

The Effectiveness of E-Language Learning at Higher Education

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Abstract- English is the lingua franca of the world. It is a universal language with international recognition. The primary goal of English language teaching was to teach English to secondlanguage learners. It is involved in English language teaching and has approaches and methods. There are differences between these approaches and methods. Many Generation Z students have expressed a strongly preferred for virtual and blended learning over traditional programmes that require them to enrol in and attend physical classrooms to obtain certain qualifications. For Generation Z employees, learning is ubiquitous and second nature.

Term Index: E-Learning, Five-point Likert scale, Virtual Reality, DigitALL

English is the lingua franca of the world. It is a universal language with international recognition. English has expanded over the world due to its broad usage. The use of the English language is gradually increasing all over the world. It has international status because it is used for global communication. It is the language of scientists, business leaders, political figures, and diplomats all over the world.

Globalization has made the world more dynamic and competitive, with a plethora of education strategies, expertise, and knowledge constantly being generated and changed. Innovative digital technologies have been discovered to be effective aids. Change and transformational tools. The use of information technology and the internet aids educational development by encouraging collaborative learning in geographically separated clusters. This has come to be known as e-Learning. Developing countries, which are experiencing a shortage of faculty, have begun to recognise the benefits of e-Learning. Traditional instructor-led instruction based on book learning is a method for gaining extensive knowledge. However, the transition to an e-Learning system allows for changes in educational paradigms and activities,

resulting in the development of a new educational philosophy. e-Learning is a mechanism for delivering learning through electronic means.

This new method of teaching and learning makes use of a computer or electronic device (such as a mobile phone) and the internet. E-Learning differs significantly from the traditional, teacher-led classroom environment. It can provide a stimulating and very effective learning experience that goes beyond the realm of education and training that one might encounter in a traditional classroom. Text, audio, video, simulations, animation, and even Virtual Reality (VR) applications can all be found in online content.

e-Learning is focused on students rather than faculty. It is also a hands-on, self-paced learning experience. The contents also include online interaction between students or between students and teachers. The internet has grown to be an effective tool. A necessary medium in human life. The widespread use of the Internet has transformed commercial, educational, and business activities around the world. This shift in the education sector has resulted in an improvement in the teaching and learning processes. E-Learning has created a new paradigm for modern education. E-Learning has created a new paradigm for modern education. People commonly associate e-Learning with teaching and learning via the Internet, but e-Learning can be much more. That's not all. It includes training delivered via the Internet, training delivered via a local or corporate intranet, and training delivered via e-Learning, which can even be saved onto an optical disc like a CD or DVD and viewed by learners offline via a web browser.

A study was conducted for final year college students from Bon Secours College for Women, Thanjavur admitted in the academic year 2019-2020. The learners were exposed to the online mode of learning during the

years 2020-2022 due to the outbreak of covid-19 pandemic. There are more than 300 students studying and among them 57 respondents from B.Sc., Information Technology were selected for the study. All of them are in the age group of nineteen or twenty years old. The tool used for the study is a Questionnaire consisting of six items which cover the aspects of E-language learning. The items in the questionnaire were chosen after getting suggestions from ELT experts. After careful analysis, the following items were derived and the questionnaire was finalized. The 5-point Likert scale, a type of psychometric response scale in which responders specify their level of agreement to a statement typically in five points; 1) Strongly agree 2) Agree 3) Neutral 4) Disagree 5) Strongly disagree. The questionnaire was sent to 57 participants through Google form comprising of 7 items and the response was recorded. The questionnaire is administered with a focus on targeting the impact of e-learning on Gen Z and Millennials to gauge the effectiveness of e-learning. The items in the questionnaire are as follow:

- I prefer e-language learning more than the classroom learning
- There are no difficulties in the e-learning method
- Time management is easy in online learning
- I am self-motivated when I learn through the online platform
- Online learning helps to acquire the essential skills
- I can access the study material online for my e-language learning
- Give your comments

57 responses were received from the respondents and they are illustrated below.

According to item 1, I prefer e-language learning more than classroom learning 75.4% of students strongly believe that they prefer e-learning to classroom learning. The assertion concerning e-learning platforms is supported by 17.5% of students. 7% of the students neither disagree nor strongly disagree in their responses. This response demonstrates that Generation Z and Millennials have embraced the e-learning platform.

