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**AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY TO INTERNET FACILITIES AS  
DETERMINANTS OF EFFECTIVE EDITORIAL SERVICES IN BOOK  
PUBLISHING FIRMS IN SOUTHWESTERN NIGERIA**

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**Abstract**

*Internet facilities are crucial for effective performance of editors in the book publishing firms, as such availability of internet facilities in publishing firms and editors' access to such available facilities are the fulcrum to editorial services. It is in the light of this that this study examined availability and accessibility to internet facilities as determinants of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. Survey design was adopted for the study, structured questionnaire titled "Availability and Accessibility to Internet Facilities by Editors" was the research instrument, while four research questions were asked. The study population was the 54 registered educational publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, while the sample for the study were the 102 editors in 25 publishing firms that were randomly selected. The data collected was analysed using percentages and statistical mean. Findings revealed a strong link between access to internet facilities and effective editorial services in book publishing firms. The study, therefore, recommended that editors should be given improved access to the internet facilities to boost their performance and improve the fortune of the publishing industry.*

**Keywords:** Availability, Accessibility, Internet facilities, Effective editorial services.

### **Introduction**

Information is increasingly becoming a critical factor of success in human endeavours. It is also crucial to effective performance of book publishers. Availability of information and accessibility to information resources play a major role in quality book production. In book publishing, the role of an editor is very important. An editor examines every word and sentence in a manuscript to determine if it has a purpose, if it is complete, and if it is clear and logical. Editor is also concerned with conciseness and precision of submission, consistency of form and style, and coherence and meaningfulness of messages. For an editor to perform these duties effectively, availability of internet facilities and accessibility to these facilities are critical.

The internet is an important product of information and communication technology. It is a collection of vast information sources of interlinked computer networks. It is usually referred to as a network of networks. Millions of computers worldwide are interconnected and the information in each computer is made available to all users who have access to the internet (Adomi, 2009). Internet has also become the most powerful driver of innovation across the world. As opined by Caincross (2001:97), one result of the internet is to change the structure of the communication industry, shifting the focus of innovation away from the old giants and ... drive forward communications technology at a formidable pace. The book industry is part of the communications industry being transformed by the internet. The internet is quite invaluable to every facet of human pursuit. Commenting on the value of internet, Caincross (2001) submits categorically that "those parts of the world that embrace the internet will find themselves better able to compete than those that lag behind". Nigeria is one of the countries that embrace the internet-related innovations, and the publishing industry is not an exception as its services, editorial inclusive, are internet driven and compliant.

Existing literature affirms that availability of and accessibility to information resources are two inseparable factors in determining utilisation of information resources. Availability of information resources is key to its use (Bola and Ogunlade, 2012). This is because an

information system that is not available to users when needed is almost as useless as none at all. Editors, as the major strength behind production of good books which enhance achievement of educational goals, cannot but make use of information resources to impart knowledge adequately and successfully. Therefore, availability of and accessibility to internet facilities are indispensable to effective service of editors in any book publishing firm. However, there are several impediments to successful use of internet facilities by the editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. According to Makinde, Abdullahi and Bolaji (2018), impediments to the successful use of internet facilities in Nigeria include cost, weak infrastructure, lack of skills, lack of relevant software and limited access to the internet. Editors in publishing firms are expected to make use of internet facilities so that they can benefit from the pool of information resources available on internet for effective editorial services.

Editing is an academic and intellectual activity of raising the overall academic standard of a piece of writing. It can be simply defined as a process of preparing texts for publication by correcting errors and ensuring clarity and accuracy. Effective editorial service is the process of checking and re-checking the draft to make it more standard, formal and error-free such that it conveys the mind of the author to make it ready for final publication. Editing is a professional activity which aims at changing an imperfect composition into a perfect one, by spending quality time and effort on the draft. In the same vein, Nordquist (2018) maintains that editing is the stage of writing process where an author or an editor works to improve a draft and prepares it for final publication by correcting every kind of errors and making words and sentences clearer, more precise, more effective and comprehensible to its readers. During the editing process, an editor can add, delete or rearrange the words and sentences in order to make the texts more meaningful and suitable. Billingham (2005), while corroborating this, also pointed out that an editor can make from minor changes to detailed or major changes to structure, style, length or content. Meanwhile, for effective manuscript acquisition, adequate editing, good design and adherence to house style to take place, information resources must be provided and editors must have access to various types of resources particularly in their areas of specialisation. This will not only broaden their knowledge base, but also prepare them ahead

of the challenges that may face them in the course of imparting knowledge through production of good book. A variety of activities that are performed by book editors in the course of carrying out their professional duties is hinged on close interaction with the various information resources in their areas of specialisation.

