

An Assignment

On

“Impact of Virtual Learning Environment (VLE)
– Moodle on Students’ Learning Experience at
the University of Wales Trinity Saint David
London Campus”

Module Code- BMSW4003_LON

Module Name- Digital Skills Research Methods

Submitted to:

Saqib Shamim

Submitted by:

Mohammad Hasanuzzaman

Student ID-2028345

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Introduction

For the advancement of modern technology, it was quite evident to experience the touch of technology in academic area as like some other prominent part of human civilization. The evolution of technology in education sector has been referred as Learning Management Systems (LMS), Online Learning Platforms (OLP), Course Management Systems (CMS) and Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) (Ile, 2017). Whatever the term is, there exists some differences in purposes and ways of accomplishing.

Virtual Learning Environment defines a platform where students and teachers interact with each other with class materials and opinions from both parties (Sneha & Nagaraja, 2013). Virtual Learning Environment provides a benchmark that could enhance the quality of face-to-face education or could be considered as a vital way of providing quality education specifically while the physical education is ignored (Barkar & Gossman, 2013).

Due to covid-19 pandemic Virtual Learning Environment has become the sole way of maintaining the academic activities across the world. The case is same for University of Wales Trinity Saint David London Campus.

Objectives of the Study

- The main objective of this study is to determine the impact of virtual learning on student perception
- Determination of Satisfaction Level of Students on VLE
- Incorporating Possible Recommendations that would improve VLE in University of Wales of Trinity Saint David London Campus

Methodology:

In the first stage of the data collection, an open-end questionnaire has been distributed among 40 participants (Students of University of Trinity Saint David London Campus) to determine the influential factors about virtual learning. Then a Likert Scale questionnaire ranging from 1 to 5 has been distributed among the same 40 participants to identify the satisfaction level of predetermined factors collected through an open-end questionnaire earlier. Then a descriptive analysis has been conducted using Microsoft excel to determine the intensity of the factors that has been taken into account to identify which factors should be given preference, which factors should be upgraded and which factors should be avoided to ensure the best possible outcome which is quality education. In some special cases interview has been considered as a way to justify the statement given by the respondent.

Data Analysis

Question 01: Would You Like Your Teachers to Include VLE in Their Classes?

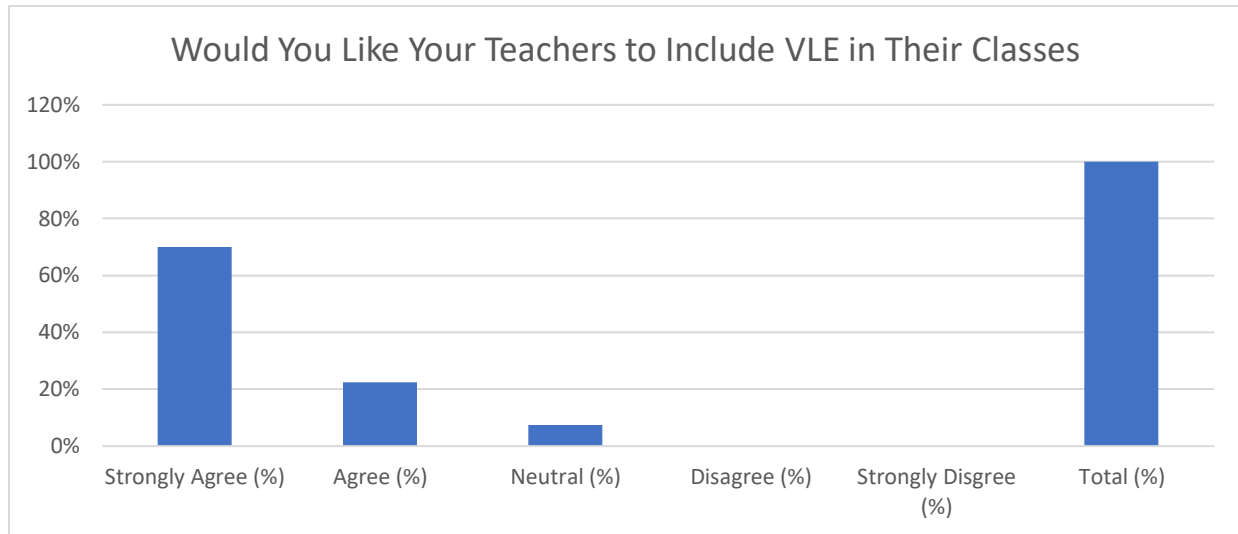


Figure 01: **Would You Like Your Teachers to Include VLE in Their Classes?**

In the above we have seen that more than 60% of the participant strongly agreed on the fact that either they want virtual learning environment in their classes or not. So, it is depictable from the above survey that they want online platform for their classes. They do have some limitations on necessary amenities needed for the platform but they strongly believe that virtual learning is somehow effective in comparison to the conventional or previously widely practiced physical learning.

