

VIRTUAL LEARNING ENVIROMENT

BMSW4003

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ABSTRACT

Being in the 21 st century everything is on internet, in consequence, it has an important impact in the learning environment. In this case study, we analyze the impact of Moodle in our learning via surveys and researches.

This report objective is to provide primary and secondary data about Moodle and online learning environment. It includes a literature review as secondary data from online researches and a survey and interview as primary data.

After a survey made to an university class and online researches, I found out that Moodle is a really useful page where most of the students spend a considerable time and it has an important role on students learning.

INTRODUCTION/ AIM AND OBJECTIVES

The objective of this project is to find the gaps and problems that some people can have while using Moodle, to find out how to improve it and also how positive it is for student and how this platform facilitates their study.

To get to know the level of satisfaction and issues I asked this questions to an university class:

Do you find Moodle useful?

If no explain why.

How often do you use Moodle?

How satisfied are you with Moodle?

Would you recommend it?

Do you find the platform easy to use?

How easy you find to submit the assessments?

Which is your gender?

What is your age?

How would you improve it or which problems you had?

Check “results” for the graphs, results and findings of the survey.

LITERATURE REVIEW

After researching in different sources of secondary data, I found out that:

- With online learning students have more freedom. In a traditional classroom setting, class meeting times are set, and the student has no power over this, forcing them to work their schedules around these dates. Most people prefer this mode of learning as it gives them power over how they will delegate their time and projects. All the information that you will need will be safely stored online. This includes things like live discussion documents, training materials and emails. This means that if there's anything that needs to be clarified, the student can access these documents fast, saving time. It is useful for people that need to do research for a project and submit projects. Also, students in traditional classrooms may not get the personalized attention they need to have concepts clarified but with an online learning they can always consult doubts or get feedback from the teachers. (Community College of Aurora, n.d)
- Moodle tops the list of the 20 most popular Learning Management Systems in the world. As it is an open platform, its code is accessible to everyone, free and user-friendly as it have simple interface and intuitive navigation and you can access it on all kind of devise. (CommLab India, 2019)
- According to TrustRadius, From 1 to 5 Moodle rating is 4. After the review of different feedbacks, many people agree that the pros are communication and accessibility as its online, and the cons are that is hard to understand when using first time and it should have the information more organized by links.
- Research gate(n. d.) conducted a questionnaire in a sample of 136 students finding out that 92% of students are satisfied with privacy, and that with Moodle there is a better communication between students and teachers.
- eLearning Industry, Comparing all the reviews of 2020, most of people thinks Moodle is useful, easy to operate, helpful and time-saving, but small percentage find it hard to use or had problems when using it. From 100 the overall rating will be 78%.

PRIMARY RESEARCH

Methodology

The research of primary data includes my personal opinion about the subject and information collected in a survey and an interview.

The survey data has been provided by students who use Moodle. All the information has been compared and converted in graphs and charts so information can be seen clearly and organized.

The interview provides deeper information as I used open-ended questions.

Ethical considerations

The survey is completely anonymous, the data and information of every person is confidentially protected. Information related to personal opinions is also anonymous and confidential.

In this survey we do not ask questions which might make the user uncomfortable, and they always have the option to not answer certain questions.