Information resources utilisation is germane to book publishing profession. This is particularly true for editors in book publishing firms, where they are expected to employ various instructional and learning resources to enhance the effectiveness of their job and to extend frontiers of knowledge through production of good books. Book production is confronted with many issues, such as manuscript generation, formatting and layout, design, etc., and editing is key among these. If a document is not properly edited, it leads to miscommunication and creates misinformation. Among the important tools for effective editorial services in book publishing is a computer system that is imbued with up-to-date electronic editing software and a modem connected to the internet. In the current dispensation in Southwestern Nigeria, virtually all manuscripts are generated and edited electronically. This thus, underscores how germane the internet is to book publishing activities. It is in the light of this that this study examined availability and accessibility to internet facilities as determinants of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

A study of availability and access to Internet facilities as a determinant of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria would be of tremendous significance as it would provide information on the factors responsible for effective editorial services in book publishing firms; enhances the knowledge of the Internet facilities useful for editorial services; and would also assist book publishing firms to identify the ICT training, education, and manpower requirements of editorial staff. Certainly, it would be of great benefits to various stakeholders like editors, publishers, authors, and Internet service providers.

The following four research questions which were drawn from the objectives guided the study:

1. What are the internet devices that are available to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?
2. What are the internet facilities that are accessible to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?
3. What are the indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?
4. How does access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?

### **Literature Review**

The relevant literature to this study is reviewed under the following sub-headings: Overview of the internet facilities, Availability and Accessibility of internet facilities for effective editorial services, and Book editing services and tools.

#### **Overview of the Internet Facilities**

The internet is a computer network that is made up of thousands of networks worldwide. It is one of the most unifying powers known to man. It is a worldwide computer network where one can find a lot of information and communicate with other people all over the world. It is a voluntary network in which many computers connected have chosen to do so in order to share and exchange information in a quick and effective manner. The uses of internet are enormous and multifarious. Its usefulness cuts across all disciplines, careers and professions. The information and communication technology revolution is sweeping through the world and this includes developing countries like Nigeria. The internet originated from government and academia and spread to business and industry (Shelley, 2002). According to Agil and Ahmad (2011), the internet is the transport vehicle for the information stored in files or documents on a computer. It transports various information and services such as electronic mail, online chat, file transfer, interlinked web pages and other documents of the World Wide Web.

In the current dispensation, the internet plays a vital role in the teaching, research and learning process in academic institutions. Thus,

the advent of the internet has heralded the emergence of a new form of knowledge production, distribution and consumption. This new form of information resources has, as its greatest advantage, a virtually unlimited wealth of information resources which is widely readily available and accessible to hundreds of millions of people simultaneously in many parts of the world (Kumar and Kaur, 2006). The internet is a powerful and efficient tool for searching, retrieving and disseminating information, with a significant impact on students and scholars' world-wide. The internet can be consulted and like a reference resource, it is broader and highly dynamic. It also provides a means of scholarly communication (Brunning, Schraw, Norby and Ronning, 2004).

There are a few reputable companies which render reliable internet services but with costs which are relatively not affordable thus limiting access to the use of the internet. The greatest technological challenge in Nigeria is how to establish reliable cost-effective internet connectivity.

Meanwhile, the high cost of internet facilities limits its availability and quality. Reliable internet devices are not affordable. For instance, 4g is better, faster and more reliable than 3g, but not everyone can afford the internet devices that are compatible with 4g. Some of the veteran editors lack digital literacy skills to operate these devices. Availability of relevant software also determines if internet facilities will be available to an individual or not because internet operations rely heavily on compatible software.

Internet was described as a super highway of information carrier, where information seekers on any subject or area of discipline, publishing industry inclusive, can obtain current and useful information and knowledge. Previous studies show that Nigeria does not have adequate internet availability and accessibility. Hafkin (2002) reported that internet connectivity is frequently available only within capital and major secondary cities in many developing countries, while the majority of the population lives outside these cities. The study carried out by Salaam and Adegboro (2010) on internet access and use by students of private universities in Ogun State, Nigeria revealed irregular power supply, slow access speed and lack of time as major problems faced in internet use. However, from the existing literature, there seems to be little or no study on how the internet facilities impact on the activities

of the publishing firms and there is no information on how availability of and accessibility to internet facilities determine effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. It is this gap that this study on availability of and accessibility to internet facilities as determinants of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria wanted to fill.

