



MOODLE

By

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**DIGITAL SKILLS AND
RESEARCH METHODS**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	3
BACKGROUND	4
Moodle Advantages	4
moodle disadvantages	5
AIMS AND OBJECTIVES O	7
METHOD	7
RESULTS	10
DISCUSSION	11
CONCLUSION.....	13
REFERENCE.....	14

INTRODUCTION

Experienced youth in the countryside of Australia at the end of the 1970s, Moodle's developer and principal creator Martin Dougiamas took lessons from the School of Air, offering himself a strong appreciation of education at distance (History - MoodleDocs, 2020).

Today, information and computerized innovation appear to have become fundamental piece of numerous individuals' cutting-edge lives around the country. Correspondence and innovation in school, makes the Moodle stage a supplement to conventional study hall educating, especially in improving English language tuning in, perusing and composing aptitudes. The discoveries uncovered that the Moodle stage joins a portion of the conventional Moodle stage's distinct advantages, for example, errands, talks, sites, articles, and test overview. This likewise shows each understudy can arrive at computerized administrations from everywhere throughout the nation or the world and that each gathering of understudies can interface electronically with different gatherings of understudies from all over, so the educator can recognize and address socio-holes. Over the previous decade, the quick progression in the figuring division has added to the presentation and making of different IT assets that are helpful for the educational technique and, in a roundabout way, the creation of numerous e-learning destinations, which lectors and students have gotten progressively natural.

BACKGROUND

Moodle.org offers a central point for knowledge, conversation and cooperation among Moodle users, including programmed managers, students, academics, instructional designers and, of course, developers, is a valuable aspect of the Moodle project. Including Moodle, this platform is continually changing to match the community's desires, and like Moodle it will still be Online (Background - MoodleDocs, 2020).

MOODLE ADVANTAGES

The utilization of Learning Management Systems (LMSs) has now been extremely famous since the time online guidance began to develop. There are a few LMSs available today. As indicated by Capterra investigation, Moodle is the primary online stage from the 20 most perceived Learning Management System around the world (CommLab India Bloggers, 2017).

One of the principal preferences of the Learning Management System is the open source. Moodle is an open source system which guarantees that approach its source code. This is sold under a Legal General License. Basically put, clients and heads can work, disseminate and transform it straightforwardly to coordinate their specific business or non-business needs (CommLab India Bloggers, 2017).

Effective cost can be considered as a second advantage of Moodle. It is noticeable that one of the aspects that make Moodle famous is that it is safe. For purchase a Moodle Training Management Software there are no registration fees (CommLab India Bloggers, 2017).

The simplistic interface of the Moodle which is pretty user friendly can also be considered as an advantage. This is due to its simplistic interface and straightforward control, consisting of only several different columns. All the training courses can be viewed from the middle section. The good news is, it's HTML5 focused and built to be sensitive, meaning it can be used on every mobile device (CommLab India Bloggers, 2017).

Another highlighted advantage of this online learning platform is the easy way to customize and edit information of software systems. To make it feel like a performance management tool rather than a generic webpage, a business name, branding and brand colors are needed. It is relatively straightforward to do this with Moodle. If just contact a licensed Moodle associate, who can recognize and configure the specifications appropriately everything is done (CommLab India Bloggers, 2017).

MOODLE DISADVANTAGES

However, Moodle platform has disadvantages, like every Learning Management System.

One of the disadvantages of Moodle platform is the lack of permanent support. In Moodle Learning Management System there is no dedicated service twenty-four hours out of seven days. The consumer must go via the forums to report complaints or concerns and wait for the individual concerned to respond. This would be difficult to overcome in case of emergencies (Kumar, 2018).

The lack of technology knowledge can be considered a disadvantage in this case. Not every mentor or instructor that will try to download Moodle and use a standard Learning Management System would be able to get it up and running.

with quality. Implementation needs a touch of technology know-how and exposure to IT Department services (Kumar, 2018).

Dashboard user interface is also challenging to understand. Moodle has a rather simple user-friendly Interface, for example, pressing on some course wouldn't give any details about it. (Kumar, 2018).

Reporting of researches can sometimes be a disadvantage. It will be easy to get simple reporting, indeed. However, for a deeper research, such as, which course get the most seen, the most famous course, where is the course where students often struggle, then this is not given by Moodle online learning platform. (Kumar, 2018)

Seventy six percent of clients need organizations to think about their needs and wants, as per a Salesforce review. That means, if you cannot understand what a client needs until they can let you know; they generally take their business somewhere else. They don't create merchandise and vital crusades concentrated absolutely on their thoughts; they bring outside contribution to the overlay and make sense of what customers need, and how they need it, and afterward speak with them. It is the premise of conveying a decent client experience, and client experience is tied in with developing a devoted gathering of purchasers (Team, 2020).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Being an online learning platform Moodle has an entire list of aims and objectives to make the life easier for people worldwide.