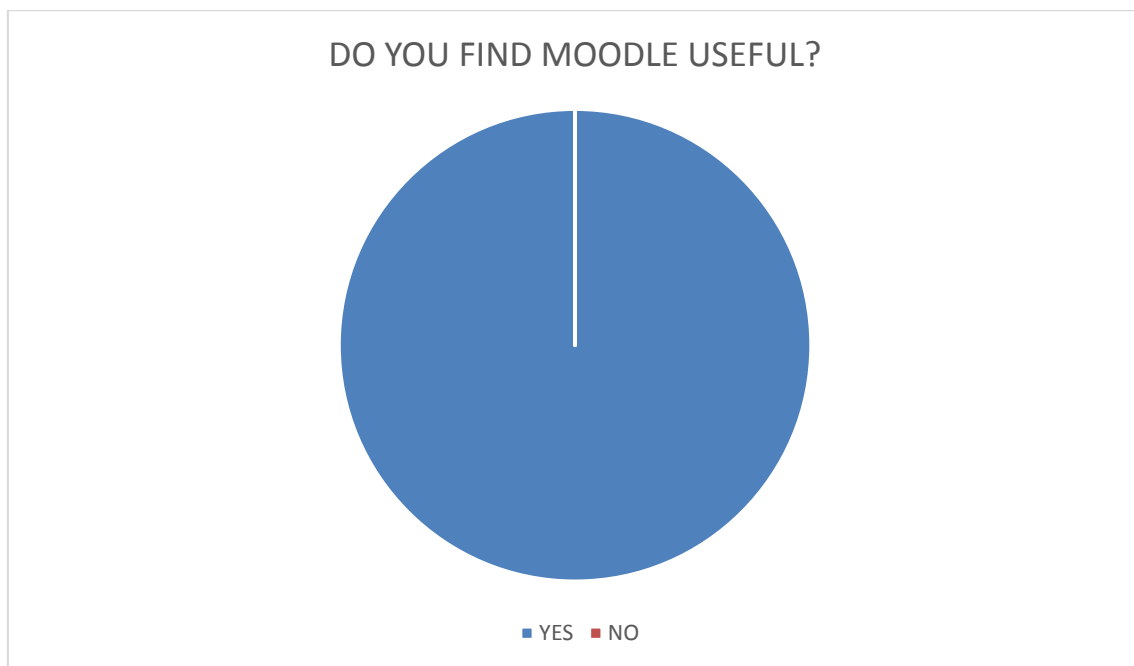
All the people who realized this survey made it voluntary and by their own will without giving any personal information such as name or location.

All the information used in this survey is transparent and honest.

RESULTS

SURVEY

Question 1: Do you find Moodle useful?

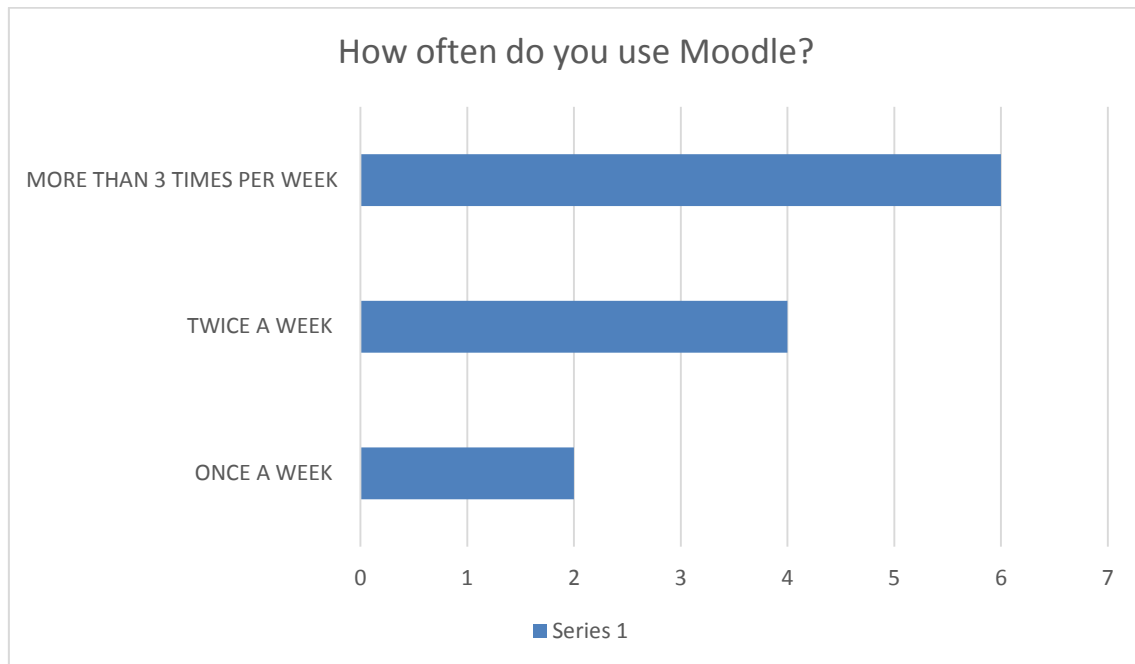


This question is quantitative discreet. I asked this question to know if Moodle is useful for people so from this point we can start to evaluate if there are big problems. Being all the answers yes, for everybody is useful in one way or another.

