

Student Name: Praise Abia Oigbochie

Student number: 2114107

Tutor: Amitave Banik

The impact of Virtual Learning Environments (VLE) – Moodle on-students learning experience at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus.

Introduction:

I must put together primary and secondary data to produce a research report on the impact of Virtual Learning Environments (VLE) – Moodle on students learning experience at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus. The aim is to produce primary data in a questionnaire to use. For the secondary data, I have used published journals information about the impact of Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) on students learning experience. I will then analyse both Primary and secondary data.

Rationale:

I needed to do this research of students at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus to find out if Virtual Learning Environments (VLE) – Moodle has a positive or negative impact on their learning by collecting both Primary and secondary data Analyse.

- **Primary Data**

I was taught in Class that Primary data is original data collected and gathered first time from the primary source by the researcher themselves for a specific research purpose, which is then analysed into information that can be used for making decisions. Examples of Primary data could be Interviews either by telephone or face to face, letters, Surveys, Questionnaires and so on. I attend physical classes, so I created a questionnaire to collect primary data for my report. I have put together ten specific questions and printed them for my classmates and another student at the university to help me answer, which they did. Studies.

- **Secondary Data**

I lean that someone already has collected secondary data as readily available information for others to access and use. Examples of secondary data are the information you can search on the internet, records or books from the libraries, journals and much more. I explored some of the information online for my report and read some journals with data specifically for my topic.

Objectives:

All the information that I have been able to gather through questionnaires and reading journals on the topic is to help me analyse and determine if Virtual Learning Environments (VLE) – Moodle, have any positive or negative impact on students' learning experience at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus.

Literature Review:

This literature review is about Virtual Learning Environments Moodle. Martin Dougiamas stated the development of Moodle. Moodle was introduced in 2001 (Ofted, 2009), and it was introduced it has been the most popular online base platform.

Moodle is a free online-based platform designed to support teaching and learning that allows tutors and students to interact. It is a software system that provides communication tools built into the system that can be used to communicate. Students and tutors can access content that has already been uploaded to the platform, for example, to access information on the cause or subject they are studying, access the university library for books resources, and send emails. It has been designed to support both teaching and learning. This platform is on the wild world web, so you can still access the platform wherever your site is, no matter the geographical location. You can use this platform as many times as you want, and It is available any day at any time, so you can use it for remote learning if you have access to the internet.

Moodle is used by people in higher education and professionals who use the platform and is very secure and protected

Methodology:

As a student at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus, I can use my university email address with a password to access Moodle platform.

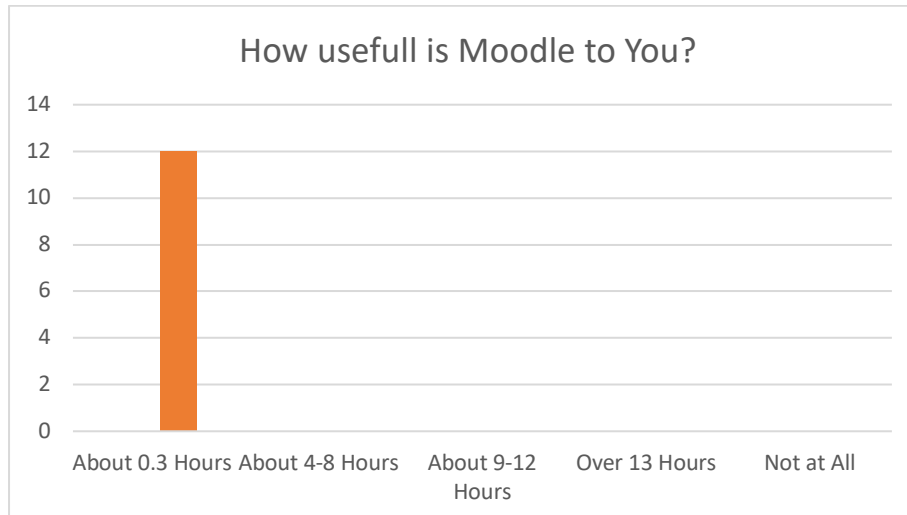
This platform has been handy for me as I have been able to get access to information and resources that I need and to for my assignments; I have been able to access the system for information about the modules that I am currently studying; with this, I can either go through them online or print them out to read. I get valuable links to a calendar where I can open to check when my assignment is due etc.; there is a link to Microsoft outlook. I can communicate through emails with my classmates and tutors or get help from the London assessment team.

