

The impact of the Virtual Learning Environment

Abstract

The advantages of virtual learning were developed just after the pandemic. It has several advantages and disadvantages. The students were able to carry on their studies in the lockdown. The technological developments, the suavity in the perceptiveness, and the adaptability of the students are the essence of this research. The universities show different kinds of approaches to combat the discontinuity in technology. This research will be very helpful for everyone as it not only focuses on the primary data but also on the secondary data. The usefulness of technology and the efficacy of the teachers along with the students are the keystones of this research.

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Introduction-

The main objective of the research study is to find the impacts of the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) while developing a suaveness in learning experience among the students of the University. As per the views of Ryan and Poole (2019), VLE is one of the best learning tools to acquire proper knowledge while staying at his favorite place. It makes learning easy and adaptive for the students. Virtual Learning Experience provides a voluptuous effect of technological aspect and assists the students to be more enthusiastic in studies and upliftment of the future. Various sources of information are taken into account while making this research. Both primary and secondary data collection play a pivotal role in analyzing the research. The Moodle that is related to the UWTSD London Campus created a watermark to assist the research report in the purpose.

Rationale-

VLE has become a foremost ingredient for the students to acquire knowledge during this pandemic. The Covid 19 had seized every positive aspect of nature so the students would be able to accumulate a wide range of knowledge by using VLE. It also helps them to improve their technical skills while increasing the use of keyboards and other applications. They can become more flexible in acquiring knowledge from their favorite place which makes the adaptation easier (FunTech, 2022). By analyzing the research report it can be justified to say that the students need to be adaptive enough to cope with technological advancement and the data provided in this research are the epitome of the base of the research. It can be fair enough to elaborate on the fact that the data of the research justifies pointing out the proper areas of this research.

Objectives of the research-

Analyzing the advantages of the VLE.

Making out the perspectives of the obstacles while engaging the students in VLE.

Implementation of the strategies to flourish the VLE.

Literature Review-

Introduction to the Virtual Learning Environment-

VLE (Virtual Learning Environment), is a collection of learning and teaching tools that are designed for enhancing the learning experience of a student. It includes computers along with the internet in the process of learning. Some examples of commercial software related

to VLE are Lotus, WebCT, Blackboard, COSE, and LearningSpace (WhatIs, 2022). There is no doubt that VLE has possessed a well-defined boon for the students that can be grabbed by them while acquiring knowledge. The Moodle of a university can also be used as a general tool for optimizing VLE.

Various elements of VLE-

The various elements of VLE include student tracking, the assistance provided for both the students and the teachers, electronic communication(web publishing, chat, e-mails, threaded discussions, etc), curriculum mapping (breaking down the curriculum into small sections that need to be assessed and assigned), and the links of the Internet for the outside resources of the curriculum. Usually, the users of the VLE are assigned to either a student ID or a teacher ID, but the teachers have extra user rights to modify the content of the curriculum and track the performances of the students while evaluating them (WhatIs, 2022).

Advantages of VLE-

Discussion, mentoring, and support-

Virtual Learning Environment helps the teachers to send messages and instructions to a group of students in just a few clicks. When the teachers can communicate with the students properly, the chances of ambiguity in lessons decrease proportionately (Titus Learning, 2022).

Assessment and evaluation of the progress of the students-

The self-marking activities of VLE can help the teachers to assess and grade the marks of the students directly into the grade books. The parents of the students can also look into the advancement of their children on a timely basis. This sophisticated technological advancement makes it easier for the teachers to evaluate the performances of the students and help them to develop them further (Titus Learning, 2022).

Administration and Organization-

The updating of the user groups, and the management structure can become automated by using this tool. The grades of the students can be saved and accessed automatically by using VLE and the behavioral data and registration can be done within a blink of an eye that can be accessed through reports (Titus Learning, 2022).

Disadvantages of VLE-

Discomfort with the Technology-

Though various industries require technological advancement and an innumerable number of upgraded employees, there are few industries as well that don't need such advancement in technology. For that reason, the employees feel useless while operating this type of technological advancement, and discomfort with the technology can be aroused (Knowledge Anywhere, 2022).

Limitations-

The virtual learning environment has some limitations and can't be recognized as the most effective piece to teach someone as there can be many complications while using it. There is no chance of human-to-human connection in this method, due to this a dark spell of ambiguity can occur while providing any information (Knowledge Anywhere, 2022).

Getting lost in the series of materials-

The learning style of everyone is not the same, some can acquire knowledge within a blink of an eye, while others need a lot of time to accumulate it. For that reason, the persons who are a little weak in understanding, can't ask the instructor for clarifications. Many of them might need proper lessons to acquire the new normal styles of humanism (Knowledge Anywhere, 2022).