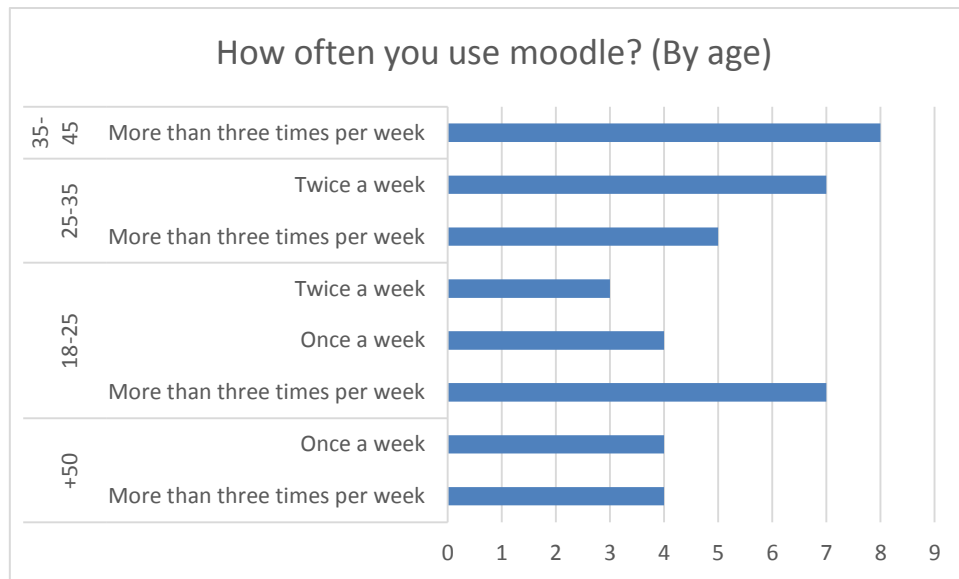
Question 2: If no explain why.

This question is qualitative nominal. Being all the results "I find Moodle useful" there are no results for this question.

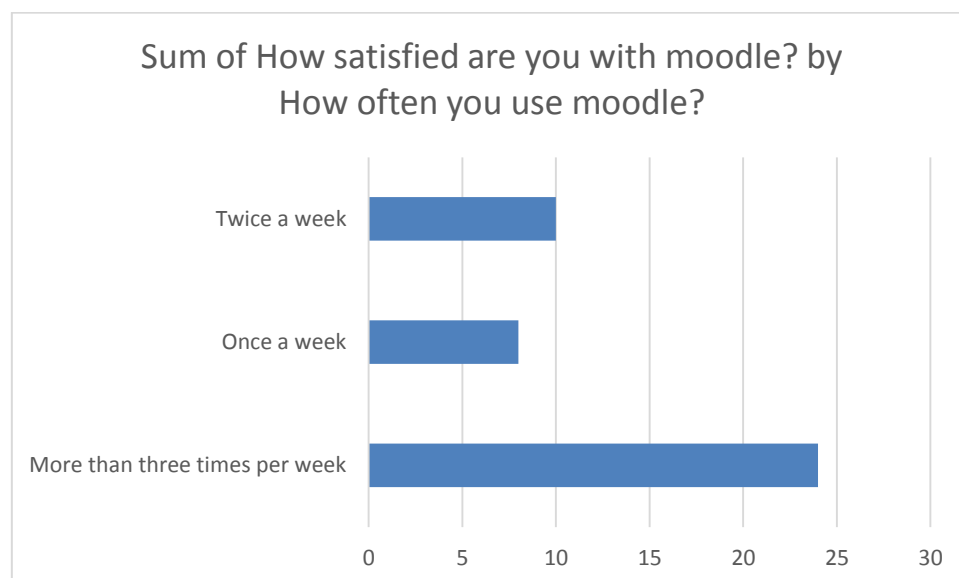
Question 3: How often do you use Moodle?



This question is quantitative continuous interval. I asked this question to see how many days people use Moodle. Here we can see that around 85% of the students use it very often while 15% use it around once per week.