So, we can easily say that online platform is actually creating positive impact among students. So, some research needs to be done to find out the little unusual discomfort faced by the students to have better outcome in the days to come.

Question No: 02 VLE Has Positive Impact on Students

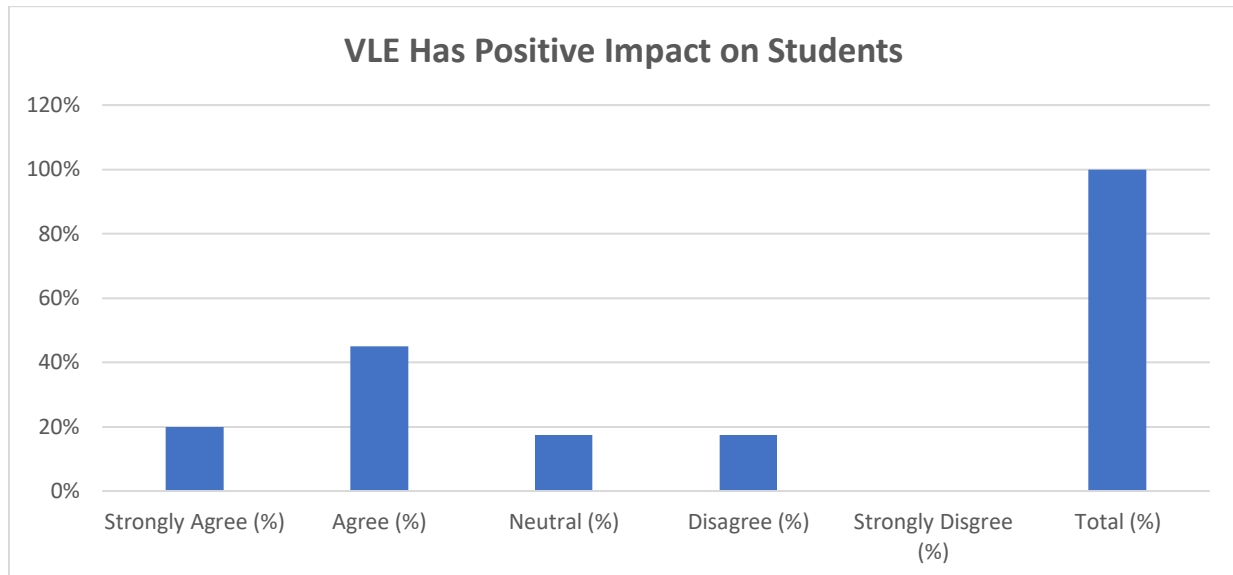


Figure 02: VLE Has Positive Impact on Students

In these cases, some of the students has taken some byproduct disadvantages that they face due to the adoption of the virtual learning environment. Disadvantages like screen addiction, headache, eye pain and so on. But apart from all this most of students, in this case more than 65% students think that, for this method of learning positive things are gradually adding into their knowledge portfolio. About 18% of the total sample are pretty much neutral in their thinking and they think the end result is pretty same for physical education and virtual learning environment. But 18% of the total sample disagree with the notion of adding positive impact through virtual learning to the students.

So, we easily say that majority of students felt that VLE is adding more into their knowledge savior process.

Question No: 03 Institution Assistance Towards Student to Facilitate Learning at Home

