

EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FOR SPECIAL NEEDS CHILDREN IN INDIA: CONCEPT, NEED AND CHALLENGES

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Abstract

Online learning is education that takes place over the Internet. It is often referred to as “e-learning” among other terms. However, online learning is just one type of “distance learning” - the umbrella term for any learning that takes place across distance and not in a traditional classroom. In the last 20 years, the Internet has grown from being nearly non-existent into the largest, most accessible database of information ever created. It has changed the way people communicate shop, socialize, do business and think about knowledge and learning. Much more than just a new twist on distance learning, online schooling is changing the face of traditional classrooms and making education more accessible than ever before. Online education is a form of education where students use their home computers through the internet for special children.

Keywords: Education, Online learning, and special children

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Introduction

Teaching machines" redirects here. For the mechanical devices, see Teaching machine.

"E-learning" redirects here. It is not to be confused with online machine learning.

Online learning is considered to be a form of distance learning. Beginning in the 1980s, this method allows a variety of learners to experience connectivity, convenience and interaction. Perhaps a more feedback-oriented version of distance learning, online learning makes use of the Internet to connect students with educational material, as well as instructors and sometimes other students. This personal interaction might not be as readily available as in the other learning modes. A few different types of pacing may be available in online learning: instructor-led, self-directed or self-paced. In line with the traditional classroom model, many of these types of courses are instructor-led. Self-directed learning is the most flexible type of pacing. Students work independently, direct their education and manage their own progress. Self-paced learning allows students to have flexibility in terms of time and place of learning.

While e-Learning (electronic learning) is its own unique mode of learning, it is also a type of distance learning. Though it may have become a term at about the same time as online learning, it can be defined as sometimes including multiple formats and methods of instruction - CD-ROM, the Intranet, the Internet and audio and video formats. This learning methodology may vary the most, since program to program platforms and media differ. As technology continues to evolve, e-Learning also changes. Now that you know what distinguishes these types of learning, make sure to check with prospective programs for further details on learning modes and platforms. Specific terminology may vary by school. Consider how earning an alternative education could benefit you: many learning modes are available for a variety of educational needs.

A learning system based on formalized teaching but with the help of electronic resources is known as E-learning. While teaching can be based in or out of the classrooms, the use of computers and the Internet forms the major component of E-learning. E-learning can also be termed as a network enabled transfer of skills and knowledge, and the delivery of education is made to a large number of recipients at the same or different times. Earlier, it was not accepted wholeheartedly as it was assumed that this system lacked the human element required in learning.

However, with the rapid progress in technology and the advancement in learning systems, it is now embraced by the masses. The introduction of computers was the basis of this revolution and with the passage of time, as we get hooked to smart phones, tablets, etc, these devices now have an importance place in the classrooms for learning. Books are gradually getting replaced by electronic educational materials like optical discs or pen drives. Knowledge can also be shared via the Internet, which is accessible 24/7, anywhere, anytime.

Concept of E-learning

E-learning has proved to be the best means in the corporate sector, especially when training programs are conducted by MNCs for professionals across the globe and employees are able to acquire important skills while sitting in a board room, or by having seminars, which are conducted for employees of the same or the different organizations under one roof. The schools which use E-learning technologies are a step ahead of those which still have the traditional approach towards learning. No doubt, it is equally important to take forward the concept of non-electronic teaching with the help of books and lectures, but the importance and effectiveness of technology-based learning cannot be taken lightly or ignored completely. It is believed that the human brain can easily remember and relate to what is seen and heard via moving pictures or videos. It has also been found that visuals, apart from holding the attention of the student, are also retained by the brain for longer periods. Various sectors, including agriculture, medicine, education, services, business, and government setups are adapting to the concept of E-learning which helps in the progress of a nation.

Resources for Online Learning

In general, when taking an online degree program you might encounter resources like: EBooks; Journals; Videos; Recorded lectures; Quizzes; Discussion forums Live Q&A sessions; and Interviews.

