

Topic: Online learning is not only convenient but often more effective than traditional classroom

Outline

1. Introduction

Technological advancement has made internet learning easy but it still lacks innovation in being effective because of ~~lack~~^{no} of practical knowledge.

2. Online learning as a more convenient method

- a) Continuity of education during COVID-19 pandemic
- b) Access to backward and vulnerable areas
- c) Large number of students can be accommodated
- d) Lesser need of infrastructure
- e) Cost-effective and time saving
- f) Easily accessible internet sources
- g) Technological advancement in education

3- Traditional classrooms are more effective than online

- a) High interaction between teachers and students
- b) Social skills are built only with physical communication
- c) ^{Availability} Lack of feedback to improve
- d) Practical experience especially in science field
- e) Teachers encourage students to think critically.
- f) Transparent examination and evaluation.

4. Conclusion

The Essay

The world is changing rapidly with the advancement of technology and in contemporary world specifically with artificial intelligence. History indicates that the civilisations and nations with more technological advancement has dominated the world. This advancement has also stepped

into the field of education. ~~During the COVID-19 where everyone was affected due to the spread of virus, the world shifted on technology.~~ Today, online learning is encouraged as a convenient method to get education.

The continuity of education with the help of internet during the COVID-19 was an overture of online learning.

Easy access to backward and vulnerable areas with less investment in infrastructure has made it attractive to education institutions. In addition to that, internet is full of easily available resources making it cost effective.

However, this learning method is not effective as compared to traditional classroom

because of less interaction between ^{teachers} and students. Students are not able to interact physically with their classmate resulting in no social skill

development. Technological advancement has made internet learning easy but it still lacks innovation in being effective because of no practical knowledge.

In the wake of COVID-19 pandemic, the education institutions were shifted towards internet based learning. The students were able to continue their studies during the curfews when every thing else was closed. The online learning platforms saw a rise in demand for their subscription. The platforms like Zoom, Google meeting and Microsoft teams made online learning more convenient and easy for students without going to schools and universities. Therefore, education system institutions continued their operations by providing online learning which was the most convenient method.

at that time.

Another use of online learning is to provide access to backward and vulnerable areas. The areas which lack the infrastructure and children are deprived of education can benefit from online learning. It is the duty of ^{the} government to provide free education in ~~backward areas~~ but to the children from the age of 5 to 16 under constitution. Around 72%

children in Balochistan, mostly from backward areas, are out of school. This is due to the lack of resources to build schools and institutions. However, the government can use online learning to provide education access to these vulnerable areas by providing internet to those areas which requires less investment.

Another benefit of online learning is ^{that} it can accommodate a large number of students in a single class. A single traditional classroom can accommodate maximum 20 to 25 students whereas classes in online softwares can allow ^{large} number of students to take the class. In case of population growth, online education is the most convenient method for the developing countries. Pakistan population is the fifth largest with almost 29 million children out of school due to lack of schools and resources. The challenge of high number of schools can be resolved by increasing awareness of online education where number of students can be accommodated in the class at a time.

More number of students require high number of traditional classroom and good infrastructure. The financial constraint result in lack of investment on infrastructure. The education institution move towards morning and evening shift of schools which lacks the quality of education. According to Maleeha Lodhi in her book Pakistan search for stability, the lack of quality education is resulting in rote learning. The government can use public-private partnership by offering free educational courses online without investing in infrastructure which will also help in balancing education with the high growth in population.

Moreover, less investment in building infrastructure for a meanwhile when

Pakistan is facing economic crisis will be more cost-effective and time saving. It would be not only cost-effective for government but also for the parents who are not able to afford education related expenses. Online learning is the cost-effective method where government can allocate resources by providing internet which is lesser than building infrastructure. Pakistan has allocated 2 percent of its GDP to education sector due to financial constraint. However, this 2 percent of GDP can provide resources to online learning which only requires good internet and average devices. Thus, online learning can be cost-effective making it more convenient than traditional classroom.