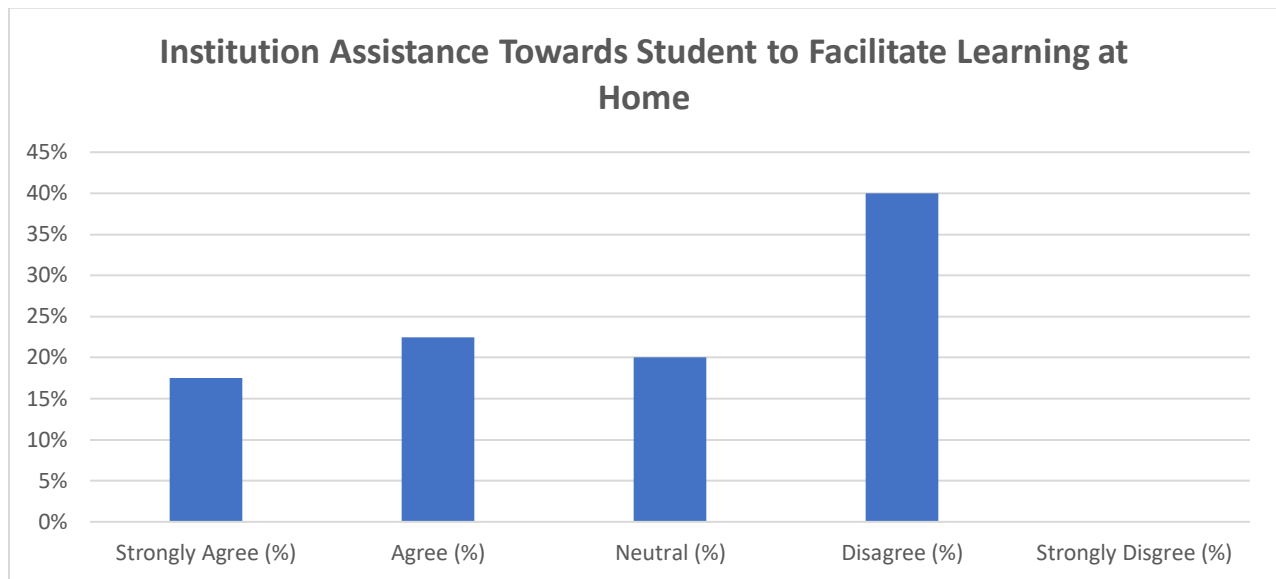


Figure: 03 Institution Assistance Towards Student to Facilitate Learning at Home

Institution Assistance always played a very critical role in students learning process apart from any means of learning followed. Under physical learning this question was asked several times than now. As virtual learning environment is newly introduced, so it has got some issues like user friendly platform of teaching learning and assessment need to introduced. Under this question 18% of the respondents were strongly happy about the providence of facilities by the institution, more than 40% of the respondents agreed upon the fact that the university is providing assistance at their expectation level where as 20% of the students were neutral about their opinion. But a notable issue is that about 40% of the respondents thinks that institution still need to provide much more to facilitate learning at home.

So, we can say that majority of the respondents think that the university is providing much to facilitate learning at home but there exists scope of providing much more to the students in order to ensure comfortable learning environment.

