

# The Importance of Online Teaching and Learning English Language in 21<sup>st</sup> Century While the world is battling with CORONO Virus Pandemic

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## Abstract

*The process of educating people online is increasing rapidly. Online education (Teaching & Learning) using internet and communication technologies offers many opportunities qualitatively and quantitatively increased access to education. Online learning is the newest and most popular form of distance education today. Within the past decade it has had a major impact on postsecondary education and the trend is only increasing. In this article I will explore what the advantages of online teaching and learning is like for students and how it has changed the role of the instructors and students especially while we are under the pressure of a global crisis like **corona virus**. The demand of students to get their education is another important factor in the growth of online education. But many teachers and learners who are not in favor of Online teaching and learning claims that there is lack of internet access, high prices of internet and both teachers and students lose lots of interactive opportunities which provided by the physical classes so in this case we need to find out whether teaching and learning affect teacher – students interaction or it facilitate more learning than before?*

*The importance of instructional strategies of teaching and learning to the success of the online environment has precipitated the creation of best practices guidelines for all aspects of the instructional process, including the planning and management of online instruction, online teaching techniques, and online students assessment and evaluation techniques.*

*This article has reviewed the important factors on successful strategies for online teaching and learning .I have introduced some important and famous applications like Google classroom, strategies and methods to practicing and learning online because we need for this method of learning and teaching mostly focusing on spending less time because time is the first priority for everyone to be active and doing their works on time therefore, I have found the best ways to teach and learn so that to bring change in our behaviour and improvement to our society while there is no opportunity of physical interaction with students.*

**Keywords:** *Online course; online assessment; online testing, online quizzes: video, web conferencing, virtual classrooms, video conferencing, Google Classroom*

## Introduction

Online teaching can be a boon for teachers themselves, making it possible for educators, like their students, to have access to the professional resources they need to continue to learn. If online professional development is taken seriously and done right, every teacher, novice and experienced, could have the opportunity to learn from the best. They can be prepared in situations where they can observe master teachers, working with effective strategies in the most challenging of circumstances, and in discussions with those master teachers, reflect on what works or does not work. Online courses also provide a powerful way to enhance teachers' opportunities

for quality professional development. Some teachers will take online courses or modules to fill in the gaps in their certification requirements; others to address key topics for their continuing growth. For example, working with its 16 partner states, the Southern Regional Education Board cooperative enlisted state department staff in developing a series of online courses, open to teachers from across the region, including. Online networks can also help support novice teachers, during the stressful early years of teaching, in online learning communities that link them with peers and additional mentoring support beyond those found in their home schools. Teachers can also link with other teachers informally through such resources as Tapped In's multi-user virtual environment for professional development.

Beyond the extra resources available online for teachers, online teaching can provide another important element of teacher learning: it makes the process of teaching public and extends it beyond the school walls. Teaching need no longer be conducted behind the closed door of the classroom. In online courses, the curriculum, the teacher's daily lesson plans, the interaction in the classroom, are all on display, available for capture and replication.

Privacy requirements guarantee that student privacy be protected, but, because teachers are rightly accountable, the work of an online teacher is visible in ways unseen before the medium was developed. This visibility can be used to build reflective communities of practice within schools and across the profession. Finally, and perhaps most positively, online teaching provides ways for teachers to expand their professional roles without leaving the classroom. Teachers who have not had consistent access to quality professional development to develop new skills can now learn best practices online. In addition, teachers can teach to their passions, rather than leaving teaching for administrative positions or new challenges outside the field. The history teacher with a special expertise in the Civil War can teach a module, semester, or yearlong course to a class of students with backgrounds

### Teaching online

Cassandra believes that "The Internet has significantly changed how we communicate with one another as well as how we access, share and facilitate information." The issue is no longer one of how to use technology to teach, but one where teachers acknowledge the way the world is already developing, and understand the significance of online literacy and the role that collaboration and online engagement plays in student learning and their future workplace environment.