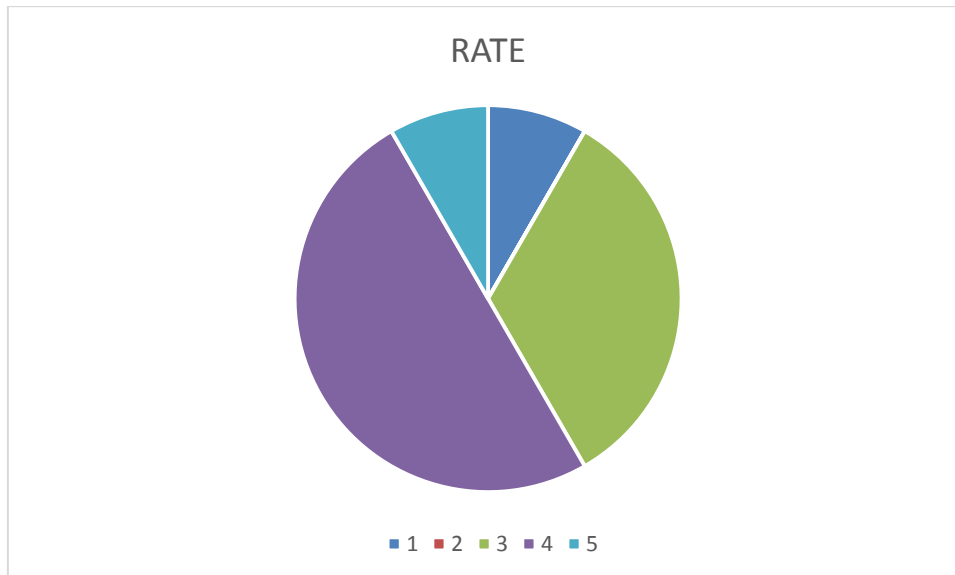


In this graphic we compare the data with the age of users. By calculating the number of people of each group (Check question 8 for that data), here we can see that the people who spend more time in the application have between 25 and 45, being that in those two groups everybody use it more than twice or three times per week.

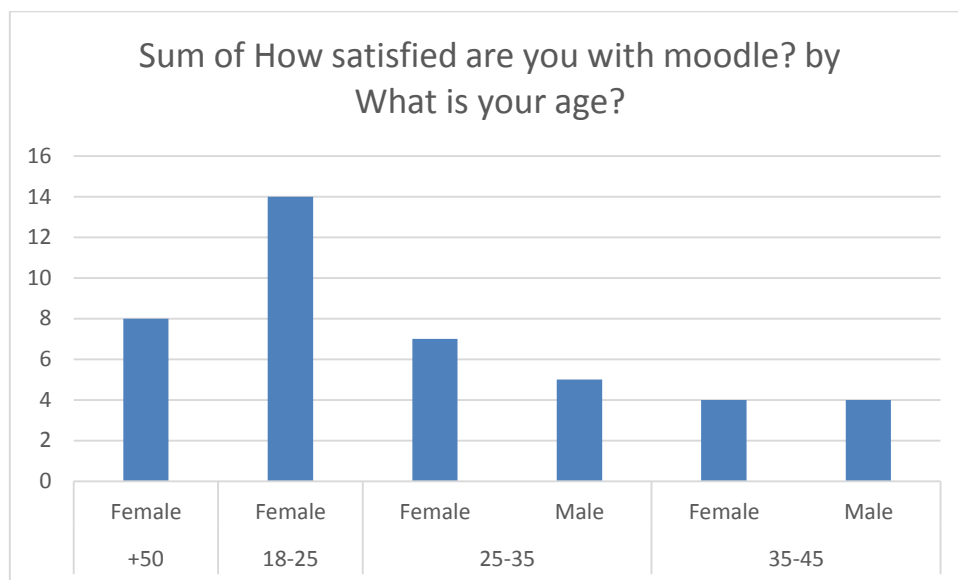


In this chart there is an interesting data. Here I compared the answers of question 3 and 4 and I found out that the people who use Moodle more is also the people who is more satisfied with it. This show us that people who isn't satisfied or is indifferent about Moodle doesn't really use this facility more than once a week.

Question 4: How satisfied are you with Moodle?



