

Digital Skills and Research Methods

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Introduction and Background:

Internet and technology become the vital part of today's world where almost every sector related with internet and technology. Advancement of technology create great impression on our life such that we cannot think a day without internet and technology. The development of technology is related with the smoothness and agility of every task of our life. The smoothness and easiness of work of life becoming depends on the improvement of technology. One who more capable utilizing the internet and technology become more success in their working life. Like this, there exist a massive contribution of internet and technology in educational sector. Without using internet and technology one cannot become success in their academic life. By using virtual learning course student nowadays learning many new things easily. Student get access easily to study material what they need. Virtual learning is becoming an integrated part of every university of UK where both teacher and student teach and learn through using their internet and technology. Virtual learning environment (VLE) is the IT aspect of learning by using modern technology in their study purposes. Student attends class through VLE so that they can easily learn about their study without physically attend in class that save their time and easily accessible (Cooch, 2010). Due to various difficult circumstance, like COVID-19 lockdown there has no scope to attend class physically. Moodle is a well-known and mostly used learning management system that established in the year of 2002 and now it 3.10.3 version is continued. During the pandemic online learning was only way to continue academic tasks and help people to be saved from virus. Moodle, a VLE learning platform, has great contribution in this regard which is used in almost every university in UK. This platform makes online learning easier and better accessible to student. The VLE creates the better environment form the perspective of online learning and both students and teachers become benefitted from this (Nash, 2018).

Aims and objectives of research:

The aims and objectives of this study is to find out the impact of VLE through using Moodle on the student and education system. This will help to identify how the Moodle contributed in the development of education through using internet and technology, which components useful for learning through online, which age group is mostly benefitted, existed skill level of student regarding uses of VLE, impact on getting training, effectiveness of VLE, satisfaction regarding

using VLE and so on. these findings will help us to make policy and strategy regarding using VLE and taking step regarding improve usage of virtual learning usage (Rayner and Cools, 2012).

Literature review:

As the usage as well as importance of virtual learning increasing along with improvement of Moodle in UK education system, many researcher and writer focus on this. According to the Nash, (2018), to improve the learning in the online platform there need to ensure the development of Moodle as it widely used in the UK university. Moodle, since its establishment, creating and developing various features that make student easier to access their learning within VLE (Nash, 2018). In the present age, especially in pandemic time universities conduct their class, make online submission of student's assignment, provide presentation by using web-based application like Moodle. It mentioned in another book written by Keppell, Souter, Riddle and Tynan, (2014) that there have grate positive impact of Moodle in the development of VLE and the development of student learning processes. Although there have many online education tools but Moodle has most popular features and is very useful in this regard (Keppell, Souter, Riddle and Tynan, 2014). It is the sharing tool where both teacher and student can their study material, assignment, presentation and so on easily Beside this, VLE increase the skill of learning by using internet as they can know anything by just searching in internet. So, in this case VLE is the only and effective way of attending class and learning where Moodle is an important platform. This is an effective way for teacher that they can provide study material, conduct class, manage official tasks and so on through VLE. On the other hand, student can learn, attend class, asking questing, taking exam and provide presentation through VLE. According to the most of the researcher virtual learning environment make effective learning ways through using Moodle for the student (Reeves, 2010).

Methodology:

As this research aim to find out the influence of Moodle as a VLE tool on the students so here both primary and secondary data will be needed. This research will be conducted on the primary data which are collected from various types of respondents collecting through survey. In this case, a questionnaire has been formulated and respondents asked to answer that question unbiasedly without having any influence. Due to recent pandemic circumstance the survey conducted through online medium rather face to face meeting. On the other hand, to make the research more evidence based secondary data also calculated here. Secondary data are collected from various books,

journals, previous research and website. Here both qualitative and quantitative methods of research followed so that we can understand the impact and find out best outcomes. To ensure best outcome here primary data are collected from 100 respondents from various areas and asked them to fulfilling the questionnaire unbiasedly. People who attend this research as respondent are student and have experience of using VLE through Moodle from various age groups.

