A STUDY OF ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES IN ONLINE LEARNING

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Abstract

Education is the most cherished goal of any human civilization. It is the role of education to develop and realize these rich inherent potentialities of every human being. Education does not mean giving bookish knowledge of different subjects but it aims at developing the thinking of the learner so that he/she can attain the problem-solving attitude. The Online learning can contribute immensely for the development of education system. The advancement of information technology in the twenty-first century has profoundly changed our educational system. The use of the internet in teaching and learning has become more common in education. The reality is that online learning is the new mode of instructional delivery that is now available to students. Therefore online learning is said to an innovative approach for delivering a well-designed, learner-centered, interactive, and facilitated learning environment to anyone, anyplace, anytime by utilizing the attributes and resource of various digital technologies along with other forms of learning materials suited for open, flexible, and distributed learning environments.So ,we can say that the use of digital technology can pave the way to better understanding of the learner. Hence, this paper aims to review the advantages and disadvantage of online learning on the education system.

Key words: Online learning, Advantages, Disadvantages, Education System, Technology

1   INTRODUCTION

The present era is an era of digital technology. Digital technology has affected every aspect of life. But still our education system seems to be lacking in this sphere. We are still following the age-old traditional system of education where the teacher holds the main position and the students are provided education through lecture method with chalkboard and textbooks as teaching aid. However, the use of digital technology with the help and guidance of a teacher can change this scene. Today digital technology has entered every sphere of life and the education system is also influenced by this digital revolution. Digital technology today enables the students to involve themselves in active learning, to learn according to their own pace, time and convenience. The teachers are also benefited by this digital technology, as it has given them access to immense knowledge and educational Opportunities. Online learning is one such method which provides the opportunity to use online and digital resources.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

In any research, a thorough review of previous research works done worldwide is very much essential to identify a new area of research. In the present research, the researcher wanted to investigate the advantages and disadvantages of online learning in education.

Mustafa (2019), studied "Internet access and use among business students of a private university of Bangladesh: a survey". The main objectives of the study were - (i) To study the use pattern of the internet by the business students. (ii) To identify the different purposes that the internet is used for by the business students, (iii) To find out the influence of the internet on the academic efficiency, (iv) To assess users satisfaction with regard to internet resources and services, (v) To find out the problems they encounter. The result revealed that 32.8% of the respondents were experience during the internet for1-2years,35.6%was found to use the internet daily and 46% accessed the internet at their University whereas Google had found as the favorite search engine by 85.4%. It has also found that 56.2% of the respondents use the internet for educational purpose. About 34% of the respondents thought that dependency on traditional documents has decreased. 43.8% of the total respondents were not satisfied with internet resources and services. Maximum of 75.2% of the respondents reported the problem of slow access speed while using the internet followed by difficulty in finding relevant information and privacy problems.

Bankole and Babalola (2020) studied on "Online learning use among Undergraduate Students of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye, Nigeria" with the following objectives- (i) To discover the level of access and pattern of use of the Internet by the students of Olabisi Onabanjo University, Ago Iwoye. (ii) To determine which purposes the Internet was being used by the students. (iii) To discover the extent of use of the various Internet-based services and resources by the students. (iv) To identify the problems faced by the students regarding access and use of the Internet. The result revealed that 66.1%ofthe respondents were found to the access internet at cybercafés located outside the university campuses. Majority of the respondents (48.2%) reported they acquired the skills for internet use on their own through trial and error. Among the respondents, 32%ofthem found to use the internet once a week and 60.6% of them spent 1-5 hours per week. 90.6% of the respondents mentioned that they use the internet for communication purposes. Maximum respondents (87.8%) follow an email tool for communication. Several problems were found while using the internet, one of the major problems indicated by almost half of the respondents was the slowness of the server resulting in time wastages.

