



## CHAPTER ONE

### Introduction

The recent studies lack research that explores the benefits of e-learning in all fields of learning such as schools and universities and this study comes to go beyond this recent topic and to shed light on. Based on what is mentioned earlier, the present study is an attempt to analyze e-learning importance by making a test. In order to carry out the study, the following questions are to be highlighted:

- 1- What is e-learning?
- 2- Is it important in schools and universities?
- 3- Could it achieve the same goals of traditional learning?
- 4- How they can be useful?

#### 1.2 The Aims:

This study aims at:

- 1- Explaining what e-learning is.
- 2- Highlighting the most important features of it.
- 3- Showing whether e-learning is useful or not.
- 4- Making a test for the study.

#### 1.3 The Hypotheses

It is hypothesized that:

- 1- E-learning is a modern way of teaching and learning process.
- 2- It is a useful strategy when it comes to pedagogical purposes.
- 3- E-learning is an easy and economical way of learning.

#### 1.4 The procedures

The procedures followed in this study can be summarized as the following:

- 1- The study provides a theoretical background on e-learning, its benefits, goals and purposes that are related to the aims of the study.
- 2- Making a test including significant number of points about e-learning.
- 3- Carrying out an analysis based on the result of the test.
- 4- Discussing the findings of the analysis.
- 5- Presenting the conclusions of the study.

#### 1.5 The Limits

The present study is limited to investigating the importance of e-learning in academic fields. As far as e-learning is concerned, stating its advantages is the main concern of this study.

#### 1.6 The Value

The value of this study lies in the exploitation of e-learning to make learning applicable and available in all times.

It is also hoped that this study gives a benefit to the researchers and anyone who is interested in digital media, and IT programming as e-learning is a mixture of education and computational system.

## Chapter Two

### Literature Review

#### 2.1 Defining Online Learning

The development of information and communications technology (ICT) in the twenty-first century has an impact on society, especially education. The use of ICT in higher education institutions makes distance learning possible, which transforms the educational framework completely. Several educational factors have made online learning more accessible, forcing many institutions to adopt e-learning methods (Shahzad et al., 2020)

Teachers and students can both choose the ideal app for their needs based on aspects including cost effectiveness, flexibility with regard to time constraints, reusability, ability to customize, and capacity to adapt to certain domains (Gustavsson et al., 2020).

Online learning is defined as the capacity for students to use devices that are connected to a network, giving them the freedom to learn at any time, from any location, and using any method (Dhawan, 2020).

When implementing online learning, there are four main factors to take into account that affect the way it is received by the various stakeholders. Accessibility is the first consideration. Online learning accessibility, according to Park (2009), relates to how easily students may access and use a school's online learning system as an organizational factor.

The second factor is appropriateness, or how well online learning fits a student's needs. According to d'Antoni (2007), any e-learning technique that a school chooses should be adapted to a student's needs based on their academic standing and other requirements at the time of its introduction. Thirdly, cost should be taken into account whenever online learning is implemented, as this can depend on the location of a school (ibid).

## 2.2 Advantages of E-learning

E-learning has been described as having the capacity to concentrate on the needs of particular learners. For instance, concentrating on the requirements of individual students rather than the needs of educational institutions or teachers can efficiently transmit knowledge in the age of technology (Huang and Chiu, 2015).

E-learning allows for the quickest and easiest completion of objectives. Equal access to the information is observed when managing the e-learning environment, independent of the users' locations and their ages (ibid).

From the perspectives of learners or students, several researches have demonstrated the beneficial effects of online learning. For instance, e-learning enables learners with an understanding of far more adaptable learning methods to attend classes with significantly less need for travel. Through in-class activities that use interactive video technology, learners are able to gain deeper understanding of the material. This enables students to react quickly to the tests (ibid).

E-learning systems facilitate improved interaction between students and teachers. Part-time and full-time students can take part in their chosen online degree courses from any location, giving those who are moving or traveling a convenient way to gain knowledge and experience. People with disabilities now have the chance to further their education from any location due to the integration and utilization of e-learning (Radu, and Croitoru, 2015).

