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**Annotation:** *This article explores and compares various forms of education - full-time (daytime), part-time, evening, and distance learning - highlighting their characteristics, advantages, and disadvantages. The study begins with an overview of the concept of learning, emphasizing its multifaceted and individualized nature. It then analyzes how different learning modes suit diverse groups of students depending on their lifestyle, work, and personal needs. Special attention is given to distance education as an increasingly popular and flexible alternative to traditional on-campus learning. The paper discusses how technological progress and online accessibility have transformed education, making learning more adaptable to modern realities. The conclusion emphasizes that each learning format has its own strengths and limitations, and the optimal choice depends on individual circumstances and educational goals.*

**Keywords:** *learning; full-time study; part-time study; evening education; distance learning; online education; higher education; lifelong learning; flexibility; technology in education.*

First, let's look through each kind or type of learning and then consider which one is better and for whom. But first we must define the meaning of the word learning. We have been witness to a situation that over more than thirty last years or so, 'learning' has become one of the most used words in the field of education. Adult education became lifelong learning; students became learners, teachers became facilitators of learning; schools are now learning environments; learning outcomes are carefully monitored. This learnification of the language and practice of education is in part due to the rise of ...the developments in learning theory. Yet, for all the talk of 'learning', there has been little questioning about what it is, and what it entails. Questions about learning are addressed in virtually all areas of psychology. It is therefore surprising to see that researchers are rarely explicit about what they mean by the term' The reality is that learning is a very individual, complex, and, to some degree, an indescribable process: something we just do, without ever thinking too much about it. It is also a complex social activity. Perhaps the most striking result of recent research around learning in childhood and adolescence is that very little comes through conscious and deliberate teaching.

Some years ago, R. Säljö carried out a simple, but very useful piece of research. He asked adult students what they understood by learning. Their responses fell into the following five main categories [1, p.213]:



1. Learning as a quantitative increase in knowledge. Learning is acquiring information or 'knowing a lot'.
2. Learning as memorizing. Learning is storing information that can be reproduced.
3. Learning as acquiring facts, skills, and methods that can be retained and used as necessary.
4. Learning as making sense or abstracting meaning. Learning involves relating parts of the subject matter to each other and to the real world.
5. Learning as interpreting and understanding reality in a different way. Learning involves comprehending the world by reinterpreting knowledge.

So, we see that learning is a process of acquiring information, experience that can be used to know the world. This is shown in the following figure below:

«Education» is a broad term that can have many meanings, but it is generally defined as the process of learning and acquiring information. Formal learning in a school or university is one of the most common types, though self-teaching and so-called «life experiences» can also qualify. Communities around the world place a high value on educating people of all ages, whether formally or informally. Teachers are losing the education war because our adolescents are distracted by the social world. Naturally, the students don't see it that way. It wasn't their choice to get endless instruction on topics that don't seem relevant to them. They desperately want to learn, but what they want to learn about is their social world-how it works and how they can secure a place in it that will maximize their social rewards and minimize the social pain they feel. Their brains are built to feel these strong social motivations and to use the metalizing system to help them along. Evolutionarily, the social interest of adolescents is no distraction. Rather, it is the most important thing they can learn well [2, p.282].

Choosing between full time and part time study is a common problem faced by many students. The difference between full time and part time study may actually depend on the number of units or subjects taken per semester. However, fulltime study usually allows you to finish the course in a shorter period of time. This is the main difference between fulltime and part time study.

For a modern person to have a diploma of higher education is the norm. Even if the knowledge gained in higher education, is not useful, still people tend to «crust». It is believed that they may need that at some point. In addition, the presence of this document allows its owner a certain status. You can study at a full-time education or at a correspondence one. Modern technologies allow to study remotely, but this approach to education does not fit all students. It is also proposed to study at the evening faculty. This option is considered to be part-time, as it allows students to miss classes, if there are reasons for that. Most importantly is to be present at the time of taking tests and exams.

Now let's get down to reviewing Day Time Study or Full Time Study which has the following peculiarities:

- Takes less time to complete;
- May include 30-40 hours per week;
- Includes more subjects or units per semester;
- Students don't work while studying;



- Usually done by undergraduates.

Hence, Full time study helps the student focus intensively on their academic work without any interruptions. Although the number of course units and hours may depend on the subject and the university, fulltime students usually take more units per semesters than part time students. They might spend 30-40 contact (lectures, discussions, etc. at the university) and non-contact hours (self-study, homework, assignments, etc.) on studies. Thus, they can complete the degree in a relatively short time.

