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Introduction

This research report is based on Virtual Learning Environment(VLE)- Moodle on student's learning experience in the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus. I collected and analysed both primary and secondary data.

My primary data will be the questionnaire what I will perform by questioning 15 students in University of Wales Trinity Saint David, London Campus, regarding their experience with Virtual learning, with Moodle. I will gather my information what the students will provide me.

The result will be shown by using Bar – Graphs and Pie-Chart. I will analyse the graphs different aspects and factors from secondary sources. Therefore, as a result give a summary of the finding through this research. This will help to understand the Virtual learning experiences and the students how they cope with it, what benefit they will get.

Review of Existing Literatures:

Research on Virtual Learning Environment

“ Internet technology are having a tremendous impact on learning industry. Organizations, institutions and higher education have developed and are using web based courses but is known about their effectiveness compared the traditional teaching . .In the last 10 years, high education has benefited from real revolution most universities now have functioning Virtual Environment at the heart of their teaching and e- learning programmes”(BGJ Consulting 2017)

“ Findings suggests that secondary teachers use VLEs as part of a mixture of different teaching styles, combining computer- based instruction with face to face teaching form a ‘ blended learning’ approach. Teachers use VLEs more than students”.(European Schoolnet,2003)

Also LakeD. A.(2001) established that physical therapy students an “ active” learning environment carried out better than those on a more passive purely lecturer based environment.

Research Methodology

- Qualitative Research Method: “ Explaining phenomena by collecting numerical data that are analysed using mathematically based methods “(Aliaga and Gunderson Interactive statistics 3rd Edition, 2005)
- Quantitative Research Method: “ Seeks answers questions about why and how people behave in the way that they do. It provides in- depth information about human behaviour. Not involve numbers or numerical data. It often involves words, language but may also use pictures or photographs and observations.

I will work with both, qualitative and quantitative research methods, as I will be carried out a survey, which is able to judge behaviour and then present the findings an accurate way.(www.formpl.us/)

Qualitative research includes: open ended questionnaire such as Are you familiar with Moodle? “as a valid questionnaire will enable accurate data collection consistently; ensuring questions are understand by the respondents as they are intended by the researcher” (Foddy, 1994).

Quantitative research includes: graphs and pie charts to understand better the impact of Virtual learning experience at University of Wales Trinity Saint David.

Population

“Currently over 95% of higher education institutions in the UK use one or more Virtual Learning Environment. (Browne, Jenkins, and Walker, 2006)

Research population is generally a large collection of individuals or object that is the main focus of a scientific query. It is for the benefit of the population that research are done. (Mohamed Adam, Hassan)

Sample and Sample size:

A sample is simply a subset of the population. The concept of sample arises from the inability of the researchers to test all the individuals in a given population. The sample must be representative of the population from which it was drawn and it must have good size to warrant statistical analysis.

The sample size of a statistical sample is the number of observation that constitute it. Also determining the sample size to be selected is an important step in any research study. (www.academia.edu)

This survey will be carried out within University Trinity Saint David, London, Campus where all together more than 500 students registered as far as I know. I will choose only 15 students who I will be questioning that I will based the impact of Virtual learning Environment experience. (Moodle)

Data collection process:

Data can be valuable, but too much information is unwieldy, and the wrong data is useless. The right collection method can mean the difference between useful insight and time-wasting misdirection. (www.jotform.com)

I prepared five questions based on Virtual learning experience, I will gather the information with open ended and close ended questions. This will allow the students to respond faster and allows easy data collection. Furthermore, the information what I will collect from the students help me measure the experience with virtual learning. I will give the surveys to 15 students in The University of Wales Trinity Saint David, London Campus to get a clear understanding of what the students feel regarding their experience to Virtual learning.