Devi and Roy (2018) studied on the internet use among the Assam University Students. The main objectives were - (1) To find out the frequency of internet use among university students. (2) To find out the preference of place and time for accessing the internet. (3) To find out the purpose of using the internet among Assam University Students. The study revealed that 49% of the respondents use the internet daily, 19% use twice a day, 20% use weekly, 3%use monthly and 9% use rarely. The study also found that 49% of the students use the internet at nighttime, 23% use at evening time, 11% use at afternoon time, 9% use at late night and 8% use at morning time. 54 % of the students were found to use the internet for their study purpose, which was followed by downloading materials, 4% for chatting, 9%

to send e-mail and 7% for any other purpose.

Selvi, M. and Dhanavandan, S. (2019) conducted "a study on Utilization of Internet Resources and Tools by Basic Medical Science Professional", with the following objectives- (i) To study the characteristics of the population. (ii) To study how internet-based resources and tools are identified by the respondents. (iii) To analyze the usage pattern of the internet. (iv) To study the frequency usage of internet resources and tools by the respondents. (v) To analyze the use of search engines and websites by the respondents. (vi) To study the difficulties and barriers to accessing the internet by the respondents. The study revealed that 48% of the respondents use the internet every day; 46.22% of the respondents access the internet from the central library; 21.33% of the respondents spent more than 20 hours per week. Most of the respondents spent average time studying and updating their knowledge. 97.77%ofthe respondents use the internet for gathering information and 94.22% of the respondents use the internet for the e-resources available on the internet.

Thanuskodi (2016) studied on "Use of E-resources by the Students and Researchers of Faculty of Arts, Annamalai University". The result revealed that majority of the respondent was aware of e-resources availability; 47.78% of the respondents wish to access electronic version only; 32.78% of the respondents read the printed journals and 19.44% of the respondents use both electronic and printed resources. Majority of 76.66% of respondents were found to prefer e-resources for writing papers and they avail it from the library websites.

S. Thanuskodi and E. Amsan (2017) investigated the "Effectiveness Use of E- Resources Materials among Students of JJ College of Engineering And Technology: A study". The objectives were- (i) To examine the respondent's duration and quantum of time utilization in search of Engineering information. (ii) To identify the respondent's extent of requiring various engineering and technology information. (iii) To study the respondent's frequency of utilizing engineering information. (iv) To analyze the respondent's extent of access to e-resources. (v) To examine the respondent's purpose in gathering e-resources. (vi) To study the respondent's e- resources use pattern and extent of usage in their profession. (vii) To study the respondent's satisfaction and problems in utilizing the e-resources. The study found that among 70.90% of male and 29.09% of female respondents' total 31.81% of the respondents' use the internet once in a week and the majority of 50% indicated that subject knowledge is the primary purpose of accessing e-resources in the library. It has also found that the majority of respondents had below 1 hour of accessing the e- resources and Google was found to use an as high level of search engines. 75.45% of the respondents search through the field searching. The majority of 87.27% of the respondents use to store the content of information in Pen Drive. It has also found that female respondents took the first position in their overall access to electronic sources on engineering information while male took the first position in their overall purpose of gathering e-resources. More female respondents found to face problems in accessing e-resources. 78.18% ofthemreport that the services of the library are good.

3. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

In Current scenario the world is changing at a rapid pace in terms of technology. As a result, any retardation in the momentum is undesirable. These advancements have benefited practically every discipline. Online shopping, banking, and stock trading. Air traffic control is now fully automated. Intelligent sensors and personalized apps in our smart phones regulate our lives. Artificial intelligence breakthroughs have also paved the way in our education system. The educational landscape is shifting. Schools are becoming smart schools, traditional classrooms are becoming smart classrooms, and students are familiar with smart phones in today's environment.

The teaching-learning process must remain competitive in this technologically advanced day. To some extent, these digital gadgets have been unrestricted to people who may gain the most from them, namely educators and students through computer-based educational initiatives. In the technology-enabled era, online learning is becoming prominent means for teaching as well as learning. The concept of online learning is changing day by day. The development of e-contents and hosting them on a platform so that they are accessible to everyone demonstrates the importance of technology-based learning. Online learning is becoming more effective when it is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Online learning has the potential to broaden the educational horizon. 2 India's education system has been evolving towards a "digital pedagogical system" in recent years.