### **Availability and Accessibility of Internet Facilities for Effective Editorial Services**

Availability of internet facilities in this study means the extent to which internet services are provided for the use of editors in the publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, while accessibility of internet services implies users' ability to gain entry to the internet to carry out the desired tasks. Simply put, accessibility provides the opportunity to use internet resources and services. As opined by Azubuikwe (2014), accessibility is the ability to access and benefit from some systems or entities. As corroborated by Ternenge (2020:134), "accessibility to internet services provides users with a variety of electronic information resources available". In this study, internet accessibility is the ability of editors in the publishing industry to connect to the internet and access internet services. Internet accessibility is made possible by using computers, computer terminals, telephone line, modem, and an Internet Service Provider (ISP). Internet access is attained through different connections such as Mobile, Wireless or Wi-Fi Hotspots, Dial-Up, Broadband, Digital Subscriber Line (DSL), Cable, Integrated Service Digital Network (ISDN), Satellite, Cellular, etc.

The Internet can be accessed and used in a number of ways. Its use has revolutionised access to information for the publishing industry, business world, libraries, education and individuals which include E-mail, World Wide Web (WWW), File Transfer Protocol (FTP), Usenet and Telnet. The Internet and its technology continue to have a profound effect on promoting sharing of information especially in the book publishing industry thereby making possible rapid transactions among authors, editors, designers, assessors, artists, illustrators, photographers, indexers, etc. and by so doing supporting and promoting corporate collaboration among individuals, units/departments and organisations. The common types of facilities and aspects of the internet useful for editors in book publishing firms



are communication facilities like electronic mail, Zoom, Google Hangouts, Skype; Search engines like Google search and Yahoo; File Transfer Protocol for sharing documents, multimedia, pictures, text, PDF, etc.; World Wide Web Services (www, websites), Telnet, Usenet (User's Network), NewsGroup (news discussion groups, blog, etc.), Ecommerce (Amazon, Flipkart, etc.) personal phones, social media networks like WhatsApp, Facebook and Telegram among others.

### **Book Editing Services and Tools**

Book editing is both a craft and an art. To edit a work is to prepare it for publication or to make it suitable for use. Book editing is a process as it entails different sequential stages. According to Okere (2011:263), "book editing is the art of improving the communication process in a manuscript by editors in content and form." The implication of Okere's definition is that editing is a value-adding process which encompasses all activities that can turn an average manuscript into a good book. Akangbe (2016:3-4) submits that:

*Editing is a professional operation of technically preparing a manuscript for publication. It is an act and art of selecting, arranging and presenting a written piece in a readable form. It is an art because it entails creativity and an act because it is operational. Editing therefore comprises all that is done from the time a book is conceived by the author or publisher to when it is produced and made obtainable on the shelf.*

Editing, therefore, is a series of activities which entails: critiquing, reviewing, adding, removing, rearranging and improving on the quality of the existing document to make it of a standard that is acceptable. Book editing involves several stages like: generating the manuscript, structural (substantive) editing, copy editing, proof reading and checking the proofs. Book editor corrects language errors such as poor grammar, incorrect spelling and punctuation, and ambiguities. S/he also identifies technical inaccuracies, improves conciseness and clarity, and is also conscious of potential legal problems such as plagiarism, defamation, obscenity, ethical or moral problems, and copyright infringements.

Book editor checks for uniformity and appropriateness of content and style, determines the order in which the manuscript is to

be published, liaises with all other persons involved in the production of the publication, and affirms due attribution of all cited materials. Preparation of the cover, early matters (preliminary pages), body texts and end matters are also the responsibility of editor. S/he also coordinates, oversees and supervises other professionals involved in book production process such as compositor, designer, illustrator, indexer, printer, etc. The editor is also particular on the house style of the house s/he is working for. House style refers to the specific usage and editing conventions followed by writers and editors to ensure stylistic consistency in a particular publication or series of publications (Areo, 2011). House-style guides (also known as style sheets or stylebooks) typically provide rules on such matters as abbreviations, capital letters, numbers, date formats, citations, spelling and terms of address. It is a mechanical application of elements like spelling and italics.

For an editor to effectively carry out these editorial services and more, a computer with an up-to-date Microsoft Word, Corel Draw, Page Maker, InDesign and Adobe Photoshop software, among others, are vital for effective performance.

### **Methodology**

This study adopted the descriptive survey research design. The population of the study comprised the editorial staff of the 54 registered educational publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria (Nigerian Publishers Association, Ibadan, 2019). Southwestern Nigeria consists of six States namely: Ekiti, Lagos, Ogun, Ondo, Osun and Oyo. The study sample was 102 editorial staff of twenty-five randomly selected publishing houses. Total enumeration sampling method was adopted in the selected houses as all the 102 editors constituted the target population as reflected in table 1.