Primary Data Analysis:

I was able to get 12 replies to the Questionary.100% of the students said they have access to Moodle; all the students either strongly or agree that Moodle is an online Learning Platform that is flexible and available for students to use at any time they want. Regarding the statement, Virtual Learning Environment enables students to get their education without physically attending classes, most students agree. When asked, how valuable is Moodle to you? 75 % of the students said the Moodle platform is very useful, and 25% OK. When asked how many hours you spend on Moodle, all the students selected the shorter time given as an option, About 0-3 Hours. With the question Is Moodle Easy to Use or Difficult for You?' 75% of the students said it was easy, and 25% said it was OK. When asked, 'Have you had any problems using Moodle?' 83% of the students have had no Moodle problems, but 17% have. Students were asked, 'Are You Able to find all the information you want on Moodle? Of all the students, 33 % choose every time, and 67% choose sometimes.

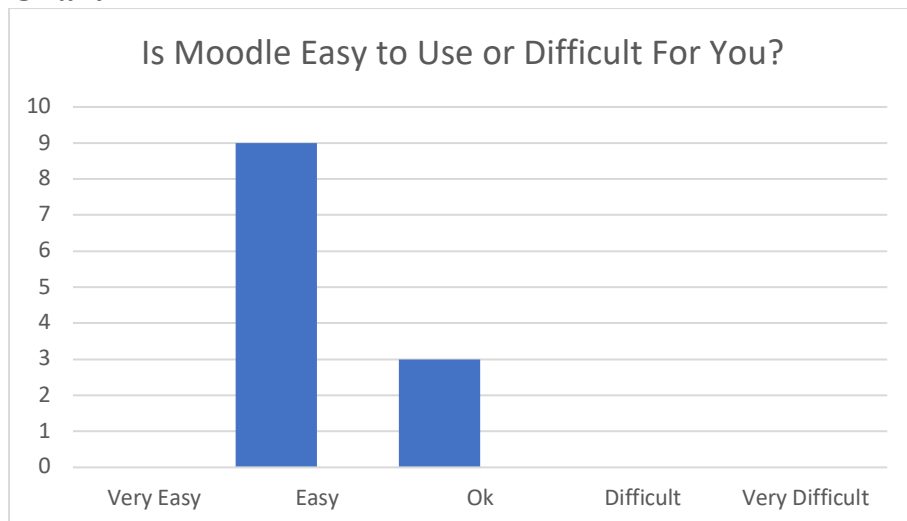
These are the results of the data I collected to get information on the University student, and I have created charts using Microsoft Excel to show my result. I asked the students if they had access to Moodle, and 100% of them said yes. This is because the university provides passwords for all its students to access the platform. As I witness, students are constantly reminded to use the platform for further information in lessons.

Chart 1.



To find out if Moodle platform is helpful for the student, I asked, 'How Useful is Moodle to You?' I created this 'chart 1' to show my results, and this chart indicates that 100% of the student thinks Moodle is a good learning environment.

Chart2



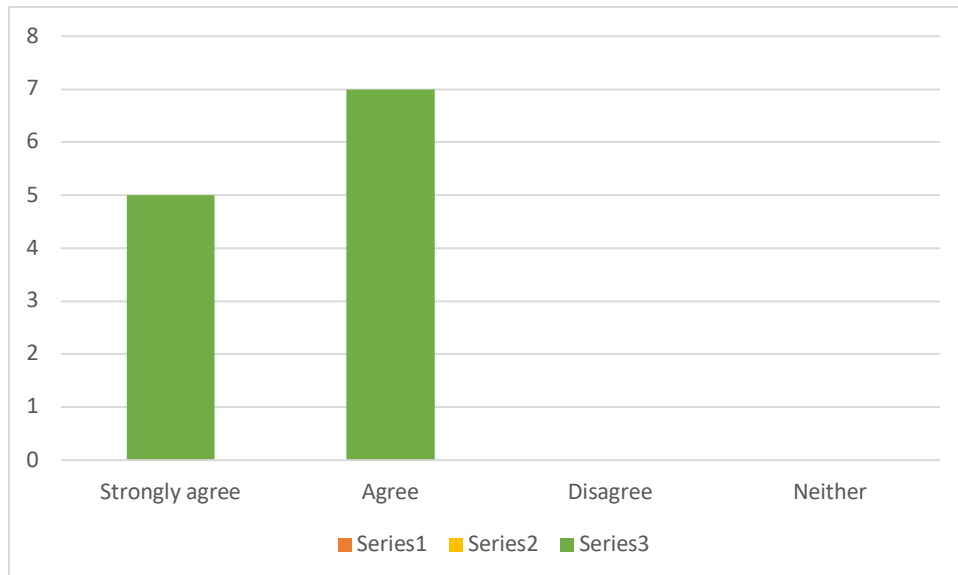
I asked the students if they found Moodle easy or hard to use? Below is my result.