The use of technology in the sphere of education is becoming increasingly important. The primary premise of the education system, according to the NEP 2020, will be the "wide use of technology in teaching and learning, the removal of linguistic barriers, increased access, as well as education planning and management." Students and teachers have been forced to re-imagine traditional teaching and learning approaches as online learning have replaced face-to-face learning experiences. So it is essential to the students to know the Advantage and disadvantages online learning. .

4. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

➢   To know the advantages of online learning.
➢   To know the disadvantages of online learning.
➢   To explore the importance of online learning in education.

5. ONLINE LEARNING

Any type of learning that occurs online via a web browser is considered online learning (or e-Learning). Today, virtual learning is most often used to refer to asynchronous learning, which allows learners to engage with instructional material at their own pace, from anywhere, available at any time.

Online learning encourages self-paced education and could refer to anything from a remote learning course on LinkedIn Learning to a full-fledged, virtual college degree program. In both classroom and corporate learning settings, learning management systems are utilized to create and publish courses, connect learners and learning materials, monitor progression, and assess performance.

6. ADVANTAGES OF ONLINE LEARNING

E-Learning presents clear advantages for learning and development professionals, end-user learners, educational institutions, and enterprise organizations. Those include:

➢ **More cost effective**

Online learning doesn't require in-person training, meaning you save costs on travel and related expenses. You also create digital learning experiences, meaning you no longer need to purchase physical learning materials like books, tests, videos, and so forth.

➢ **Easier to scale**

In online learning there is no longer need to consider how many people you can fit into a room.

➢ **Easy Availability**

Online learning can be accessed anywhere an internet connection is available, anytime. This makes it a more friendly solution for non-traditional learners, like remote employees or parents completing their degrees on the weekends.

➢ **More consistent**

Online learning relies less on individual instructors, meaning course material is less dependent on the person teaching it. This allows the learning experience to be less impacted by biases or opinions.

➢ **More interactive**

With online learning, instructors can take a multimodal learning approach with links, videos, text, assessments, and more.

➢ **Easier to find subject matter experts**

Schools and workplaces in rural areas can find and use experts and instructional designers anywhere in the world, helping to bring knowledge anywhere.

7. DISADVANTAGES OF ONLINE LEARNING

While online learning has clear advantages, it does present challenges not found with traditional forms of face-to-face learning. Here are a few barriers of online learning:

➢ **Online learning requires self-motivation**

Without an instructor standing over students, learners must be motivated and self-directed.

➢ **There are more distractions**

Another challenge of no instructor supervision is that learners have more opportunities to be distracted, from social media to home distractions like pets and children. Online learners must be disciplined. This makes it difficult for those with ADHD and other neuro divergent learners, as it requires strong time management skills.

➢ **Requires access to stable internet and technology**

Online learning requires learners to have a stable internet connection and a computer, which presents technical inequality challenges for eLearning.

➢ **Learners must be digitally literate**

Online learning requires learners to use technology. Students must use an LMS, tools like Google Docs and PowerPoint, upload and download files, record videos, screen share, etc.

➢ **Less of a focus on discussion**

Many online learning experiences are asynchronous, meaning instructors pre-record the lesson or create a self-guided learning experience. No discussion or back-and-forth dialogue happens between students and instructors or debate between students themselves.

➢ **More importance on classroom facilitation**

In face-to-face learning, students can get information and feedback on learning material and their performance from the class. In online learning, students depend more on assignment facilitation and instructor clarification.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there are some advantages and disadvantages in every technology but still we can say that today's scenario when online learning is used in world wide. It is also essential to everyone to grab the success ladder, it should be considered in our education system. In Schools where traditional learning is provided, it should also be a part of delivering practical presentation through video lectures on typical topics to the students, to aware the students about the latest technology knowledge and also assure the students about the online learning supportive tool.

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