

IMPACT OF ONLINE CLASSES IN STUDENT'S LEARNING: NEW CHALLENGES TO EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

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INTRODUCTION

Every one gets little concision whenever the point comes for education , nowadays education is the way to life and its the only source people believe that can bring them success and fame. Its normal in our society that an educated man or woman gets more significance and their way of life is considered different. Although different culture have different views for this but everyone emphasis on the term “education”, it may be spiritual, cultural or can be the school education. Through time education has taken several forms , like in India in ancient times the education included knowledge of Vedas and Upanishads and people were more concentrated on what their culture tells about their life , they were more focused on what and why they are given such lessons and everyone was required to pursue them. But time changes , as always nothing stays the same , and that too happened with the education manner and format , as western culture came to India and people got influenced then there was no going back. The education format was changed for forever and is still changing. Today education is not limited to four walls or the boards as it earlier was, today anyone can take knowledge from everywhere or anywhere they want. The technological advancement have given people opportunity to learn what they want and where ever they want irrespective of their caste, religion, gender etc.

The main aim of this review paper is to analyses if this modern method of teaching is really helpful and the students who are learning are investing their money and time. And if not so, so how can being an educational psychologist a person can apply his/her learning so that the output can be maximized. An educational psychologist can create numerous ways to increase a person's learning and guiding them to perform well, and somewhere it gives the lights to life. The online environment can be a challenge, as it is a virtual environment , but can it be achieved, this review paper intend to analyse exactly that.

EDUCATION PSYCHOLOGY

Skinner (1958) says that, “Educational Psychology is that branch of psychology which deals with teaching and learning.” According to which Skinner meant that, educational

psychology is psychology applied for improving teaching and learning processes. Educational Psychology is a science.

Learning

Learning can be defined as the way in which a person can acquire something and store it into the memory. Different people have different ways by which they sense things and information and store it for long run. The learning process depend upon the person's intellectual ability and intelligence. It also depends upon the ways in which one perceives the world or the information, different perspective has different ideas related to subjects and concepts. Based on these varying areas of concerns there are different theories as purposed in different time.

Factors influencing learning

Learning environment

It should facilitate inquiry and the use of higher-order thinking processes. If students learn best via inquiry, learning environments should foster inquiry. Two implications are that (1) much of the curriculum should be organized around problems that afford inquiry and (2) students should have access to many sources of information that are needed to address the problems. For students to gather the information needed to solve problems, teachers must create learning environments that provide many resources for students to use. Learning environments should center around learners' choices and learning goals.

Prior concepts

Prior conceptions vary according to how consistent or inconsistent they are with the target conceptions—the ideas that teachers are aiming to teach. Sometimes prior conceptions are highly consistent with the target conceptions; in these cases, learning is usually facilitated. On other occasions, prior conceptions are inconsistent with target conceptions; in other words, the prior conceptions are contradictory or incompatible in some way with the target conceptions. In these cases, learning is often impeded. Thus, the key to understanding how prior conceptions influence learning is to understand the different ways in which prior conceptions can be consistent or inconsistent with the target conceptions.

Cultural and Linguistic Diversity

Students' cultural and linguistic backgrounds are an important source of consistent conceptions, alternative conceptions, and conceptual resources. Teachers can learn more about students' prior conceptions by gaining an understanding of their cultural and linguistic background (Cazden, 1988; Nieto, 2004).

Student with disabilities

It has been noted that student with learning disability have considerable amount of learning lag, they require special attention, and they have their different education setting. This differently able students have their own pace of learning , they are a good learner but require little extra care and support.

Developmental trends

Research have shown that the trend which a person follows during the stages or early stages of life also influence the learning pattern of an individual.

Genetics

It has been noted that intelligence level is a hereditary factor, I,e it is possible that a mother of high intelligence quotient may deliver a child with high intelligence or vise-verse. Intelligence plays important role in learning.

Interest

Interest plays a role because if the topic or subject is not interesting enough then the student will not bother to pay attention and learn.

Teaching pattern

The kind of pattern used by the teacher also influences learning. An interesting and interactive session can make a person to get involved, and thus helping them to learn faster and better.