Despite being cost-effective online learning and internet

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can also make free resources available to everyone. The internet is full of free resources with access to hundreds of thousands research reports, books and videos. Students can use these free resources to learn extra information that can help in building critical skills. Internet is full of e-libraries such as Z-library, Libgen etc which provides access to unlimite number of books making internet and online learning more convenient than traditional class-room. Conversely, students can use such resources for other important general knowledge skills.

With the advent of artificial intelligence, and technological advancement in education is increasing every day. Teachers and

Students are using artificial intelligence for learning, doing homeworks, making presentations slides and scripts.

Every sector especially jobs in corporate sector will be affected from this new technology. According to reports, Chat GPT, an AI tool, was the most used in the year 2023 with the most number of signings of any internet platform.

It has shifted the education system in which teachers, students and even researchers are using it for research purpose. Thus, one can assume that online learning is getting more convenient than traditional classrooms.

On the other hand, ~~where~~ one can claim that online education is becoming convenient but not effective and it is true. When

it comes to physical interaction face to face between teachers and students, online learning becomes ineffective reminiscent to traditional classrooms.

During the class hours in traditional learning, students are able to ask questions which make it discussion interactive which is difficult during online class. ~~as~~ Studies ~~no~~ one have shown that teachers are unable to answer the questions effectively during online classes. Therefore, traditional classroom are more effective than online learning.

Besides physical interaction between teachers and students, traditional class also offer students to communicate with their classmates. This communication helps students to build their social and leadership skills.

Students are able to play sports in their leisure time. A huge number of surveys have highlighted that children who play regularly and are engaged in activities are more active than students who are not socially active. Online learning ~~can~~ is the convenient method but it becomes ineffective when such factors are involved.

Interacting with classmates and friend provide a loop of feedback to learn and grow which cannot be easy in online learning. Moreover, interaction between teacher and students also provide feed-back related to homework which helps in improving. One can notice this improvement only by physical interaction which is not possible in online learning. According to James

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Clear, in Atomic Habits, a person can use feedback loop to make daily improvements. This feedback loop can be self or by others and the most effective is when others provide that.

To improve in education related habits, one need that constructive feedback to improve.

In addition to feedback, students and researchers are able to get hands-on experience in traditional classrooms. This experience include the institutions have labs where students with the help of teachers are able to experiment and gain physical experience of that knowledge. In the Switzerland, the most modern education system "International Baccalaureate" is used which requires students to work

and experiment on the knowledge gained from the classroom. The online learning can provide online classrooms but it cannot provide physical labs where experiments can be performed for enhanced learning.

Furthermore, teachers encourage students to think critically and answer to unknown and irrelevant questions. This type of education inculcate critical thinking skills in students instead of rote-learning. In online classes, teachers are not able to maintain a check on student activities. According to Maleeha Lodhi, the rote learning in Pakistan's education system is removing the capacity of students to think differently. However, in online education it ^{is} ~~can~~ be more common.

that students are less interested in thinking differently which makes physical education more effective if the quality is ensured.

Another factor that makes traditional classrooms more effective is its ability to conduct examination fairly. Students in online classroom procline towards emulating and cribbing whereas the students in physical classrooms are not able to do that.

During the pandemic, many cases of cheating and plagiarism were reported in the universities. Hence, online education becomes ineffective reminiscent to traditional class room vis-a-vis transparent examination.

In conclusion, the mode of internet learning has become convenient due

to technology but lacks of measures that make learning effective because of no hands on experience of that knowledge. Online education has number of factors to become convenient mode of education due to its equitable access to everyone in the modern world. However, this mode of education becomes ineffective when compared to physical classrooms. In Pakistan, the government can use online education for a short term and transitioning to traditional classroom to backward areas and the In Pakistan, the education systems can use both modes to make it both convenient and effective for the students. In this way, we can prosper as a nation and advancing in technology.

"Education is the most powerful weapon in the world" - Nelson Mandela