## Mock-Exam
### (July)

**Essay**

Online education has given more opportunities than challenges.

**Outline**

1. **Introduction**

Thesis Statement:

Online education has created both opportunities and challenges for the learners. Despite of some significant challenges, the access to online education has generated ample opportunities for the learners. By overcoming challenges, one can grasp all the opportunities provided by online education system.

2. How online education has given more opportunities than challenges.

(thesis)

3. Online education generates ample opportunities

a. Ease of access to education
b. Saves learners' time
c. Empowers women by providing education

d. Cost effective *write it as a phrase*

e. Career advancement opportunities

4. Online education has presented more challenges than opportunities (Anti-thesis)

a. Digital divide hinders access to education
   *at home*
b. Distractions ↑ waste learners' time

c. Unavailability of digital gadgets hinder participation of women from rural areas
   *cost of*                                *barrier*
d. Expensive ~~pp~~ digital devices is a ~~barrier~~ in online education

e. Lack of networking and experience challenge career advancement.

5. Despite challenges, Online education opens doors to numerous opportunities (synthesis)

a. The wide spread use of IT makes Online learning accessible.

b. Distractions exist everywhere *not a counter argument that favours online learning*

c. Second hand digital gadgets are cheaper in cost and help in boosting women participation.

d. As compare to traditional learning, online learning is cost effective.

e. Global Networking and collaboration advances career.

6. Conclusion

Noam Chomsky rightly mentions, "Online education is an inclusive and powerful tool that ~~acces~~ extends access to knowledge and skills, transcending geographical boundaries and socio-economic barriers." Online education has revolutionized the way people acquire knowledge. It has opened the doors of opportunities for learners. Besides opportunities, there are also some challenges that learners have to face to access online learning. But one cannot deny the golden opportunities generated by online education system. By overcoming challenges, learners can gain much advantage from the opportunities provided by the platform of online learning. The major opportunities include: ease of access to education, indiscriminate treatment to all learners, women empowerment through education, and advanced career opportunities. Although the opponents of online learning emphasize its challenges like technological issues, distractions, lack of networking and interpersonal interaction, these challenges are mostly like making mountain out of a molehill. These challenges can be easily overcome by making sincere efforts.

Online education has given rise to numerous opportunities that cater to obverse needs and preferences fostering a more inclusive and accessible learning environment. Especially, in the duration of COVID-19, Online learning has opened the gate to opportunities by giving a ray of hope to ~~productive environments~~ depressed learners. Currently, there are 5.03 billion internet users in the world which is 68.1% of the world population (data reportal.com, Digital Around the World, July 2022). These high number indicate IT is used by a large segment of population. Thus, in the modern age of IT, online education system has generated ample opportunities.

One of the major opportunity given by online education system is the ease of access to education. Geographical barriers are no longer a hinderance, as learners from any area access quality education. Online education system has eliminated the need for physical presence, enabling learners to acquire knowledge at her own pace

and comfort zone. "The virtual classroom is a place where geographical distances become irrelevant, and knowledge becomes borderless." (Donna J. Abernathy). In this way, online education has expanded the access to knowledge for everyone.

Another major opportunity provided by e-learning is that it saves learners' precious time. In traditional education system, learners' have to face challenges due to some wastage of time. They have to travel a lot in order to reach the classroom to acquire knowledge. E-learning saves learners' time and cost of travel providing opportunity to learn at home. According to a Brandon-Hall Study, learning through e-learning typically requires 40% to 60% less employee time than learning the same content in a traditional classroom setting. In this way, e-learning saves students' time making them ~~that they~~ can spend that time in some useful activity.

Moreover, Online education empowers women by giving them opportunity to seek knowledge. Due to social and cultural constraints, many women are not

given the opportunity to ~~seek~~ acquire knowledge. Furthermore, due to security and safety issues, many families are reluctant to send their daughters to far away areas to learn. E-learning solves this issues of [example?] learning from far-away places and helps in equipping women with knowledge. Thus, online education empowers women by making her independent.