Discuss the findings

After collecting data from both primary and secondary sources here some results are found which are explained in below-

Primary data analysis: as it has been mentioned that there were 100 respondents from different age groups who participate in the survey. The result shows their majority respondents are from 20-25 age group and their number is 70%, and others age groups from 20%. 5%, 5% from 25-30, 30-40 and 40 and above respectively. Most of the respondents are chosen from 20-25 because it was a student-based research and most of the student are from this age group (Nash, 2018).

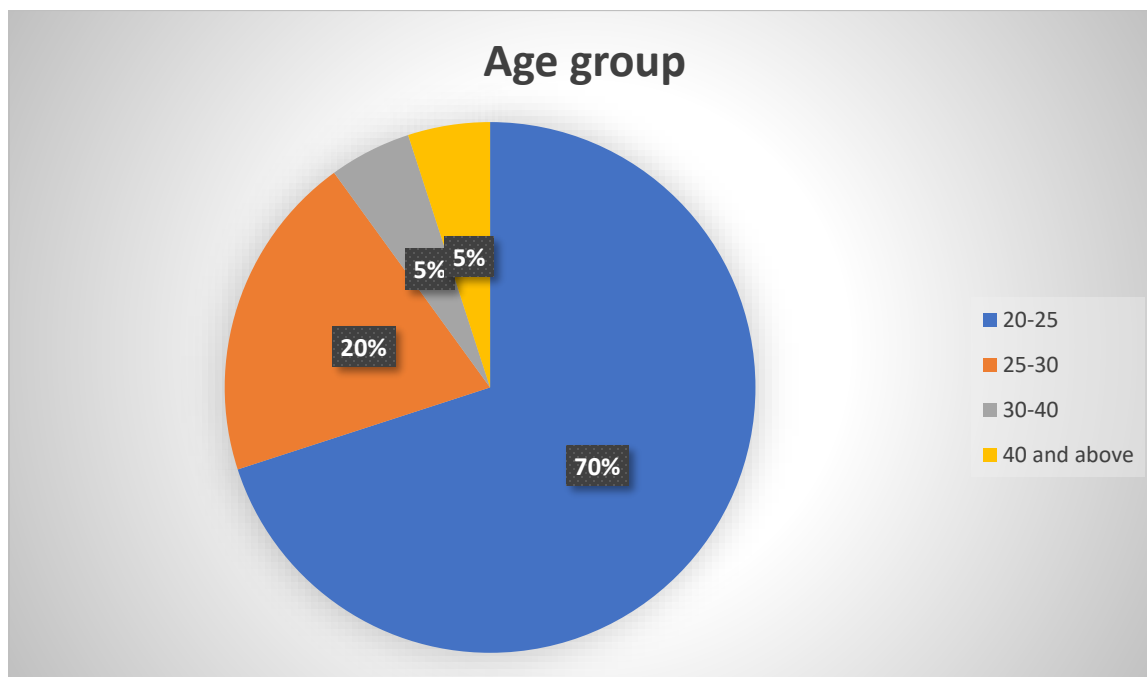


Fig-1: age group distribution

Another question was about the people use Moodle or not and here every respondent, 90%, have experience the usage of Moodle as they were students and their universities use this. Among them

3% use Moodle some time, 2% always and other 1 person use often. The usage of is increased because the most of universities of the UK make it mandatory for its student (Reeves, 2010).