Implementation of strategies for reducing the challenges for VLE-

As opined by (De Back *et al.* 2021), the strategies need to be implemented properly to reduce the challenges faced by them. There is no doubt that during the pandemic, when the students were stuck in a narrow sphere, the Virtual Learning Environment provided a wide space for them to cope with the derogating effects of education. But as time passed, many challenges were faced to use the VLE effectively. The biggest problem faced by the users is concentrated on the speed of the Internet. So the university needs to boost the confidence of the students by increasing the connection to the Internet. When the Internet connection is restored, the students will be able to concentrate on their studies. Secondly, the students need to be highly optimistic, self-motivated, and avoid distractions to get the real essence of learning from the virtual learning environment. Lastly, the administration of the universities or schools needs to be highly upgraded to prevent any breach of incidents while providing the real values of knowledge.

Literature gap-

The role of literature is an indispensable object while writing down any research. But unfortunately, the research papers are stuffed with information but lack the importance of evidence. Here lies the gap in the literature that needs to be juxtaposed by analyzing the proper areas of the critical presentation of the research. The literature can also assist the

teachers to look into the gaps in understanding the specific areas of knowledge and help the students to flourish in their capabilities. For that reason, the literature can be a part and parcel of this research without which it can't be possible to carry forward with the research.

Research Methodology-

Research method along with the methodology-

This research method is stuffed with the collection of quantitative and qualitative data along with the techniques applied to fulfill it. This can be a suitable method to write a research report because it not only defines the techniques applied but also provides a scientifically analyzing method to solve the problems of the research (Base, 2022). There is no doubt the method and the methodology are the two parts of a coin, one is incomplete without the other. A proper method and the dexterity of using suitable methodologies to support the view are the keystones of research.

Collection of Data-

Both the primary and secondary data are used in this research to make a robust feeling among the readers. When the readers will be able to find out the correct data, the quality of the research becomes enhanced. As stated by (Nwabude *et al.* 2020), the collection of data can involve developing, designing, and a proper dexterity to mix them all in the research. When these ingredients are mixed up properly, the achievements of the research become very high.

The process of Data collection-

The primary data of this research has been gathered by a survey where the students of UWTSD London took part and gave their valuable perspectives. The sources of the secondary data are websites, Google Scholar, Academic textbooks, and other sources that were reliable enough to rip off the ambiguity in information.

Population, Sample, and the size of the sample-

The research has been done by using the analyzed data in the Simple Random Sampling method (Singh and Singh, 2020). The primary data is collected by analyzing the sample size of 11 students who read in the UWTSD London Campus and a general view of the research is served with the help of the data collection and the survey of the students.

The ethics in the collection of data-

The values of ethics can create a high-level watermark in the research topic. All the authentic sources were put into account while collecting the data. A researcher can't be able to attract readers unless it's juxtaposed with reliable information. For that reason, a genuine authentic source is needed to move forward with the research topic. In this research, the students were not liable to give their opinion rather they give their valuable perspectives according to their choices. The information that was collected from the students will be kept private and the names of the students will not be disclosed. After the research is completed, all the relevant information and data will be omitted.

Results, Analysis, and discussion-

Primary data analysis-

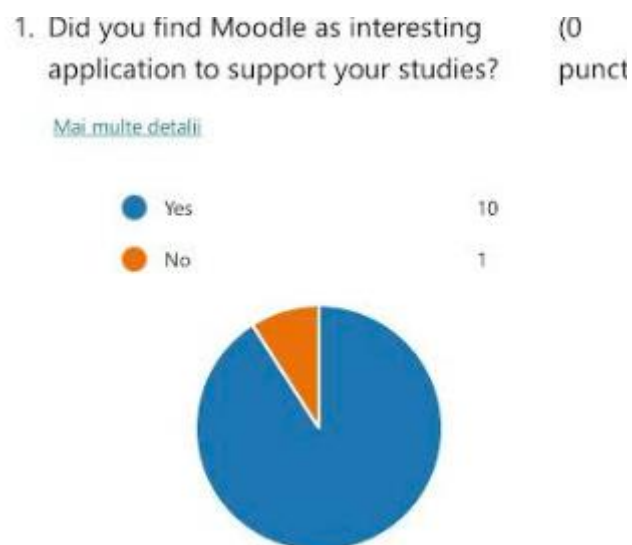


Figure 1: Moodle as an interesting application
Source: (Self-developed)

Analysis-

Through the above figure, it can be well defined that Moodle is no doubt an interesting application for the virtual learning environment. Only a student among the eleven can't find it interesting; the rest all find it very interesting to cope with technological advancement and acquire a proper sense of knowledge.