**Table 1: Population of the study**

<b>S/N</b>	<b>Publishing Firm</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>No of Editor</b>
1.	Afem Publishers Limited	Oworonsoki, Lagos State	4
2.	Anol Publishers	Olodo, Ibadan	3
3.	Bookcraft Limited	New Bodija, Ibadan	4
4	Bounty Press Limited	Orita Challenge, Ibadan	5
5.	Childsplay Books Limited	Ul/Secretariat Rd., Ibadan	3
6.	Cosmopolitan Book Service	Dugbe, Ibadan	5

7.	Extension Publications Limited	Molete, Ibadan	5
8.	Holad Publishers	Sango/Eleyele Rd, Ibadan	3
9.	Ibadan University Press	University of Ibadan, Ibadan	4
10.	International Book Publishers	Old Gbagi, Ibadan	3
11.	Lasswell Enterprises	Imalefalafia, Ibadan	4
12.	Learn Africa Plc.	Ikeja, Lagos State	5
13.	Learning Solutions	Bodija Ibadan	4
14.	Lolyem Communications	Oke-Bola, Ibadan	4
15.	Melrose Books and Publishing Ltd.	Sango-Ota, Ogun State	5
16.	Model Educational Book Publishing Ltd.	Shomolu, Lagos State	5
17.	New Africa Book Publishers	Dalemo, Lagos State	5
18.	Paperback Publishers Limited	Ring Road, Ibadan	3
19.	Penthouse Publications (Nig) Ltd.	Old Bodija, Ibadan	3
20.	Rasmed Publications Limited	Old Gbagi, Ibadan	5
21.	Safari Books Limited	Onireke, Ibadan	3
22.	Scholarship Books Limited	UI 2 <sup>nd</sup> Gate, Ibadan	3
23.	Spectrum Books Limited	Ring Road, Ibadan	5
24.	Straight-Gate Publishers Limited	Water Area, U. I. Ibadan	4
25.	University Press Plc.	Jericho, Ibadan	5
	<b>Total</b>		<b>102</b>

*Source: Human Relations Unit of the Publishing Houses*

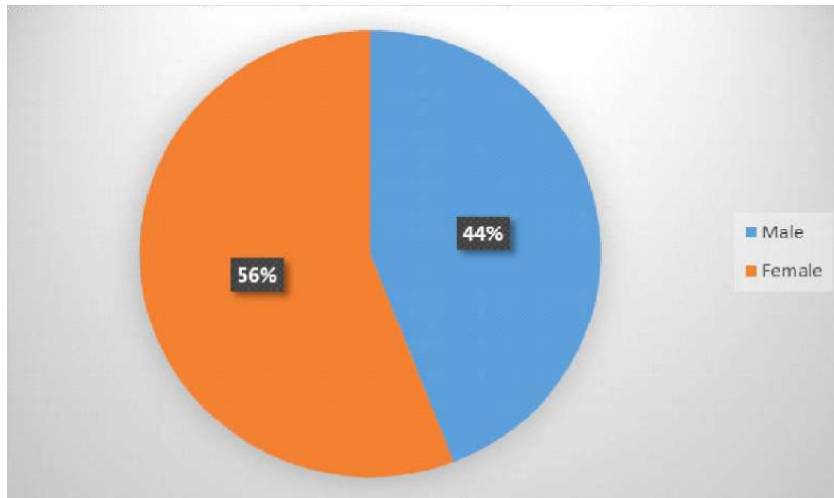
The research instrument employed was questionnaire titled: "Availability and Accessibility to Internet Facilities by Editors". The instrument was validated by two experts on book publishing while for reliability test, the instrument was pre-tested on 30 respondents outside the companies selected for the study. The reliability coefficient was calculated using Cronbach alpha method and the value of 0.88 was obtained. Copies of the questionnaire were administered on the editorial staff of the selected publishing houses. The staff were given ample time to complete the questionnaire, afterwards the completed copies were retrieved and collated for analysis. The data gathered were collated and analysed using descriptive statistics such as frequency distribution and percentages. The answers to the research questions were discussed using descriptive statistics of frequency distribution table and charts.

### Results and discussion of findings

The data collected from the respondents were analysed using statistical package for social sciences (SPSS) software version 2.0 and the results were discussed using descriptive statistics of tables, mean and standard deviation scores and chart.