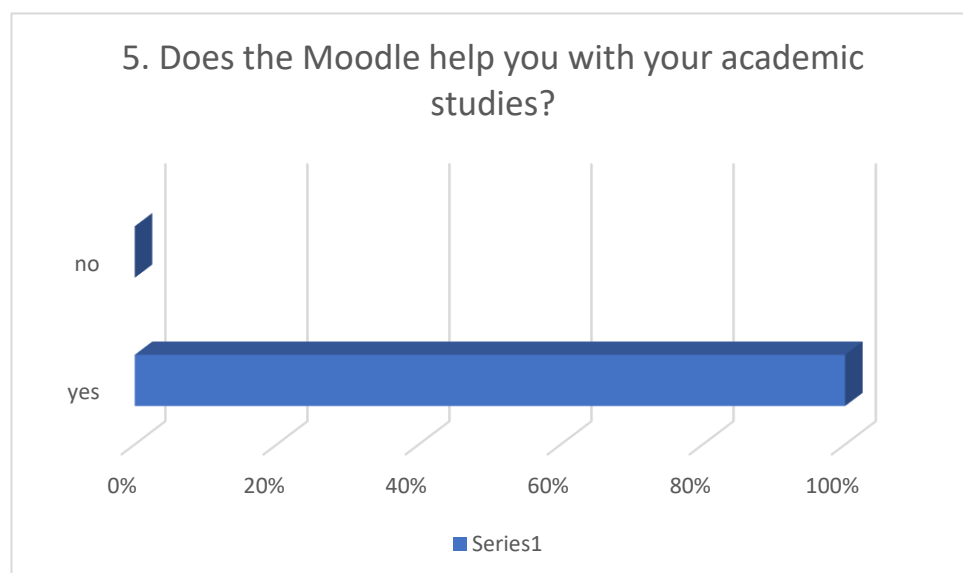
Ethics in data collection

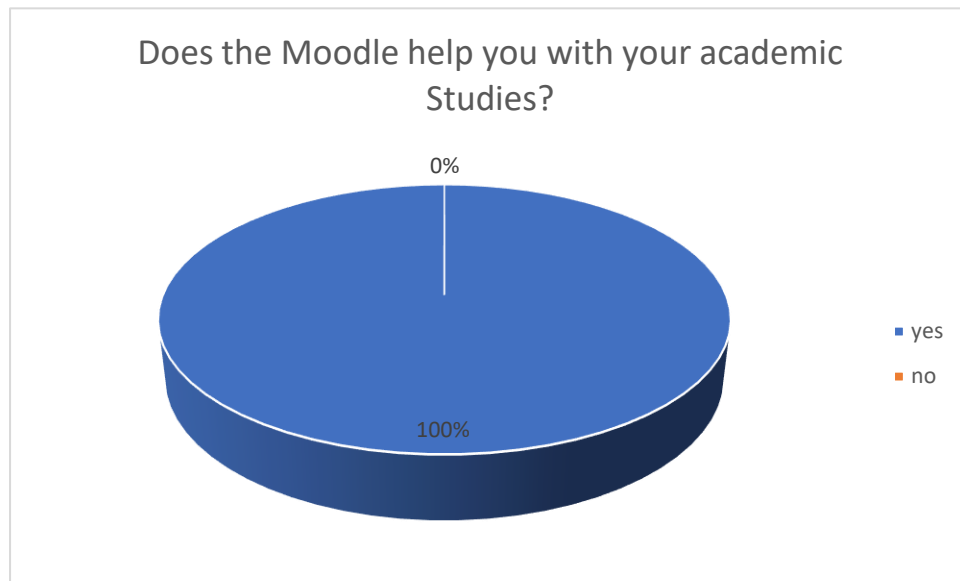
In my survey while I was designing questionnaire I was very careful all the information gathered must be anonymous. The questions should be carefully written to avoid bias and should not be opinionated or misleading.

Participant have the right to not complete any particular items in the questionnaire and withdraw at any point during the study.

Finding, Analysis and Discussions:

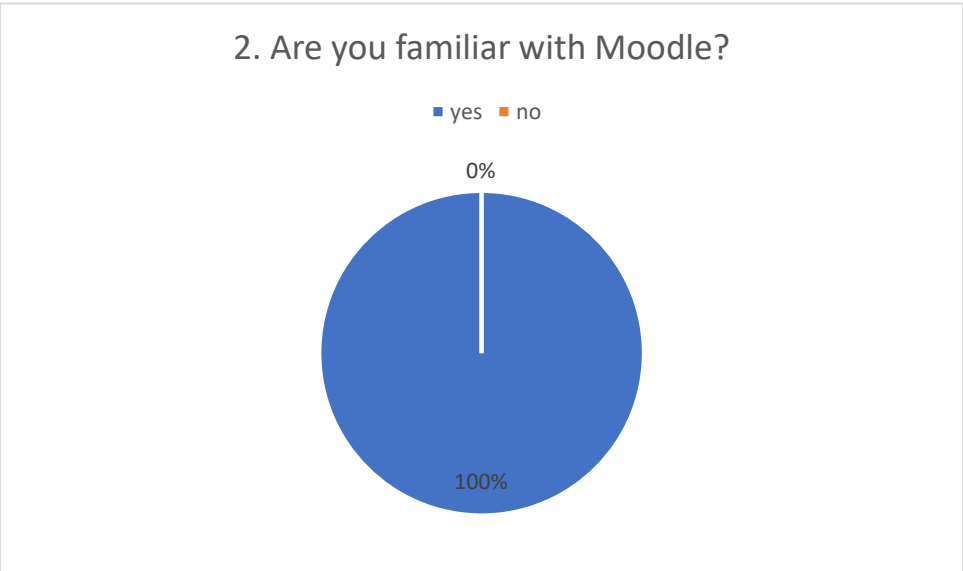
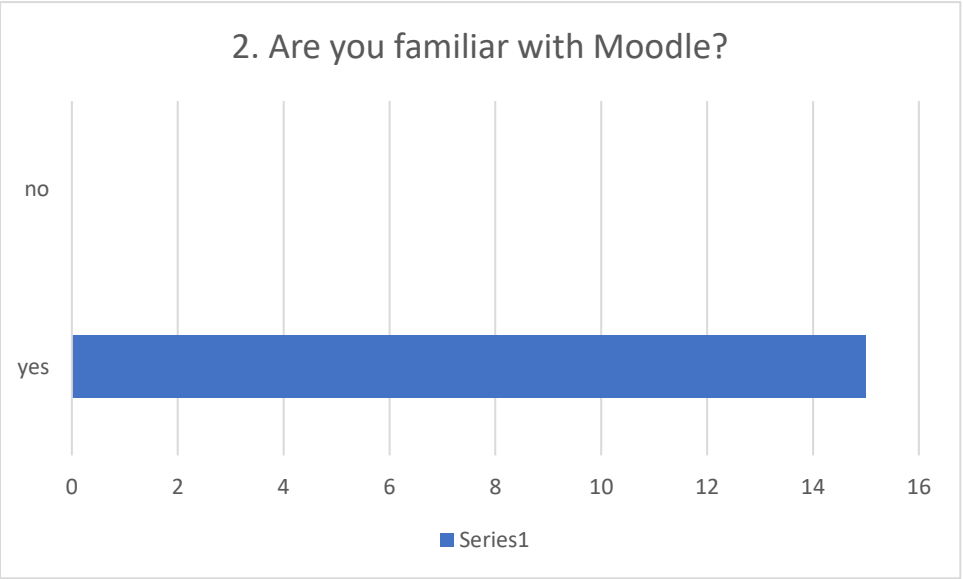
Impact of Virtual learning Environment Survey questionnaire





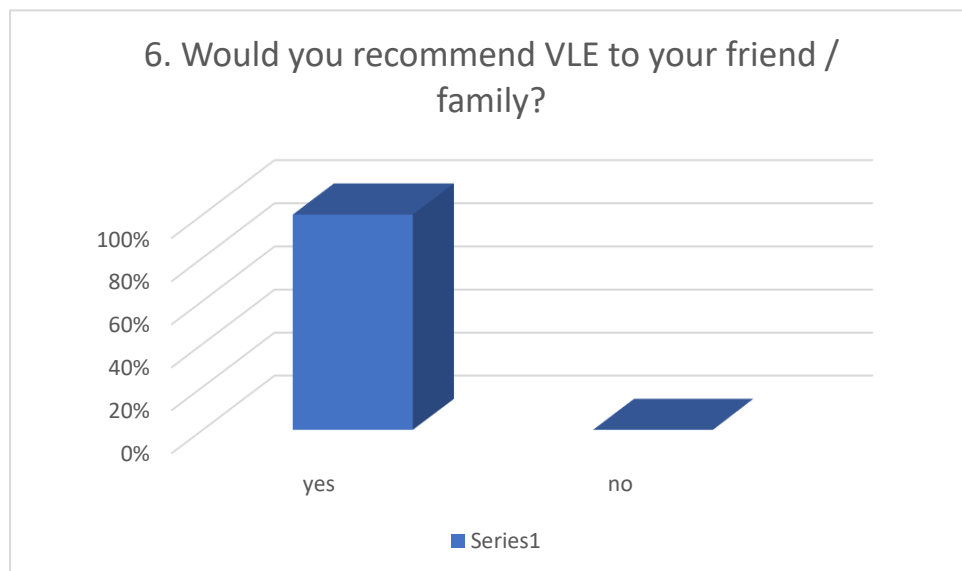
5.Does the Moodle help you with your academic studies?	
yes	15
no	0
	15

