

## Online Education: A Novel Attraction for Students

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### Abstract

Online education has gained much popularity among working professionals and students in the present time due to corona pandemic. This paper throws light on some categories and attractions of online education. E-education is a means of education that in corporate self motivation, communication, efficiency and technology. E-education refers to utilizing e-resources in the e-world. It is the acquisition of knowledge and skill through electronic technologies such as computer and internet based courseware and local and wide area networks. It is undeniable that online education provides ample of benefits to young learners.

**Keywords:** pandemic, e-education, communication, e-resources, internet, e-world.

### Introduction

Education plays the most important role in the life of people. The concept of education is changing over the past few years. Education spans a range more than just attending classes and reading books to learn things. It exceeds all restrictions. Learning extends beyond the pages of book. We are fortunate live in a time where learning is accessible online. Traditional classrooms are converting into online education. Yes! We can educate ourselves while sitting in our own homes. Online education is a good option for doing this.5 Online education is a flexible instructional delivery system that encompasses any kind learning that taken place via the internet. Online education allows students to learn from anywhere with internet access, offering flexibility in terms of time and location. Online education requires a great deal of resources and careful planning. In this , teachers act as facilitators rather than transmitters of content knowledge and ICT is regarded as resource that enhances the learning experience of students.8 Online education can range from full degree programs offered by universities to short courses, certifications and self paced learning modules. Online education gives educators an opportunity to reach students who may not be able to enroll in a traditional classroom course and supports students who need to work on their own schedule and at their own pace. With the increased availability of the internet, smart phone, laptop and computer technology students are able to access information any time and any place that would normally be available only through a traditional classroom.

According to a survey many students are enrolling in higher level studies or diploma courses and it is unbelievable that 30% of students are pursuing these courses through online education and they find online education more effective and time saving than the traditional education methods.

Online education has been existing in various countries, but their importance increased only during the pandemic. A lot of colleges and universities never accepted a degree certificate that was earned by online education, but now with the changing time, many renowned colleges and universities have accepted online courses and shifted to the online method of learning. Online education has been more accessible and accepted by students as well as teachers. We connect with different people from around the world through online classes, which makes students more competent and engaging. Students have become smarter and technologically sound with online education it has also helped teachers to be more technologically sound. With the growing demand for online classes, education has become more comforting and more satisfying.

Even with a hundred barriers, people have accepted online learning methods to continue their education. It has been noticed that student's performance has improved due to online education, which is why most students have accepted online learning methods.<sup>6</sup>

There was a time when girls were not allowed to go to college to attend classes, and there were many restrictions to choosing a course, but with the increasing demand for online education, there are no more limitations to education. The students now have all the freedom to choose as per their choice. Therefore, online education has been a great help and revolution in today's learning system. <sup>6</sup>

Online education results in sensible choices whether you are a student or a working professional. As a working professional through online education you can sharpen your skills and become more professional in your field without affecting your current job. Thus, the positive response of online education can make it the future of education.

### Types of online education:

Online education can be divided into two categories - synchronous and asynchronous learning.

**Synchronous Education:-** Synchronous education involves online education that are conducted with the aid of chat rooms. This kind of learning can only happen online. Online communication helps learners stay in touch with their teacher and fellow students. It is called synchronous education because the system allows students to ask their teachers or fellow student questions instantly through instant messaging.

**Asynchronous Education:-** This method can be carried out online and offline. Asynchronous education involves course work delivered by web, email and message boards that are posted in online forums. Students do not have access to instant messaging through this online forum. A benefit of asynchronous education is that you are able to be self-paced.

### Why online education is gaining popularity-

There are many reasons why students and working professionals are moving towards online education. Have a look at some such reasons below-

1. **You can learn whatever you want-** you can the program of your dreams in traditional education, too, but that would involve travelling from home , living in a completely unknown city and struggling in an extremely competitive leaning environment. With online education, you can take any program or courses present in four- year universities. The great variety of online programs and courses is a huge advantage of this type of education. It doesn't matter where you live and what you want to study-you can always find a suitable course or even a degree program that you can follow home.<sup>1</sup>
2. **Comfortable learning environment-** Forget about attending classes for hours, sitting in an uncomfortable chair and suffering from back pain by the end of day. Learner will not be bound to physical class session when he takes online education. All lectures and needed materials are provided via online platforms, so learner will easily access them from the comfort of his home. There is no need to take public transport for going to campus of institute and not have to get up early to get dressed for class. Comfort is a strong advantage, but it can go both ways. Students must not allow him to get too comfortable when studying from home, so it would be best to abandon the couch for few hours a day

and set up an inspirational studying environment in home. Online platforms often include forums, video conferencing, quizzes and other interactive tools to enhance learning.

3. **Lower cost-** The fact that online programs are cheaper when compared to the ones held in a traditional campus setting is enough to convince student to consider them. The average tuition for online courses depends on multiple factors, so it varies from one program to another.<sup>2</sup>
4. **Flexibility of time-** Online education enables the teacher and the student to set their own learning pace. This is specifically true for working professionals who have time constraints in pursuing an offline course. Pursuing a course in online mode allows a person to multi – task work, other work and family commitments.
5. **Qualitative education-** There is areas in India where there is lack of qualitative offline education. In that area online education helps to maintain the quality of education. Many online courses are designed to develop specific skills, which can be directly applied to jobs or personal projects.<sup>5</sup> For instance, states such Bihar, Kerala, as well as Jammu and Kashmir account for about four lakhs distance education enrollment, according to KPMG report.
6. **Affordability and study material-** Online courses joined at UG or PG level are much more affordable than traditional programmes. A variety of online study material in the form of videos and texts are encouraging students to adopt online education platforms. Learning materials are available 24/7, enabling students to study at their convenience.<sup>5</sup>
7. **Government initiative-** Government's recent initiatives such as SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA, ARPIT, e-Basta, e-Pathshala etc and digital India is expected to strengthen the infrastructure needed by students to pursue education in mode.<sup>3</sup>
8. **Self-paced learning-** Students can learn at their own pace, revisit materials and focus on areas where they need improvement.<sup>4</sup> When you start browsing through interesting online courses and programs, you'll notice the self-paced label on most of them. What does this mean? Self-paced learning means that the students can start completing the targets at any time and he can arrange a learning schedule that meets his individual needs.
9. **Globalization-** New technologies are narrowing geographical barriers in the way of education. The world has become a small village and the opportunities to have information about other nations are within our own access. Electronic Net world connects people all over the globe, therefore, it is vital to experiment with electronic learning situations wherein students share ideas and resources, access information about current events and historical archives, interact with experts and use online databases.

**Conclusion:** In conclusion online education or learning is profitable to the students. Online education has democratized access to education, making it more accessible, flexible and affordable. In other hand we have no more option to continue the study and job work rather its time taking, but we must be learn it, because online education is the need of hour. The emergence of new learning platforms and delivery

methods has created new competition and opportunities for learning institutions. So, the online education is the only option, which makes it highly effective in career advancement, increasing the employability of many students and making faculty members better prepared to work in the digital age. While online education offers flexibility and accessibility, students should be aware of the importance of self discipline, effective time management and active engagement to succeed in this learning environment.

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