



E-Learning: Opportunities & Challenges for Learners of modern era.

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Abstract:

Today is the internet era, so every student is connected with the internet world through various E-learning modes; that is why E-learning in today's scenario has become a necessity in education. This research paper presented the key findings from the literature review & examines the opportunities & challenges of E-learning for the students in education. The Paper discusses E-learning's introduction with the detailed study of some renowned authors, explaining the various E-learning modes. Includes formal & informal learning environment that focuses on encouraging interaction & building collaboration among learners. E-Learning also poses challenges for the students & all the learning educators. The researcher finally concludes the research paper with the suggestions & future scope of E-learning.

Keyword: E-Learning, Traditional Learning, Challenges of E-learning, Literature Review.

Introduction of E-learning:

When the Internet was coming into the virtual platform in the 1970s, modes of communication have changed. In recent years all developed & undeveloped countries adopted E-learning. All the institutes, departments (government & private) use E-learning technology for their official work. E-Learning delivers information effective, efficient, less time with easily accessible. E-Learning provides education to all age groups of people quickly.

The present era of technological advances introduced many electronic products, But there arise many new quality issues influencing the reader's satisfaction (**Kant, 2019**). E-learning increases the number of technical work as well as decrease the number of the non-technical worker. Now the users are well aware of

the use of E-learning. Now the World is one step far away from us. Anybody can easily connect with the World through messages, video calls & other tools of communication.

To connect with fast-growing world employees, the companies should know about the E-learning technologies & for this company should organize a training program for them. Online technology is cheaper compared to offline technology. E-learning provides more options for learners to learn new things & to connect with the World.

Review of literature:

This section presents some of the previous studies conducted in E-learning and some online learning challenges and educational technology.

The “American Society for Training and Development” (ASTD) described E-Learning as any information which is to be delivered by electronic technology like video calls, online classes, internet-based learning, online classrooms, etc., is called E-learning. It also refers to the latest technology which creates service better, attractive, more accessible & affordable. **(Piskurich, 2003).**

The E-learning method is the best learning method; it is better than the offline learning method, timely feedback & quality of communication is superior with good course design, comprehensive geographical coverage are some of the advantages of E-Learning. **(Chen et al., 2006).**

However, some research focused on the expectation of the trainers from the student's perspective & some research focused on its impact on the trainee or students. Research proved that E-learning technology improves the efficiency of the management, administration & also the trainers. So, they can work effectively **(Steele and Hudson, 2001; Eynon, 2005; Olaniran, 2006).**

Today is the era of e-learning. To implement the E-learning method in their institutes, all the educators & academics are facing various kinds of challenges. The Internet has multiple tools for learning that offer limitless opportunities for expert teaching & also provides flexibility to the learner **(Hardaker and Singh, 2011; Macharia and Pelser, 2012).**

Some researchers pointed reasons aimed at the success of e-learning that the whole system of e-learning would likely motivate students to perform better & to result in next-level student engagement **(Hiltz, 1993; Wang and Wang, 2009; Hardaker and Singh, 2011; Macharia and Pelser, 2012).** However, most of the case studies, articles & research focus on the student's needs & to find out the solution to this, provide ideas & recommendations to the students to improve their learning skills.

A study performed at Kenyan Higher Education provides new ideas to students' management. According to this study, e-learning technology is needed for the students. **Macharia and Pelser's (2012).**

A case study of online education for the youngster by Pennsylvania by **Wolfinger (2016)** investigated that online education should start from the school level to acquire knowledge from the base level. The result expressed the importance of E-learning for the students and the parents through the survey process.

A study by **Ali (2017)** focused on learning E-learning education through various online modes techniques. They also motivate other trainers to understand this education; most learners still use the blackboard for teaching.

According to the articles published, **Liguori and Winkler (2020)** discussed, E-learning education faces many more challenges. Sometimes resources are not available to implement online education in any institutes theory also discussed entrepreneurship education.