## 2.3 Disadvantages of E-learning

Despite the substantial benefits of online learning, students nevertheless face a number of difficulties that ultimately have either limited or detrimental effects. Arkorful and Abaidoo (2015) in their study outlines that in certain circumstances, e-learning is conducted in a remote, reflective manner that prevents student engagement. Due to the lack of in-person interactions with teachers or instructions, e-learning may prove to be less effective than the modern form of education. Since assessments usually take place online with an e-learning method, there is less chance of preventing unlawful behaviors like plagiarism and cheating. The most obvious disadvantage of e-learning, not just between instructors and learners but also between colleagues of learners, is the absence of crucial personal connections. Since student-student engagement is far less of a concern than student-teacher interaction, there is a lack of community in the online learning environment (Arkorful and Abaidoo, 2015).

When employed in daily life, technology is a platform that is readily taken for granted, but because there are little financial incentives to gain access, it is not extensively used. By giving students more computers and other electronic devices, the amount of knowledge available online is growing (ibid).

Maintaining motivation in an online course is another obstacle for online learners. When compared to their classmates, pupils that lack independence and desire have lower success rates (Sarkar, 2012). Lack of self-regulation among students sometimes results in late or poorly completed assignments since they do not give themselves enough time to complete them. According to Sarrab, Al-Shihi, and Rehman (2013) successful students generally have stronger self-belief in their ability to succeed, better technological access and skills, a higher level of self-responsibility, and better organizational skills.

In order to maintain the energy during the entire course, students must be able to evaluate the motivational reasons. Students that are unmotivated can quickly lose sight of their original goals, get disoriented in the course, and eventually drop out. Therefore, it is important to assess a person's effectiveness in an online course by comprehending their learning preferences and behavioral patterns (ibid).

## 2.4 What is a Questionnaire?

A questionnaire is a research instrument that consists of a set of questions or other types of prompts that aims to collect information from a respondent. A research questionnaire is typically a mix of close-ended questions and open-ended questions. Open-ended, long-form questions offer the respondent the ability to elaborate on their thoughts (Web source 1).

### 2.4.1 Advantages of a good questionnaire design

1. With a survey questionnaire, you can gather a lot of data in less time.

2. There is less chance of any bias creeping if you have a standard set of questions to be used for your target audience. You can apply logic to questions based on the respondents' answers, but the questionnaire will remain standard for a group of respondents that fall in the same segment.
3. Surveying online survey software is quick and cost-effective. It offers you a rich set of features to design, distribute, and analyze the response data (Web source 1).

#### 2.4.2 What is the difference between a questionnaire and a test?

A questionnaire is used for a survey and has specific answer options. Sometimes it also includes open ended questions with no preset answers to choose. A list of questions to be used in qualitative research is instead called a discussion questionnaire is a list of specific questions that are designed to yield the answers guide or interview guide. A test is usually done in order to understand the answer to a research question as well. But usually you are testing something specific (Web source 2).

### Chapter Three

#### The Test

##### 3.1 Test Definition

Black and William (1998) define the term test as "all those activities undertaken by teachers and by their students in assessing themselves that provide information to be used as feedback to modify teaching and learning activities. Such assessment becomes *formative assessment* when the evidence is actually used to adapt the teaching to meet student needs."

##### 3.2 Characteristics of Good Test

There are three characteristics of a good test which are:

###### 1. Validity

Al-Hamash and et al. (1985:200) states that "a test is valid if it measures what it is supposed to measure. It should be related to the content of the course." In fact, there are four kinds of validity but here the researcher is going to shed light on two of them; content validity and face validity.

- Content Validity

Harris (1969: 19) says that "if a test is designed to measure the mastery of a specific skill or the content of a particular course of a study, we should expect the test to be based upon careful analysis of the skill or an outline of the course and we should further expect the items to represent adequately each portion of the analysis or outline."

###### Face Validity

It means the way the test looks to the examinees, supervisors or in general to the people concerned with the education of the students.

The test is proved by jury members whose names are listed below:

- Dr. Noor Othman
- Assist. Lec. Inas Haider
- Assist. Lec. Dhuha Fadhil

###### 2. Reliability

In order to be reliable, a test must be consistent in its measurements. Heaton (1975:162) states that "reliability denotes the extent to which the same marks or grades are awarded if the same test is marked by two or more different examiners or the same examiner under different occasions".