Online education is cost effective as compared to traditional learning system. Traditional learning system involves fee of educational institutes, transport and hostel dues which are not required in online education system. ~~Usually~~ The online education system ~~is~~ saves money by reducing the need for physical classroom space and other resources i.e. on books, and other activities in the nephysical class room. This lower cost, makes ~~access~~ poor students to access education easily.

[example?]

Further, Online education equips learners with practical skills that align with the demands of the modern era. Online courses and certificates enable learners

to upgrade their skills that empower them to seize better career opportunities. The advanced learning technologies employed by online learning platforms allows learners [example?] to focus on their areas of weakness and thus strengthen their learning. As a result, e-learning experience becomes more productive for advancing and excelling in the career.

However, many believe that online education has created more challenges than that of opportunities. They opine that online education is not accessible to everyone. The digital divide refers to the gap between learners who have access to and can effective use information and communication technologies (ICT) and those who cannot. This divide hinders the access to online education. Not all students have equal access to technology and stable internet connectivity, [example?] This makes online education unaccessible to economically disadvantaged groups, exacerbating educational disparities.

Others are of the view that home environment filled with distractions diverts learners' focus and thus

impacts negatively on 'students' performance. Time management can also be a challenge, as learners need to be self-disciplined to stick to their time tables. Students do not take online education seriously. ~~They~~ Many of the students just log in to the virtual classroom but remain absent most of the time. In this way, online education wastes learners' time. Unavailability of digital gadgets also hinder participation of women belonging to poor and rural areas. In rural areas, there are internet connectivity issues and mostly poor families cannot manage the expensive digital to gadgets which creates a challenge for such women to acquire knowledge.

Moreover, financial constraints is another challenge in acquiring e-learning. Internet availability and provision of digital technologies demand money. There are certain online courses, certificates or programs that cost higher fee which is not possible for poor ~~fam~~ students to pay. Thus, students belonging to poor backgrounds cannot overcome financial constraints and cannot access online education.

lack of networking and hands on experience is also considered a challenge in online education system. Certain professions require hands on training and practical experience, which may not be adequately addressed in online courses for careers that demand physical skills or specialized training, online education might not offer required opportunities and thus creates challenges.

Despite of the challenges, online education system has provided for more opportunities to learners. The widespread use of information and technological devices makes online learning accessible to most of the learners. Now a days, digital gadgets are accessible to most of the people. Those, those who lack the availability of such devices can manage instead of spending money on other expenses of traditional education.

Furthermore, distractions are present everywhere. It depends on learners' attitude towards learning whether they want to take advantage of the online education system

without being distracted or they waste their time by diverting their attention in other activities.

Online education system plays a fundamental role in women empowerment by solving their major issue of safety and security. financial constraints can be ~~so~~ overcome by purchasing second hand digital devices.

In comparison to traditional classes, online learning is cost effective It saves learners' money on travel, buying books and other activities in the traditional class room.

Online education fosters connections beyond borders. learners from different countries and cultures can interact and broaden their horizon. This global networking and collaboration not only enhances the learning experience but also prepares learners for the increasingly global work force

To conclude, online learning has proves to be a transformative force, unlocking a plethora of opportunities that were once beyond approach. The challenges

in the way of online learning can be overcome if one is strict and serious in gaining opportunities provided by e-learning

|  | Category | Total marks | Obtained marks |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Content** | Qualitative analysis | 10 | 2 |
|  | Quantitative analysis | 10 | 1 |
|  | Validity & Reliability | 10 | 1 |
|  | Relevance | 10 | 3 |
| **Language** | Sentence structure | 5 | 2 |
|  | Vocabulary | 5 | 2 |
|  | Clarity | 5 | 2 |
|  | Command of language | 5 | 2 |
|  | Expression | 5 | 2 |
| **Structure** | Outline | 5 | 2 |
|  | Introduction | 5 | 2 |
|  | Body paragraphs | 5 | 1 |
|  | Conclusion | 5 | 1 |
| **Coherence** | Cohesion | 5 | 2 |
|  | Coherence | 10 | 2 |
|  | **Total** | | 27 |