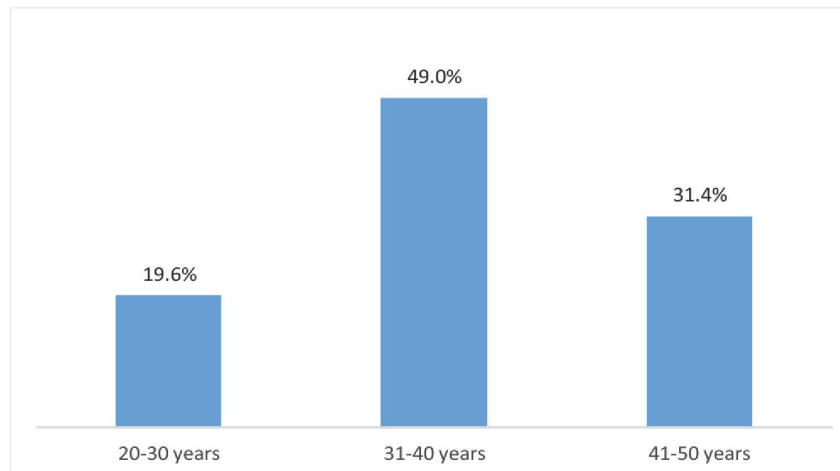
### Demographic characteristics of respondents

The data collected for the study is analysed and discussed in this section. One hundred and two (102) copies of the questionnaire were administered to the staff of the publishing houses and the whole 102 copies were returned and found useful for analysis giving a response rate of 100%.



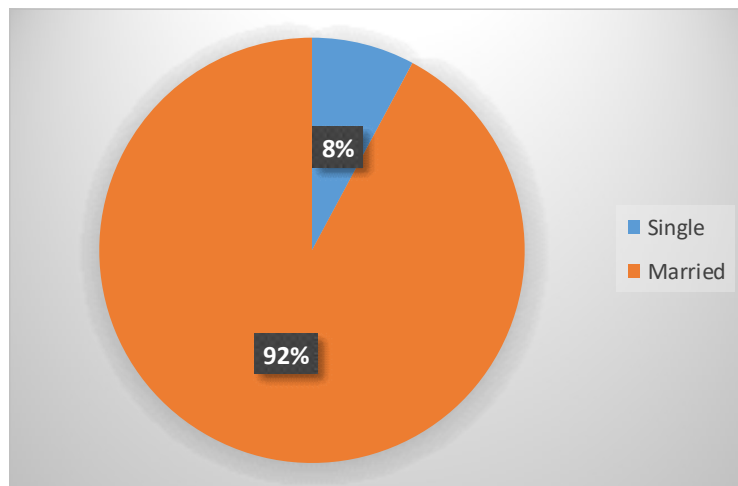
**Figure1: Pie chart showing the respondents by gender**

The distribution of demographic information of the respondents by gender reveals that the editors comprised 45(44.1%) males and 57(55.90%) females as seen in figure 1. It thus implies that there were more females than males working as editors in the book publishing sector in Southwestern Nigeria.



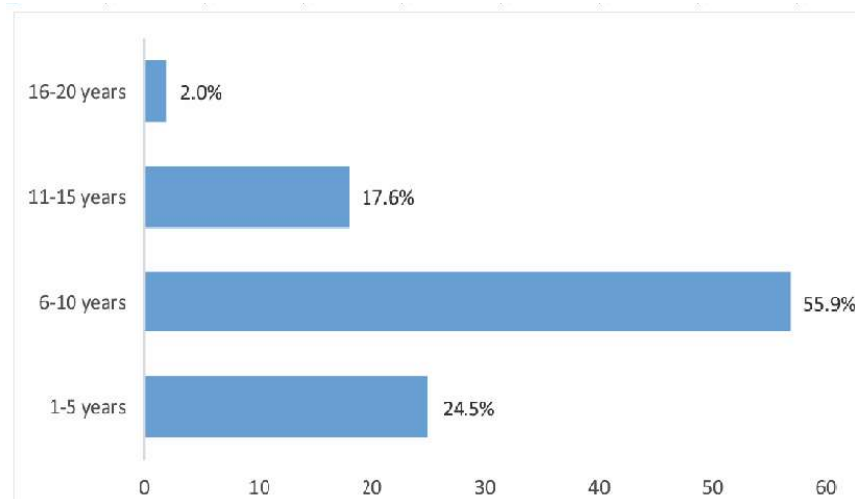
**Figure 2: Histogram showing age of respondents.**

Age distribution of the respondents is highlighted in Figure 2 which reveals that majority 50(49.0%) were between age range of 31-40 years while, 32(31.4%) were between age range of 41-50 years and 20(19.6%) were 20-30 years respectively. The data gathered reflected that the predominant age range of editors was 31-40 years.



