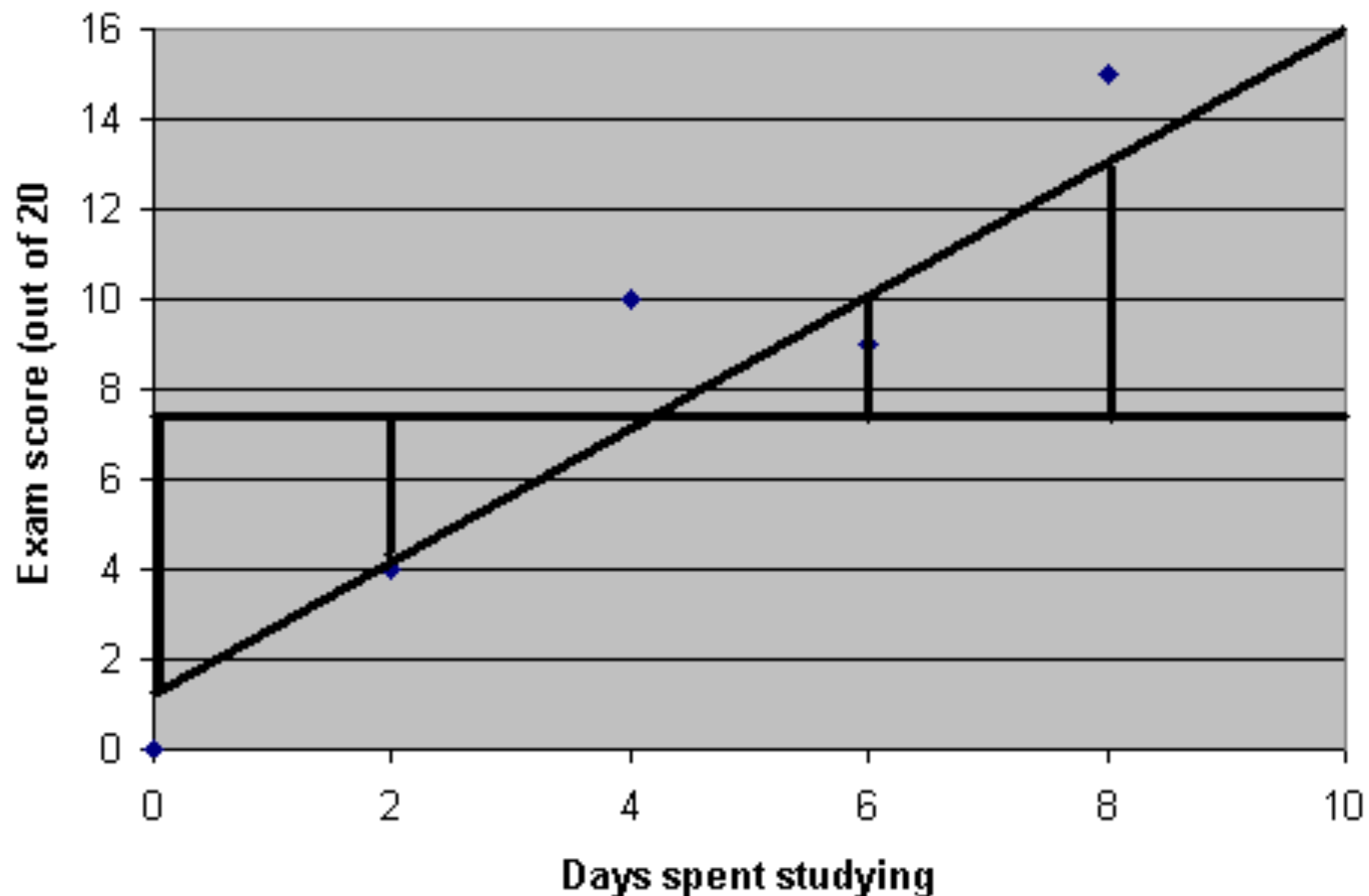# How much the mean value of Y differs from the regression line for different values of x (called SS$_M$):

- If SS_M is large, then the regression model is better than the mean in terms of predicting values of the outcome variable.

- If SS_M is small, then the regression model is not much better than the mean in terms of predicting values of the outcome variable.