Software and technology changes very rapidly, and it can be difficult to keep up with these developments. It is important therefore to focus on understanding effective pedagogical strategies for online teaching rather than the technology itself.

### Coleman outline below **Key benefits of teaching online**

1. "Increased flexibility of time:
  - Learning and teaching can occur at times that are more convenient and productive for both students and teachers. Students can work at their own pace within a given framework and the online learning and teaching engagement process can be broken into smaller more frequent portions of time, with an opportunity for reflection in between.
2. Increased flexibility of location
  - Learning and teaching can take place in any location (home, office, while commuting, coffee shop) and can include students and teachers from diverse geographical locations
3. Context
  - Online education gives learning a new relevance to contemporary society and professional and industry practice
4. Information sharing
  - Online education provides opportunities to access and share information more easily and readily. Teachers and students are able to join online communities of practice based on their area of interest rather than their geographic location.
5. Online resources
  - Online education provides access to a greater depth and breadth of resources and information
6. Diverse and enriching experience

- Online education can enhance the student learning experience by providing opportunities for cross-disciplinary, cross-cultural and/or cross-campus collaborations. This learning experience can occur at a local, national or international level, and can be enriched by increased interaction and engagement, peer feedback, and group work skills
- 7. Access, equity & disability
  - Online delivery provides a mechanism for equal opportunity amongst students and teachers living with a disability, or who have accessibility difficulties that restrict their ability to attend a face-to-face class
- 8. Digital information literacy
  - Online learning develops digital literacy skills that are increasingly required in contemporary society and workplace environments
- 9. Administration
  - Online education can streamline some administrative aspects of teaching.

### Key restrictions, limitations or considerations

- **Access to technology**
  - In some instances students and teachers may be limited in their regular access to reliable or appropriate technology. Several people may be sharing a computer or mobile device within one household, or may rely on using computers on campus or in a public place (eg public library, Internet cafe, etc). Students or teachers may also only have limited access to required software
- **Access to the Internet**
  - Not all students and teachers have regular or reliable access to the Internet. In many cases Internet access may be limited to dial-up speed, or there may be a capped monthly usage on their Internet which can restrict their ability to access or engage with information
- **Ability to use technology**
  - Some technologies and tools require training. In some instances, technical training may not be readily available to students or teachers.
- **Isolation**
  - Teachers without peer support for their online initiatives, it can be a lonely and isolating experience
- **Information overload**
  - In many instances, the amount of information, 'how to' guides, help and resources provided online can have a tendency to become overwhelming and confusing if not properly managed. It can be difficult for students and teachers to discern which are relevant or important.

### Guide to Teaching Online

This Guide to Teaching Online Courses is the product of collaboration among a number of organizations committed to ensuring the quality of online instruction to secondary students in the United States (Diane 2104). It is intended as a guide for policymakers, administrators, educators, and others engaged in selecting, hiring, training, and supporting teachers to provide quality online instruction to students, or in making policy choices affecting online education. It is designed to provide an overview of the development of an effective online education system, focusing particularly on the skills teachers need to teach effectively online, the professional development necessary to acquire those skills, and the models schools need to evaluate and improve online teaching. It is critically important that school systems and school administrators contemplate such issues before launching online courses or enrolling significant numbers of their students in such courses. Crucial lessons from decades of offline instruction are applicable, and the body of new and instructive information about the unique nature of online education is growing every day. An earlier publication, Guide to Online High School Courses, set forth criteria for quality online courses, seeking to empower students, parents, educators, administrators, and policymakers to assess the quality of online courses and to help them establish quality standards for courses of their own design. By contrast, this publication is focused on ensuring that the teachers leading online courses are of the highest quality, well equipped, trained, and supported for the many challenges of

educating today's students via online instructional delivery. The organizations collaborating in the creation of this guide are listed below: International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) National Education Association

### **Benefits of Online Teaching and Learning**

Why online distance learning and why now? Online distance learning meets the needs of an ever-growing population of students who cannot or prefer not to participate in traditional classroom settings. These learners include those unable to attend traditional classes, who cannot find a particular class at their chosen institution, who live in remote locations, who work full-time and can only study at or after work, and those who simply prefer to learn independently.