**Figure 3: Pie chart showing respondents' marital status**

Figure 3 shows that only 8(7.8%) of the editorial staff in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria were single, while the majority 94(92.2%) were married. The data show that most of the editors in the publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria were quite matured and socially responsible as husbands and wives.



**Figure 4: Histogram showing the respondents by work experience**

In Figure 4, it is revealed that 25(24.5%) had 1-5 years of work experience, majority 57(55.9%) had 6-10 years, 18(17.6%) had 11-15 years’ experience, while only 2(1.9%) had 16-20 years of work experience. The data shows that job retention was relatively high among editors in the publishing sector as the editors with the highest range of years of experience had spent between 6 and 10 years.

**Analysis and results**

This section discusses the research questions and analyses the results obtained from the data collected.

**Research question 1:** What are the Internet devices that are available in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?

**Table 2: Availability of internet devices in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria (N=102)**

S/N	Items on Internet devices availability	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Router for the firms	80 (78.4)	22 (21.5)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.78	.413
2	Modem for the department	2 (1.9)	10 (9.8)	80 (78.4)	10 (9.8)	2.04	.525
3	Personal modem	60 (58.8)	20 (19.6)	5 (4.9)	17 (16.7)	3.21	1.129
4	Wi-Fi Hotspots	100 (98.0)	2 (2.0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.98	1.39
5	Cyber café	0 (0)	0 (0)	102 (100)	0 (0)	2.00	.000
6	Personal Router	10 (9.8)	5 (4.9)	75 (73.5)	12 (11.8)	2.13	.740
7	Wireless networks	0 (0)	0 (0)	101 (99.0)	1 (1.0)	1.99	.099
8	Broadband	0 (0)	0 (0)	81 (79.4)	21 (20.6)	1.79	.406
9	Fiber Optics	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	102 (100)	1.00	.000
<b>Grand Mean and Standard deviation =21.92 ± 1.65</b>							

**Scale: SA = Strongly Agree (1), A = Agree (2), D = Disagree (3), SD = Strongly Disagree (4)**

In table 2, the internet devices that were available in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria are defined by nine items which were rated on a Likert scale of four levels, namely: 1 –Strongly Agree (SA), 2 – Agree (A), 3 – Disagree (D), and 4 – Strongly Disagree (SD). Descriptive statistics was employed to analyse the data collected as presented in the results in table 2. Test norm was carried out on internet devices that are available in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria and the total maximum score of thirty-six was permissible. A score of 0-17 points shows poor internet devices availability and 18-36 points indicates reliable internet devices availability in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. Since the mean ( $\pm$ SD) score of the respondents was 21.92( $\pm$ 1.65) which falls within the range of 18-36, it can then be concluded that all the items are reliable internet devices availability in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

**Research Question 2:** What are the internet facilities accessible to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?

**Table 3: Accessibility to internet facilities by editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria (N= 102)**

S/N	Items on Internet devices accessibility	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Communication facilities (e.g., Zoom, Google Hangouts, Skype, Telnet, User Network, Skype, etc.).	30 (29.4)	10 (9.8)	40 (38.2)	22 (22.5)	2.47	1.13
2	Search engines like Google search, Yahoo, Bing, Ask.com, Google Scholar, Web crawler, etc.)	100 (98)	2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.98	.139
3	Social media (WhatsApp, Facebook, Telegram, Instagram, Twitter, etc.)	102(100)	0	0	0	4.00	.000
4	File transfer (documents, multimedia, pictures, text, and PDF, etc.)	100 (98.0)	2(2.0)	0	0	3.98	.139
5	World Wide Web Services	0 (0)	102(100)	0 (0)	0(0)	3.00	/000
6	Usenet (User's Network)	0 (0)	0 (0)	102(100)	0 (0)	2.00	.000
7	Newsgroup (news discussion groups, blog etc.)	0(0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	102 (100)	1.00	.000
8	Ecommerce (Amazon, Flipkart, etc.	20 (19.6)	6(5.9)	46(45.1)	30(29.4)	2.16	1.06



	websites/apps)						
9	Email	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
10	Smart T.V readers	0 (0)	0 (0)	0(0)	102 (100)	1.00	.000
11	E-book readers	0 (0)	0(0)	102(100)	0 (0)	2.00	.000
<b>Grand Mean and Standard deviation =29.59 ± 2.177</b>							