The outcome of this question shows me that the student finds the Moodle Platform easy to use. As a student myself, we have been made aware that there is a technical team that we can contact if we are having any technical difficulties, which are very useful, especially for people new to the platform.

According to (Aikina, 2020). research has revealed that it is necessary to

recruit personally trained people to use distance learning systems as this helps support the students and the tutors. Having access to a technical team with a digital learning environment can help increase their motivation and encourage them to use the platform.

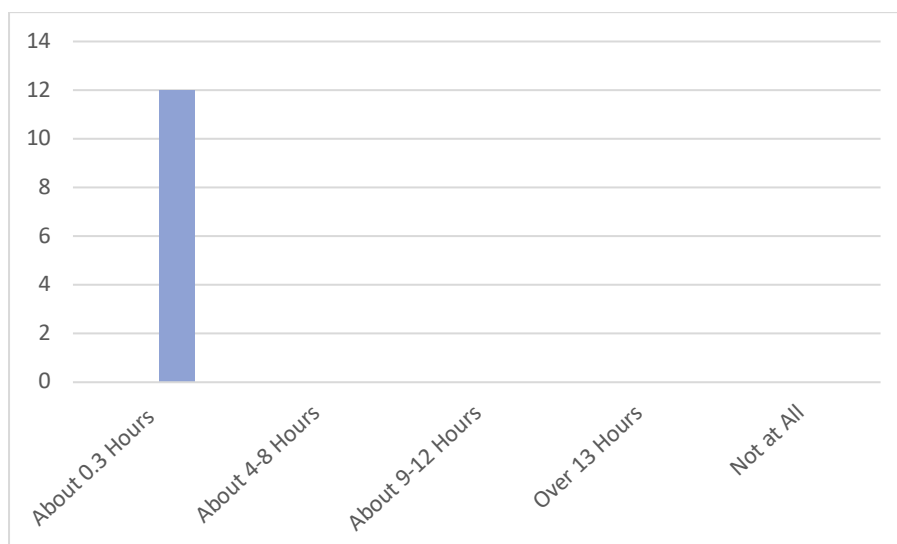
Chart 3



This is the result of the question, 'Moodle is an online Learning Platform that is flexible and available for students to use at any time they want?' this result shows me that every student agrees that Moodle is a platform that is flexible as they can use the platform at any time.

Chart 4

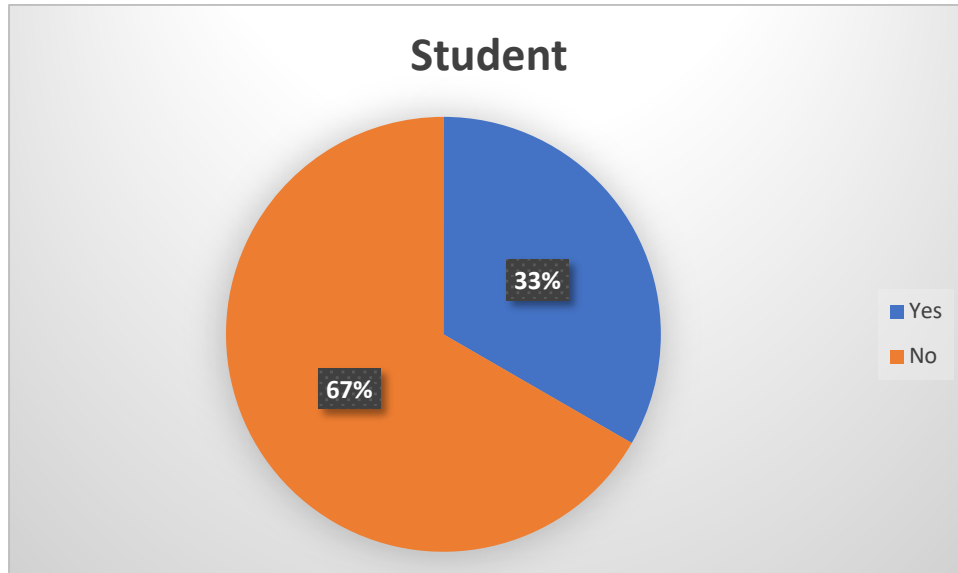
Hours in a week spent on moodle



All the students answered this question 'How many Hours in a Week do You Spend on Moodle?' About 0-3 hours and this was the sorters time given, so this may be because the student has direct access to the information they need immediately. Therefore, time is

reduced, unlike if they must travel to the university, they must wait for the lecturer to provide the information. There are usually other students in the class who may interrupt the lesson, and students may not take in all the information given.

