**KWAME NKRUMAH UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, KUMASI**

**COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING**

**FACULTY OF MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL ENGINEERING**

**DEPARTMENT OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

**BSc. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

**FIRST YEAR**

**COMMUNICATION SKILLS I**

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MY SECONDARY SCHOOL AND KNUST CAMPUS BY

Secondary school, as well as university is major part in everyone 's life. Everyone thinks that university is just a slightly harder version of high school, but it has some major differences. Many people don’t notice theses differences and similarities. Secondary schools and universities have huge differences but also are very alike. Most everyone has to go to secondary school or at least try to, unlike university where it isn’t required. University may not be required, but can help a lot when trying to get a job or career. High school is the first step to a higher level of learning which give you the proper knowledge to prepare for your future.

In university, there is a definite difference in expectation, and this is a major challenge. In high school, students are cradled by the teachers and administration. If a person is to fail an assignment, the students have as many chances possible to pass. In addition, if a student fails an exam, this will not mean that the student fails the course. Therefore, this causes major problems moving into the tertiary institution. Furthermore, in the university, students are expected to learn quicker. What is meant by this is, that in the senior high school, students are taught at a slower rate. Therefore, it is definite that in high school, having less expectation reflects in university, by causing more of a challenge for the student to adjust. Finally, achieving a high grade in college is more difficult than in high school. In high school, grades are easier to achieve and there are greater opportunities for marks. Usually, a student is graded on many different areas, including; attendance, participation, effort, and organization. Also, students are graded on evaluations and assignments. These are the areas which are graded, and these account for a large portion of the final cumulative.

Ever since my first day on the KNUST campus all these differences came into light and was a bit of a struggle. Everything was different starting from the level of freedom, though the school has a lot of rules and regulations guiding our behaviour there is still a large difference between the restrictions I had then in secondary school and now in the university which required a lot of self-control to know when and how to read, sleep, eat , relax and many more things which back in secondary school was outlined and strictly enforced for the students and our distractions were limited.

In my few weeks here I realised a lot of work is left to us the students in forms of assignments, projects and research to complement what we had learnt in the lecture hall so about 50% of the knowledge we use in writing exams and tests are gotten from our own personal studies which helps make us the students a bit more serious than we were in senior high school where all the materials needed will be given to us in the classroom and not so much personal research was required.

Unlike my secondary school, KNUST is a place you can explore, experience and discover yourself and really know who and the kind of person you are through varieties of co-curricular and social activities organised both by both the school and the student body, though some of these activities were available in secondary school they were limited by the opening and closing hours which didn’t give many students the room they required to grow into their own individual persons.

Another difference is the grading system. In university every grade counts till the final year because each year is added to the next to sum up your cumulative average but in secondary school every new year was a chance to start over and move on without your previous performances affecting your current grades which means every test, assignment or project either has a positive or negative effect on your grades up till the end of your stay.

Among many other differences between my secondary school and KNUST these are the ones which have had the biggest impact and have made me fully acknowledge the transition from secondary school to university.

ADVERBS

1. Well
2. Just
3. Slightly
4. Also
5. Very
6. Alike
7. Also
8. Where
9. When
10. Not
11. Therefore
12. Furthermore
13. Usually
14. Finally
15. Ever
16. Here
17. Strictly
18. How
19. Back
20. Really
21. Fully

Adjectives

1. High
2. Secondary
3. Major
4. Huge
5. Definite
6. Many
7. Possible
8. Future
9. Proper
10. Tertiary
11. Quicker
12. Senior
13. Less
14. Difficult
15. Greater
16. Final
17. Cumulative
18. Large
19. First
20. Limited
21. Personal
22. More
23. Serious
24. Co-curricular
25. Individual
26. Average
27. New
28. Previous
29. Biggest
30. Positive
31. Negative