

A NOTE ON PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTS OF ONLINE EDUCATION

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Abstract

The present article explores the 'problems and prospects of online education.' Our daily lives have been significantly altered by technological advancements. Everything, including education, has become readily available at the tip of our fingers. When numerous changes come into existence in the world, especially in the education system like E-education, or online education, which is revolutionizing the way we teach and learn. Through online education, very dynamic change in the education landscape has piqued the interest of scholars, educators, administrators, policymakers, publishers, and companies as institutions around the world respond to these changes. At the time of covid 19, most teachers and students struggled at all levels. Due to technological advancements, it has taken time to adapt and adjust to the best levels. The present paper highlights the different sections about these problems in this paper.

Paper Identification



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Introduction

“Online education has aided pupils in gaining their independence as learners before joining the real world. Students could experiment with a variety of learning tools and platforms throughout the course, which sped up the development of new abilities and skills (Priyanka Prakash 67).” Different examples of computers and instruments being used in education throughout history, e-learning in the contemporary sense is a relatively recent notion. We can see the history of e-learning from the 1950s, often they used slide projectors and television-based schools. However, the best example of online learning dates from 1960. It started at the *University of Illinois* in the United States.

The growth of technology has brought tremendous change in almost every sphere of life. Technology has also impacted the process of education. There has been a noticeable change in face-to-face education during the previous ten years. Even if face-to-face instruction is still the

norm, online learning is gaining popularity in the management and engineering areas. The fact that it is immediate, accessible online, portable, and self-directed are some of the aspects that have contributed to the exponential growth of online education (Jindal, Amit 03).

In 1984, the *University of Toronto* offered the first completely online course. In 1986, the *Electronic University Network (EUN)* was established for DOS and Commodore 64 computers. Three years later, the *University of Phoenix* became the first educational institution in the world to open a wholly online postsecondary school that offered both bachelor's and master's degrees. This was the start of a revolution whose full potential was unknown to the general public at the time, but which would make learning much more accessible and within reach than anyone could have dreamed. These are the Universities that provide some of the first online education pioneers.

Literature Review

Sumitra Pokhrel, Roshan Chhetri. 'A Literature Review on Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Teaching and Learning.' The COVID-19 pandemic has created the largest disruption of education systems in human history, affecting nearly 1.6 billion learners in more than 200 countries. Over 94% of students around the world have been touched by school, institution, and other learning place closures. All facets of our lives have seen profound transformations as a result of this. Traditional educational techniques have been seriously disrupted by social exclusion and restrictive movement laws. With numerous new standard operating procedures implemented, reopening

of schools following the lifting of restrictions presents another problem.

Following the COVID-19 epidemic, other researchers have published studies on various methods of teaching and learning. Numerous colleges, universities, and schools have stopped offering in-person instruction. There is a fear of losing the 2020 academic year or even more in the coming future. The need of the hour is to innovate and implement the alternative education system and assessment strategies. We now have the chance to introduce digital learning as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic. This essay seeks to provide a thorough analysis of the COVID-19 pandemic's effects on online teaching and learning of different papers as well as to suggest future directions.

Maha Kumaran, Tasha Maddison. Web-based education in academic libraries Online learning is the practice of receiving instruction electronically via a variety of multimedia and Internet-based platforms and tools. It is synonymous with words like e-learning, computer-assisted education, web-based learning, and Internet-based learning. This chapter reviews the research on online learning for *Information Literacy Instruction (ILI)* in academic libraries that was written between 2010 and 2015. It includes summaries of the technology used to develop online instructional resources as well as the technology used to deliver and access online instruction. Information about the landscape of online ILI is also provided. Information literacy online instruction's drawbacks and recommended methods are examined.

Zethembe Mseleku. A review of the literature on online education and instruction in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. There is little doubt that the Covid-19 pandemic's emergence caused severe socioeconomic problems all across the world. Many nations have put stringent policies in place to limit social gatherings and encourage social segregation to control the spread of the disease. This meant the closure of higher learning institutions and a major shift

from traditional classroom-based teaching and learning to a virtual approach. While higher education may have transformed and moved online due to Covid-19, it is unknown whether this transformation produces positive teaching and learning outcomes. This literature review is conducted to elicit relevant evidence on E-learning and E-teaching outcomes, challenges, and opportunities in the era of the Covid-19 pandemic.