Alturise (2020) conducted a study about the satisfaction level of trainers & students from online learning learners' and teachers' satisfaction in online learning at Qassim University, Saudi Arabia. It analyzed that e-learning is an advanced education technique it improves the work efficiency & knowledge level of both trainer & trainee.

Challenges/ Issues faced in E-Learning:

Many challenges faced by academics regarding E-learning, like cultural, education, religious & political challenges, will be discussed in this research paper.

1. Differences in Education Systems:

Each country has its education system & policies. These different systems provide educational opportunities for students & academics.

The education system offers companies a different base of the workforce. An education system of developing countries gives only school education to their youth. Youth do not take any interest in college education. (Moore, 1994)

As a result, a company with fewer employees competes for their workforce because they do not have highly qualified employees. Different education policies & systems may also confuse degrees. A degree shows the qualification level of students (Moore, 1994; Mason, 1998).

For example, the education system of China has a different kind of policies; colleges accept a minimum portion of high school graduates; thus, graduates in that country have higher economic or social value compared to other countries in the United States, which have various kind of degree colleges provide the best education to their youth & companies in America offers the different higher positions for the employees who have Master/Ph.D. degree holders,

In China, when the training module is designed for their employees, the trainers & designer do not assume that the trainee has the same knowledge which they are providing in that training; the trainer always thinks that the trainee is not aware of the content, as well as in the U.S. many of the educational academics provide a trainer to a different style of learning method, various modes of teaching methods for their students.

(Hoffman, 1998; Kemper, 1998) suggest that trainers who provide the best training to the students or the employees of any company spend more time with their students, they observe the students provide efficient training to them. This way of training method decreases trainee's homesickness habit so they can easily adjust with them & better understand that country's educational system, this is the best way of teaching method.

The More flexible the education system is, the more possibilities for developing a successful e-learning infrastructure. On the other hand, if the education system is rigid to specific rules and policies, it might not be easy to build e-learning in such a place.

2. Political & Religious challenges:

Religion, Politics both the terms are sensitive issues for the trainers, educators, and the country. A country, who might adopt global e-learning, should know about all the consequences of the political system & the religious politics of any country that profoundly impact how work & life issues are scented and programmed (Farmer, 1997).

Trainers who are taking training should be careful with these issues at the training site where the exercise is to be conducted. For example, Trainers in America usually do not talk about integrating China and Taiwan where both the country's students are taught (Kemper, 1998). Giving respect to all the religious and political differences in host countries where the training module is to be conducted is very important.

3. Cultural Challenges:

One more challenge that all the academics face is introducing E-learning into their institutes & which is a cultural challenge. For the betterment of students, it is needed to understand the different artistic styles of other students. The old & traditional culture method always have variations because of their techniques & tools which are using or which have been used in classrooms where e-learning technology is to be taught & deliver the best education` n to the students. (Folley, 2010; Donahue and Glodstein, 2013).

The Socratic method provides students with different teaching methods like group discussion, quizzes, group work sessions & also an emphasis on communicating with peer group members & self-assessment, which helps the student evaluate himself or herself independently. All the research tools make students more knowledgeable & thinkers. However, this cannot be possible for all the students to reach that position. Everyone needs proper guidance, encouragement with appropriate training (Burd, A., & Buchanan, 2004).

4. Language challenges in E-Learning:

One most critical challenge in E-learning is that Language challenges. It shows the identity of any country also shows variation between two groups; such variations are in group member related to pronunciation, form & usage of vocabulary, slang & meaning of the word (Aston & Dolden, 1994).

Other forms of language like body posture, gesture, facial expression & body posture are most important in Asian cultures. (Porter, 1990; Pritchard, 1995). In global e-learning, one of the most dominant languages is English (Mason, 1998).