The resources offered to you for learning online will depend on the institution where you take your online program. Some online learning programs may require you to order physical textbooks in advance by in the mail, but these are generally being phased out in favor of eBooks and online-only methods of delivery. For those institutions that have made the transition to using 100% online resources, students can expect to study using a combination of cutting-edge technological resources with no need to travel to attend lectures, exams or in-person discussion sessions!

Taking an online learning program, you'll be an officially registered student at your institution and have access to the same resources as an on-campus student, like your institution's digital library, learning management system (like Blackboard), student union membership and more! An online degree is similar to taking a degree program on campus, but you have the freedom to direct your own study schedule.

Your school and your course instructor will determine the format for each individual course and will select delivery methods that are best suited to your course or program. What Biology major needs to learn successfully online will differ from what an Art History major needs! Online learning may be a completely new experience for you. If you're coming from a more traditional learning background, read on to discover how to make the most of the resources you may encounter in your online learning journey!

EBooks, textbooks & journals: These written materials are essential resources in almost every course you'll take when learning online. Using the reading list for each course, or on the advice of your course instructor, you'll need to dedicate the amount of time you need to reading and understanding the topics in the literature. The main advantage of using this medium (particularly eBooks) is the fact that they are completely portable, allowing you to study on the go from your computer, phone or tablet. When you're researching a course or program, remember to check whether your textbooks are included in your tuition fees! You may have to pay extra for your textbooks, or they may be available as eBooks from your institution's library.

Recorded lectures: Essential ways of absorbing a large amount of information in a relatively short amount of time, lectures are a staple of online and campus-based learning. With online learning, you can attend lectures from your bedroom! If you can, make notes throughout your lectures; this will make it easier to review for exams, and any assignments you'll need to complete throughout your course.

Interactive sessions: The greatest challenge an online education provider faces is how to replicate the face-to-face interaction and in-person discussions that on-campus institutions can easily provide. The solution? Online degree programs often use a combination of discussion forums and interactive question-and-answer sessions to give you the interaction with other students and instructors you need. Before beginning an online discussion forum or interactive session, make sure you read the rules and requirements; some institutions may require you to create posts that have a minimum word count.

Online students often think that their learning resources will be delivered via email, or even by snail mail! Most online institutions are moving away from this unreliable method of delivery. The course or module's learning resources will be delivered via the institution's online learning environment or platform. The learning platform will vary depending on the software used, but it will usually consist of a central online platform that

students can access from their personal PC, mobile or tablet. One of the major benefits of utilizing resources that are hosted entirely online is unending flexibility! As an online student, you can choose to access your course information and complete your assignments at any time. This allows you to fit study time in around your work, family and other commitments. This also means that students who wish to continue working while studying do not have to put their careers on hold. Get the best of both worlds!

Background of the online learning

Online Education is a form of distance education that has unlimited participation and interaction with students and teachers from around the world. Use the following sources to learn more about Online Education and the medium, institutional providers, and issues surrounding it.

Try these keywords when searching for information about your topic.

Distance education, Distance learning, Massive Open Online Course, MOOC, cMOOCs, xMOOCs, online education, Open education, Virtual education, Web-based instruction

Need and importance of online learning for special needs children

The disability rights campaign saw the introduction of legislation such as the Disability Discrimination Act 1995, the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act 2001 and the Equality Act 2006. These laws sought to address institutional inequalities by making it illegal to discriminate unfairly against individuals because of a disability. In the education system, the onus was now placed on schools and educators to ensure that reasonable provisions were in place to provide disabled students and students with special educational needs with the same opportunities as those without a disability. Section 13(1)(a) of the Special Educational Needs and Disability Act stipulates that 'disabled pupils are not placed at a substantial disadvantage in comparison with pupils who are not disabled' in relation to 'education and associated services provided for, or offered to, pupils at the school'. This calls for the education system to take a proactive approach towards enabling inclusivity and equality for all students.

Although the very notion of online teaching through technology such as Google Classroom, Show My Homework and Zoom were not within the realm of possibility for legislators to consider in 2001, they have, as a result of the school closures, become an integral part of the education service provided by many schools and educators today.

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