On 16 databases, a thorough literature search was done for papers published in 2020 that were relevant. Additionally, to find other pertinent studies, reference lists of studies found in the initial search were employed. Covid-19, coronavirus, online learning, e-learning, e-teaching, and higher education were the search phrases utilized. To choose the articles that were the most pertinent for the final review, inclusion and exclusion criteria were created. Studies that addressed the consequences, difficulties, and opportunities of higher education's use of online learning and teaching in the Covid-19 era were eligible for inclusion. While a large number of studies on the pandemic have been published, very few of them discuss the depth of e-learning and e-teaching outcomes, accompanying difficulties, and opportunities during the Covid-19 period.

The literature discussed several difficulties in teaching and learning that students and academics encounter. These obstacles include being unable to access or use online teaching and learning resources; having trouble adjusting, especially for students from low-income families and those who live in remote areas; and experiencing related stress, sadness, and anxiety.

Souvik Sengupta (Aliah University, India). During the COVID-19 pandemic, online education may present both opportunities and challenges. The COVID-19 pandemic's lockdowns have had a severe negative impact on undergraduate and graduate programs in colleges and universities in India. The government has mandated that universities begin using

internet platforms for academic engagement. The choice of a suitable e-learning platform is currently the main concern for academic institutions. This essay examines the many features and amenities offered by a few popular online platforms and evaluates their applicability in light of the socio-economic limitations faced by Indian students. The description of a general structure for running online classes that satisfy the unique needs of underprivileged students. The obstacles are named, and some strategic plans for overcoming them are given. Also suggested is a technical way to construct a time-limited assessment module.

Aman Jindal, Dr. B P S Chahal. 'The education sector will unavoidably change the speed of technological advancement. Numerous studies are being conducted to determine the advantages and disadvantages of online learning vs traditional classroom instruction. There are numerous chances and difficulties for online education. In this research, we have highlighted critical characteristics that will enhance online education using a thorough literature review. We have noted that the primary drivers of the expansion of online education include internet penetration, low cost of online education, the convenience of completing a course, a government initiative, employer recognition, and bridging the gap. Inadequate digital infrastructure, lack of credibility, and the terminology used in online education are some of the problems preventing progress.

Sulekha Nair. 'Online education has a mountain of issues in India, but if governments take more initiative, it may become accessible and inclusive.' *I can't hear you. Can you make me out?* Since the COVID-19 shutdown, when chatting to anyone has been the sole way to interact, this has become a regular refrain. Since the pandemic, people who were previously using smartphones and other gadgets to conduct conversations, interviews, or watch movies have been forced to join the digital revolution

before it completely removes them from reality. India has been catching up in the field of online education for several decades. But it has primarily been employed for skill development and is supported by self-learning. Unlike after March 2020, when the coronavirus transformed the educational paradigm and everyone, regardless of their experience with online learning, had to adapt and learn, schools and universities have rarely had to teach exclusively online. The current educational crisis has brought to light the system's shortcomings, including the absence of comprehensive education, the shortage of trained teachers, and the underemphasis on life skills.

Rahul Oak, 12, must now sprint from his home to the end of the lane a few minutes before class begins to connect to the signal that will activate his parent's mobile phone and allow him to see his teacher online. Rahul attends a government-aided school in Mumbai that serves children from migrant and underprivileged communities.

According to the *Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI)*, in its *Digital in India* report published in May 2020, 71 million children in India between the ages of 5 and 11 access the internet on family members' devices, making up about 14% of the nation's more than 500 million active Internet users. In both urban and rural areas of the country, mobile phones are still the go-to device for accessing the internet. School children are now aware that classes won't start in the comfortable setting of their school any time soon. Many of them now excitedly await the start of class at home so they can see their peers' online videos and listen to their teacher.

Rayees Masroor. Online education's challenges and opportunities. The closure of schools, colleges, and institutions as a result of the devastating second wave of the coronavirus and the protracted lockdown has caused worry and uncertainty among students, parents, teachers, and government officials. It appears to be a monumental undertaking for the

stakeholders to maintain the students' education on course. The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the educational system globally, and as the number of cases keeps rising, it is uncertain when and how things will return to normal. This has influenced a long-term trend toward online learning. The updated *National Education Policy (NEP-2020)* also mentions being prepared for online and digital learning. Online education and learning will become more popular as time goes on, but we must also be aware of the significant difficulties it poses.

The *National Statistical Office (NSO)* study 2017-2018 has emphasized and cautioned against a fast push toward online education in India as there is always a risk of excluding a sizable number of students, which is one of the major issues.

I

New technological advancements continue to affect education. While new technology permits schools and teachers to offer students new methods to study, educators still have to contend with the constraints that come with it, and occasionally even the absence of technology (Stewen Downess,04).