Question 5). Graphs Analysis : All of the students who I was asking about “ Does the Moodle help with your academic Studies?” answers were 100% “yes “. This means the VLE tools the Moodle section is definitely a big help for students for their academic studies. It is an advisable to put more effort on the VLE. Also Moodle can help with group activities, Discussions.



2.Are you familiar with Moodle?	
yes	15
no	0
	15

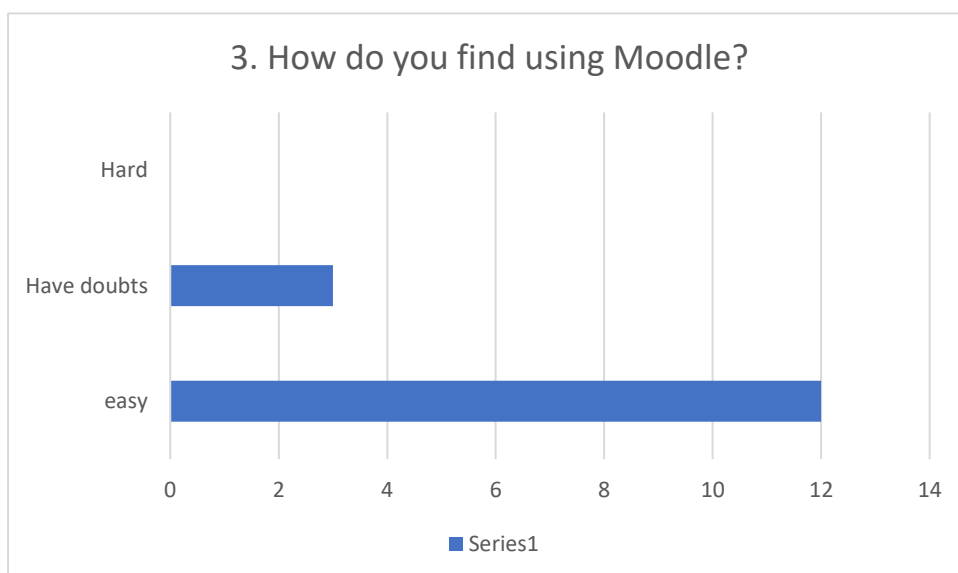
Question 2). Graphs Analysis : The students what I have asked about “ Are you familiar with Moodle? All of the students who I was questioning provided a “yes” answers. The reason all the student familiar with Moodle as the topic and the subjects what they study every week there are on the Moodle and during the class the students using Moodle on their laptop to get familiarized.