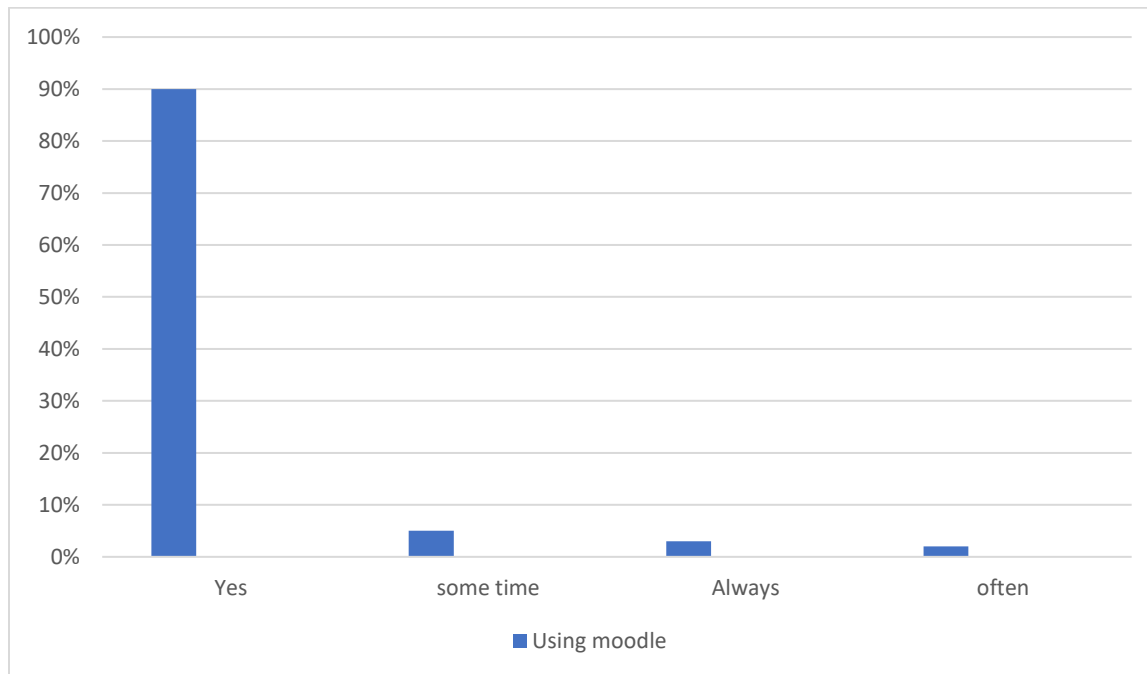


Figure-2: Usage of Moodle

After that, one of the most vital questions was asked to respondents that how the impact of Moodle as VLE on their learning, education and academic life. this research result shows that the impact of Moodle and VLE have great positive impact on their learning. Among the participants, 70% provide opinion that there has good impact of Moodle on their education, and another 25% express is as very good impact on their e-learning. on the other hand, only 3% said it impact was bad on them and 2% said very bad. This could be due to lower skill in using it and less accessible of e-learning along with Moodle to them (Reeves, 2010).