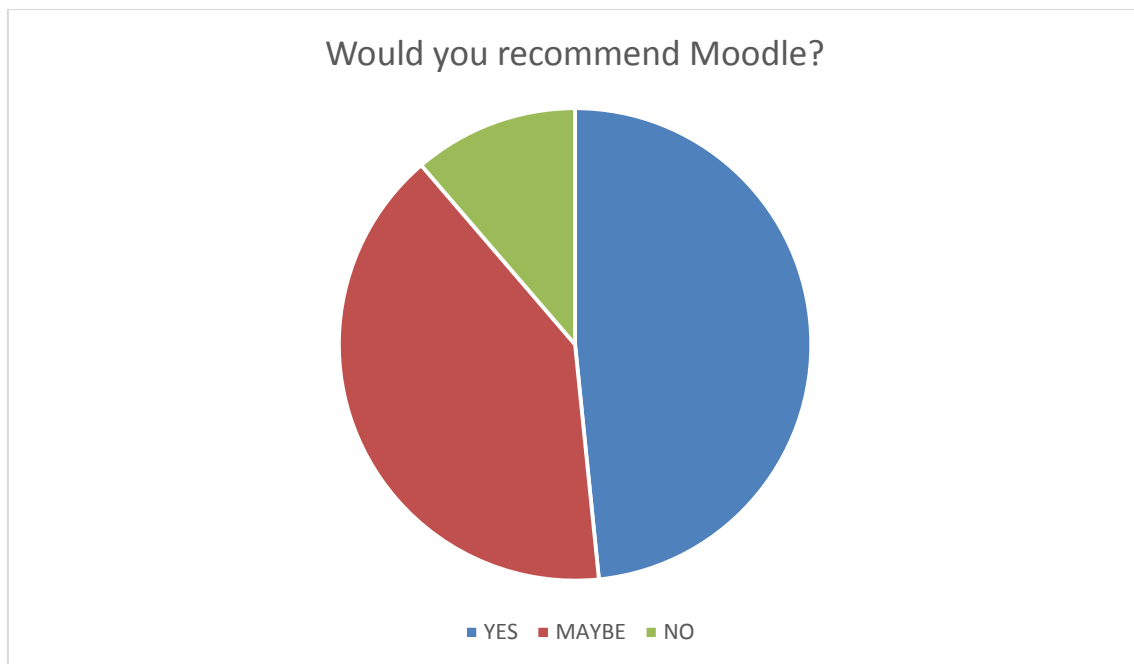
This question is quantitative discreet. I asked this question to check the level of satisfaction of the users. From 1 to 5, the average rating is 3.50, being middle-high rating the platform is really satisfying but still can do some improvement or polish imperfections.



Here I compare if there is any connection with age or gender.

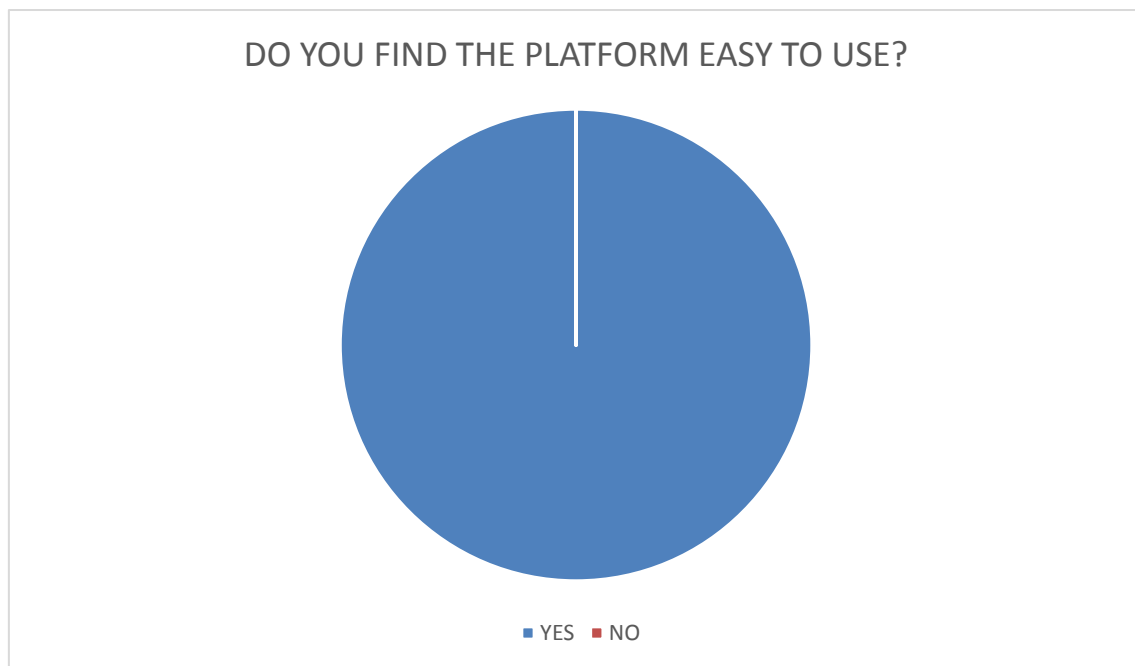
As we can see here most satisfied people will be between 18 and 25.