According to Leki "The minimum requirement for students to participate in an online course is access to a computer, the Internet, and the motivation to succeed in a non-traditional classroom(2010). "Online courses provide an excellent method of course delivery unbound by time or location allowing for accessibility to instruction at anytime from anywhere. Learners find the online environment a convenient way to fit education into their busy lives. The ability to access a course from any computer with Internet access, 24 hours a day, seven days a week is a tremendous incentive for many of today's students. Some of the main advantages of online learning include:

- ✓ Convenience: 24/7 access from any online computer; accommodates bus schedules no Commuting, no searching for parkin
- ✓ Enhanced Learning: Research shows increased depth of understanding and retention of course content; more meaningful discussions; emphasis on writing skills, technology skills, and life skills like time management, independence, and self-discipline.
- ✓ Leveling of the Playing Field: Students can take more time to think and before communicating; shy students tend to thrive online; anonymity of the online environment.
- ✓ Interaction: Increased student-to-teacher and student-to-student interaction discussion; a more student-centered learning environment less passive listening and more active learning a greater sense of connectedness synergy.
- ✓ Innovative Teaching: Student-centered approaches increased variety and creativity of learning activities address different learning styles; changes and improvements can translate to on-ground courses as well
- ✓ Improved Administration: Time to examine student work more thoroughly; ability to document and record online interactions; ability to manage grading online.
- ✓ Savings: Accommodate more students; increased student satisfaction higher retention
- ✓ Maximize Physical Resources: Lessen demand on limited campus infrastructure Decrease congestion on campus and parking lots.
- ✓ Outreach: Give students options; reach new student markets; appeal to current student's thus increasing enrollments'

### **Advantages and Disadvantages of e-Learning:**

Class work can be scheduled around personal and professional work, resulting in flexible learning. Reduces travel cost and time to and from school Learners may have the option to select learning materials that meets their level of knowledge and interest Learners can study wherever they have access to a computer and Internet Self-paced learning modules allow learners to work at their own pace Flexibility to join discussions in the bulletin board threaded discussion areas at any hour, or visit with classmates and instructors remotely in chat rooms Different learning styles are addressed and facilitation of learning occurs through varied activities Development of computer and Internet skills that are transferable to other facets of learner's lives Successfully completing online or computer-based courses builds self-knowledge and self-confidence and encourages students to take responsibility for their learning Disadvantages of e-Learning Unmotivated learners or those with poor study habits may fall behind Lack of familiar structure and routine may take getting used to Students may feel isolated or miss social interaction thus the need to understanding different learning styles and individual learner needs. Instructor may not always be available on demand Slow or unreliable Internet connections can be

frustrating Managing learning software can involve a learning curve Some courses such as traditional hands-on courses can be difficult to simulate You can request information from schools of your choice to learn more about their e-learning, instructional technology, or instructional design programs or locate instructional design degree programs in your area.

According Lieblein (2010) : “Knowing e-learning advantages and disadvantages helps with learning software selection as well as online distance learning programs structure and selection. It is important to know the merits and demerits of e-learning to make a decision.”

**Based on the experiences of Conrad, R.-M.; Donaldso (2004) the following are parctcatil tips for teaching and learning online:**

