EFFECTIVE DIGITAL LEARNING AND ITS ROLE IN THE EDUCATION

* Dr. Poonam

Assistant Professor, C.R.College of Education,Rohtak

ABSTRACT

Digital learning is replacing traditional educational methods more and more each day. Rapidly classrooms are changing, it is best to start thinking about newer teaching and learning techniques based on digital learning tools and technologies. The inclusion of digital learning in the classrooms can vary from simply using laptops and tablets instead of paper to elaborate software programs and equipment as opposed to the simple pencil and pen. This could entail using various sites, services, programs, teaching tools, and technologies like study aids built for at-home use. Even social networks and communications platforms can also be used to create and manage digital assignments and agendas. The digital learning has come to play a crucial role in education. It empowers students by getting them to be more interested in learning and expanding their horizons. The digital learning is a step up from traditional education methods .Learning tools and technology enable students to develop self-directed learning skills. They are capable to identify what they need to learn by using online resources, apply the information on the problem at hand, and even evaluate resultant feedback. This increases their efficiency and productivity.The present paper here disuses various aspects of digital learning

Digital Learning – 21st century has termed as the digital era. we are totally dependent on the use of technology to complete our daily simple tasks. the internet is bringing a change in people life. The E-Education has certainly affected the teaching area. the days of blackboards, chalks and dusters are gone. These are replaced with web-based education which strengthens student's learning experience.web-based learning effectively makes use of the information technology to impart knowledge to the students. it has been introduced a few years ago and has got a positive response from all over the world. it is also known as the Smart Teaching learning and most of educational institutions have adopted this method which bringing a positive change in the educational system. The students are taught with the help of large screens which is much better than the traditional methods of teaching. The teacher now is free from the pains of writing on the blackboard and then erase it .

Digital Learning Tools for Teachers

 the responsibility of every teacher is to get familiar to various electronic education tools so that they can use them to teach students. So , it is an paradigmatic opportunity for the learners trainers to get empowered with digital learning or digital content resources. Digital learning education has allowed educators to increase their efficiency and potency. To get familiar with the various types of digital learning tools,we all need to give time to learn and understand them. After that we can decide the best teaching-learning method which can be used to impart knowledge to the students in classroom .

Training to the teachers

The educational institutions should have to decide to adopt the e-learning teaching procedure which play a vital role. Either they can employ tutors who have knowledge of e-tools and methods or to make proper arrangements to train the teachers for effective use of digital programs.. Most private school administrators are happy to adopt this new technology e-learning which is the need of the present hour. Furthermore, we can also take help from the internet to get habitual to this new technique and to teach others also.

factors which separate digital learning from conventional methods of teaching

No restriction of place

Digital learning is not delimited as conventional mode of teaching in which every period was supposed to be of thirty five to forty minutes but digital learning has given the freedom to the teachers as well as students to pick out their place to study. Teachers can conduct online classes anywhere according to their convenience at the comfort of home. However, it can be more suitable for mostly higher classes students rather than school going children.

No Restriction of Time

The traditional teaching has one big disadvantage that it is time bound. On the other hand web-based learning is no more restricted to specific timings . we can choose our own suitable time and can study when free. videos of the classes from the interne can be downloaded easily from various teaching channels.

Learn at your Own Pace

e-learning allows students to learn at at their convenience*.* There are so many tutorial videos available online and we can see them as many times we want to make concepts clarity about any topic. We do not have to spend much time on one particular chapters through online leaning they become more interactive.

Electronic *Content*

Electronic content means content we get high-quality academic, easy to read and understand. It is delivered through various electronic gadgets such as smartphones, computers, laptops and other . The online content is written by highly competent and experienced academic content writers supported by informative videos and images for better learning and understanding.

Internet facility

The main technical tool required for digital learning is internet. We can also called it as its backbone. to get started with e-learning process we need a laptop or computer or any other gadget having an internet connection . However,we must keep in mind that internet is not instruction it is just a medium or tool.

Online teachers, Tutors and Instructors

without the presence of a teacher no teaching and learning can be considered successful and digital learning is also no exception in this.To educate digital learning students, their roles have changed here as facilitator but the responsibilities remains the same .They can provide guidance to every needy student.

Supremacy of Digital Learning

Following are some advantages of using digital learning:

Digital Learning makes Research Work easier

 The digital learning now a days has made the research work easier specifically in the field of education,medical science, information technology, science and space. To carry our work, we can find a solution to any problem or question through information available on the internet, . Thesis or dissertation can be easily prepared by research scholars without much difficulty. All the facts and statics provided on the internet are latest which can add an impulsion to our work.

