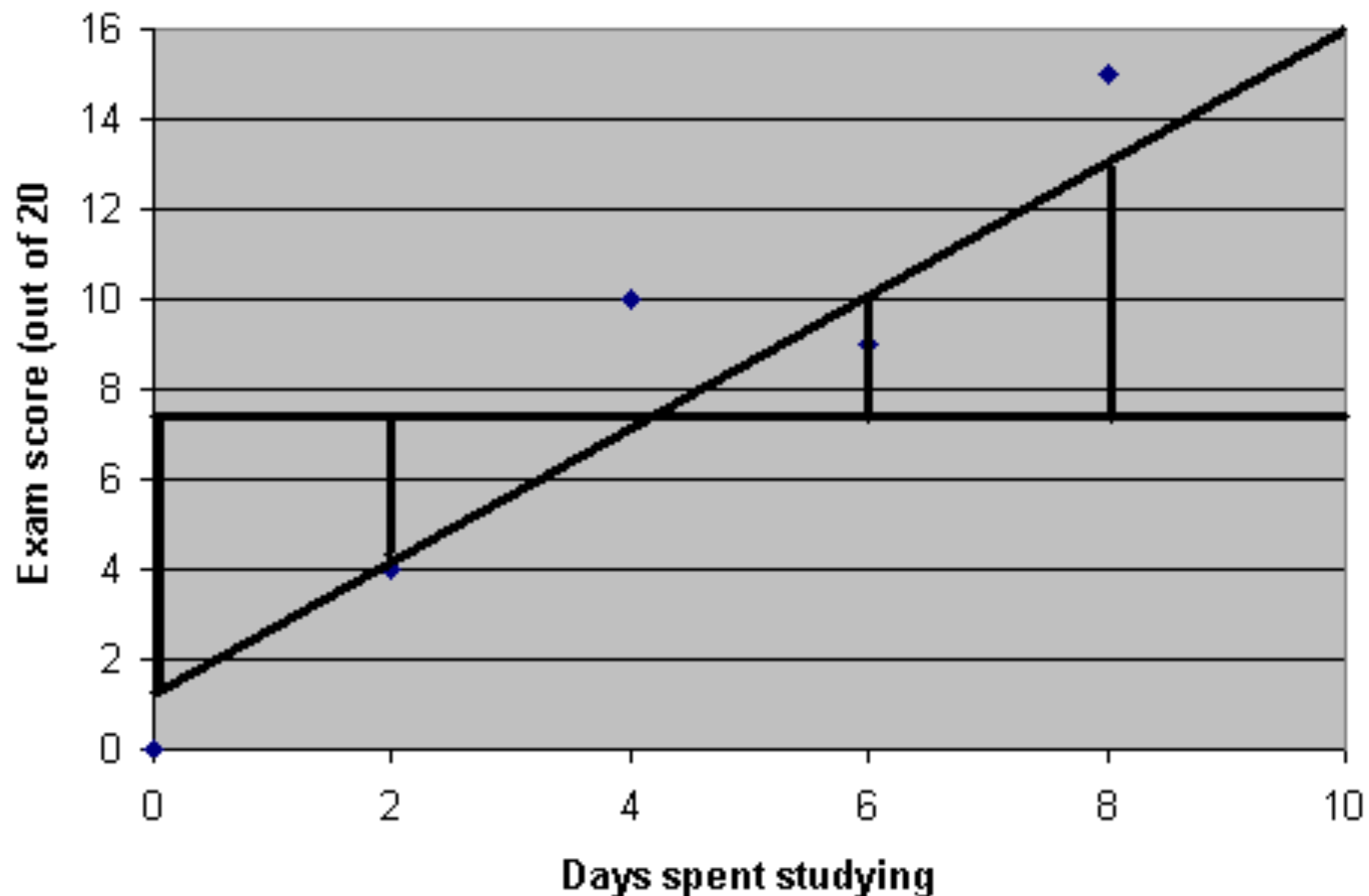


How much the mean value of Y differs from the regression line for different values of x (called  $SS_M$ ):



- 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.