2. Did you find Moodle hard to use? (0 punct)

[Mai multe detalii](#)

[Detalii](#)

No	7
Yes	2
Maybe	2

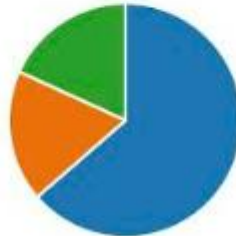


Figure 2: The difficulty level of Moodle

Source: (Self-developed)

Analysis-

From the above analysis, it's very clear that the number of students who don't find any difficulty while using Moodle is very high. The students who can't get the enthusiasm from the application need to develop their skills and the rest who can't come to any result require to feel the essence of it.

3. How often you use Moodle? (0 punct)

[Mai multe detalii](#)

[Detalii](#)

Weekly	8
Never	1
Seasonal	1
Monthly	0
Daily	1

Figure 3: The using period of Moodle

Source: (Self-developed)

Analysis-

From the above survey, it's very clear that the number of people using Moodle is very high on per weekly basis. While eight of them use it weekly. It proves that the craze for Moodle

lingers amidst the souls of the students and they try to mix themselves up with the development of the technology.

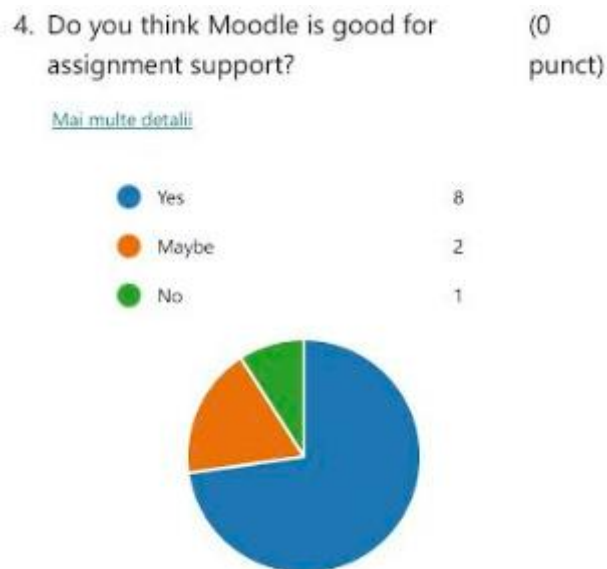


Figure 4: Effectiveness of Moodle in assignment

Source: (Self-developed)

Analysis-

From the above survey, the fact is utterly clear that a large number of students find Moodle very effective while completing an assignment. Among 11 students, 2 can't make any opinion and only one student doesn't find it effective to complete any assignment. So it's very clear, that the efficacy of Moodle is very high and the students want it to finish their assignments.



Figure 5: Recommendation of Moodle

Source: (Self-developed)

Analysis-

From the above point of view and considering the efficacy of Moodle a huge portion of students are going to recommend Moodle for the future generation, others are not sure about it but none expresses their negative view about it. No doubt in future days Moodle is going to create a sensation among everyone and the charm of development will be perceived entirely.

Secondary data analysis-

Theme 1-

The increasing renowned ness in a virtual learning environments-

The pandemic had wrecked the entire education system and a sense of gloom was prevalent everywhere. In such a situation the VLE becomes very popular among the students as they can get the necessary advantage of acquiring knowledge by residing at their favorite place.

Theme 2-

The obstacles of VLE-

Despite having so much popularity, the miscommunication between teachers and the students about any task due to the absence in human to human touch, the limitations while giving answers quickly, and low internet connection are the main hindrances of it. A proper method is required to adapt for maintaining the enormous agility of technology (Linkedin, 2022). Everyone is not capable enough to adapt the new technological skills so it can be very difficult for them to cope with the technological pressure (Knowledge Anywhere, 2022)

Summary of the findings-

From the above research, it's utterly clear that the new normal lifestyle of humans related to education has taken off momentum because of the outbreak of Covid 19. The VLE has several advantages and disadvantages but it has provided a sort of relief to the entire humanity amidst the pandemic. Without this technological development, the educational sector would have been washed off completely. It can be found also that the disadvantages of VLE try to shake the human perspectives but as time goes on, humans start to evolve the speed of development and their sphere of learning is increasing accordingly.

Conclusion and Recommendation-

Undoubtedly VLE is a boon of humanism that pushes everyone to achieve the zenith of success through its unfathomable features. Just when the pandemic started to engulf every positivity, technology came forward to combat the gigantic force and provided a sense of relief to everyone. Though there are some disadvantages of it, a proper method and evaluation can lessen the negativity and spread a sweet fragrance of development.

The Internet connection needs to be highly developed; without which it can't be possible to maintain the advancement. The students need to be more enthusiastic and flexible to gather every single piece of information. The teachers also need to upgrade themselves according to the norms of development and evaluate the capability of the students. When the students will get encouragement and motivation from the teachers, they will stumble across the beauty of technology and a garland of heaven will be created on this humanistic earth.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 (Questionnaire)-