Digital Learning as a Boon for the Parents

The digital learning has proved to be a commendation not only for the students, teachers but even for the parents who usually guide their children and help them in their homework and studies . To guide their kids in a better way parents can consult the internet and online tutorials anytime . Moreover, because of its interactive nature e-learning becomes a fun loaded game for the children who can grasp the topic more quickly than by the traditional methods.

Exams Preparation becomes Easier

Another advantage of digital learning learning is that it helps a lot during the preparation of examinations. Nowadays, most of the students preparing for their exams by surfing internet to find answers to their questions. In addition, digital learning can be your best-trusted friend if you are preparing for a competitive exam,. every student can consult online books and also can solve the online mock test to consolidate your preparation. To make your tasks easier,there are online tutors who can help in solving your problems.

Reduce the Burden of Paper Work

The use of digital learning in the present scenario has led to the elimination and reduction of the burdensome paperwork which was an essential part of the earlier education system. the teachers do not need to carry bundles of answer sheet to their home for evaluation as most of the exams are conducted online,. Moreover, today the questions are usually Multiple Choice types (MCQs) which can be answered and evaluated on the computer itself within no time. Now because of this, the results can declared very early with more transparency and accuracy as compared to the traditional ways of paper checking .

Strong Platform for Better Communication

digital and internet-based learning has provided a strong platform for better communication between the teachers and the learner. We can do a live chat with the tutor with the help of a webcam using various digital applications such as google meet,Skype or Google Hangout. The communication can be made more enhancing with the help of social media platforms, blogs, and other discussion forums. we can clear our doubts related to assignments and exams for better preparation of the subject.

Challenges of Digital Education

Lack of Proper Study Room

- According to **Census 2011** 71 per cent of households with three or more members have dwellings with two rooms or less.

- In such a situation there is a huge question how will the children avail education in an undisturbed ambience .

Slow Internet Speed

- When we talk about digital education, it is mostly about communicating with teachers through video calls or watching online video lectures these both require high-speed stable internet connection.

▪ The whole idea will fail in absence of adequate speed of the internet . We can see this problem from the UT of Jammu and Kashmir where regular protests are done by the students as they are not able to study in absence of proper internet connection.

No Standard Policy

▪ Digital education is not only about talking to teachers and watching videos of lectures on the internet. It is about appropriate technology, platforms,, tools, interactivity, content and a lot more.

▪ But in present situation we lack proper policies on digital education, infrastructure, content and interaction

Teacher Training

▪ Schooling is supposed to glance after the emotional, social and behavioural health of children, which is absolutely opposite to social distancing.

▪ Teachers look after the social health , emotional and mental of children in schools.

▪ Teachers are not appropriately trained to implant these learning through online mediums.

Parenting Issues

▪ In case of digital education another challenge is to keep children out of school when parents return to their work spaces after lock down.

▪ For a child's safety and learning at home who will assume responsibility remains a huge problem.

Conclusion

The Digital Learning was introduced few years ago has been warmly and affable welcomed by the world. Since digital learning is far more interactive and memorable than immense textbooks or ordinary lectures, they provide better content , a greater sense of perspective, and more activities than traditional teaching methods. This allows students to better associate with the learning material. In this area a lot has been achieved, but still the journey is incomplete and long way to go. The digital teaching and learning

community, as well as the learners, can take extensive advantage of the technology and can make their professional more interesting thereby breaking the restraints of conventional teaching methods. The modern-day education is to arise many more steps further and bring an immeasurable change in society.

References

- Lorenzetti, J. P., (2003). Online ed. in the academy: insights from an insider. A conversation with Judy Brown. Distance Education Report, No. 24, Dec. 15, 2003.

- McLean, J. (nd). The virtual vortex: managing your time as a distance educator. Pennsylvania College of Technology, Pennsylvania State University. Accessed Oct. 21, 2005. http://www.ipfw.edu/as/tohe/2002/Papers/mclean1.htm

- Moore, J. (ed). (2004). Elements of Quality Online Education: Into the Mainstream: Wisdom from the Sloan Consortium. Summary. The Sloan Consortium. http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/books/wisdom.asp

- Morris, L. M., Xu, H., & Finnegan, C. L. (2005). The role of faculty in teaching asynchronous undergraduate courses. Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks, Vol. 9, No. 1, March 2005. http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/jaln/v9n1/v9n1_morris.asp

- Muilenburg, L. Y., & Berge, Z. L. (2005). Student barriers to online learning: factor analytic study. Distance Education. Vol. 26, No. 1, May 2005, pp. 29-48. .