1. **Expect learners to be present online and to avoid passively observing**-Each learner can contribute his or her ideas at a comfortable pace. Some learners are more comfortable communicating verbally.
2. **Expect learners to create, share, and hold knowledge and experiences** -For example, learners who are more familiar with the technology can help the first-timers with their questions or problems.
3. **Expect learners to be self-motivated and self-directed:**
  - ✓ Give your learners a brief quiz to assess their readiness for online learning.
  - ✓ Discuss your requirements at the beginning of class.
  - ✓ Ask the students to create and share with you calendars or learning contracts showing when they will schedule course activities.
4. **Expect learners to manage their time effectively** -Online courses move quickly and require self-discipline. The online discussion is always “there”, just a click away, but response time is random.
4. **Expect learners to be ready to learn** -Learning looks different in an interactive online class; participants may need to be more self-directed and attentive.
5. **Expect learners to troubleshoot problems** -Problems often occur unexpectedly in an online class. Learners need to be able to get help easily, but they also need to be able to approach a problem with multiple points of advice and solution.
5. **Expect learners to contribute to the class discussion** -To ensure contribution from your students, you may want to require a minimum number of posting from each learner each week.
6. **Expect learners to teach others and facilitate the experience** -Learners in online courses have enormous opportunities to “be the teacher” whether in troubleshooting the software and the technology or in forming and communicating their ideas about the content of the class.
7. **Expect learners to act as collegial members of the class** -The written language may be misinterpreted and cause a level of discomfort among the members of an online community.
8. **Expect learners to review readings and materials thoughtfully and reflectively** -You may post material directly on the web or in a web conferencing environment, send material to learner’s via-e-mail attachment, or server.
9. **Expect learners to provide timely, meaningful feedback to you and their fellow learners** -When learners have a statement to make to you or their classmates, they should write and submit it right away; otherwise, the next time they read the class postings their idea may no longer fit in with the discussion.
10. **Expect learners to be leaders** -By acting as leaders, the learners can take ownership of the course and better connect with what’s being taught.

## Famous Online Learning Applications

Some say that wisdom comes with age while others insist that it comes from learning. Nowadays, thanks to the internet, learning is open to all. Hence, people in the countries where traditional learning is facing various obstacles for example today we have faced a **global crisis of Corona Virus** pandemic so we can take better advantage of online courses. So far, e-learning has been effective to the people that understood its value. It offers the chance to have great results for lower costs and sometimes for no costs at all. Despite these, online learning has many other advantages. Education may have several purposes, and online courses help to fulfill it. Some even say that e-learning can revolutionize education as it provides new opportunities for traditional learning. Taking online classes has a lot of advantages and below are some of the most important online application teachers and student across Afghanistan and the world, whether you're a student looking for extra educational resources, a knowledge-hungry geek or a professional looking to pick up a practical new skill or specialization, here are 15 helpful online learning apps and websites:

### 1. iTunes

iTunes U is Apple's education initiative. This app provides free online courses in a variety of subjects developed by instructors in some of the world's leading universities. Courses come with loads of materials, such as audio, video, ebooks and more, with provisions for assignments, highlighting texts and notes to aid the student with coursework. iTunes U provides access to more than 750,000 free lectures, books and other subjects, and is an extremely accessible source of online learning if you've got an iOS device handy.

### 2. Khan Academy

Khan Academy (iOS, Windows 8) aims to provide "free world-class education for anyone anywhere." To that end, this company hosts thousands of free online tutorial videos for a wide variety of subjects, from biology, chemistry, physics, K-12 mathematics, to history, civics and computer programming. An adaptive testing system allows learners to practice at their own pace, while a stat-tracking and badge system provides helpful metrics as well as a gamified element to learning. After a long wait, the Khan has also released an official Android app.

### 3. Alison

Professionals interested in lifelong learning, especially with a focus on business and workplace skills would do well to check out Alison, an online learning website that features a variety of free courses on a variety of topics, from languages to information technology, management skills, and more. Courses are free, and once completed, users may pay to receive a certification of course completion. It's a useful resource for those interested in continually developing their workplace skills.

### 4. Howcast

Not all learning is academic. Sometimes, you just want to pick up a new practical skill, pick up a new musical instrument or find out more about particular odd topics. Howcast features a rich library of professionally produced "how to" videos that cover everything from cooking to exercise, dance, health and even video gaming. The videos are free and ad-supported, and while they might not have the same weight on your resume as a management course, it's a great tool for those interested in more holistic learning.