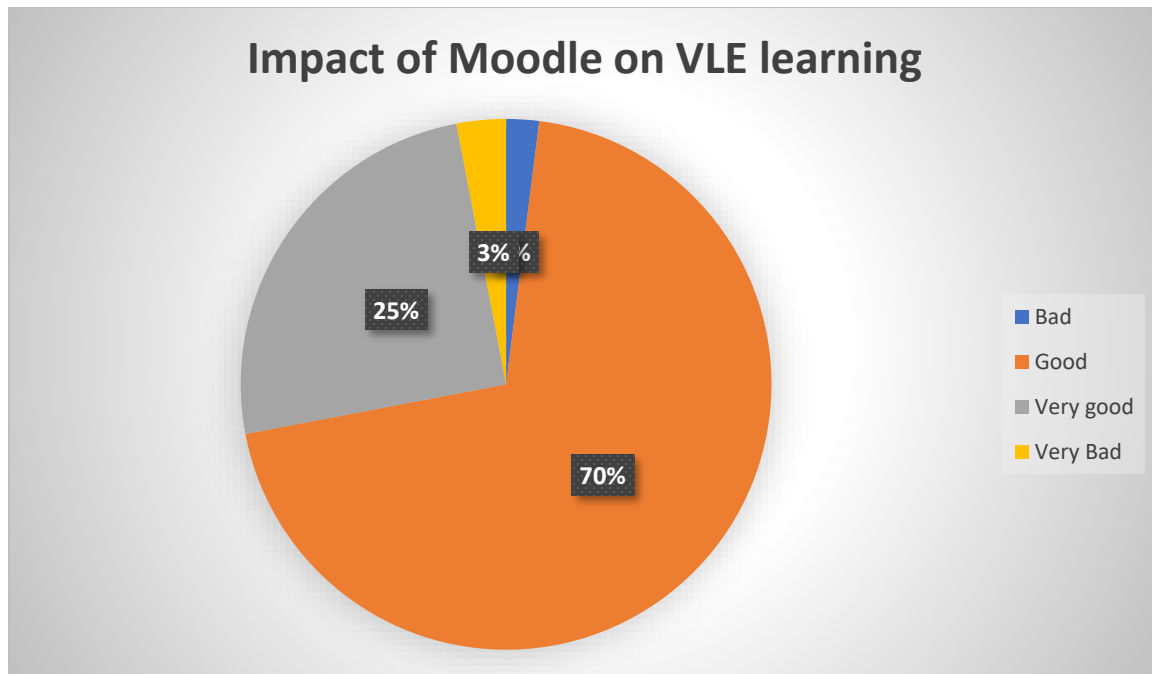


Figure-3: impact of Moodle on VLE learning

As it expressed in above that 5% participate has bad and very bad impact and here respondents were asked about their Moodle using skill. Here 80% of the students has good skill and 15% have excellent skill, and on the other hand, 5% have lower skill in using it.

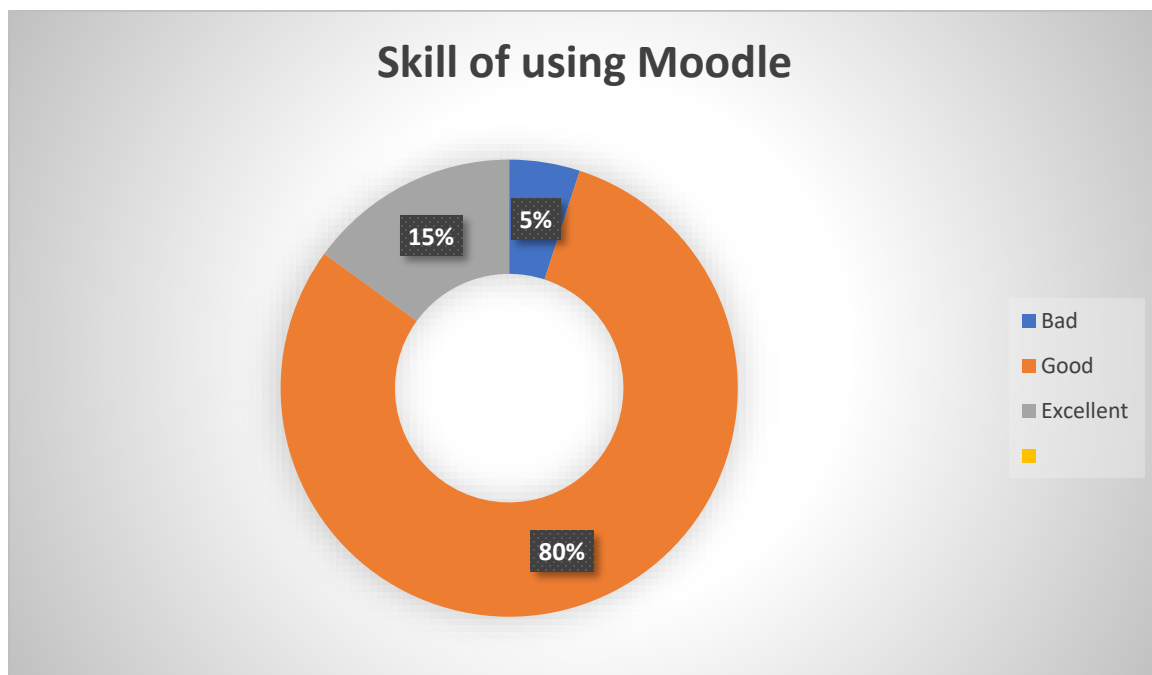


Figure-4: Respondent's skill of using Moodle

After that, respondents are asked about the effectiveness of the experience of using Moodle under the virtual learning environment. The experience of 53% respondents is very effective, 40% are effective, 5% are sometime affective and 2% found not effective of using Moodle. So, it can say that the experience of using Moodle as VLE is effectively during their study. Basically, experience depends on the outcome of the usage Moodle. So there have effectiveness of Moodle around 98% to their users and only 2% become not benefitted (Sadler-Smith and Evans, 2006).