In countries that are non-English speaking, this is very difficult for them to adopt those e-learning techniques. This is a challenging task for them to translate that material into their regional or cultural language & to understand & to training their employees in a better way. (Collins & Remmers, 1996). It's about the trainer and a challenging task for the trainee to communicate in a second language. Some researchers research that we should allow trainees to communicate with their trainee in a regional language so that they can give better performance & able to give knowledgeable study material to them. Some studies globally the eminent the cultural language` into the technical language (Vonderwell, S., Liang, X., & Alderman, K. (2007).

5. Technological Issues in E-Learning:

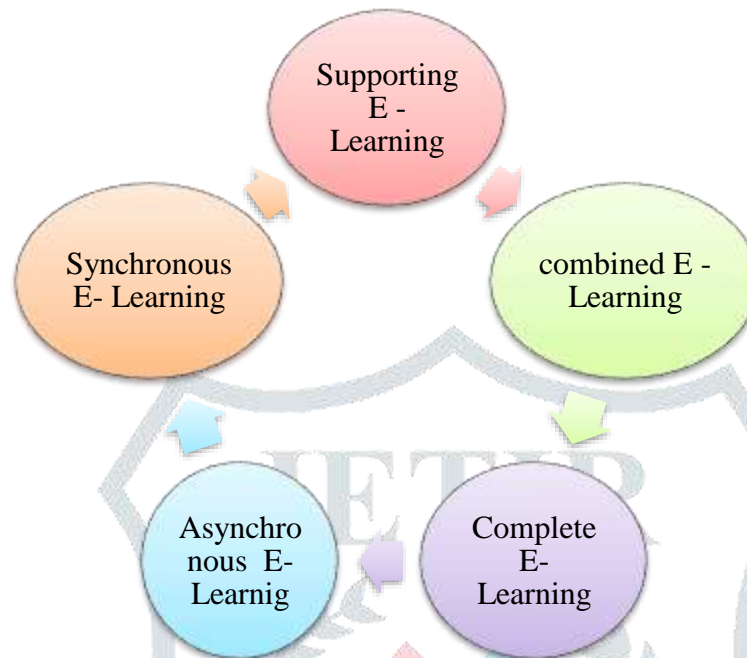
Technology is a cultural dimension and neutral for every citizen of every country (Pernici & Casati, 1997). The Difference in culture might help designers design accurate content or study material connected with the land & culture. Some of the e-Learning tools like Email, text, etc., through which we can better communicate with the group of people & that also do not give overburden on participants. (Boriarsky, 1995; Galdo, 1996). For example, according to the Chinese survey, Chinese users of Chinese people have higher expectations than American users. As a result, Chinese users face more distractions when they go on any online search or any online training. One more highly extensively learning studied tool is the hyperlink tool (Ayserman, 1996).

Many studies have focused that hyperlink is not a compulsory option for users. Instead, it shows various kinds of learning styles for trainees, like task-oriented work and field-oriented work. These works or characteristics of hyperlinks provide different learning styles to their learner for their betterment to connect with their culture (Sellin & Winters, 1996).

1. Lack of awareness –Sometimes, learners do not become aware of the effectiveness of E-learning. They feel that offline learning or classroom learning method is better than E-learning.

Modes of E-learning:

E-Learning is basically how anyone can communicate with another one through electronic media. In below chart will discuss the various modes & style of E-learning:



Supporting E-Learning techniques:

Supporting E-Learning techniques include various kinds of supporting tools through which teacher or trainer can better teach the students or make teaching better like websites, Internet, multimedia, etc.

Combined E-Learning Technique:

In this kind of E-Learning, all the activities are planned in an easy way & the combination of traditional E-learning method & modern E-learning method so the learner can benefit from both the learning method & can perform better.

Complete E-Learning:

This kind of E-learning method replaced the traditional classroom teaching room with the virtual classroom; the course is designed in a synchronized way to learn independently.

Asynchronous E-Learning:

In this kind of E-learning technique, learner (Student) & trainer (Teacher) do not communicate simultaneously. Instead, the course information was passed through Email, video recorded DVD & CD.