Question No: 04 Learning Quantity is More in VLE than Physical Education

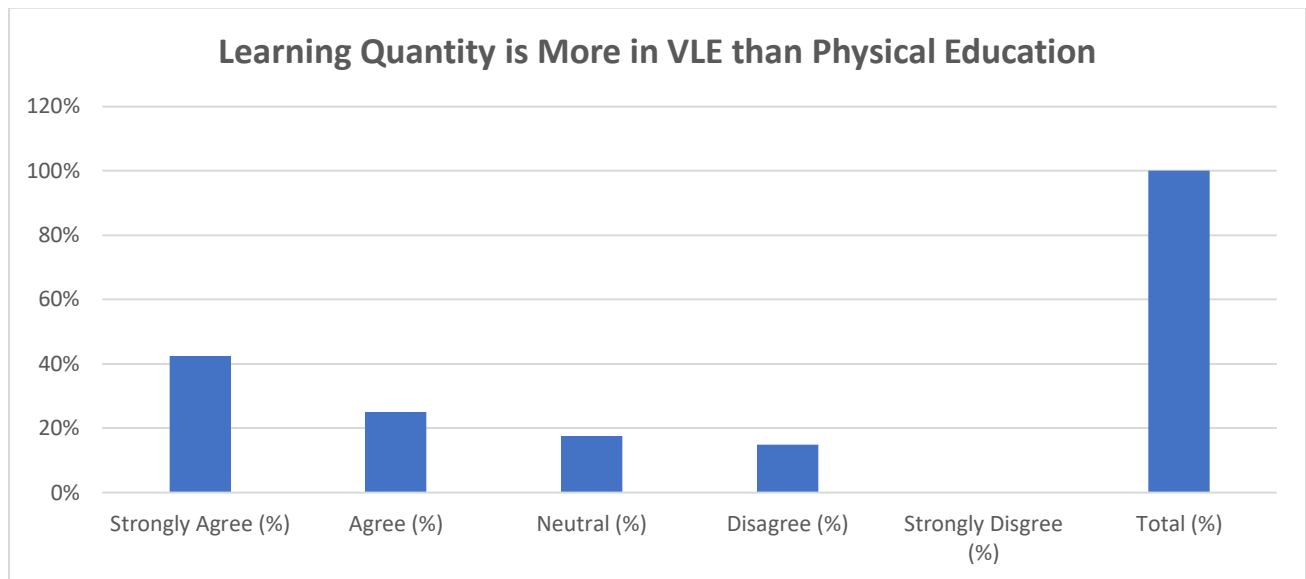


Figure 04: Learning Quantity is More in VLE than Physical Education

Quantity of lessons covered also considered as one of the benchmarks when evaluating a platform of learning. So, in case of virtual learning environment this factor also considered as part of evaluating this method. Under this question, 43% of the respondents strongly agreed and 25% respondents agreed on the fact that more learning contents can be provided through virtual learning process rather than conventional physical education where as 18% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 15% of the total respondents were in position against the motion of availing more contents than physical education.

So, we can finally say that more contents are being provided under the process of virtual learning environment.

Question05: Learning Quality is More in VLE than Physical Education

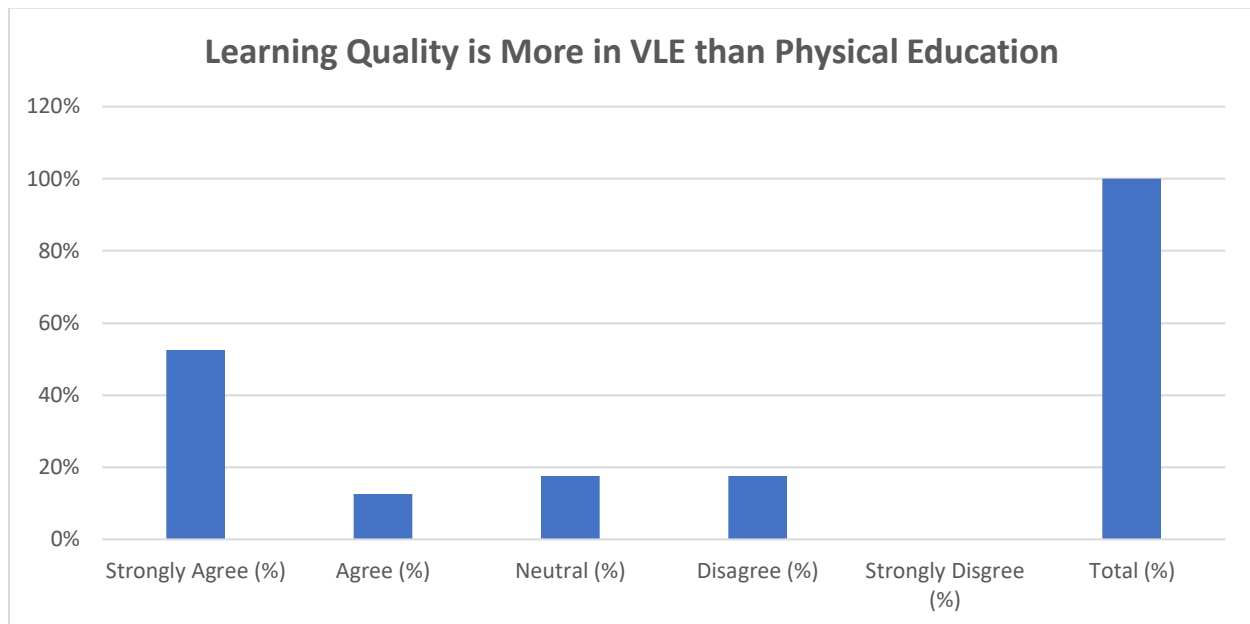


Figure: 05: Learning Quality is More in VLE than Physical Education

Quality is at the zenith point when we are focusing on maximization of quality in any format of education. As quality is the one and only thing when we are determining the satisfaction level of teaching learning under VLE. Under this question, 53% of the respondents strongly agreed and 13% respondents agreed on the fact that more learning quality can be ensured through virtual learning process rather than conventional physical education where as 18% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 18% of the total respondents were in position against the motion of availing more quality than physical education.

So finally, we can say student feels that virtual learning bears more quality than previously practiced way of learning.