This research intends to aim the readers to use an interactive learning experience that meets their needs and to allow further efficient usage of educational materials. So, the main point of this research is to highlight the thoughts of other users and their opinion about the improvement needed to meet everyone's requirements.

To investigate this topic, I used an online survey like a quick method to outline if this platform is helpful, if it is easy to be accessed and if it meets the expectations.

METHOD

	Yes	No		
Q01	6	0		
Q02	5	1		
Q03	4	1		
Q04	6	0		
Q05	5	1		
Q06	6	0		
Q07	4	2		
Q08	3	3		
Q09	5	1		
Q10	3	3		
	Strong Agread	Agread	Disagreed	Strong Disagreed
Q11	33%	17%	33%	
Q12	17%	33%	50%	
Q13	40%	20%	20%	20%
Q14	33%	17%	50%	
Q15	30%	53%	20%	

As mentioned above, to support the topic of this research I used an online survey.

Firstly, I searched on Google.com the website Survey.com. Once accessing the website, I had to create an account to be able to build up the questions for my survey. I also, had to decide the appropriate questions for my research. For example, I choose fifteen questions: ten questions based on percentage with YES/NO answers and five question about how Moodle would be rated, from Extremely poor to Extremely Good.

Template of survey

- 1)Do you think Moodle platform is efficient? YES/NO
- 2)Is the Moodle platform a fast access method? YES/NO
- 3)Moodle is a valid access database? YES/NO
- 4) Is the Moodle platform an authentic source? YES/NO
- 5)Did you achieve your personal learning goals or objectives?
YES/NO
- 6)Were you able to bridge skills or knowledge gaps? YES/NO
- 7)Were you able to connect with the online training content?
YES/NO
- 8)Do you have any issues navigating the Moodle course?
YES/NO
- 9)Did you receive clear directions on how to navigate through the platform? YES/NO
- 10)Did you feel the learning to use the platform stole valuable time of your training? YES/NO
- 11)How would you rate the course's overall design? (strongly agreed-agreed-disagreed-strongly disagreed)

12)How would you rate the course's audio guide? (strongly agreed-agreed-disagreed-strongly disagreed)

13)How would you rate the content's font size? (strongly agreed-agreed-disagreed-strongly disagreed)

14)How would you rate the course's overall accessibility quality? (strongly agreed-agreed-disagreed-strongly disagreed)

15)How would you rate the course? (strongly agreed-agreed-disagreed-strongly disagreed)

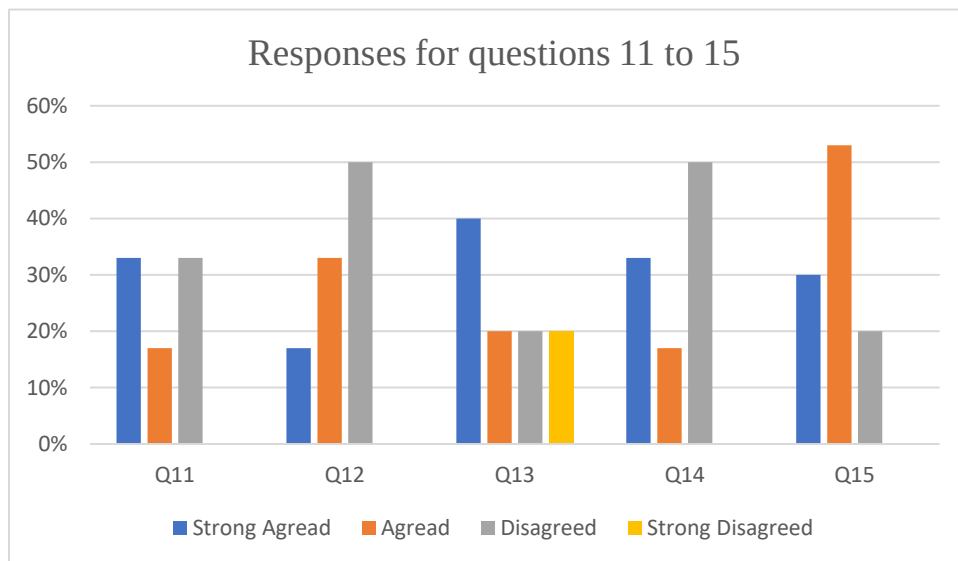
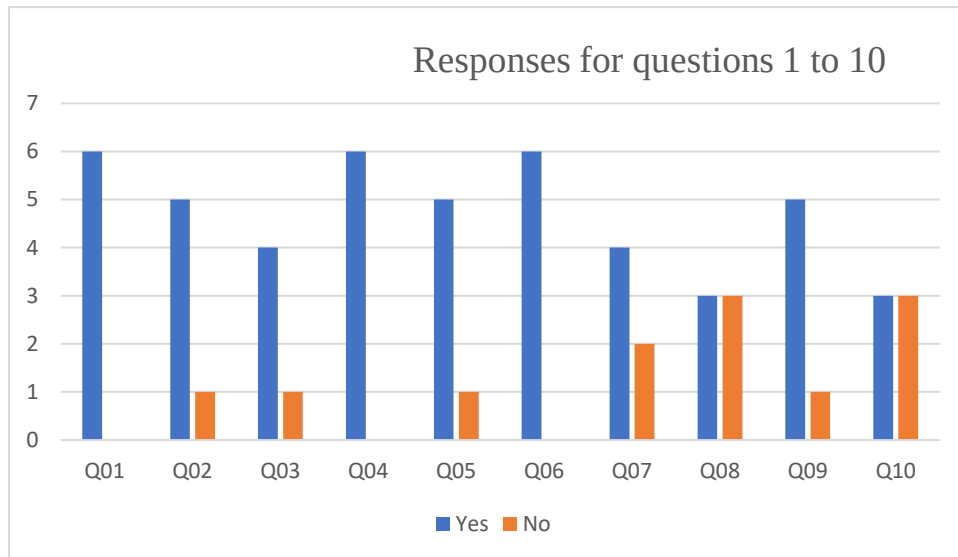
Once the survey table was ready, I downloaded it and uploaded on my university class WhatsApp group and all my colleagues answered according to their own opinion to my survey questions. They had fourteen days to express their thoughts about Moodle. As soon as the deadline was reached, I accessed my online account again and I downloaded the survey with all the answers from my colleagues and I noticed that there were six participants.