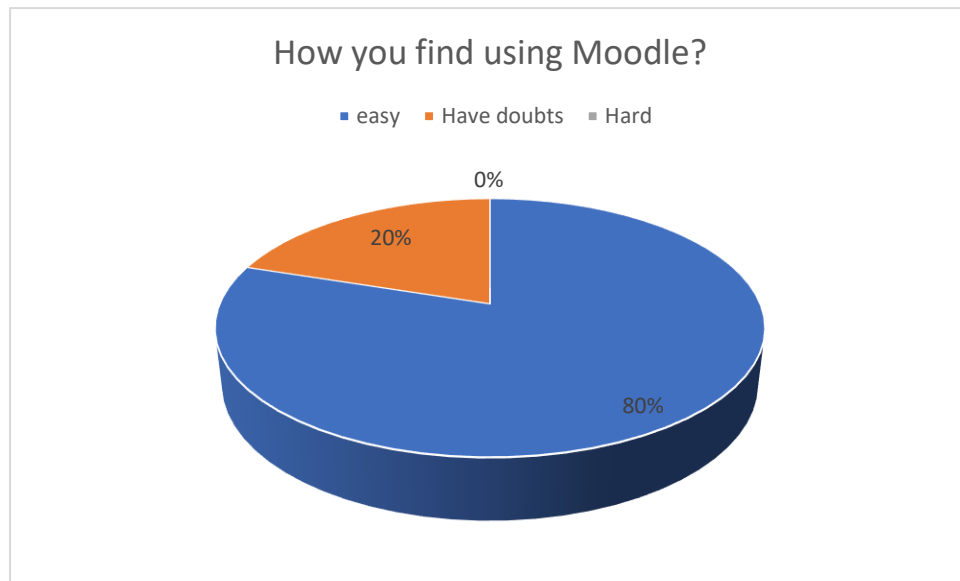


6.Would you recommend VLE to your friend/ family?	
yes	15
no	0
	15



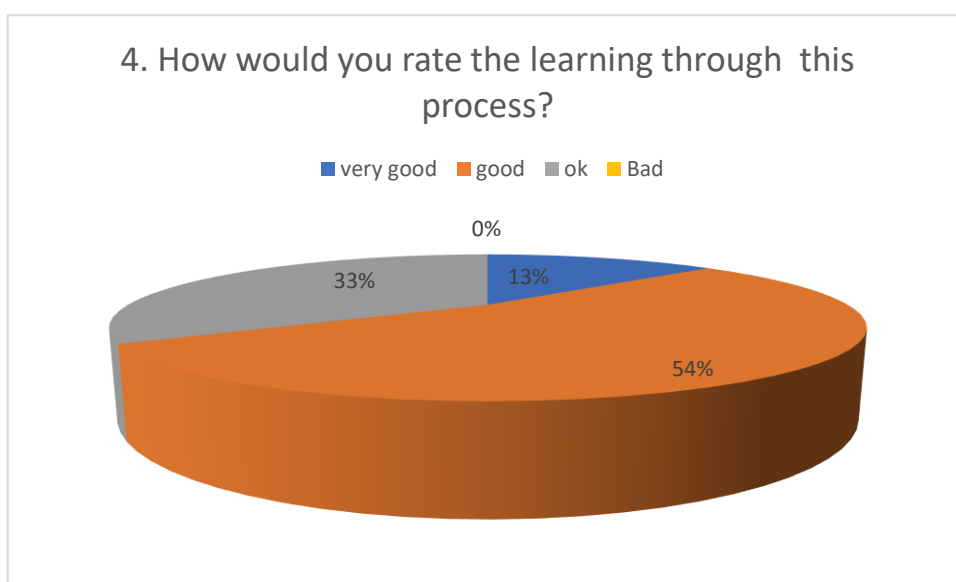
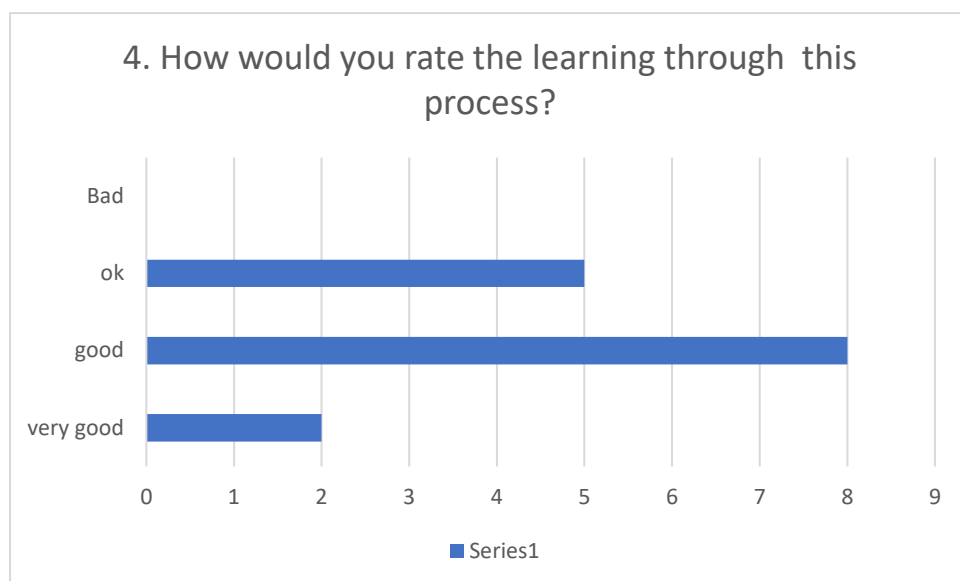
Question 6). Graphs Analysis: The recommendation about VLE is positive, which means all the students what I have asked none of them said they do not recommend VLE to their friends or family. Definitely will be a good start in the future.