Question 5: Would you recommend Moodle?



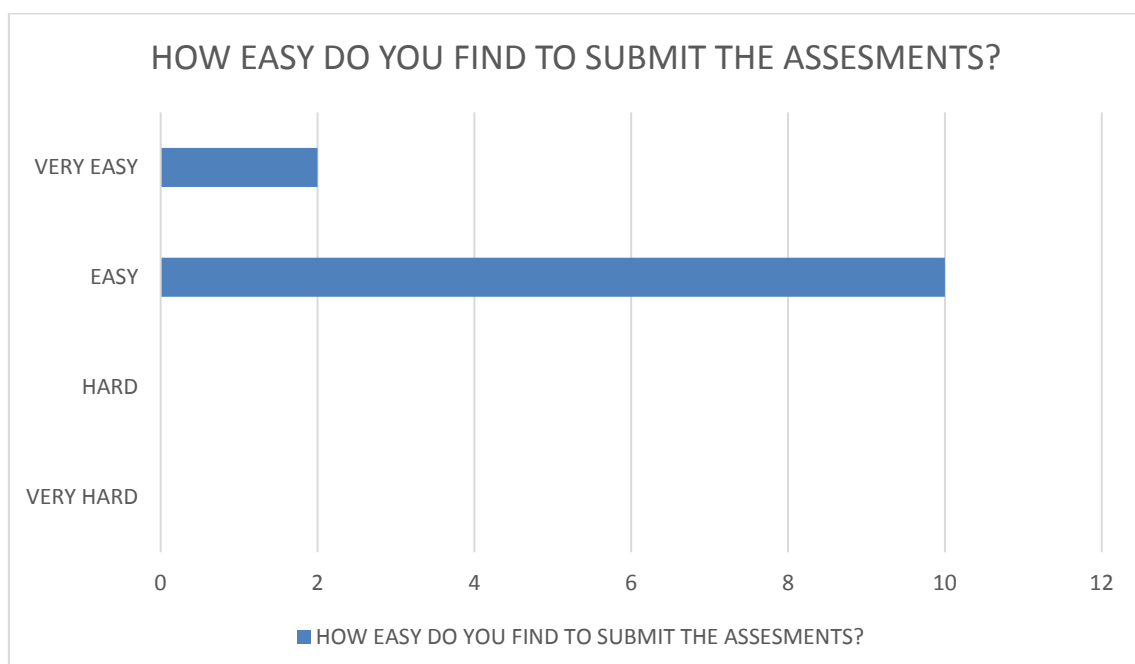
This question is quantitative discreet. I asked this question to see if the people will tell other people to use the platform. Being a small percentage “no” and the biggest “yes” and “maybe” we can see that most probably the users will give a good feedback about the platform and bring new users.

Question 6: Do you find the platform easy to use?



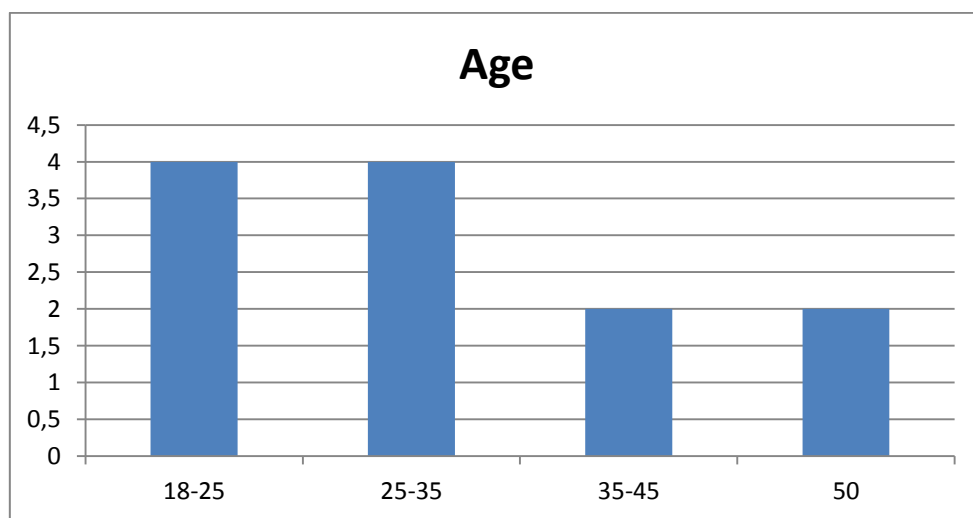
This question is quantitative discrete. I asked this question to see if the people find the platform easy or hard, being that everybody says it is easy to use, it means if there are problems in the platform they are something punctual and not really important.