- Muirhead, B. (2002). Salmon's e-activities: the key to active online learning. Education at a Distance; USDLA Journal, Vol. 16, No. 8, Aug. 2002. http://www.usdla.org/html/journal/AUG02_Issue/article02.html

- Otte, G. (2004). Second-Generation Faculty Development for Online Learning: Community-Building and Resource-Sharing. In Elements of Quality Online Education: Into the Mainstream: Wisdom from the Sloan Consortium. The Sloan Consortium., pp. 153-162. http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/books/wisdom.asp

- Parker, A. (2003). Motivation and incentives for distance faculty. Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration, Vol. VI, No. III, Fall 2003. State University of West Georgia, Distance Education Center. http://www.westga.edu/~distance/ojdla/fall63/parker63.htm .

- Perrin, E. (2001). The lines are drawn. Education at a Distance: USDLA Journal, Vol, 15, No. 11, Nov. 2001. http://www.usdla.org/html/journal/NOV01_Issue/editor.html

- Quitadomo, I. J. & Brown, A. (2001). Effective teaching styles and instructional design for online learning environments. National Educational Computing Conference, "Building on the Future" July 25-27, 2001, Chicago, IL.

- Schifter, C. C, (2000). Compensation Models in Distance Education. Online Journal of Distance Learning Administration, Volume III, Number I, Spring 2000 State University of West Georgia, Distance Education Center. http://www.westga.edu/~distance/schifter31.html

- Schifter, C. C. (2000). Faculty participation in asynchronous learning networks: a case study of motivating and inhibiting factors. Journal of Asynchronous Learning Networks, Vol. 4, Issue 1, June 2000. http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/jaln/v4n1/v4n1_schifter.asp

- Sener, J. (2004). Online Learning Has Come of Age: Four New Frames of Reference. . In Elements of Quality Online Education: Into the Mainstream: Wisdom from the Sloan Consortium. The Sloan Consortium., pp. 137-152. http://www.sloan-c.org/publications/books/wisdom.asp

- Smith, R. Clark, T. & Blomeyer, R.L. (2005). A Synthesis of New Research on K-12 Online Learning. Naperville, IL: Learning Point Associates. http://www.ncrel.org/tech/synthesis/

- Turgeon, A. J. (nd). Implication of web-based technology for engaging students in a learning society. American Distance Education Consortium. Accessed on Oct. 24, 2005. http://www.adec.edu/user/resource/turgeon-implications.htmlReprinted from Journal of Public Service and Outreach 2(2): 32-37.

- University of Illinois Online Retreat (2000). Report from the Breakout Session on Faculty Compensation, February 22, 2000. http://www.online.uillinois.edu/old/retreat2000/compensation.html

- Wallace, R. M. (2003). Online learning in higher education: A review of research on interactions among teachers and students. Education, Communication & Information, 3, 241-280.

- Walter, L. M. (2004). Is distance education for you? Distance Education Training Council.. March 2004. http://www.detc.org/downloads/IsDistanceEducationforYou.pdf .

- Web-Based Education Commission to the President and the Congress of the United States (2000). The Power of the Internet for Learning; Moving From Promise to Practice. December 2000. http://www.ed.gov/offices/AC/WBEC/FinalReport/index.html

- Wolcott, L. L., (2003). The dynamics of faculty participation in distance education: motivations, incentives, and rewards. In M. G. Moore & W.G. Anderson (Eds.), Handbook of Distance Education (pp. 549-564). Muhwah, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates Publishers.

- Yick, G, Y., Patrick, P. & Costin, A. (2005). Navigating Distance and Traditional Higher Education: Online Faculty Experiences International. Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning (July - 2005). ISSN: 1492-3831. http://www.irrodl.org/content/v6.2/yick.html

- Young, J. R. (2004). When good technology means bad teaching. Chronicle of Higher Education: Information Technology. Vol. 51, Issue 12, p. A31, Nov. 14, 2004. http://chronicle.com/weekly/v51/i12/12a03101.htm

- Zemsky, R. & Massy, W. F. (2004). Thwarted innovation: what happened to e-learning and why. A final report for the Weatherstation Project of the Learning Alliance at the University of Pennsylvania in cooperation with the Thomson Corporation. http://www.irhe.upenn.edu/WeatherStation.html