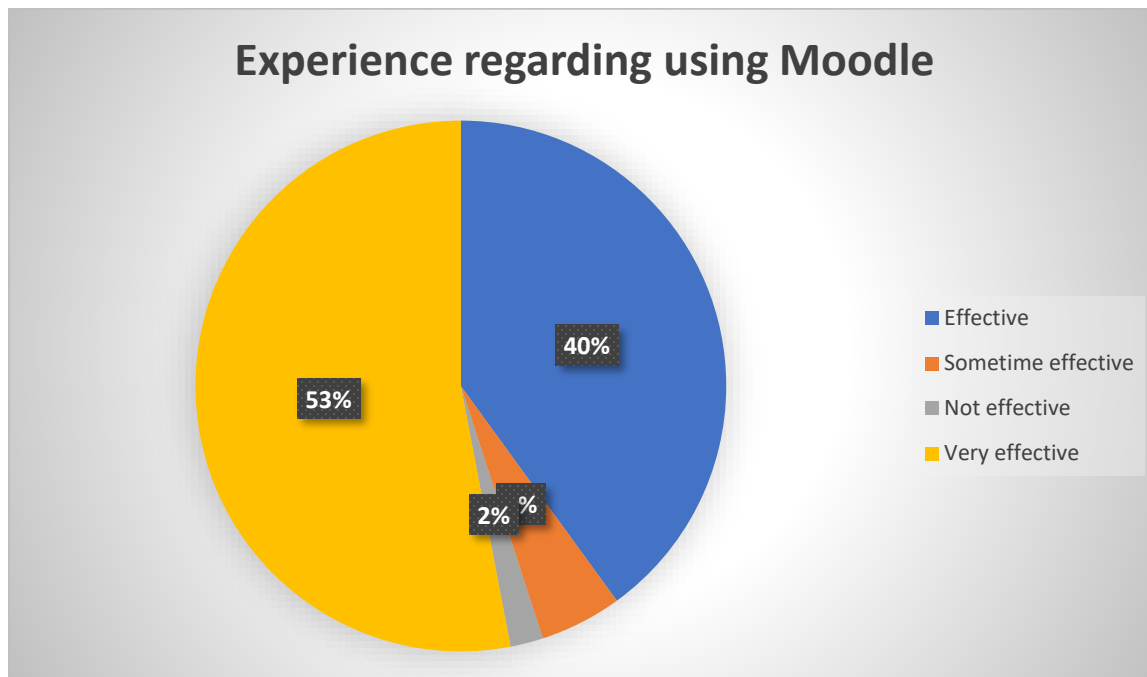


Figure-5: Respondent experience regarding impact of Moodle

The respondents provided their opinion on the accessibility of the VLE through Moodle where 60% are strongly agree with that the use of Moodle is easy and effective regarding their online studies and 32% are generally agree with that, 5% not agree, 3 % not agree according to this question. From this it can be said that the importance of Moodle is above the doubt and need to increase regarding improving virtual learning environment (Cooch, 2010).