Chart 5.



Have you had any problems using Moodle?

Chart 5 shows that 83% of the students have had no problems using Moodle, and 17% have had trouble using the platform. Even though this question is general and doesn't go in-depth on the type of problem, 17% of the student came across it when using the platform. The university has a technical team that all its students can contact for help. As a student myself in this university when I was new to this platform, sometimes it took me a long time to find information that I needed for my assignment but the more I used the Moodle platform, the easier it got. Soon I was able to find much helpful information uploaded to the system, which helped me gain more knowledge, and so did 100% of the 12 students I asked as they all said yes to question 9, 'Will you say Moodle helps you to gain more Knowledge?'

Secondary Data Analysis:

This is the information I collected from secondary data; in the form of journals and videos that helped produce this research report.

Research shows that most universities today use Virtual Learning Platforms as it helps to reduce the number of hours spent in the classroom.

According to a Study by (Barker, 2013). In this study on students, 66% of the student agree or strongly agree virtual learning environment increases the development of independent learning because they can choose where and when it is suitable to learn for themselves. They can use the platform from any location with any device that has internet access. 46.8% of the students agree or strongly agree that it motivates them to learn more because they have the option to learn at their convenient time. When asked if the use of Moodle has a positive impact on learning on this platform, 53% of the student either agree or strongly agree.

Conclusion/Recommendation:

According to the data I collected, the virtual learning environment Moodle has a Positive Impact on the students at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus. The students found the platform easy to use; they agreed that it was beneficial and flexible. All the students said the platform helps them gain more knowledge as they can find the information; they need most times in their own convenient time. 100% of the students who completed my Moodle questionnaire positively impacted them in general. It is possible I would have had a different result for some of the questing's were students more.

As the world is developing in digital technology, many Universities now use virtual learning environments as they have proved to be more flexible and adaptable.

Reference:

Aikina, T. and Bolsunovskaya, L., 2020. Moodle-based learning: Motivating and demotivating factors. *International Journal of Emerging Technologies in Learning (iJET)*, 15(2), 239-248.

Bri, D., García, M., Coll, H. and Lloret, J., 2009. A study of virtual learning environments. *WSEAS Transactions on Advances in Engineering Education*, 6(1), pp.33-43.

Barker, J. and Gossman, P., 2013. The learning impact of a virtual learning environment: students' views. *Teacher education advancement network journal (TEAN)*, 5(2), pp.19-38.

Hox, J.J. and Boeije, H.R., 2005. Data collection, primary versus secondary.

Leung, W.C., 2001. How to design a questionnaire. *BMJ*, 322(Suppl S6).

Gharani, L. [Leila Ggarani] (23 November 2017) *Excel Charts & Graphs: Learn the Basics for a Quick Start* [Video]. YouTube. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAU0qqh_I-A

Appendix:

Digital Skills and Research Methods Questionnaire

Student Name: Praise Abia Oigbochie ID: 2114107

This questionnaire is for academic research purposes only to produce a research report on the impact of Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)- Moodle on students learning experience at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus. All the information collected will not be disclosed to any third party.

Would you please tick your answer Thanks?

1, Do You Have Access to Moodle?

- Yes
- No

2, Moodle is an online Learning Platform that is flexible and available for students to use at any time they want.

- Strongly agree
- Disagree
- Agree
- Neither

3, Virtual Learning Environment enables students to get their education without attending classes physically.

- Strongly agree
- Neither
- Strongly disagree
- Agree
- Disagree

4, How Useful is Moodle to You?

- Very useful
- Not useful
- Useful
- I don't use Moodle
- Ok

5, How many Hours in a Week do You Spend on Moodle?

- About 0-3 Hours
- Over 13 Hours
- About 4 -8 Hours
- Not at all
- About 9-12 Hours

6, Is Moodle Easy to Use or Difficult for You?

- Very Easy
- Ok
- Very Difficult
- Easy
- Difficult

7, Have you had any problems using Moodle?

- Yes
- No

8, Are You Able to find all the information you want on Moodle?

- Every time
- Sometimes
- Not at all

9, Will you say Moodle helps you to gain more Knowledge?

- Yes
- No

10, Does Moodle Have a Positive or Negative Impact on You?

- Positive
- Negative