**Scale: SA = Strongly Agree (1), A = Agree (2), D = Disagree (3), SD = Strongly Disagree (4)**

In table 3, the internet facilities accessible to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria were defined by eleven items. These items were graded on Likert scale of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. The data collected was analysed using descriptive statistics and the results are presented in the table. From the test norm conducted on how access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, a total maximum score of forty-four was permissible. A score of 1-21 points shows poor internet facilities accessibility by editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, while 22-44 points indicates good internet facilities accessibility. The mean ( $\pm$ SD) score of the respondents was 29.59( $\pm$ 2.177) as shown in table 3 which falls within the range of 22-44, it can then be concluded that there was a good internet facilities accessibility by editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

**Research question 3:** What are the indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?

**Table 4: Indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria (N= 102)**

S/N	Items on effective editorial services	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SA (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Proper market research	80 (78.4)	22 (21.6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.78	.413
2	Selection of qualified and competent writers	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0(0)	4.00	.000
3	Conducting writing workshop for quick manuscript generation	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000

4	Effective manuscript assessment	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0(0)	4.00	.000
5	Checking and re-checking of the draft of the manuscript	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
6	Efficient copy editing of manuscripts	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
7	Adding, deleting or rearranging words and sentences to make discourse meaningful and suitable	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
8	Effecting minor changes to detail or major changes to structure, style, length or content	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
9	Proper styling of manuscript	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
10	Effective choice of publication size and enhancing typography	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
11	Effective editing of galleys and proofs	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
12	Writing of good illustration briefs and composition of efficient illustrations	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
13	Good cover concept and enhancing compositions	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
<b>Grand Mean and Standard deviation =51.78 ± .413</b>							

**Scale: SA = Strongly Agree (1), A = Agree (2), D = Disagree (3), SD = Strongly Disagree (4)**

In table 4, the indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria were defined by thirteen items which were graded in Likert scale of Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. The data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics and the results are presented in table 4. From the test norm scale on how accessibility to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, the total maximum score permissible was fifty-

two. A score of 1-24 points shows poor indicators of effective editorial services while 26-52 points indicates good indicators of effective editorial services. Since the mean ( $\pm$ SD) score of the respondents was 51.78( $\pm$ 4.13) which falls within the range of 26-52, it can be concluded that the items were reliable indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

**Research question 4:** How does accessibility to Internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?

**Table 5: How accessibility to internet facilities enhances effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria (N=102)**

S/N	Items on access to internet facilities and effective editorial services	SA (%)	A (%)	D (%)	SD (%)	Mean	Std. Dev.
1	Access to Internet facilities helps my work to be accurate.	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
2	Access to the internet facilities gives me immediate access to information that is useful for effective editorial service.	102 (100)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	4.00	.000
3	Access to internet facilities aid my communication with authors.	100 (98)	2 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.98	.139
4	I experience work overload each time I do	10 (9.8)	20 (19.6)	40 (39.2)	32 (31.4)	2.07	.947

	not have access to the Internet.						
5	Internet access enhances the quality of my job.	95 (93.1)	07 (6.9)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.93	.254
6	I use internet facilities to correct language errors such as poor grammar, incorrect spellings, punctuations, and ambiguities.	80 (78.4)	22 (21.6)	0 (0)	0 (0)	3.78	.413
7	I use internet facilities to identify potential legal problem such as plagiarism, ethical or moral issues, copyright infringements, defamation risks, etc.	60 (58.8)	21 (20.6)	0 (0)	21 (20.6)	3.18	1.181
8	I use internet facilities to network all other persons involved in publication production.	0 (0)	0 (0)	12 (11.8)	90 (88.2)	1.12	.324
9	I use internet facilities to prepare and disseminate instructions to other staff such as designer, illustrator and typesetter.	30(30.4)	20 (19.6)	0 (0)	52 (88.2)	2.27	1.351
10	I use internet	58	44	0	0	3.57	4.98

	facilities to select illustrations, including photographs, tables, drawings, maps, etc.	(57.8)	(42.2)				
<b>Grand Mean and Standard deviation =21.90 ± .980</b>							

**Scale: SA = Strongly Agree (1), A = Agree (2), D = Disagree (3), SD = Strongly Disagree (4)**

In table 5, how access to Internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria was defined by ten items and measured on a Likert scale. The data collected were analysed using descriptive statistics and the results are presented in Table 5. Test norm was carried out on how access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria and the total maximum score of forty was permissible. A score of 1-19 points indicates a low level of how access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services while 20-40 points indicates a high level. The mean ( $\pm$ SD) score of the respondents is 31.90( $\pm$ .980) as shown in Table 5. Since this falls within the range of 20-40, it can then be concluded that a high level of access to internet facilities enhance effective services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

#### **Discussion of Findings**

On research question one which focused on the internet devices that were available to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria, findings revealed that Wireless networks, Broadband and Fibre optics were the three items that yielded poor mean scores, while the six items that yielded high mean scores were router for the firms, modem for the department, personal modem, wi-fi hotspots, cyber café, and personal router. With these results, it could be deduced that there was availability of internet devices in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

However, as opined by Aguolu and Aguolu (2002) and Bola and Ogunlade (2012), availability of information does not imply that such information is readily accessible for utilisation by book editors.