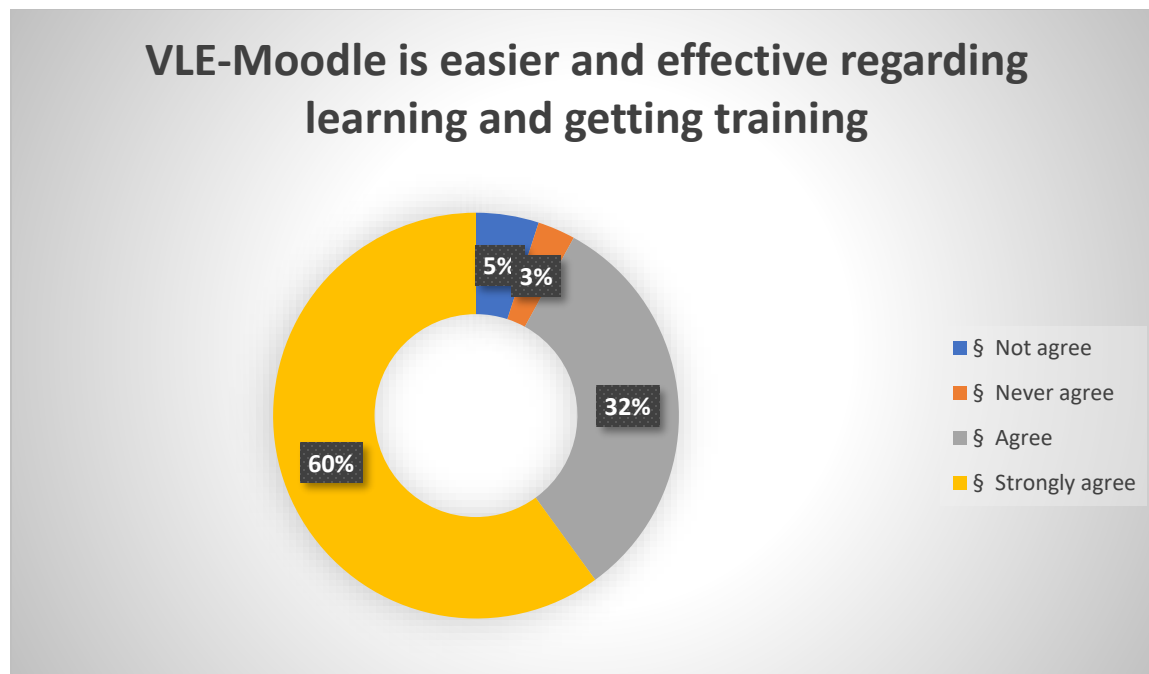


Figure-6: Easiness and effectiveness regarding learning and getting training

The respondents also asked about the device the usage and feel comfortable where 50% used laptop, 20% desktop, 25% mobile and 5% use others device. And finally, the respondents are required to answer about their feelings about after using of Moodle as VLE that most them said it good and second highest said excellent and others said it was not good (Keppell, Souter, Riddle and Tynan, 2014).