###### 3. The subjects

A random sample of students is chosen from the second stage in English Department, College of Education, University of Babylon. This sample consists of thirty-four students (males and females). They are native speakers of Iraqi Arabic.

###### 4. Test Material

The situations have been adopted by the researcher herself. The items have been chosen in such a way to cover as much as possible the concept of e-learning study.

###### 5. Test Design

The students are given situations and they are required to respond according to their background knowledge concerning e- learning study.

### 3.3 Test Analysis

Table1:

Item	Advantage	Percentage	Disadvantage	Percentage
1.	27	79.4%	7	20.6%
2.	27	79.4%	7	20.6%
3.	25	73.5%	9	26.5%
4.	29	85.3%	5	14.7%
5.	29	85.3%	5	14.7%
6.	24	70.6%	10	29.4%
7.	28	82.4%	6	17.6%
8.	24	70.6%	10	29.4%
9.	30	88.2%	4	11.8%
10.	27	79.4%	7	20.6%
11.	24	70.6%	10	29.4%
12.	31	91.2%	3	8.8%
13.	26	76.5%	8	23.5%
14.	29	85.3%	5	14.7%
15.	28	82.4%	6	17.6%
Total	27.2	80%	3	8.8%

Relying on the results of the previous table, we can see that most of the students' answers about the advantages of e-learning study. This table shows that most students get benefit from e-learning study. Point 12 get 91.2% of the students' answers to show the advantage of e-learning and its importance is highly requested. The percentage of the correct answers is 80% while the incorrect is 8.8%

## Chapter Four

### Conclusions

This research paper reached to the following conclusions:

1. Online studying has a great benefit not only for students, but also for teachers. It helps the students to study the material everywhere and at every time. E-learning can accommodate the students' need. E-learning has a quick mode of delivery. This indicates that learning time is reduced. For teachers, e-learning reduced time and effort, they can deliver the material to the students at any time with continuous updated to the syllable of the material.
2. E-learning is important in schools and universities since the student cannot miss the lesson, they can accommodate with their lessons at any time.
3. In traditional method, the teacher is responsible of the material and the students. He is the main corner of the teaching process. While e-learning facilitate the process of learning for both teacher and student.

### References

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### Web Sources:

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2. <https://www.digitalclassworld.com/blog/importance-of-elearning-in-education>

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**APPENDIX**

**Q/Give the advantage and disadvantage of e- learning ineach point:**

- 1- Online studying is designed to accommodate everyone's needs
- 2- One of the biggest benefits of e-learning is it's cost effectiveness
- 3- Today, we went from traditional four-year universities to completely online colleges that are offering a variety of options students never had before
- 4- By pursuing online education you gain the freedom to manage your time how it suits you, without interrupting your progress
- 5- A prime benefit of online education is that it keeps you in sync with updated content deriving from aspiring lecturers from all around the globe
- 6- Students are advancing at their own speed, without the need to accommodate to the group
- 7- Online courses are enhancing an individual's ability to learn and implement gained knowledge on their daily tasks
- 8- In a traditional classroom setting lecturers stick to their methods of teaching that are widely susceptible to mistakes. These issues are eliminated through eLearning by providing standardized and consistent training
- 9- Online learning offers various learning styles to allow students to better adapt to their desired classes.
- 10- E-learning gives you a version of knowledge accessible at convenience and shared with millions of students worldwide
11. The traditional education system is expensive and time consuming with various outcomes. On the other hand, e-learning is a fast-paced industry offering a variety of options to their students.
12. Students are logged into a learning management system through which they can access course materials, contact their professors and participate in discussionboards.
13. E-learning platforms are keeping track of student's activities such as attendance, tests, performance appraisal and more.
14. E-learning platforms are constantly improved to make the whole process as efficient as possible. Aside from web pages, many e-learning platforms now offer learning apps to their students.
15. Educational institutions now have the chance to identify potential deficiencies in their course materials by acquiring data on student dropout rate. They can further run new analysis to see if the implemented changes made an improvement or not.