Although many people assume that fulltime study will include fixed hours from nine to five, there are many fulltime study programs that offer flexible hours. The timetable and contact hours may vary from day to day. Fulltime study will usually have a workload similar to fulltime employment. However, this workload will be divided between lectures, projects, tutorials, assignments, fieldwork, individual study, etc., depending on the course. Now let's see what the part time study is. Part time study usually involves fewer hours per week than fulltime study. 10-20 hours per week (both contact and non-contact hours) is considered the standard for a part time course. Part time study also involves fewer subjects or course units per semester. However, the students will also take longer to finish the degree. The time taken to complete the degree might actually depend on the structure of the course. The main advantage of part-time study is the ability to combine academic study with work or other commitments. Thus, this is a perfect opportunity for those who are engaged in part time or full time employment. Part time study might be especially useful if a student is doing a professionally related degree since it will allow him or her to gain experience that will add relevance and depth to his academic studies. Additionally, many students choose part time study to complete their post graduate education [3, p.194].

It is also important to note that not all universities and higher education institutions offer both fulltime and part time studies. There are some institutions that offer fulltime studies and some that specialize in part time study.

Differences Between Fulltime and Part Time Study:

- Time: Fulltime study takes less time to complete.
- Part time study takes longer to complete.
- Hours per week: Fulltime study may include 30 -40 hours per week.
- Part time study may include 10 -20 hours per week.
- Subjects and course units: Fulltime study includes more subjects or units per semester.
- Part time study includes less subjects or units per semester.
- Work: Fulltime students don't work while studying.
- Part time students can study while doing a part time or fulltime job.
- Courses: Fulltime studies are usually done by undergraduates.
- Part time studies are chosen for professional postgraduate degrees such as MBA.

Evening education (part-time, shift) is a type of training in which a student combines study with work, that is, attends an educational institution in shifts, at the most convenient time free from work. At the same time, a free (sliding) class schedule is possible - for example, if a student works in the evening shift, he attends school in the morning. There is also a so called «Weekend study» which is not less popular than a part



time one. It is for those who are busy and clearly aware of the need for higher education. Weekend group gains in comparison with correspondence courses, because not every employer (especially in commercial organizations) provides an employee with paid study leave. To go on vacation twice a year at their own expense is a luxury to many. Classes are usually held on one of the days of the weekend - Saturday or Sunday. Sometimes both weekends and even evening hours on weekdays (very rarely) are involved. The schedule of lectures is posted a month in advance. With a standard study schedule (once a week), students spend 8 hours at the institute. What should be clarified when choosing a weekend group:?

- What form of study will be indicated in a future diploma?
- Can you use the library, computer room, etc. on weekends?
- What form of knowledge assessment is adopted in this institution - a fixed or current session - sometimes this question is crucial. Many universities, especially non-state, practice in groups of weekends a non-standard scheme for taking exams and tests - the so-called «current session». Students take an exam or a test immediately after completing a course of lectures on a specific subject. In such a system there are many advantages:

- the material does not have time to be forgotten - students take an exam, as they say, on fresh tracks.
- many other, equally important information on other disciplines is not accumulated on the knowledge gained.
- no need to learn several subjects at the same time, as it happens during the classical session (usually full-time and part-time students go to exams with a square head).

In some universities, students of weekend groups pass only tests during the semester, and exams are transferred to the session. But even such a scheme makes life much easier, because sometimes it can be much more difficult to pass a test than an exam. Despite their popularity, weekend groups are not yet available at all universities. But time dictates its own rules: this form of education is in demand and promising, therefore, more and more universities use it in their practice. The most interesting thing is that officially this form of education does not exist. Of course, this does not mean that universities are breaking the law. Formally, the weekend group is a type of distance education, and how to organize this training itself - each university decides in its own way. It turns out that weekend classes are a kind of adaptation of universities to the needs of students. Students of the weekend group study as much as part-time students, from five to six years. It is good, if you have - the usual five days a week job, and if you have a sliding schedule? Then it is obvious that the working days will periodically coincide with the weekend. Often, the students run away from work to pass the exam. Employers are very harsh in this regard - they require proof that the employee went to the institute and not to his grandmother's birthday. So if you have shift schedule of work, it is better to discuss it with your superiors in advance. Besides you will face some difficulties during training:

- You need to accept the fact that you will not receive training material in full. 50% of the information, and even more, you will have to take from textbooks.