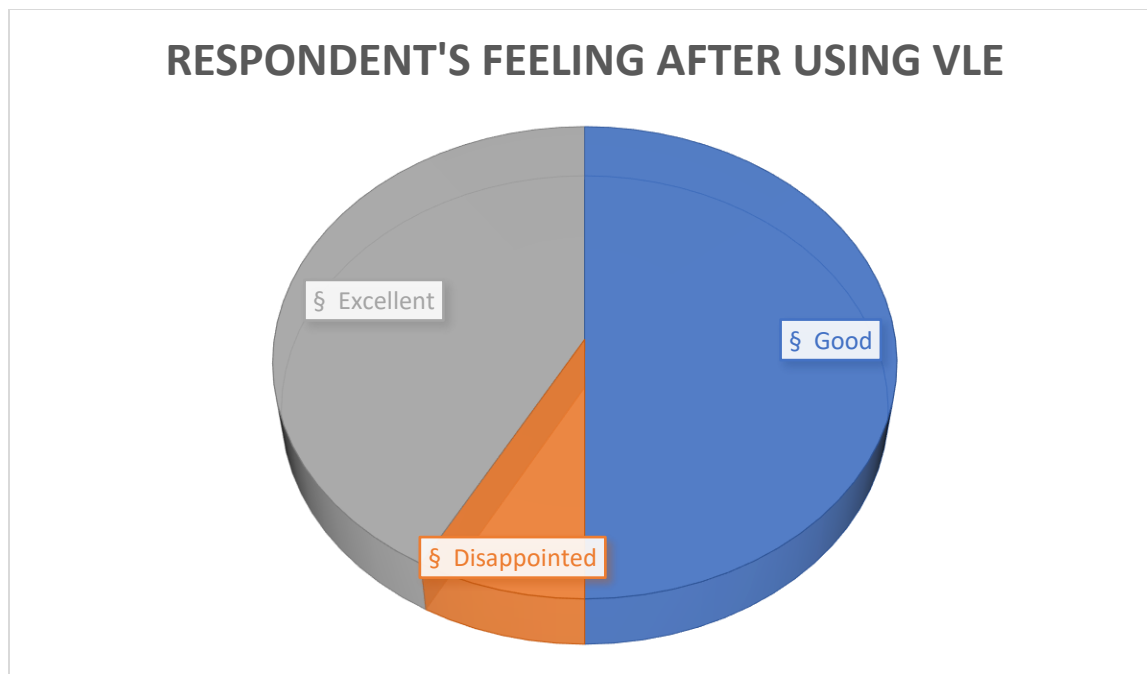


Figure-7: Respondent' feelings after using VLE

So finally, it can be drawn from the primary research result that Moodle is and effective, useful, accessible and important for the VLE.

Secondary data analysis:

In this research, data also collected from various secondary sources such as books journals and websites. A journal provided by Cooch, (2010) where it is said that Moodle is very useful, prominent and have good impact on the VLE in great extent. He also provided some recommendations that to increase the usefulness of Moodle there need to involve more student and add more study material there. Secondary data from the written of Hobbs and Hynson, (2013) shows that more people are involving in the Moodle and it becoming more effective in present days as the technology and internet are improving robustly (Hobbs and Hynson, 2013). Data collected from various websites shows that he usage of Moodle as the tool of VLE is increased and become the vital part of learning during the COVID-19 pandemic. Students are depending on the Moodle and online courses to continued their study in better way. Many researchers shows that Moodle has good and positive impact on the study and learning of student and it make them competence in their learning (Reeves, 2010). getting training through VLE make them skilled in their workplace. By using Moodle student easily can submit their assignment, collect study

material from Moodle, upload their report, learning many things regarding class learning. the use of Moodle making study interesting and courageous to student and they become very enthusiastic about learning. as it less difficult and time friendly so it becoming more popular day by day. So, from the secondary data, as primary data, shows that the impact of Moodle also has positive and impressive on student (Sadler-Smith and Evans, 2006).

Conclusion:

The usage of internet and technology is now the one of the basic parts which make the study smooth, useful and supportive to students. Along with the development of the internet and technology Moodle becoming the popular and integrated part of virtual learning platform for the student. By using Moodle student can access the study material from anywhere they want, anytime they needed as much they needed.

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Appendix:

Questionnaire

- 1) Name of respondent:
- 2) Age:
 - 20-25
 - 25-30
 - 30-35
 - 35-40
 - 40 and above
- 3) Did you use VLE-Moodle regarding learning purpose?
 - No
 - Sometime
 - Yes
 - Always
 - Often
- 4) Which device you used for Moodle as VLE learning?
 - Mobile
 - Laptop
 - Desktop
 - Mobile PAD
 - Others
- 5) How was the impact of Moodle on your VLE learning?
 - Bad
 - Very bad
 - Good
 - Excellent
- 6) How your skill on using IT on learning through VLE-Moodle?
 - Bad
 - Good
 - Excellent
- 7) How was your experience regarding using Moodle as VLE?

- Not effective
- Sometime effective
- Effective
- Very effective

8) How was the accessibility of getting sufficient service about using Moodle?

- Bad
- Very bad
- Good
- Very good

9) VLE-Moodle is easier and effective regarding learning and getting training?

- Not agree
- Never agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

10) Is Moodle being effective in academic learning?

- Not agree
- Never agree
- Agree
- Strongly agree

11) What is your feeling after using Moodle?

- Good
- Disappointed
- Excellent

Thanks for your Time, Support, and Participation