourages	Safes
2a		)			_		1	Encourages	١.
	101		of science in	technology in general	electric appliances.	more	giving lives	communica	time.
			general e.g.	and being able to use or	For instance, when	training/technical	to many	tion. It's	More
			reading, using	operate modern	baking with an	centres where	babies who	faster to get	info in a
			equation, doing,	systems e.g. TVs,	electric stove using	learning is more	could have	a message	short
			experiment and	computers, etc.	right degrees.	practicaly oriented	died.	across.	time.
			observation and	Compaters, etc.	right degrees.	practically officiated	dicu.	ac1033,	time.
			applying these in						
			real life.						
			TEST: If the	TEST: By being able to					
			person is able to	use technological					
			figure out any	devices in everyday					
			problem without a	life. Like using					
			solution by	cellphones and manual.					
			,	cempnones and manuar.					
			himself using his						
			common sense						
			e.g. throwing						
			grass in the air to						
			determine the						
			direction of the						
			wind.						
		<u>_</u>	willia.						



2b	PHY	5	Books, literacy,	Literacy that has to do	Technology:	Provide free	Yes, it	Communic	Persons
20	101	,	etc. that has	with new discoveries	Computer for e-mail,	computer lessons.	should be	ation is an	can have
	101		something to do	and technological	TV, cellphones.	Science and	available to	important	more
			with science. It is	advances. How things	1 v, compilones.	technology must	all	factor in	informat
			explained in	are put together and	Scientific: When	be introduced in	pregnant	our lives.	ion. It is
			scientific terms	how they work and	taking a photograph -	Primary schools to	women	Look at	also
]			and language.	why they work. How	(lenses) create a focal	enable the learners	with	battery	negative
			Ideas and concepts	technology is used in	point. Electricity.	to have a basic	HIV/AIDS	time, talk	because
			in science – what	our everyday life.	point. Electricity.	understanding.	Because	time, talk	any
			question we have	our everyday me.		understanding.	why should	can fax,	infor-
			and what the				you have	e-mail,	mation
			answers is to that				two dying	the size.	can be
			question				persons	die stee.	put on
			concerning				instead of		the
			science				one.		Internet
			TEST: They must	TEST: The person must					without
			have the basic	be computer literate.					super-
			understanding	They must be able to					vision.
			about science.	know about the latest					
			They must also be	technology. See if they					
			interested in the	use the latest					
			field of science.	technologically					
			Take their lifestyle	advanced cellphones,				l	
			into consideration	computers, tvs					
			- what do they do,						
			read - how do						
			they interpret						
			things in life.						
			What ideas do						
			people have				_		



2a	PHY 171	3	Good scientific knowledge. To be able to understand scientific terms. If you are given a scientific book, the person should be able to understand what everything in the book means and to have discussion with other scientific literate persons and understand what they are talking about.  TEST: Whether or not she understand scientific meanings etc when you have a discussion with them.	Test: If the person knows and understands and doesn't struggle in using technological equipment like computers, cellphones, calculators, microwaves.	Calculators, computers, security doors, alarm.  heaters and fans – heat energy current resistors.  Alarm: sensory devices electric.	Offer them free workshops and tours of technology museums and shows. Anything that will interest them and entertain them.	(Yes) because it lowers the risk of their unborn child contracting AIDS.	business: with internet and inter- national calls for personal: voicemail, and voice dial, picture messaging, and games etc.	The Internet has made it possible for communication across the world and disabled people who can't get out of the house can do shopping on the internet and doctors for
			them.						doctors



2b	PHY 171	4	An understanding of general science, physics, chemistry or natural sciences etc. Basic understanding of the jargon.  TEST:by listening to their explanations (of) scientific topics and also by judging them by their habits and interests.	Be able to use and feel comfortable with technological equipment and able to adapt to advancements thereof. And a basic understanding of the jargon.  TEST: They are comfortable around new technology and can easily adapt and learn how to use technological equipment.	The use of electricity, Using computers and the Internet. The cooking of food.	Supply electricity to all parts of the country. Move programmes and promotions to inform and educate the citizens about how technology can impose their lives. In educating them about technology you educate them about science.	AZT should be available enabling the women to choose if she wants to use it.	SMS, internet access, large broadcast area. The battery should be able to last a long time.	Globaliz ation, know-ledge is more readily available Positive effect on the economy, use of ecommer ce. E-mailing speeds up communication and is cheaper.
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3	PHY	3	Applying	Programming a VCR.	Most principles are	Firstly, not group	Our	They cause	Degrada
	171		mathematical	Being able to use	instinctive (and)iour	arts and science	govern-	cancer due	-tion of
			principles to the	electronic appliances.	subconscious (sic).		ment	to	society
			real world,		We don't feel we		believes	radiation.	towards
			towards benefit of		actually benefit from		that HIV		deca-
			mankind.		our studies in		does not		dence
					physics		cause		}
			TEST: They can	TEST: Knowing the			AIDS!!!		
			help with your	terminology e.g. MB =			Poverty		
			physics homework	megabyte, and not act			does		
				damaging towards					
				technological					
				appliances.					



3	PHY 101	5	The knowledge and understanding of scientific terminologies and theories and the application thereof.  TEST: We would determine this by their interests, literature read, television programmes watched, basic scientific knowledge, and if they can relate to a conversation about science.	The awareness of Technological advances in the fields of mechanics and electronic advance, and the ability to use, apply and improve on these theories.  TEST: Whether the person is able to use and understand basic everyday technology. How to operate a calculator, computer, cell phone, TV, microwave oven, VCR.	A roller coaster ride.  Crossing a road – you judge the speed and distance, time, of the car approaching, if you'll be able to cross safely.	Making scientific equipment available to students at primary school level by making (it) part of the curriculum. Motivating the students and encouraging them to get scientific interests at an early age by science fairs, expos, and school practicals. Make science expos appeal to people of al ages, races and financial status.	Yes (3) and No (2).  Yes =having morality and compassion and the possibility of saving a child's life.  No = There is a high possibility that the mother will die and the child will survive, thus leaving an orphanchain reaction.	screen and phone, settings, battery life and accessories available.	The impact is great because of the availability of all the information, good and bad. Good—socializing, support groups, shopping, educational. Badpornography, crime, drugs and explosives and credit