

## THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ONLINE EDUCATION IN LEARNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE AT SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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**Abstract:** *This article explores the pros and cons of online education in learning the English language at secondary school levels. It highlights how online platforms and apps give the opportunities like flexibility, accessibility and sort resources and personalized learning. In addition, the adaptability and beneficial sides of online education is illustrated in learning English. However, disadvantages will be discussed as well, like internet connection, technological barriers, lack of structured supervision. This article illustrates both advantages and disadvantages of using online education.*

**Key words:** *Online teaching, e-learning, flexibility, accessibility, personalized learning, technological barriers, digital device, face-to-face interaction, self-discipline, secondary school.*

### INTRODUCTION:

Online education has transformed the way students learn, and its impact on English language learning, especially at secondary school levels, has been profound. Although it creates many opportunities and opens new doors toward the future, people often face some challenges while studying online education. This article analyses possible and valuable beneficial sides and detrimental effects and disadvantages of online teaching.

#### **Plus sides of online teaching.**

##### **Flexibility and accessibility**

One of the best advantages of online education is flexibility it offers. Because teachers who are responsible for your lessons can deliver lessons without any kinds of challenges with the help of internet connection. And also students who spend their time anywhere of the location and cannot participate in traditional class, can easily attend the online lessons. Furthermore, online teaching is effective to manage your time efficiently, because you do not need spend your time for walking, interactions or hang out with others and it is the best way to save money, you do not spend money for a taxi, bus or these kinds of unnecessary things.

### **REDUCED COSTS**

For several reasons, online education can be more affordable, for instance there is no fee for transportation. Online students are unaffected by various transportation expenses like gas, parking, automobile upkeep and public transportation charges. (Ghoshal, 2020) Since no travel expenses are incurred by the students or learners e-learning is economical. Additionally, it saves money because it provides learning opportunities for as many students as possible without requiring a large number of buildings (Valentina and Nelly)

According to (Bijeesh, 2017), the cost of the distance education degree (online or otherwise) may be significantly less expensive for any given program than the cost of an on-

campus degree. A distance learning course is a choice for students looking for financially sound options. You do not need to reside in the same city or nation to enroll in the educational institutions of your choice. Wherever you have a computer and an internet connection, you can study. Additionally, online learning courses are less expensive than typical education center courses (Brown, 2019)

### **No commuting**

According to Nagrale (2013, cited in Sadeghi, 2019), if you choose distance learning, you won't need to take packed buses or local trains to get to class. You must have a computer in your house with internet access. You wouldn't need to leave your room because the entire college would be there. The most challenging element is the commute because it costs a lot in terms of time, money and most importantly, energy. Nobody enjoys making a long commute.

### **Save time**

According to (Bijeesh, 2017), there is no time lost waiting for a bus or train or travelling to and from campus. With study materials on your desk or online resources on your computer, a distance learning program puts the classroom right in your bedroom. Distance learning is an option for students who don't have enough free time and can be pursued from the convenience of their homes. Self-pacing is possible with the use of e-learning, for instance, the asynchronous method enables each student to learn at their own pace, whether it would be fast or slow. As a result, it lowers tension while raising contentment.

### **Minus sides of using online education**

#### **Lack of interaction**

There may be little to no face-to-face interaction with lecturers and classmates because online degree programs are completed on computers. Most of the time, an email will be your only form of communication, therefore some kids may find it challenging to learn in this environment (Ghoshal 2020)

His experience cannot be compared to that of a typical college campus, even though students can communicate via chat rooms, message boards, emails, video conferencing software. The contentious study by (Hara Kling, 2000) also discovered that it can be difficult to comprehend the difficulties and distress experienced by students online. Also, there were many difficulties and negative situations from working alone at night.

#### **Self-discipline and motivation**

While flexibility is an advantage, it can also be a challenge. Online education requires from students a high level of responsibility and self-discipline, they should follow their own schedule. They do not have the structure of a physical classroom, some students encounter some challenges like discipline or lack of motivation, or time management issues.

#### **Technical issues and digital divide**

Online teaching mostly depends on social media and gadgets, which can be a problem for some students. Not everyone is able to attend online lessons, they do not have a reliable internet connection or they might face some problems like software glitches, platform crashes. Moreover, the "digital divide" is the gap between those who have access to technology and



those who do not can exacerbate inequality in education. The online education requires instructors to enhance new skills and adapt new skills. Not all learners can adapt digital devices or online platforms, they need extra delivery lessons effectively in an online format. This act might be time-consuming and seems curve for both students and teachers, it effects the quality of education.

### CONCLUSION

Online teaching gives many advantages including flexibility, accessibility, cost-effectiveness or complement to traditional education. However, we might face some challenges like lack of interactions, disappear of face-to-face communication, technical issues and need for self-discipline. As technology continues to evolve, online teaching should be enhanced. But addressing its disadvantages is crucial ensuring equitable and high-quality education for all learners.

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