Online learning

As the world moving fast with technology everything has been changed since then. Now people have their world and work moving with them, where ever they are and whatever they are doing, much of everything has become online or through a network. People with such technological advancement have made their learning online too. Nowadays people prefer online degree or certificate courses because it gives them freedom to learn wherever they want and whatever the time they prefer. At start there was a stigma that online class may not be as effective as the traditional classes, and who will attain the courses in their screens so on. But as it came to work people began to try it and now most of the colleges and institutions have more classes online then they teach them in class. This is because online classes have lead to attain classes irrespective of where they live and what they are, they can attain the classes and which are easily affordable. The prime area which has made this online learning more successful is its flexibility, with time, course selection, and price. There are numbers of same courses online but have different price and certificates, so person has options and he or she can learn at the comfort of their home. Online class basically means having the learning environment and experience through a network which is internet. People learn in a virtual manner.

Online Teaching Methods

1. Engage With Your Learners Online

Without your physical presence in the classroom, it's vital that you establish a virtual presence at the very beginning of the eLearning course. Online teachers need to be engaging and supporting students right from the start and for the duration of the course, to maintain an effective learning community.

2. Create A Supportive Learning Environment

As an online teacher, you have an opportunity to create a supportive online community for your learners. The best way to achieve this is through encouraging both teAt the start of your online course, get the ball rolling with a personal introduction post, and encourage participants to contribute their own short bio or introduction to the group. Create an open forum or discussion board where learners can post to request help and assistance from each other, developing peer-to-peer support. Set up small groups, similar to traditional study groups, for supportive mentoring of fellow learners. teacher-to-student engagement and student-to-student interaction.

3. Provide Ongoing Feedback

Feedback is an essential component of all effective learning environments – including online. As an online teacher, your feedback will help to create an e learning experience that is informative, engaging, and motivational for the learner. Your feedback should be continuous during the e learning process, with constructive feedback offered as soon as possible so that students can clearly identify which behaviors or skills need to be improved.

4. Make eLearning Content Mobile

It's wise to acknowledge the importance of mobile learning for online teachers, with students and employees now accustomed to using their mobile devices for learning. Mobile learning holds key advantages for learners, allowing them to access up-to-date course materials and relevant content anywhere, anytime. With bite-sized pieces of information available to be digested quickly and easily, learners can work through course materials at their own pace, assisting both performance and productivity.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Quiping Shen , Jackey K.H.Chung , DI Challis, Ronnie C.T.Chung(2006) explained in their comparative study between two group, first group o of people who are attending online classes and second group attending traditional way of classes. This study was conducted over 2000 students between year 2000_2004. this paper concludes that there is no significant difference between these two groups, moreover online classes or learning has greater flexibility to learners allowing them to study anytime and at their own pace. Although traditional students usually achieve a slightly better performance.

Hans Johnson, Marisol Cuellar Mejia(2014) aimed to study the effect of online learning in students outcome. This paper focused on short- and long-term outcomes, course completion, passing, degree attainment and transfer to four-year institution. The conclusion drawn was that people performed worse in online classes, students are less likely to complete an online course than traditional course.

Anna Ya Ni, JPAE 19(2), concluded that difference in student's persistence rate and assessment of interaction demonstrate that the two instructional modes are not equal. Online environment may have different effect on student learning in different courses. Certain courses(like research

methods, management etc). are more challenging to students who persist in virtual environment.

Jo Davis and Martin Graff (2005) stated the beneficial effect of learners interacting in online programme have been widely reported, online discussion is argued to promote student centered learning. Findings of this study has revealed that the students who have interacted during the classes has scored more marks, and student who did not have failed the module. Although who have passed the exams does not have any better marks. This study suggests looking for other factors that might be salient in this regard. That is what factors in online interaction might enhance learning. This paper concludes that quality and dynamics of interaction may be more important influencing factors in learning and performance.

Huma Sarwar et. al.,(2020) suggested that undergraduate students of dental field to self-report the defectiveness of online classes offered by various dental institutes of Pakistan. The study concluded that students unanimously voiced dissatisfaction toward learning online. As they were unable to understand the concepts, also the material available to them was also limited. They concluded online learning as ineffective.

Xvier Bonal ans Sheila Gonzlez (2020) assessed that the impact of school lockdown on learning gap between children from different social background in Spain. Based on 35419 responses to an online survey with families and children aged between 3-18. the analysis showed that learning opportunities varied significantly. middle-class families were able to maintain higher standards of education quality in critical content, while children from socially disadvantaged family had few learning opportunities both in term of time and learning experiences. This study reflects significant inequalities in exposure to school learning depending on family characteristics (educational qualification, income, background etc.) and school characteristic (education level, school sector). it also reflects that parent with lower education attainment have fewer resources and less knowledge to help their children.