Question No: 06 The Way the Courses were settled through VLE Encourage Me More to Learn

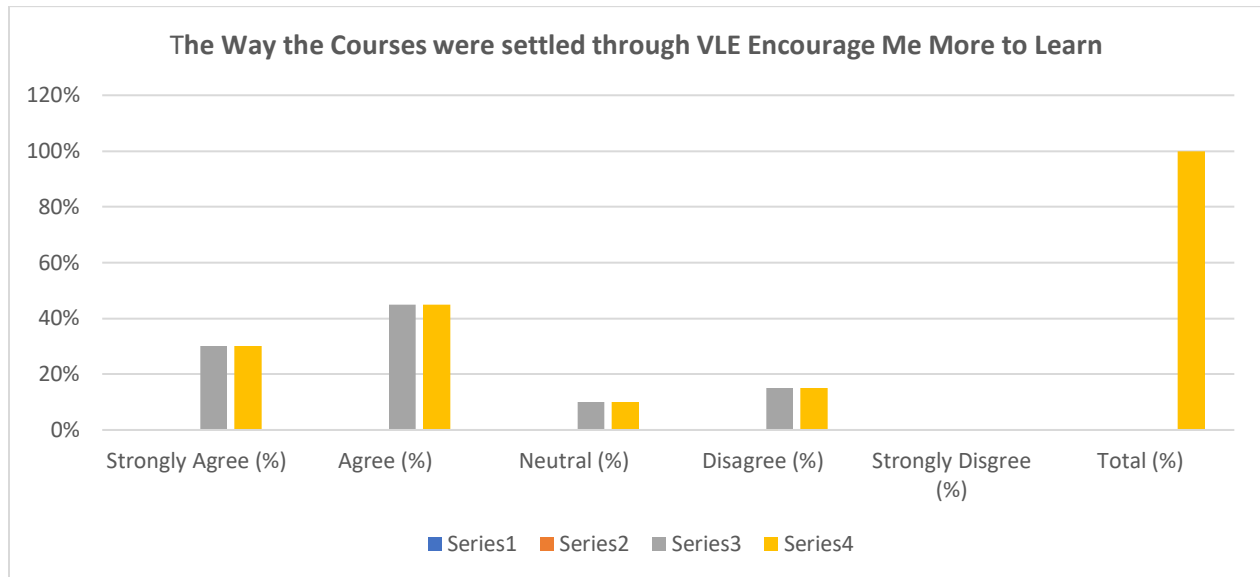


Figure: 06 The Way the Courses were settled through VLE Encourage Me More to Learn

Under this question, 30% of the respondents strongly agreed and 45% respondents agreed on the fact that VLE courses settlement encourages more to learn where as 10% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 15% of the total respondents were in position against the motion of availing more encouragement than physical education.