Synchronous E-Learning:

In this kind of E-learning, learner & trainers interact face to face through online videos, classrooms & video conferencing. This is more effective than asynchronous e-learning because learners learn directly with the trainer to train them proficiently.

Traditional Learning Vs. E-learning:

E-Learning is now needed for every student & become popular. This is the only reason most educational institutes introduce online courses for the students, as we have already read that every coin has two sides as we can say that according to the present situation, E-learning has many more advantages for the students. However, it has many more disadvantages compared to traditional learning. In below table will discuss the comparison of Traditional learning & E-learning.

S.No.	Traditional Learning	E-Learning
1.	Learner learn with offline mode	Learner learn with online mode
2.	There is no specific place & timing for this	Normally Schedule & Timing given by the trainer
3.	Formative Pace	Levy pace
4.	No need to add any other member for learning. Anybody can learn alone with their teacher or trainer	Need a group of the students for learning
5.	Teacher or trainer are independent to trained students on any topic	The trainer needs one specific topic for the online learning schedule for the students
6	The primary source for the trainer is online study material or content	The trainer, himself/herself, is the primary source for the study material or content
7	Interaction between learner & trainer is limited	No limitations for the trainer & learner
8	More expansive	Less Expensive
9	Form of direct learning	Form of distance learning

Opportunities of E-learning for students in higher education:

1. E-learning improves time management skills so that learners can learn effectively in less time.
2. E-learning has a broad scope for searching any study material for students to learn efficiently regarding their subjects.
3. Trainer or teacher can teach more effectively, with lots of study material.

4. E-learning expands the utilization of all the digital books available on the net for any research & for study.
5. E-learning improves the technical & communication skills of students.
6. E-learning improves gamification skills that increase learning effectively & vividly.
7. E-learning connects students to the World.

Further Research:

This research was conducted on a review based. According to that, there is a requirement for further research to be carried out in this, that how government, all the institutions, policymaker, the software developer will improve the use of E-learning & that will shape our country.

2. Similar research can be done on survey-based, so we can know better than how e-learning is essential for students; on a broader view, researchers can research every country's state.
3. The research findings could also be done by comparing different countries to determine the actual value of e-learning.
4. How we can improve the capacity of the students.
5. Marketing campaign techniques like – publishing E-books, programs, Events should organize to introduce or be aware of E-learning.

Further research would also help the education department or countries introduce modern technologies in their institutes. We can shorten the gap in literature & gap in all the factors responsible for not accepting E-learning in higher education in small villages & this will also apply to educational institutes in the city to obtain E-learning. How E-learning affect academics? What are the basic requirements like technical training?

Conclusion:

The literature review has identified & understood the gap in academics perceptive based on research existing. With this review, researchers have analyzed that E-learning is now most needed for the education for the students through which they can connect with the World & update with the technology. But still, there are many areas in which E-learning faces challenges like Difference in the education system, Technological challenges, Language challenges. Cultural Challenges, Political & religious challenges. To enhance the use of E-learning in every sector, especially in the education sector, all educational institutes need to improve the use of E-learning in their curriculum. Institutes need to train their trainer and support their students to use the technologies like live classes, videos, live chat, etc. There should be hands-on training sessions for trainers, so the trainer feels confident to use the technology. There are many more E-learning techniques available like - Support E-Learning, Blended E-Learning, Complete E-Learning,

Asynchronous E-Learning, Synchronous E-Learning; the trainer should feel confident in every manner of E-learning style in teaching. It is the responsibility of institutes to take proper feedback from the students after every training to improve their teaching style with the implication of appropriate teaching pedagogy. So, through this research paper, researchers have analyzed that E-learning is now the most needed or successful learning method for future education when students from an unlikely place can also learn from top-grade faculty through electronic devices and e-learning systems. Somehow it is also a responsibility of both government and society to make it affordable and reachable.

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