Online education is a type of internet-based learning that is supported by technology. In this setting, the Teacher interrelates with the students and helps them grasp the subject they have chosen. The old education system's traditional classrooms or college campuses provide an infinite number of possibilities to teach and learn. In such classes, audio, films, text, animation, and other media are commonly employed to make learning more engaging and interesting. It also

delivers a rich learning environment with sufficient flexibility.

The online environment goes hand in hand with student engagement issues, as student engagement goes down in an online learning process. When teachers teach onsite, they can monitor whether the student is carrying out the assigned activity. However, in a Zoom meeting, teachers cannot be sure that students' attention is focused on a particular activity, particularly with the student's camera turned off. To boost learning performance in an online setting, it is necessary to engage students through the appropriate presentation of material and establish a feedback loop between teacher and student. The urge for learner-to-learner interaction is also very high, and it can significantly contribute to pupils feeling less alone (Elena Rudenko et al...04).

In the realm of education, the year 2019 saw a lot of changes. In the last two decades, the Internet has grown from a virtual black hole of information to the world's largest and most complete statistics library. Many people still find it a herculean struggle to use

online platforms like *Zoom*, *Google classes*, *Microsoft teams*, and so on. "Online learning presents a variety of obstacles (Priyanka Prakash 23)." It has altered how people communicate, shop, socialize, conduct business, and evaluate their knowledge and learning. Traditional classrooms are evolving, and online education is making training more accessible than ever before. It's more than just a novel take on distant education.

Most governments all over the world have temporarily halted educational institutions in an attempt to stem the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. These countrywide closures affect hundreds of millions of students. Several other countries have adopted regional closures that would affect millions of pupils. "According to UNESCO, more than 990,000,000 students in 130 countries are affected. In this context, educators must be aware of the challenges that students confront in remote learning and e-education, as well as the efforts that can be taken to alleviate these challenges (Wiki)."

When teachers and students synthesize information from diverse disciplines and experiences, critically weigh dramatically different views, and incorporate varied inquiry, education can become transformative. "Children explored new, self-directed learning methods as a result of having access to the internet and the lack of official instruction, classes, tests, and grades (Smitha Agarwal 34)." Teachers can give their students these chances by helping them to grow in their analytical, imaginative, critical synthesis, creative expression, self-awareness, and deliberate learning capacities in challenging learning contexts.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, public and private schools all over the world are closing; as a result, approximately one billion children's education has been disrupted. Families are now expected

to play a new role in their children's day-to-day learning, which is a burden given the abrupt change. Teachers in particular and school officials are likewise in unfamiliar waters (Caroline, 56).

The contrasts between online and offline classroom teaching have been the subject of numerous heated arguments and in-depth studies. Provide best practices for those wanting to design online courses so that they can make well-informed decisions during the implementation phase. It is believed that by doing so, an ongoing dialogue of successful approaches that might help universities and faculty succeed in shifting to online teaching will be sparked. Through online education, higher education institutions may be able to reach new customers. Many adult learners may welcome flexibility when managing work, school, and family obligations. Universities' online pro programs take advantage of a range of technical improvements to promote student-teacher contact, as well as student interaction in general.

Furthermore, the anonymity of online education may allow more students who would otherwise avoid face-to-face sessions due to their shy disposition to participate in online education since they do not physically see each other. Finally, with the improved technology and software, teachers, students, and university officials may be able to collect data, comments, and evaluations about their online experiences. Online instructors must be prepared to cope with issues such as system delays, software updates, and email malfunctions, among other things because technology isn't always faultless and reliable.

Online instructors who have the expertise and skills to use and adapt new technologies are available online at all times, regularly check emails and text messages, respond quickly to inquiries and concerns,

and grade and return assignments with feedback on time are considered good online instructors. "Various educational technology should be employed to ensure that students feel excited to learn, and to resolve any discrepancies between the consistency of students' learning experiences online, as opposed to face-to-face (Z Basar,121)."

Students who are unable to participate in a typical classroom course can benefit from online learning, which allows them to work on their own time and at their speed. In most disciplines, the number of distance learning and online degrees is substantial and growing rapidly. Increasingly more colleges and organizations are providing online education. Online degree candidates should take precautions to make sure their coursework is performed at a reputable and approved institution.

II

The government has promoted online education to maintain academic continuity in light of the closure of educational institutions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic. While many still find it a monumental endeavor, the majority of elite private and governmental institutions have accomplished the transition smoothly using online platforms like Zoom, Google Classrooms, Microsoft Teams, etc. The difficulties with online learning are numerous (Prasanthi Karlyali 45).