Question No: 07 Home Learning is Peaceful and Convenient

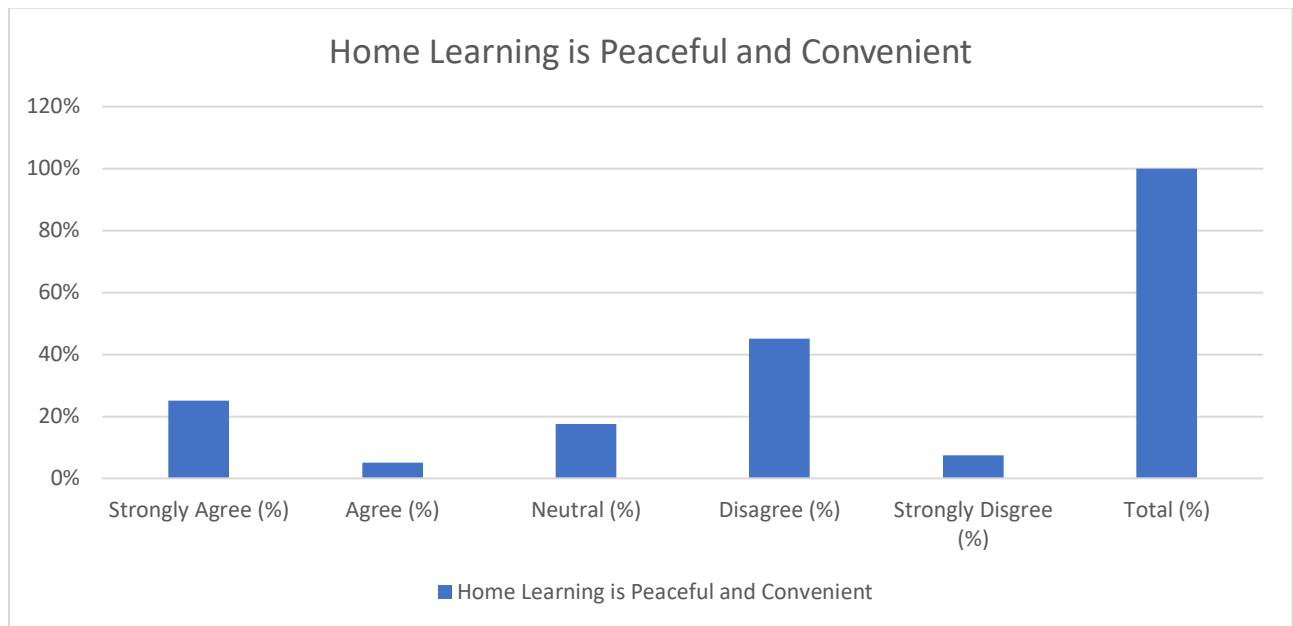


Figure No:07 Home Learning is Peaceful and Convenient

Peacefulness of the place where the learner staying is important for ensuring quality education, so this factor is very influential for evaluating satisfaction level of VLE.

Under this question, 25% of the respondents strongly agreed and 5% respondents agreed on the fact that home is a comfortable and peaceful place for learning where as 18% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 53% of the total respondents were in position against the motion.

Question No: **08 Personal and Learning Management is not a Challenge for Me**

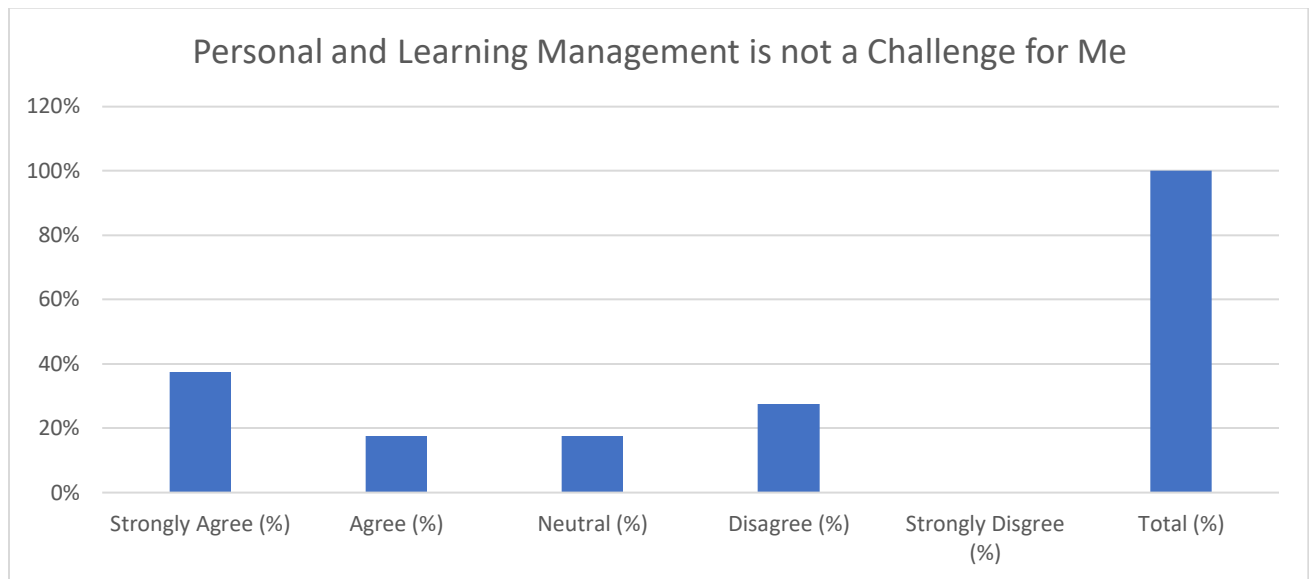


Figure: 08 **Personal and Learning Management is not a Challenge for Me**

In quality process of learning, proper management of personal and learning management is a must. In our research, 38% of the respondents strongly agreed and 18% respondents agreed on the fact that personal and learning management is not a Challenge for them where as 18% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 28% of the total respondents were in position against the motion.

So, we can say that personal and learning management is quite easy for the respondent.