- You will have a day off, at best, once a week. And sometimes you have to work and study all day long.
  - Prepare yourself mentally and physically for the fact that within one day you will be «loaded» with a huge amount of new and diverse information will take you longer (however, as in general at the end of the day) for six months a year to study, as compared with the full-time department.
  - You are likely not to be able to feel all the delights of student life.
  - Forget about the scholarship and preferential travel card.
- However there are also many positive sides too, such as:
- It is possible to combine study and work.
  - Weekends are few, but there is a vacation that does not have to be spent on the session (as in the usual part-time), and after the end of the working day you are absolutely free (as opposed to the evening department).
  - You will constantly consult and communicate with teachers.
  - You will have to pay less for tuition in the weekend group than for a day or evening tuition [5, p.282].

It should be noted that on-campus studies have been slowly substituted by distance education. In the scientific literature there can be found many interpretations of the concept of 'distance education'. For example, American distance learning expert E. Clark notes that under the category of «distance learning is met in many types and training programs» [3, p.57].

According to A.A. Andreeva, it is «a system in which new distance learning students reach a certain educational level» [4, p.44–48].

At the same time, he classifies distance learning as «a synthetic, integrated form of education, based on using both traditional, and information technology». Analogical position is held by D. A. Bogdanov and A. A. Fedoseyev, stating that this scientific category means «Remote learning» [5, 94–98].

This educational method is characterized by the student being substantially separated from the teacher and classroom. This learning system has enhanced its growing popularity due to the faster and greater accessibility of the internet. At distance education students only need to communicate with their tutors and exchange materials over the net, this method can be possible even for students living in a different part of the world. Distance education has many benefits that make it a solid competitor compared to traditional one. For example, joining a distance course, students can study at their own place and time, choose a flexible schedule and combine different tasks simultaneously. It is also helpful for people over 25 who in most of the cases have a full time job and cannot attend classes in person. It is also a great monetary benefit because in distance courses, travel expenses and educational fees are significantly lower than in on-campus studies. Moreover, there are some differences which may be classified as benefits and weaknesses between those two methods. The benefits and weaknesses of the face to face learning mode: One of the major benefits relates to the comfort status and familiarity of the surrounding environment that are the classrooms. In a classroom all students have the possibility to obtain faster and direct assistance because of the accessibility of face to face



tutors and real time answers by speaking directly instead of typing. Students also have the opportunity to establish friendship with group mates and create group discussions that will clarify the topic information thus, reducing the possibility of misunderstandings. The on-campus education method has a few disadvantages when comparing to distance education. Background noise from students in a classroom can lead to major distractions and provide the lack of concentration. Another disadvantage is that in a classroom not everyone is willing to participate in front of other students and this is a negative impact to the quieter students [2, p.282].

Why some people prefer distance education? One of the main reasons to choose an online course is also the most obvious. Students don't have the necessity to move to another place. They can continue working and wrap the classes around their schedule. Those students with a full time job working up to 40 hours per week will find it most beneficial as online courses are flexible enough to accommodate to their busy work lifestyle. Another demographic group that prefer distance education over face to face teaching are those who have young children.

Alongside with benefits, the distance education has some weaknesses too;

- students must be able to use the internet and have a sound understanding of a data management (upload/download files).
- when students are enrolled in a distance education course, they must attend to online classes only and they are limited to virtual help.
- students also get used to do most of their research through the net (most of the occasion through the campus virtual library) and this will be disadvantage over on campus students who have an easy access to physical library material.
- it is necessary to own a computer or at least have the opportunity to use one when required.
- distance education students must be responsible as they will not have a regular timetable .

In conclusion we should that there are many kinds and forms of education, such as: daytime or fulltime, correspondence or part time, weekend or evening group and at last open or distance which play various important roles in the sphere of education. They each have benefits and weaknesses, advantages and disadvantages. So it is very difficult to say which one is better. Because as English saying goes, «One man's meat is another men's poison» or «As many minds as many thoughts». But one point is certain that distance education is becoming one of the favourite methods of teaching by numerous universities worldwide. This method has been facilitated with the use of technologies such as the internet and World Wide Web (WWW), and it brings with them global connectivity, real time access and overwhelming volumes of literature and study material. The goal of this paper was to determine if distance education is better, worse than or as good as the traditional face to face method.

Both methods require the use of technology and provide considerable rigor and value to the education process.

This study shows that distance education can be as good as the traditional face to face program.



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