Question 7: How easy is for you to submit the assessments?



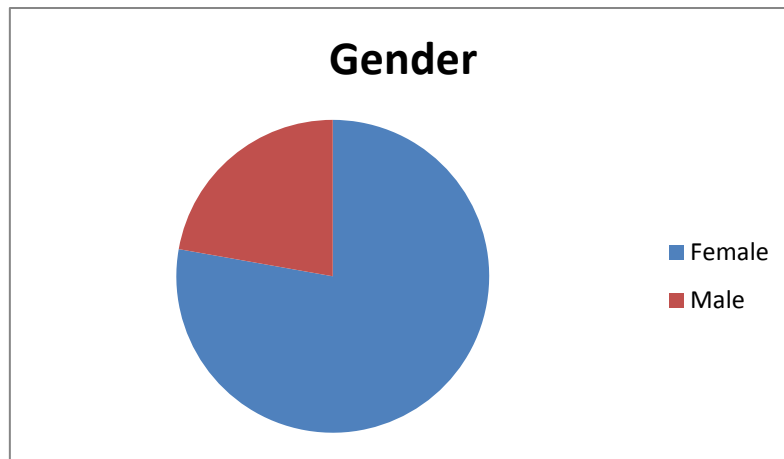
This question is quantitative continuous interval. Here we clearly see that most of the people didn't have serious problems when submitting assessment, being almost everybody answer easy, and just few of them very easy, the submission could still improve but its considerably easy.

Question 8: How old are you?



This question is quantitative continuous interval. I asked this question to see if there is any connection between the age and the answers given. Here we can see that most of the students using Moodle are between 18 and 35.

Question 9: Which is your gender?



This question is quantitative discrete. I asked this question to compare the information and to see if there are any gender gaps. Here we see that 70% of people who made the survey are Female.

Question 10: How would you improve Moodle or which problems you had with the platform?

1	anonymous	"No problem."
2	anonymous	"No problems about Moodle."
3	anonymous	"Sometimes is difficult to use or manage Turnitin program."
4	anonymous	"Providing more links to open each segment of Moodle."
5	anonymous	"Nothing."
6	anonymous	"All seem fine to me."
7	anonymous	"I find Moodle useful."
8	anonymous	"Turnitin."

This question is qualitative nominal. I asked this question to know which things people struggle with when using Moodle, to know how to make it better and to find out a general view of Moodle.

Most of the people didn't have problems with it, just few of them had problems/difficulties to manage Turnitin.

Being that, a solution would be to give more information about Turnitin to the alumnus if necessary or to improve it. Also to provide more links to access the information or maybe to be able to search it with the browser.

INTERVIEW

QUESTION	ANSWER
Do you think a virtual learning environment is beneficial for students? Why?	Yes. It makes it easier and accessible. For example Moodle helps me to solve my doubts if I have because I can see all the class information.
Is it easier to access the information?	Definitely. In this way we can have all the information we need in our computers or phone just in one click without having to search in books.
Do you think it is beneficial for the environment?	Of course. Having everything online we don't need to print so many books.
What you think is the future of the education?	I think is online, as in one point that will be the only way.
Does Moodle have a positive impact in your studies?	Yes. I can access the information everywhere at any time.
Which are the gaps in virtual learning?	Well. Even though is beneficial, there is still some people who might not be able to afford a computer or phone making this

	more difficult.
Is there any part of Moodle that you would improve? Which one you use more?	No. Turnitin.

LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Being a small sample (Just one class from the university) I couldn't get all information that I would like to get.

I would have like to make a deep research and compare all the given data to find out if there are connected opinions in gender or age but not having enough participants the analysis of the information might be poor or incomplete.