### 5. Code Academy

Code Academy believes that traditional classroom-based education is broken and isn't the best way to teach computer programmers. Instead, Code Academy provides completely free, hands-on online courses that introduce the basics of coding, as well as language-specific courses for a variety of commonly used coding languages such as HTML, Javascript and Python. In addition, Code Academy also includes Code Hour, a free iOS app that gives users a basic introduction to coding.

## 6. Open Culture

The Web is host to an incredible wealth of free educational and cultural media, from lectures to courses and videos. Open Culture is dedicated to bringing all this rich content together into a single location so that lifelong learners can access an easy to use, curated website. Open Culture's material runs the whole gamut, from free university courses, historic lectures, noteworthy films, to free books and audio books, organized into convenient, curated lists linking to the resources.

## 7. Academic Earth

Academic Earth brings together more than 750 free online video courses from a variety of top universities such as Harvard, MIT, Yale and Oxford, all of which you can view at the site. The courses available at Academic Earth run the gamut, from social science, business and history, to quirkier video electives such as "The Psychology of the Internet Troll" and "Practical Math: How to Take a Punch". It's an eclectic and educational mix, it's just a shame there's no mobile app for easy consumption of the video courses.

## 8. EdX,

We wrap up with EdX, a non-profit open source online education platform founded in May 2012 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Harvard University. EdX features more than 500 different courses from top-notch schools in the US and abroad, with online resources, social learning tools to connect you with teachers and fellow students and more. A particularly neat feature is a "Global Freshman Academy" program that allows students to earn university credits for a selection of verified freshman-level courses.

## 9. Google Classroom

Google Classroom makes teaching more productive, collaborative, and meaningful. Google worked with educators across the country to create Classroom: a streamlined, easy-to-use tool that helps teachers manage coursework. With Classroom, educators can create classes, distribute assignments, grade and send feedback, and see everything in one place



Google Classroom

### Advantages of using Google Classroom

1. Work anywhere, anytime, and on any device

With Classroom, teachers and students can sign in from any computer or mobile device to access class assignments, course materials, and feedback.

2. Tackle administrative tasks more efficiently

With simple setup and integration with G Suite for Education, Classroom streamlines repetitive tasks and makes it easy to focus on what teachers do best: teaching.

3. Help students develop authentic work

Generate originality reports by scanning for matching text on the web — right in the Classroom interface. Students can also create reports to cite and strengthen their submissions. Get up to 3 reports per class.

4. Everything teachers and students need to work better, together

Classroom was created hand-in-hand with teachers to help organize day-to-day tasks, communication, and foster greater collaboration.

## Evaluation of Online Teaching and Learning

Most administrators currently have little experience with online course delivery, and would be at a loss to evaluate online teaching. Professional development will be required to give administrators the necessary skills they will need to appropriately monitor, evaluate and support online teaching, so that online teaching benefits from meaningful evaluation and guidance.

Teacher preserves has not traditionally included required element of online instruction. In fact, many eService programs still do not require future teachers to take even a single course in how to instruct online. But now that online education holds out the promise of quality instruction on a range of diverse subjects to even the most remote locales, the absence of required eService training in online teaching skills must change. The same standards of effective online course design and delivery as well as appropriate training of the online teacher must be applied to preserves online courses.

‘By modeling effective online course design and delivery, preserve teachers can best gain the necessary skills they will need to become effective 21s century teachers’. Simonson, ; Smaldino, Albright, and Zvacek, I think it will be much easier for teachers to evaluate their class in the future once they develop Quizzes and Exam and some assignment, they will only need to rephrase some exam and give them again and again thus need update them regularly.

## Conclusion

While classroom learning is still valued in today's modern world, many people no longer need or want to be tied to a particular place or time to learn new skills. As a result, an increasing number of institutions are offering flexible online learning solutions in addition to their traditional syllabuses, while smaller schools and universities are expected to offer almost entirely online based courses in the not so distant future. In addition to the projected growth of mobile learning products and the corporate learning and development sector, the future for online learning appears dazzling bright.

