

# E-LEARNING VERSUS CLASSROOM TRAINING

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**1. ABSTRACT:-** For years, experts have argued about which mode of learning is superior. However, learners' perceptions towards e-learning as compared to classroom training have largely been overlooked. This paper intends to find the perception of people regarding elearning and classroom training and which one would they prefer more between the two. This paper also investigates the reasons as to why would they choose e-learning or classroom training. E-Learning is learning utilizing electronic technologies to access academic course of study outside of a conventional room. In most cases, it refers to a course, program or degree delivered fully on-line. In keeping with a study by KPMG in India and Google, may 2017, the net education market in India is calculable to achieve the USD 1.96 billion mark in 2021. With the increase of e-learning academic establishments, a discussion has started on the variations between classroom learning and e-learning academic procedures. The analysis and therefore the conclusions are based on the primary sources via conducting form survey as well as secondary sources via research papers and helpful web material. Paper presents and makes an attempt to review the idea of elearning, respondents choice between elearning & classroom training, the reason for their preference which ultimately gives the benefits of elearning over classroom and vice-a-versa. The paper conjointly presents an argument concerning which is the better methodology? Elearning or classroom training.

**KEYWORDS:** elearning distance learning internet surveys success research advantages disadvantages classroom

## 2. INTRODUCTION

Elearning has gone from a distinct segment sort of teaching for technology subjects to being a most popular, growing and a necessary way to teach everything. Technology is increasing and people's requirements and wants for flexibility of time schedules and self-paced learning is creating eLearning the goal for several corporations and establishments. However, you can't be fooled into thinking this transition from classroom to virtual learning may be a one-for-one trade. Though tons of features are common in each ways of learning however there are several attributes that are totally different in each ways of learning. With the boom in technology, mobiles and net access, each individual has unlimited access to the data and information they need,

and also the need to learn at their own pace that gave additional momentum to elearning.

## 3. BACKGROUND/LITERATURE REVIEW

A case study named "CLASSROOM VS. E-LEARNING: A CASE STUDY ON THE PERFORMANCE OF STUDENTS IN DIFFERENT LEARNING SCENARIOS" was conducted by T. Dondorf, R. Breuer, H. Nacken of RWTH Aachen University (GERMANY) to compare the performance of students using an online course of maths with the performance of students who were taught in a classroom course by an instructor. There are many approaches which are used to measure the learning progress of students in electronic-learning environments, practical of online learning and classroom teaching in practice. To get a homogeneous group of students, they restricted the experiment to the group of students in the field of engineering. One hundred and thirty students agreed for participation in this study. Before the beginning of the course, participants were randomly divided into two groups. The first group was taught in a student-teacher lecture in the classroom format. Online mathematics course was used by second group. The aim of the study was to check if there is a notable or remarkable variation in performance between students learning with the online learning system and students who are taught by the student-teacher lecture format. Several analysis were performed to measure the performance of the students. A survey was added in the end. It was conducted regarding the course which allowed the students to give their views about the perception and their contentment of the study. Based on the results, the classroom teaching was more successful than the online learning format in that case. While the overall performance of the students in the classroom learning group remarkably improved, the e-learning group's academic performance didn't improve. In this case study, using an e-learning application led to a significantly worse performance and the researchers pointed out which factors influenced the learning experience most and the necessary changes for successful e-learning.

## 4. METHOD AND MATERIALS

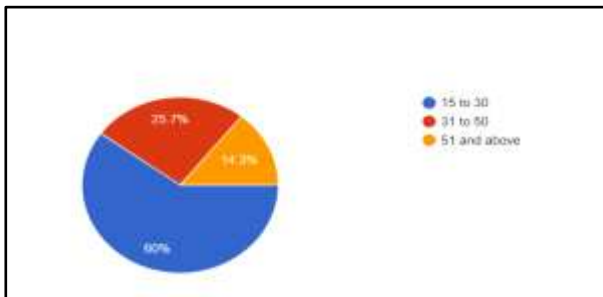
Both quantitative and qualitative methods were opted for this research. Questionnaire method was used for survey. Qualitative method provides answers to 'why?' and 'how?'. Qualitative research discussions are determined by respondent's opinions and feelings. A Google form was

used to collect data. Following are the types of questions used in this survey:-

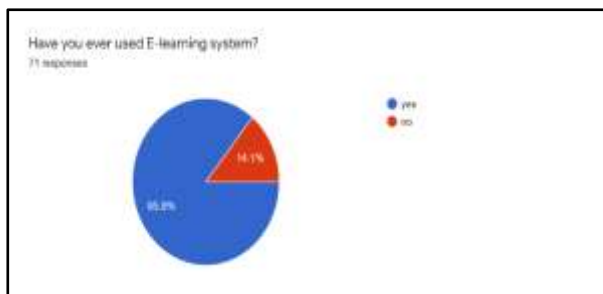
- **Open-ended questions.** These questions are asked when the answers are supposed to be descriptive as opposed to 'yes' or 'no' questions.
- **Multiple choice questions.** In these type of questions respondents are asked to choose from a set of answers.
- **Dichotomous Questions.** These are 'yes' and 'no' type of questions.