Mohammad H. Rajab , Abdalla M.Gazal Khaled Alkattan(2020) found that ,effect of online learning in students with medical field. There were challenges faced by students and teachers during the virtual mode of education. First challenge was related to improve ways of communication between faculty and student, other challenges were related to student's online assessment, asses to computer hardware or software and other technical barriers.

Daneil Weldeab and Thomas Brothen (2019) consistent with previous research showing that high trait anxiety interferes with exams performance , student in this study had lower scores if their anxiety levels are high . but this effect was greater for those students in online proctoring group who reported high trait test anxiety. In this research reported here, they have identified an issue that seems to have escaped the attention of researchers studying online - test anxiety.

Namin Shin and Jason K.Y.Chan (2004) concluded in their explanatory study that investigates the effect of online learning on distance education student in an open university context. The findings hint that student who are active in making use of virtual component of learning materials or course activities may actually gain more from courses than students less interested in what this additional medium of instruction offers.

Hanson Baber (2020), the findings support that online learning increases student motivation and satisfaction level and decreases the number of online courses dropout. It shows that absence of face-to-face environment had condensed the interaction level among student and instructors. But meantime online learning provides very friendly environmental factors where professional learning environment can be changed into more social, flexible, and personal space if needed. Interaction between instructor and learner is an important determinant of student perceived learning satisfaction. The course structure had a mixed influence in student satisfaction and student's learning outcome according to previous studies it indirectly influences the student perceived learning outcome and satisfaction.

Ishmatun Nila, Quaulan Sadida (2020) found out whether there is any effect of online learning with pre-service teachers social facilitation during pandemic or not. Based on the findings, it could be seen that online learning done from home, alone, and usually only in the form of lectures or presentations had a significant impact on the performance of pre-service teachers in the aspects of motivation, enthusiasm, and understanding. More than half of the respondents admitted that they had difficulty adjusting to online learning methods when they were more familiar with face-to-face learning and it hampered their ability to complete a task given by the lecturer, as they were incapable of discussing it in real time with their peers and did a hands-on approach. Furthermore, they were inclined to do a better job or performance when they were not alone or feel like they were being monitored. Online learning also influenced the attention of pre-service teachers as well, knowing that they were not being sized up or demanded to pay attention exclusively they tended to hold a less tight grip on the lectures or tasks given.

Khadijah Mukhtar et. al. Most of teachers and students agreed upon the fact that this helps in distant learning with easy administration and accessibility along with less use resources and time. Although it has limitations as faculty complained about lack of student feedback regarding understanding of subjects more issues like internet connectivity also adversely impacted learning, attention span during online classes was even shorter than face to face session.

Hye Chnag Rahim and Heyong Han (2020) online learning can be recognized as effective pedagogical method, its effectiveness however, depends on the degree to which educators are aware of foundation-al concept of online learning. The flipped classroom is one of the, method to embrace experimental learning.

LIMITATIONS

Although this review paper has tried to cover all the aspects of online learning and its impact but the important area which seems to be slipped is the education of special children or children with special abilities, how they are going to adjust in this technological world and what steps and innovations we can make to make it easier for them to learn through a network.

Till now we have discussed various aspects of online learning, the basic concepts of learning and the related important phenomenon's, the review of literature discussed above gives the different ways and ideas which can prove that online education has its own advantage and disadvantages, we cannot say that it is completely reliable and effective and cannot deny the fact that it is more mobile and an innovative way of education. Through then studies and observation of this fact growing world we can make prediction that online learning can be the

future of modern education, but it will be more effective when we consider these following limitations:

- Quality of content
- Network and connection issues
- Opportunity to socially disadvantaged people
- Availability of resources
- Support and reference notes
- Adjustment in technical environment
- Lack of interactions
- Attention span
- Course structure
- Learning for disabled or differently able children
- Economic status of family
- Geographical location

SUGGESTIONS

To overcome some of the challenges stated above there are few suggestions which this study will like to suggest:

- Flip classroom strategies where instructions are moved to individual learning space and environment is made interactive.
- Government should try to setup better network coverage and availability in mountain and remote areas and policies should be made to make network easily affordable to all.
- Better feedback systems should be made so that student can easily know that they are understanding the concept or not.

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