Question No: **09 Online Software and Available Platforms is Satisfying in VLE**

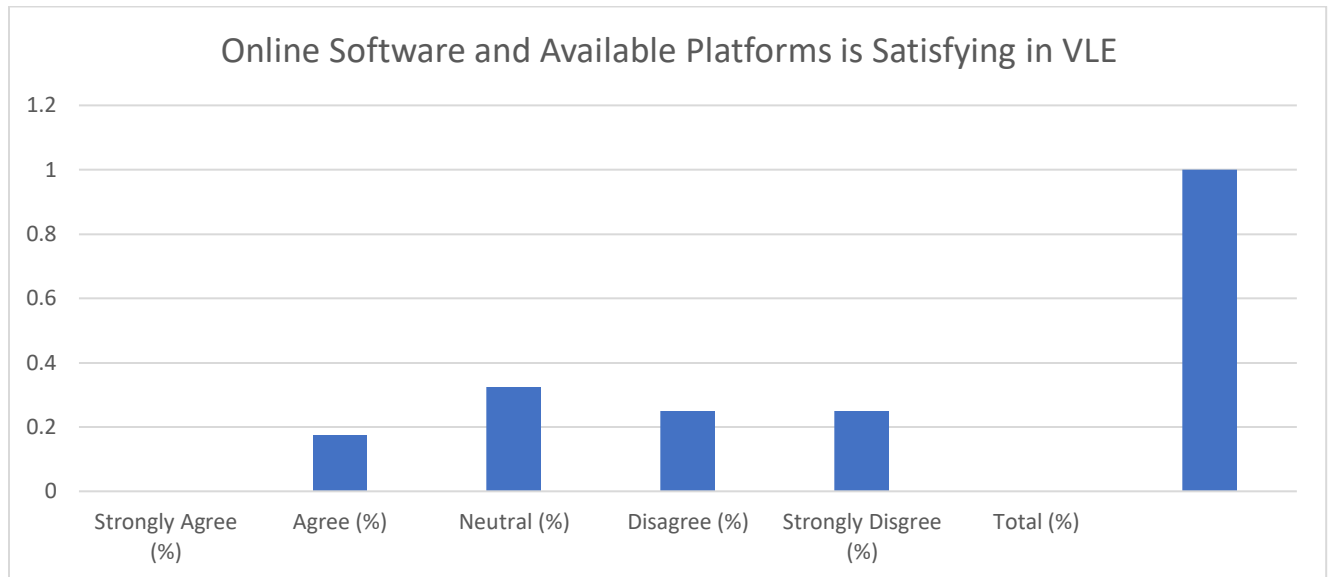


Figure No: 09 **Online Software and Available Platforms is Satisfying in VLE**

Availability of software and available platforms is satisfying under VLE is important in evaluating satisfaction of students under VLE process.

In our research, 40% of the respondents strongly agreed and 18% respondents agreed on the issue where as 15% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 28% of the total respondents were in position against the motion.

Question No: 10 Did You Miss Interaction with Peers While Learning?