### 5. DATA AND RESULTS:-

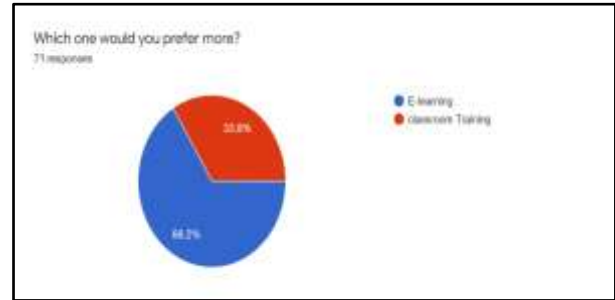
The questionnaire method was implemented using google form and was sent to the respondents using its link so that the responses could be collected in statistical format. Following is the result of the survey conducted for this research. Since quantitative method was used, bar graphs and pie charts are used to show the results. The questionnaire consisted in all 7 questions and was divided into sections since there was a section based answer. The respondents were asked for their email id and their age. Age groups were categorized accordingly.



When asked about ever using E-learning, 85.9% i.e. 61 respondents replied positively while 14.1% i.e. 10 respondents replied negatively. The population which with a negative answer belongs to age group of 31 to 50 and 51 and above.



Out of 71 respondents, 47(66.2%) respondents preferred E-learning and 24(33.8%) preferred Classroom Training.



These were the responses when asked about the reason for choosing Classroom training over e-learning.

Q. why would you prefer classroom training over E-learning?

It is more interactive besides we are more attentive in classroom training. A message from a human stays longer in our memory than any electronic device.

Because learning from a person who is live in front of you would be more preferable than the person who is miles apart and you can even doubts like 100% and in person you would understand things better.

Class training is the practical knowledge that we can give to a student, in which they get a chance to perform practically which is more good for them whereas e-learning is visual learning. But these both are very important on there places.

Some dough get cleaned

More interactive and doubts will be cleared at the same moment

Coz things are explained satisfactorily

From the responses received through the survey, it was quite clear that some people consider classroom training more interactive and feel that it increases student-instructors time than that of E-learning.

Q. Why would you prefer E-learning over classroom training?

It saves time and money

It is easily accessible

because it can be used any time anywhere

because it saves time and can be accessed any time

Because it is easy, fast & vastwide

It's easily understandable

Advanced learning system

because it is flexible in respect to time and place

Saves Time..its cost efficient..Time flexibility is best



From the responses received it was clear that respondents that thought E-learning was easily accessible, easily understandable, provides time flexibility as well as location flexibility. E-learning is saves money i.e. it is cost effective and requires less time than that of classroom training. It is also more convenient and comfortable than that of classroom training.

## 6. DISCUSSIONS

The main aim of the survey was to investigate which method of learning would be preferred more, classroom training or elearning and also to investigate the reason for choosing either one of them. From the survey it is observed that 47 of the 71 respondents chose elearning while 24 chose classroom training. Majority of the respondents who chose elearning were of age group 15 to 30 and respondents who chose classroom training belongs to age group 31 to 50 and 51 and above. This clearly states that today's generation is more into online learning than that of classroom training. The reasons as to why they were into online learning mainly included:

- Self-paced learning: E-learning provides learners to learn in their own pace or speed which is not provided by the classroom training.
  - Time and location flexibility: Learners can decide their own time and place for studying as there is no time or place barrier since it is available on the internet.
  - Saves time and money : E-learning saves money since there are no expenditures on classrooms & travelling costs and e-learning also saves time because you don't have to get ready and travel to reach a certain location for classroom because E-learning is possible at home as well.
  - Easy to understand: Since E-learning uses visual learning methodology, it becomes easy to grasp and learn.
  - Provides global platform: E-learning can be accessible from any part of the world and also provides advanced learning.
- Considering these responses of the respondents clearly gives us the insight of the advantages of

the elearning over classroom training. While the advantages of elearning are many but there are disadvantages of elearning as well which in return turned out to be the advantages of classroom training. The advantages of classroom training (according to respondents) includes:

- Interaction Time: Classroom training increases interaction time between instructors and learners as they are present in the same place at the same time.
- Solving doubts: It becomes easy to solve doubts for learners as the instructor is right in front of them.
- Easy to understand: It is easy to understand because instructors are present right in front of them to teach the topics.

## 7. CONCLUSION

From this survey it can be concluded that in today's world e-learning method is preferred more than the classroom training method because of the growing technology across the global. It can also be concluded from the responses that people especially today's generation prefers elearning more than classroom training. Also the reasons received by the respondents gave the advantages of e-learning over classroom training which are as follows:

- Online training saves time and money.
- Easily accessible from anywhere i.e. elearning provides global learning platform.
- Easy to understand as it is visual learning methodology.
- Flexible schedules.
- Self-paced learning
- Provides advanced level learning

Following the advantages of classroom training over elearning:

- Increase student- teacher interaction time,
- Doubts get cleared
- Easily understandable for verbal learners.
- ❖ LIMITATIONS:-As with any study, there are is a limitation to my research that should be noted.
  - Initially the link was sent to more than 130 people out of which only 71 responded. While the data is enough to make the conclusions I did, the results should not be generalized.

SUGGESTION:- While e-learning has been preferred more but education cannot become fully net based. There are some concepts that require

face-to-face lecture format. The optimal solution for this can be blended learning. Blended learning is a combination of online learning and classroom training. Blended learning includes face-to-face classroom practices are combined with computer-mediated activities regarding content and delivery.

6. KMPG in India, Google," Online Education in India: 2021",May 2017.

### Benefits for learners

1. Blended learning offers the learner convenience and flexibility; they need the flexibility to regulate their learning pace and learn remotely.
2. Academic analysis suggests that blended learning provides learners an additional comprehensive understanding of the course content.
3. Because blended learning permits learners to move with instructors and fellow learners, social learning is supported.
  - Webinars are an easy route to blended learning. It is a seminar conducted over the Internet.

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