As submitted by Salaam and Adegboro (2010) and Makinde, Abdullahi and Bolaji (2018), a number of factors such as cost of procuring these devices and availability of relevant technological infrastructures that were needed for the devices to function can determine availability of these internet devices.

Research question two investigated the internet facilities that were accessible to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. Findings on this revealed that a few internet facilities were accessible for use of the editors in book publishing firms. The accessible facilities were search engines like Google, Yahoo, Bing, Ask.com, Google Scholar, Web crawler, etc. File transfer facilities suitable for transferring documents, multimedia, pictures, text and PDF were equally accessible. In addition to these were social media platforms like WhatsApp, Facebook, Telegram and Twitter. World Wide Web (www) services, Email, Desktop and Laptop Computer, Mobile phones and Tablets were also put into use by editors. However, a number of facilities were not available. On the list were: Smart T.V readers, E-book readers, Usenet (User's Network), News Group (news discussion groups, blog, etc.), and Ecommerce (such as Amazon, Flipkart, etc. websites/apps). It has been established in literature that availability of internet facilities does not necessarily guarantee accessibility. To buttress this, Aguolu and Aguolu (2002) identified five major possible types of inaccessibility which are conceptual, linguistic, critical, bibliographic and physical inaccessibility. Arising from the findings of this study however, it was evident that there was reliable internet facilities accessibility by editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

Research question three examined the indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. Findings on this research question showed that the indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria were: proper market research, selection of qualified and competent writers, conducting writing workshop for quick manuscript, effective manuscript assessment, checking and re-checking of the draft of the manuscript, and efficient copy editing of manuscripts. Other findings that were fundamental to effective editorial services by editors were proper styling of manuscript, effective choice of publication size, enhancing typography, effective editing of galleys and proofs, writing of

good illustration briefs, as well as composition of efficient illustrations and good cover concept. All these were indicators of effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. This finding was in tandem with that of Akangbe (2019:383) who identified “efficient typography, appropriateness of fonts, adequate interplay of space, text and graphics, effective formatting and layout, sufficient margins, functional cover, and logical sequence of book components” as indices of quality textbook production in South-west, Nigeria.

The last research question was ‘how does access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria?’ Findings on these research question revealed a strong link between access to internet facilities and effective editorial services in book publishing firms. The data gathered showed that access to internet facilities eased and enhanced the work of editors tremendously. This was because it gave editors immediate access to information that was useful for effective editorial services. Access to internet facilities aided editors’ communication with authors. Internet access enhanced the quality of the job of editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria because they used internet facilities to correct language errors such as poor grammar, incorrect spellings punctuations, and ambiguities. They used internet facilities to identify potential legal problem such as plagiarism, ethical or moral problems, copyright infringements and defamation risks, among others. Apart from the aforementioned, book editors also used internet facilities to select illustrations, including photographs, tables, drawings, maps etc. As summed by Akangbe (2019:381), “... all the basic skills required for editing are ICT-induced and ICT-compliant. With ICT, all the skills that are basic to editing are enabled ranging from word processing to cover design, illustration generation, indexing and mirroring. To these listed skills, computer and internet literacy serve as boosts”. This readily confirms that access to internet facilities enhanced effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

### **Conclusion**

Arising from the findings of this study, it was evident that availability and accessibility to internet facilities were quite crucial to effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. The study had established that there are peculiar internet devices that are

available to editors in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. In the same vein, there are also internet facilities that are accessible to editors for their optimum performance. The study clearly identified the indicators of effective editorial services and also established how access to internet facilities enhance effective editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria.

### **Recommendations**

The following recommendations were made based on the findings of this study:

1. Internet devices should be made available to editors of book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria to enable them have access to such devices.
2. Editors should be given improved access to the internet facilities to boost their performance and improve the fortune of the publishing industry.
3. Access to internet facilities should be given priority by management of publishing firms to enhance editorial services in book publishing firms in Southwestern Nigeria. This will generally improve their skills on book editing and facilitate quality book production.

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