Most of the answers have been provided by woman being that I can't really compare if there are different opinions/information or gaps between gender.

Given the actual situation it wasn't possible to realize a survey to other people from the university or others. The interview given aim is to fulfill the gaps that a survey can't being that if it is too long most people won't do it or won't answer the questions were they have to write.

CONCLUSION

For most of the people, learning environment has a positive influence in our daily education as we have all the information online and we are able to share, get new knowledge's and research about many different information and in different sources.

It makes our learning easier and the future is online.

Moodle has an important impact in our education. Most of its users are satisfied and find this service really useful in their learning. Also it makes easier to submit the assessment or to check information about the module as you can access all the documents everywhere and every time. As nothing is perfect, a small percentage of people still had some issues or confusion while using Moodle. In conclusion it is really good but it can still improve and polish some imperfections in order to get the best from it and to get the satisfaction of everybody.

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APPENDIX

Shoe Sizes Quantitative Discrete	Weight Quantitative continuous	Height Quantitative Continuous
Number of Taxis waiting at a station Quantitative Discrete	Dress Sizes Quantitative Continuous	Handspans of people Quantitative Discrete
Number of drinks in a machine Quantitative Discrete	Number of magazines in a shop Quantitative Discrete	The speed of cars Quantitative Continuous
Number of people in an office Quantitative Discrete	Number of magazines in a shop Quantitative Discrete	Volume of water in a glass Quantitative Continuous
Distance to another city Quantitative Continuous	Favourite Colour Qualitative Nominal	What you are having for lunch Qualitative Nominal
Best Subject Qualitative Nominal	What pets you own Qualitative Nominal	Cost of a drink Quantitative continuous

09/03/2020

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Scanner

① How do you feel in the campus?

a. Very Good b. Excellent c. Ok d. Bad e. Very Bad

② How would you improve it?

(write here)

③ From one to ten, how satisfied are you with Moodle?

a. 1 b. 2 c. 3 d. 4 e. 5 f. 6 g. 7 h. 8 i. 9 j. 10

④ Did you have any of this problems with Moodle?

a. Couldn't find the needed information. b. Turniting is confusing. c. All good.

⑤ Do you think the lectures are complete?

a. I am not given enough information. b. I need more hours of class. c. For me is good this way.

⑥ How do you feel having new lecturers every term?

a. I think it is unprofessional. b. The lecturers are giving contradictory ideas. c. I think is a really good idea.

⑦ What is your age?

a. 18-25 b. 25-35 c. 35-45 d. +50 e. Prefer not to say.

⑧ Do you find personal assistance good?

a. Really good b. Good c. Bad d. I'm indifferent about it.

⑨ What is the best from this campus?

a. The personal b. The material c. The module d. All of them.

⑩ Is there any suggestion you will give to the uni?

(write here)

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Identifying Primary and Secondary Sources

- PRIMARY SOURCE: a record made by people who saw or took part in an event.
- SECONDARY SOURCE: a record of an event written by someone not there at the time.

Directions: Determine whether the following are primary or secondary sources. Circle the letter indicating whether the item is a "P" primary source or "S" secondary source. For each one, explain your reasoning in COMPLETE SENTENCES.

1. The story your grandfather tells you about his experience during the Korean War. (P) S

Why: Because it's his own experience.

2. A letter written by George Washington to his mother about the latest developments in the Revolutionary War. P (S)

Why: Because he is talking about the developments of someone else.

3. The Diary of Anne Frank - the published diary of a teenage girl who experiences the Holocaust first hand. (P) S

Why: Because she is talking about her own experience.

4. Your World History textbook or an encyclopedia. P (S)

Why: Because it has been written by different people and collected from many sources.

5. Your high school diploma. (P) S

Why: Because it's your own qualification.

6. A photograph of you and your friends at your 8th birthday party. (P) S

Why: Because it is a picture of yourself.

7. The information from the museum tour guide who shows you around the exhibit and shares facts with you. P (S)

Why: Because he is telling you information somebody else collected.

8. A mummy from ancient Egypt. (P) S

Why: Because you can see it.

9. Give at least two more examples of a primary source.

a. A story you tell to your friends about something you experienced.

b. A survey you make to your classmates.

10. Give at least two more examples of secondary source.

a. When you research on Internet ~~about~~ investigation about different subjects.

b. A newspaper story about the refugees.