In response to item 2, There are no difficulties in the e-learning method 59.6% of students strongly agree they had no problems with the e-learning platform. 28.1% of students agree that there are no problems

with the e-learning method. 5.3% of the students feel that they have problems with e-learning. majority of the respondents prefer the e-learning methods because they have been already familiarized with e-learning modes during the Covid-19 pandemic period.

Regarding the response to the third item, Time management is easy in online learning. 57.9%, of students, strongly agree to time management is easy in online learning. 29.8% of the students agree with time management. 7% of students were neutral about their responses. 5.3% of the students disagree that time management is not easy in online learning. Therefore, this subject is being debated since some students struggle with time management because they are pursuing professional courses as well as online courses such as online spoken English lessons. As a result of courses with assignment completion, they have time management issues.

According to the response for item 4, “I am self-motivated when I learn through the online platform”.50.9% of the respondents strongly agree,36.8% agree and 10.5% are neutral neither agree nor disagree. 1.8 % of students disagree with their responses. Hence the study shows that the majority of the respondents are self-motivated when they learn through the online platform.

The response to the 5th item in the questionnaire, “Online learning helps to acquire the essential skills”, 50.9% of students strongly agree, 26.3% agree, 17.5% of students neither agree nor disagree and 5.3 % of students disagree in their response. Thus, it is evident that most of the respondents feel that the online mode of learning helps them to acquire essential skills.

In the respondents’ response to item 6, “I can access the study material online for my e- language learning” 43.9 % strongly agree, 38.6% students agree,15.8% of students neither agree nor disagree and 1.7% of the students disagree and it can be concluded that 82.5% of the students have easy access to the online study materials to facilitate their learning. At the end of the questionnaire, the students were asked to give their suggestions and comments about the effectiveness of e-learning materials in their course of study.

The following aspects were inferred from their response :

- Most of the students gain more knowledge through e-learning

- Easy to pursue many certificate courses such as NPTEL, Coursera, Udemy, Edureka, etc.
- Brings classroom to their home
- Offers Exposure to new technology
- Affordable to use
- Serves as a unique way of learning
- Facilitates self-motivated learning

On the whole, the study proves that the e-learning mode of learning is gaining more popularity, especially among millennials and GenZ.

Mr Narendra Modi, India's prime minister, promotes digitalization to transform India into a “digital India”. Not only does the government accept payments online, but it also takes numerous initiatives to convert all disciplines to digital, notably in education. The government and UGC enable all universities to launch online degree programmes. "DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality" is the theme for International Women's Day. This issue is consistent with the Commission on the Status of Women's main theme for the forthcoming 67th Session, "Innovation and technological change, as well as education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls." According to articles published in Frontiers, the idea of e-learning has been more acceptable in academic and professional circles, and it was even used as a teaching method at COVID-19. Diverse issues have developed on the topic of e-learning, indicating the field's dynamic and interdisciplinary nature.

As both teachers and students accept the use of e-learning, teaching and learning activities in higher education will become more efficient and successful. Because of the free flow of information, ICT usage will also promote growth. As a result, administrators should pay more attention to the use of e-learning for teaching and learning in higher education institutions. The study identified numerous characteristics and dimensions as perceived by conventional and professional education instructors and students. The study has policy implications for policymakers in the field of online learning in developing-country higher education institutions. It gives insight into the country-specific characteristics and dimensions that enable instructors and students to make the most use of e-learning resources.

The inference is that online learning culture has established itself in the learning culture, particularly in higher education. Higher education policymakers such

as UGC can encourage e-learning as a supplement to traditional education as well as current teaching and learning approaches. They can take steps to promote this medium for blended learning. Blended learning, often known as "hybrid" learning, is a blend of traditional face-to-face learning and online learning that complements each other. It allows the student to benefit from the best of both techniques. E-learning allows students to accommodate learning around their schedules, allowing even the busiest individual to advance their careers and obtain new certificates. With the advent of the internet, some of the most significant innovations in education have occurred. Currently, students are well-versed in the use of smartphones, texting, and the internet, so taking part in and running an online course is a breeze. Today that inexpensive e-learning solutions for computers and the internet are available, it just takes a solid e-learning tool for education to be easily accessed from nearly anywhere. The education minister of Tamil Nadu, Mr. Poyyamozi said the core subject would continue to play an important role in the coming days as more countries make digital learning compulsory. The change brought about by computerized and online education especially during the pandemic, had created a new kind of study experience for a new generation of students. He also added that we have come a long way from blackboards and projectors to smart classrooms, so facilitating Internet access is essential. Computer science graduates with a strong background in programming will be needed to present information in an easy format to learners.

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