I think traditional classes slowly become a thing of the past “Vygotsky concluded “sure those who are fresh out of high school and want the college experience will maintain a need for a campus classes but those in the working world will make online course more and more popular. I am sure everyone wants that their time and money to be rewarded with a quality program. “

Taking online course require a certain amount of self-discipline. If you get behind it's hard to catch up and the instructor can tell quickly by what you are contributing online, the time you log in and so on. That you are falling behind. Some people very much need an instructor in the front of the room to keep them motivated. I am currently planning to pursue another master degree in MBA and I will take as many online courses as I can. To me it's the best option one that eliminate hours of traveling time and increases the amount I learn and my chance for success. I'll must likely do a bit more work than if I take traditional classes.

Every new phenomena has its supporters and opponents and online is not an exception, while writing this article I have faced many people especially those with bright mind showing disagreement excusing high price and lack of internet access of students, I must tell them that everything has its own ups and down until and unless you have not started something you won't be able to identify its weakness and strengths therefore we need to start from somewhere so that to find better opportunities of online Teaching and Learning not only English but also for other disciplines as well.

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### Abstract in Persian Language

#### چکیده

روند آموزش افراد بگونه آنلاین ( آموزش الکترونیکی) به سرعت در حال افزایش است. آموزش آنلاین (تدریس و یادگیری) با استفاده از فن آوری های اینترنتی و ارتباطات، فرصت های زیادی را فراهم می کند که به طور کیفی و کمی دسترسی به آموزش را افزایش دهد. آموزش آنلاین امروزه جدیدترین و محبوب ترین شکل آموزش از راه دور است.

در دهه گذشته، تأثیرات عمده ای بر تعلیم و تربیه در دوره های لیسانس و فوق لیسانس داشته است و این روندهمچنان در حال افزایش است. من در این مقاله به بررسی مزایای تدریس و یادگیری آنلاین برای محصلین و نحوه تغییر نقش استادان و محصلین خواهم پرداخت. یکی از عوامل مهمی در رشد آموزش آنلاین، تقاضای دانش آموزان برای تحصیل بگونه آنلاین است. اما بسیاری از استادان و دانش آموزانی که موافق به تدریس و یادگیری آنلاین نیستند ادعا می کنند که عدم دسترسی اینترنت، بلند بودن قیمت ها، و در شرایط که ما تحت فشار شدید وایروس کرونا قرار داریم و دانش آموزان بسیاری از فرصت های تعاملی و ارتباطی را که توسط صنف فیزیکی فراهم می کنند را از دست می دهند، بنابراین در این مورد باید معلوم شود که آیا تعلیم و یادگیری آنلاین در تعامل معلمان و دانش آموزان تأثیر می گذارد یا یادگیری را بیشتر از قبل تسهیل می کند؟

اهمیت استراتژی های تدریس و یادگیری که باعث ایجاد دستورالعمل ها و شیوه ارایه برای تمام جنبه های روند آموزشی، از جمله برنامه ریزی و مدیریت آموزش آنلاین، تکنیک های تدریس آنلاین و ارزیابی سبب موفقیت محیط آموزشی برای دانشجویان شده است. در این مقاله عوامل مهم در راهکار های موفقیت آمیز تدریس و یادگیری بشکل آنلاین مورد بررسی قرار می گیرند. برخی از استراتژی ها و روش های مهم را برای تمرین و یادگیری آنلاین چون برای آن نیاز داریم را به شما معرفی می کنم؛ و این روش یادگیری و تدریس بیشتر با تمرکز بر صرف زمان کمتر میباشد، بخاطریکه مدیریت زمان از جمله اولویت مهم برای فعال بودن و انجام کارهای مان در زمان کمتری بوده، بنابراین ما باید بهترین شیوه های تدریس و یادگیری را دریافت نمایم تا سبب تغییر در رفتار خویش و انکشاف جامعه گردیده باشیم.