Further, I saved the document as an evidence of my research point of view and, I created an XL chart based on the answers.

My questions were mainly factual, about opinions and beliefs, related on the reader opinion about efficiency of Moodle, how easy is to access it, authenticity, how helpful it is in achieving objectives and goals. However, questions about issues of accessing Moodle platform, valuable time spent on learning to access it were also answered.

Last part of the survey was focused on the overall rating of the course, accessibility quality, design and audio guide.

RESULTS



The results of the survey are satisfactory with the mention that the number of people participating to the survey was quite lower than expected.

For the first ten questions, where the answers were YES or NO the percentages show a positive impression about Moodle

platform, almost all the answers being more than 50% for YES. Exception is question eight and question ten where the opinions of the readers are split in half.

Last five questions show that for the users, Moodle still needs improvement. There is a question where the highest percentage rating is at half between Extremely Poor and Extremely Good. However, for most of the questions the percentage is closer to Extremely Good option.

The outcome of this survey gives a clear impression about the fact that the virtual learning has a good impact on students life, as soon as most of the answers are positive and the students shown their interest in learning more about the platform, even, interpreting their answers, they look forward for an improvement of it.

DISCUSSION

Having a 100% positive answer for the question one, which was about the efficiency on Moodle platform, it shows that students not just appreciate the virtual learning but also it is playing a vital role in their academic life.

Another two questions had 100% overall positive rating showing that students consider Moodle an authentic source and they also agreed that a lot of skills and knowledge gaps are fulfilled with the help of this virtual platform.

Most of questions had an overall positive feedback of more than 80%. Most of the students think that they received a very clear direction about how to navigate the platform, and that it is a fast method to access learning materials. Considering their opinion looks like Moodle is an easier way to achieve goals and objectives being a distance learning process.

However, a slightly decrease in the positive feedback is shown in the questions about the connection and time spent on learning how to access the platform.

In student's opinion, Moodle platform needs more improvement on navigation part. To spend less valuable time on learning how to access the platform and how to work with it, maybe, the indications should be clearer and straight forward.

Sometimes, the connection with online trainings is lost in the middle of lecture, which is very distracting. Looking at the feedback of the students, an effort in maintaining the easy navigation of the course must be exercised. More shortcuts and indexes should be implemented to offer a smooth navigation inside the online learning platform.

Most of the last five questions of the survey, where the students had to vote between Extremely poor (0) and Extremely good (10), were answered with a very good feedback of (8) units on the scale.

The student's opinion is that Moodle platform has a very appropriate overall design and audio guide. The quality of accessibility and the overall rate of the curse about Moodle are also good in student's judgment.

The only exception, from the last five questions, where students were reluctant in giving a higher grade to Moodle platform was question thirteen. The highest percent of feedback was in the middle of the scale, so almost neutral.

Looks like the noticeable problem in Moodle overview is that the font size is not appropriate. Students believe in proportion of 40% that something must be done in order to get the platform to a better feedback.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the above research shows an overall positive opinion about online learning. Students judgement shows that Moodle is very helpful in developing skills and achieving goals. They are happy with the fact that accessing Moodle is a more flexible and interactive method of learning.

However, the improvement is still needed in order to make it more accessible and reduce the unwanted gaps in the middle of the lectures.

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