Many impediments to comprehending have arisen as a result of online learning. Creating a community of learners who can support each other in such a learning environment is one suggestion for increasing knowledge. "As online courses become more popular, it's crucial that your online education's marketing efforts are strong to attract your target audience (Web)." Many ways for fostering community in online learning environments were presented. The most important quality aspects of online teaching and learning, as well as remote education in general, are the attitudes and actions of course designers, students, and instructors. Many constraints prevent these stakeholders from participating in a distance learning program. Attitude is one of these variables, which they believe is the most important component in determining their assessment of the quality of online learning.

Worldwide medical emergencies are brought on by the coronavirus outbreak, which has caused millions of people to contract the sickness and more than half of those millions to pass away. The COVID-19 virus has destroyed the whole global economy. Panic has resulted from its spread in nearly all economic sectors around the world (Ali & Khan, 2020).

The difficulties that online students confront as a result of dominant academic institutions based on western academic practices were investigated. Different students in other parts of the world may experience difficulties dealing with online learning's instruction style, which is built on writing, critical

thinking, and knowledge reinforcement approaches. Through consciousness-raising, self-reflection, and self-discipline, online courses change the way people learn. Online learning is a significant instrument in higher education for increasing course accessibility and flexibility, with advantages for both students and institutions "Education is not about learning new facts and abilities. A discipline's habits, patterns, methods of thinking, and ways of thinking are acquired through education in that discipline (Ramaley & Zia, 2005)."

From a student's perspective, the convenience of online learning is especially beneficial to adults with numerous responsibilities and demanding lives. "Learners can choose from a variety of options (Web)." As a result, online learning can help individuals advance their careers by allowing them to return to school and complete additional education that would otherwise be impossible to fit into their daily routines. Universities can offer their students alternate courses or course portions using online modalities, thereby expanding student access to (and presumably progression through) mandated courses. Because of the importance of these benefits, online courses are expected to become more common in higher education.

Benefits of online education:

- Students enrolled in online courses are not required to attend class. Students from all over the world are welcome to attend these classes. That is if they have a stable internet connection. This saves students a significant amount of time and money on the commute while also allowing them to learn more effectively.
- Educators online use tactics such as gamification, blended learning, and more to make teaching engaging and participatory. This improves knowledge retention and makes learning time more productive.
- One of the best aspects of online education is the ease with which you can keep track of

your course progress. This is possible because online learning includes a *Learning Management System (LMS)* that allows students to track their progress.

In addition, step-by-step instructions are provided for pupils to understand through online learning. Everyone may now manage their responsibilities as and when it is most convenient for them thanks to this. Additionally, the industry of online education has evolved into a tool for economic growth. Online education has been a huge success in India because of all of these factors and more.

Online education challenges

- Unfortunately, many areas of the country still consider internet access to be a luxury. The majority of Indians live in rural areas of the nation.
- Due to a lack of infrastructure, connectivity and accessibility problems exist here.
- Moreover, it will take some time to shift from a traditional method of education that has enlightened generations for over decades. And, even if people saw the benefits and advantages of online learning, they will have to become tech-savvy first. Therefore, even if a sizable portion of the country is currently dominated by online education, it will still take some time for everyone to see the value of creating online learning communities.

Materials and Methods

Online education is rapidly influencing both classroom and campus-based education, but it is also contributing to new teaching and learning models and designs. When commercial movies initially came out, they were just re-enactments of past music halls and vaudeville acts. Online learning has undergone a similar transformation.

Initially, there were two distinct influences: classroom teaching designs and print-based or

multimedia remote education designs. New systems that properly harness the special properties of online learning are beginning to develop over time, however. When we take teaching on the internet, we modify the learning environment. As a result, I'm starting to shift away from discussing teaching methods (which can be the same in-class and online) and toward building models in which the teaching method is purposefully suited to the learning environment.

The present article has been written on the bases of primary and secondary data from different offline and online sources like books, articles, magazines, online surveys, pdf books, and Wikipedia, an Encyclopaedia.

Results and Discussions

The world is changing with different ideologies and best innovations. Now it turned into the education system. In the name of social construction, the problems of the downtrodden people's economic status are very low, and due to that, they are unable to get great fruits in the education system till now. Due to pandemics, their problems are increased to buy electronic gadgets (Mobiles, Laptops) and adopt new technology issues. In this world, with the help of technology, we can visualize the best examples on every topic. But, with problems with downtrodden people, it is not easy to get that much access to online education.

I am going to add corporate social responsibility is also very important. They will come out of their barriers to help schools in rural areas students if they will make certain arrangements for e-learning that is very useful for them. Another thing, is some of the institutions also provide great platforms for student communities to conduct workshops, seminars, and conferences, on how to use this technology for career development. This is very useful to every student for their wonderful career.

All schools agreed that hiring more diverse workers, such as technologists, instructional designers,

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