3.How do you find using Moodle?	
easy	12
Have doubts	3
Hard	0
	15

Question 3). Graphs Analysis: The students who get involved to fill the questionnaire 20% of them had some doubts about how to use Moodle. 80% of students found it easy to use. Which means there is some issues what must be maintained. There will be some students who will struggle with using VLE because we are different but does not mean a negative aspects on Moodle as we see the most of the students using Moodle easily.



4.How would you rate the learning through this process?	
very good	1
good	7
ok	5
Bad	0
	13

Question 4). Graphs Analysis: The students who I was asked about rate the learning through Moodle the 54% rated "good" 33% of students rated "ok" and 13% rated "very good". None of the students what I have asked rated " bad". The positive rating of Moodle because can be a time saving process such as you can find the things what you looking for in one place.

Summary of the findings:

From the analyses and information what I have collected I can tell the impact of Virtual learning experience is positive such as the question 2 shows that the most of the students familiar with Moodle , which means the students can get benefit from the VLE tools. Furthermore the question 3 also shows the most of the students finding easily to use Moodle without any doubts. Question 4 which shows the rate about the learning through the process is also positive such as question 6 recommended the VLE to friends and family. Definitely the Moodle is a helping tool for students like question 5 diagram shows.

The VLE learning experience through my survey proved the advantage of using it more often because is a good think for students even for lecturer to find things easily plus is a good think to know the recommendation will increase for VLE in the future as well.

As the result shows the Virtual learning Environment it is increasingly becoming an innovative may of learning or already is and an essential part of courses in the Higher education sector. Also advisable lecturer should actively encourage and support students to virtually collaborate with each other around key issues related to VLE in order to enhance their learning experience.

“Virtual Learning Environments (VLEs) are web based pieces of software, which provides various internet learning tools”.(Heaton- Shrestha et al. 2005)

Conclusion

Analysing the impact of Virtual Learning experience at University of Wales Trinity Saint David, London Campus I can tell the Moodle tool is course management system which use different way to transfer the information to the users in their own manner way. The other thing about Moodle it is a free open source software which available to anyone to download and use without any ongoing cost. Furthermore, it is depending on the needs and the requirements of the institutions, users and the educational community. Also, Moodle gives a lot of room for familiarizing the platform and offers a wide range of administrative power to the faculty. They can assign tasks, build new groups and give easy feedback on assignments to the students. There is definitely a benefit for students, and also for parents as allow them to monitor their kids learning progress.

VLE also helps to lecturer as well such as organize their work what to present to their class through Moodle. As a Student I can recommend Moodle as a helping tool and a beneficial tool who first of all want to save time and searching certain things without any cost.

Joaquim Fillipe and Josè Cordeiro (2011) stated that “the advantages of the VLE does not have features that enables people with visual impairments to use it. Like VLE platforms do not have the facility to help people with visual impairments.

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Questionnaire

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Would you mind to spend some time to answer these questions?

1. What is your age group?
Below 20
21-25
26-30
31-40
41 and over
2. Are you familiar with the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle for UWTSD)?
Yes
No
3. How do you find using Moodle?
Easy
I have doubts
Hard
4. How would you rate the learning through this process?
Very good
Good
Ok
Bad
Very bad
5. Does the Moodle help you with your academic studies?
Yes
No
6. Would you recommend VLE to your friend/family?
Yes
No
7. What is the best side of moodle according to your opinion?
8. What changes would you like to make to help Moodle perform better? (In a few words)