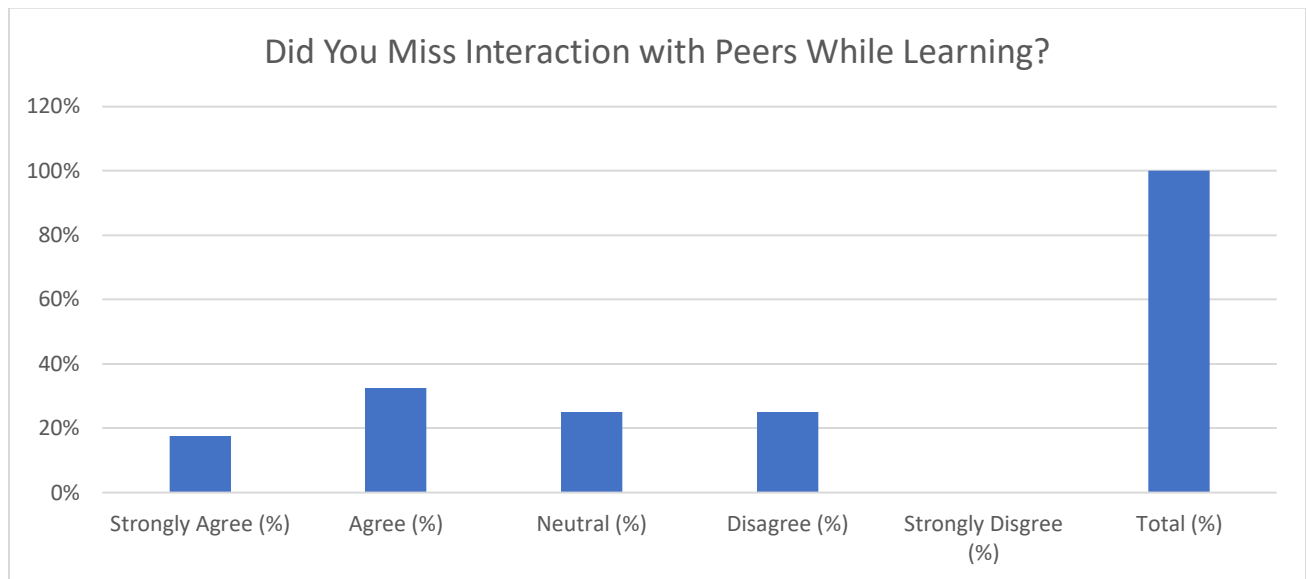


Figure No: 10 Did You Miss Interaction with Peers While Learning?

In our research, 18% of the respondents strongly agreed and 33% respondents agreed on the issue where as 25% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 25% of the total respondents were in position against the motion. There will be a significant quest of meeting peers and sharing learning which should be addressed as well

Question No: 11 **Adaptation of Devices is Easy**

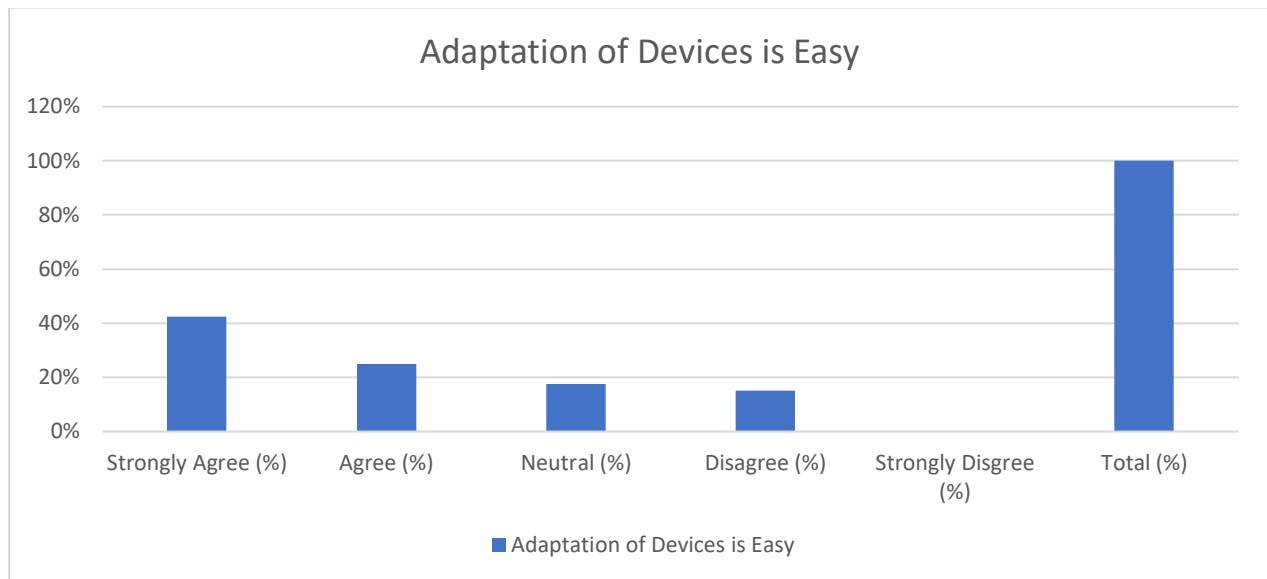


Figure No: 11 **Adaptation of Devices is Easy**

Most important issue when we are dealing with quality education under VLE is adaptation of devices used in online education.

In our research, 43% of the respondents strongly agreed and 25% respondents agreed on the issue where as 18% of the respondent were neutral in this issue. But 15% of the total respondents were in position against the motion.

Findings and Recommendations

Under Virtual Learning Environment quantity and quality of learning is highly appreciated by the students where as they have also got problems related to the place and devices used in this learning process. Overall, they have expected more cooperation from the university. The software and devices should be improved to ensure better quality in education.

Conclusion

As the number of samples is very nominal, so the authenticity of findings can be viewed as an object of contradiction but the overall sample can be presentable to depict the overall satisfaction and impact of virtual learning environment on students. Majority of the students who participated in the study paid positive attitude towards VLE. We could have the best platform of learning when we can combine VLE and physical learning to put their simultaneous footing.

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